

# BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

## Global Opinion Report No. 132

Week: August 08-14, 2010

Presentation: August 18, 2010

---

<b>Prelude to Report</b>	03
<b>Summary of Polls</b>	04
<b>Gulf Cooperation Council</b>	
• Two in five UAE residents support BlackBerry ban – survey	08
<b>WEST ASIA &amp; CENTRAL ASIA</b>	
• Afghans, Pakistanis Critical of Efforts to Fight Terrorism	09
• More Than One Third Of All Pakistanis (37%) Claim To Be Affected By The Recent Flood	10
• Turks Evenly Split On Constitutional Changes	12
• Turks Most Concerned with Economic Issues	13
<b>EAST EUROPE</b>	
• Russians Still Smitten with Putin, Medvedev	14
• Poles Stand Behind Governing Civic Platform	15
<b>WEST EUROPE</b>	
• Nurses are Most Respected Professionals in Britain	17
• Britons Still Think the Economy is in Shambles	19
• Support For Female And Gay Bishops	19
• Few Italians Want Berlusconi to Finish his Term	20
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	
• The Vote for Congress: GOP Fares Better with Whites, Men, Independents and Seniors	22
• On the Issues, Obama Finds Majority Approval Elusive	28
• Low Approval of Congress Not Budgeting, Now 19%	32
• GOP Maintains Lead on Generic Ballot for Congress	35
• In U.S., Confidence in Newspapers, TV News Remains a Rarity	37
• Economy Remains Top Concern as Nov. Elections Draw Nearer	40
• U.S. Approval of Labor Unions Remains Near Record Low	43
• Student Poll: 34% in Grades 5-12 Hopeful, Engaged, Thriving	46
• Spending Slumps Even With Back-to-School Underway	51
• Unauthorized Immigrants and Their U.S.-Born Children	53
• Americans' Confidence in the Medical System on the Rebound	55
• Religion in the 2008 Presidential Election	58
• Americans Want to Scrap Electoral College	62
• Americans Back Extending Jobless Benefits	63
• Half of Canadians Oppose Mission in Afghanistan	63
• Canadian Tories Lose Steam, Liberals Gain Ground	65
<b>LATIN AMERICA</b>	
• President Piñera Stumbles in Chile	66

• Brazilians Reject Lula’s Anti-Spanking Law	67
<b>AUSTRALASIA</b>	
• Smoking continues to decline, but quitters in regional Australia lag behind	67
<b>MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS</b>	
• In the CIS, Desired Migration Destinations Depend on Motive	68
• Many Africans Say Foreigners Traffic Drugs in Their Countries	73
<b>CYBER WORLD</b>	
• Broadband 2010: A Big Slowdown	76

## Prelude

This week report consists of 33 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 31 are national surveys.

### **Commentary: Smoking continues to decline, but quitters in regional Australia lag behind**



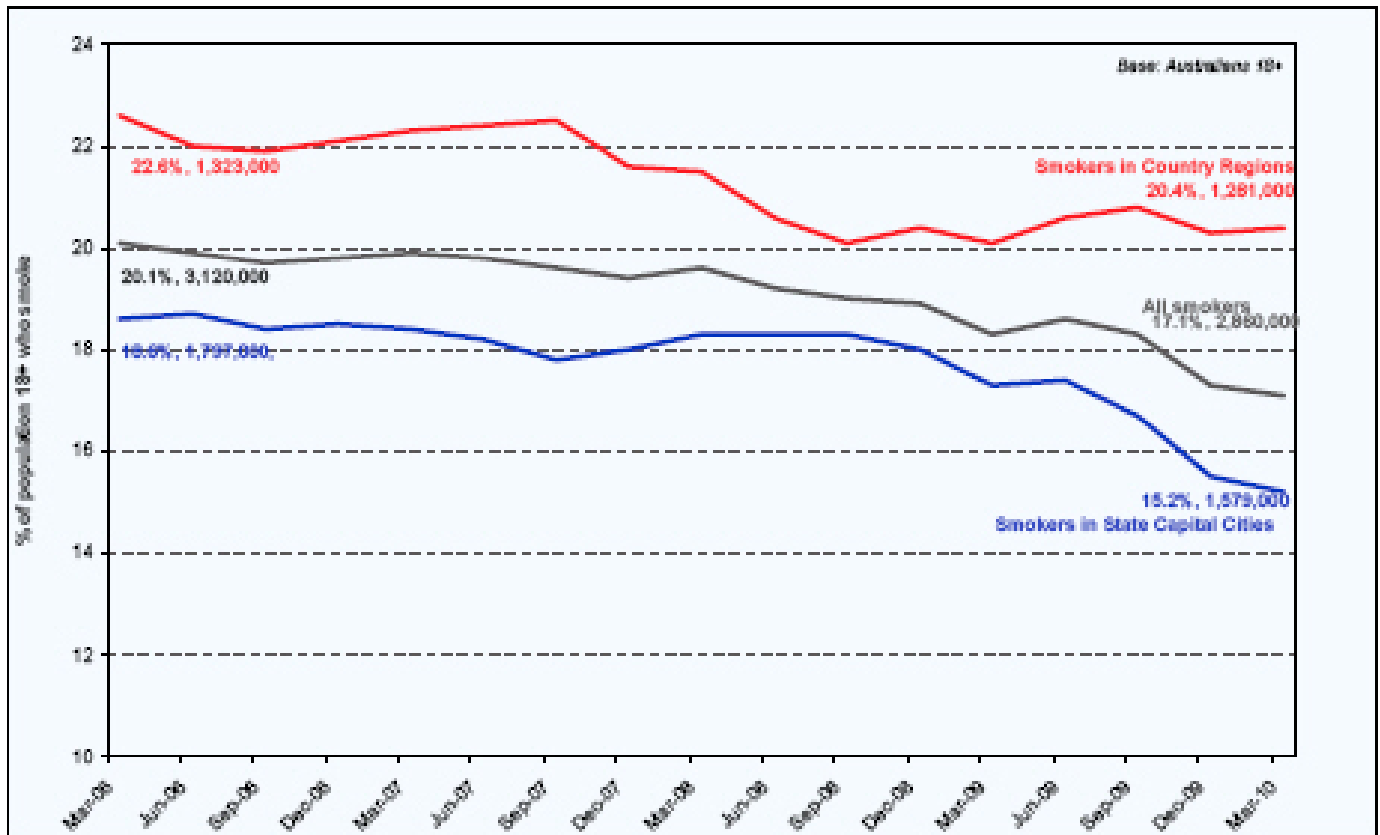
**NOTE:** While Australian Elections make the big news this week, we are focusing on a less glamorous but consequential subject of *Health* with particular reference to Smoking in Australia. Are attitudes changing, and is the Incidence of smoking on the decline? A recent poll reveals the declining trend to smoke among Australians.

9/08/2010

*According to the latest Roy Morgan Research Health Monitor, the four years to March 2010, have shown a 3% point reduction in the incidence of smoking (estimated as 260,000 fewer smokers aged 18 plus) down to a level of 17% of the overall population (an estimated 2,860,000 smokers).*

Smokers living in capital cities have led the trend to quit with a 3% drop in incidence over the period. This equates to an estimated 218,000 fewer smokers in city areas, whereas amongst Australian country dwellers, smoking showed a solid decrease until 2008, but that decrease has stopped and smoking appears to be on the increase again in country areas.

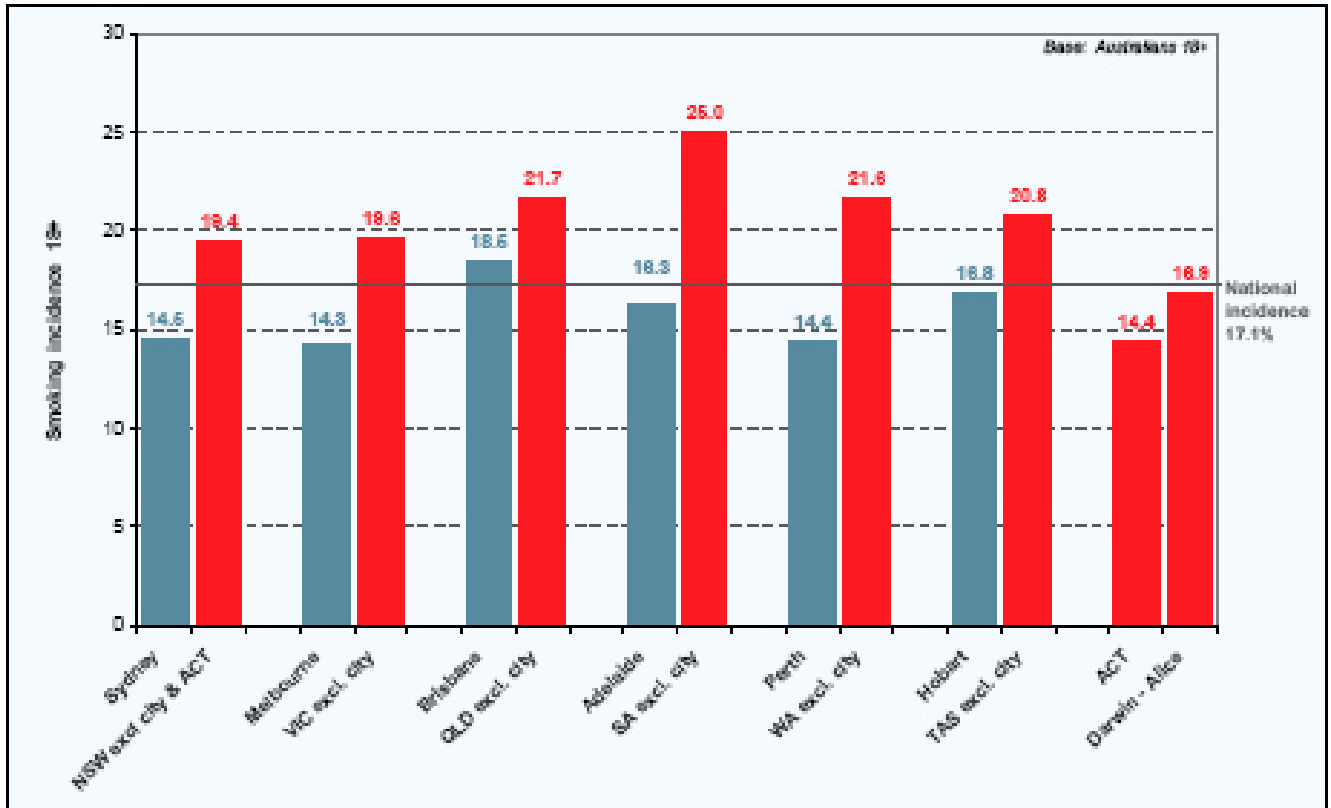
### **Smoking Trends in Australia(March 2008- March 2010)**



*Source: Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia) April '05 – March '10, 12 month moving averages Australians aged 18+ n= 20,800.*

Whilst all state capitals except Brisbane show lower smoking incidence than the national figure of 17%, regional Australia shows a higher than average incidence in every state except for the Northern Territory.

**Incidence of Smoking in Capital Cities and Country Regions of Australia**  
**REGIONAL BEHAVIOR WITHIN AUSTRALIA**



*Source: Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia) April 2009 – March 2010, Incidence of smoking in population aged 18+, n = 18,364.*

**Nick Williams, Healthcare Consumer Consultant, Roy Morgan Research, says:**

*“Overall incidence of smoking amongst Australians has declined from 20% to 17% over the past 4 years. However, smoking in regional Australia remains higher than for the capital cities and the rate at which regional smokers are quitting is also slower. This indicates scope for stronger targeted regional implementation of the National Quit campaign and represents an opportunity for improved target marketing from the pharmaceutical marketers of medications that treat nicotine dependence.”*

**SOURCE:** <http://www.roymorganonlinestore.com/News/1144---Smoking-continues-to-decline.-but-quitters-.aspx>

## AUSTRALIA:

### AUSTRALIA:

**Population:** 21,262,641 (July 2010 est.)

**Ethnic Groups:** white 92%, Asian 7%, aboriginal and other 1%

**GDP per Capita:** \$40,000 (2009 est.)

- ◆ Aboriginal settlers arrived on the continent from Southeast Asia about 40,000 years before the first Europeans began exploration in the 17th century. No formal territorial claims were made until 1770, when Capt. James COOK took possession in the name of Great Britain. Six colonies were created in the late 18th and 19th centuries; they federated and became the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. The new country took advantage of its natural resources to rapidly develop agricultural and manufacturing industries and to make a major contribution to the British effort in World Wars I and II. In recent decades, Australia has transformed itself into an internationally competitive, advanced market economy. It boasted one of the OECD's fastest growing economies during the 1990s, a performance due in large part to economic reforms adopted in the 1980s. Long-term concerns include climate-change issues such as the depletion of the ozone layer and more frequent droughts, and management and conservation of coastal areas, especially the Great Barrier Reef.

- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/as.html>



### Summary of Polls

#### **GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL**

Two in five UAE residents support BlackBerry ban – survey

Two in five United Arab Emirates residents support the decision by the country's telecom watchdog to suspend key BlackBerry services from October and two-thirds expect the announced ban to be implemented, a survey showed Wednesday.

August 11, 2010

#### **WEST ASIA & CENTRAL ASIA**

Afghans, Pakistanis Critical of Efforts to Fight Terrorism

After last month's leak of U.S. intelligence documents related to the war in Afghanistan suggested Pakistani collusion with the Taliban, Afghan President Hamid Karzai criticized the West, as well as Pakistan, for not doing enough to counter cross-border terrorist threats from within Pakistan. Gallup surveys conducted before the leak found 78% of Afghans would agree Pakistan's efforts fall short.

August 10, 2010

More Than One Third Of All Pakistanis (37%) Claim To Be Affected By The Recent Flood

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, almost one third of all Pakistanis (37%) claim to be the victims of the flood water, 29% state the affect on them has been very mild while only 31% say they were not affected at all. 3%

have given no response. The figures reflect their perceptions and may or may not correspond with the actual flood situation.

AUGUST 12, 2010

#### Turks Evenly Split On Constitutional Changes

Results of an upcoming referendum on constitutional amendments in Turkey are hard to call at this point, according to a poll by Sonar Arastirma. 49.1 per cent of respondents would vote yes to enact the government-proposed changes, whereas 50.9 per cent would vote to reject them.

August 14, 2010

#### Turks Most Concerned with Economic Issues

The governing Justice and Development Party has dominated Turkey for the past decade, but IRI's poll suggests there are opportunities for opposition parties to make up ground in the next general elections, particularly if they focus their efforts on the economy.

July 12, 2010

### **EAST EUROPE**

#### Russians Still Smitten with Putin, Medvedev

President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin remain highly popular in Russia, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 72 per cent of respondents approve of Medvedev's performance, and 77 per cent endorse Putin's.

August 11, 2010

#### Poles Stand Behind Governing Civic Platform

The popularity of Poland's governing Civic Platform (PO) party is on the rise, according to a poll by GfK Polonia published in *Rzeczpospolita*. 48 per cent of respondents would vote for the PO in the next legislative election, up four points since mid-June.

August 09, 2010

### **WEST EUROPE**

#### Nurses are Most Respected Professionals in Britain

Most people in Britain hold nurses in a favourable light, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 94 per cent of respondents have a great deal or a fair amount of respect for nurses.

August 10, 2010

#### Britons Still Think the Economy is in Shambles

The mood of people in Britain regarding the national economy remains sour, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 82 per cent of respondents say the economy is in poor or very poor shape, down six points since June.

August 08, 2010

#### Support For Female And Gay Bishops

British adults are supportive of the appointment of female Bishops. To a lesser extent they are also supportive of homosexual Bishops to the Church of England.

July 14, 2010

#### Few Italians Want Berlusconi to Finish his Term

Few people in Italy want Silvio Berlusconi to finish his current term in office, according to a poll by Digis. Only 28 per cent of respondents want the prime minister's government to stay in place until the end of the term.

August 08, 2010

### **NORTH AMERICA**



### The Vote for Congress: GOP Fares Better with Whites, Men, Independents and Seniors

The Republican Party's prospects for the midterm elections look much better than they did four years ago at this time, while the Democrats' look much worse. Voter preferences for the upcoming congressional elections remain closely divided (45% support the Democratic candidate or lean Democratic, while 44% favor the Republican or lean Republican). In polling conducted in August-September 2006, the Democrats held an 11-point advantage (50% to 39%).

August 10, 2010

### On the Issues, Obama Finds Majority Approval Elusive

Barack Obama's 52% approval rating for handling race relations is the only issue among 13 tested in two recent Gallup polls for which the president receives majority-level approval. In fact, a majority disapprove of the job the president is doing on eight of these issues, with his worst scores for his handling of immigration and the federal budget deficit.

August 11, 2010

### Low Approval of Congress Not Budgeting, Now 19%

Congress' job rating from the American people in August remains near the historical lows seen in recent months. Nineteen percent of Americans now approve of the overall job Congress is doing, while 75% disapprove.

August 11, 2010

### GOP Maintains Lead on Generic Ballot for Congress

Republicans have a 49% to 43% lead over Democrats among registered voters in Gallup's generic ballot for Congress for the week of Aug. 2-8, the second straight week in which Republicans have held an edge in projected voting.

August 10, 2010

### In U.S., Confidence in Newspapers, TV News Remains a Rarity

Americans continue to express near-record-low confidence in newspapers and television news -- with no more than 25% of Americans saying they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in either. These views have hardly budged since falling more than 10 percentage points from 2003-2007.

August 13, 2010

### Economy Remains Top Concern as Nov. Elections Draw Nearer

Americans of all political persuasions say the economy and jobs are the most important problems facing the country today. These concerns easily outpace all others, thus providing politicians seeking office in this fall's midterm elections with clear marching orders from their constituents: Fix the economy.

August 13, 2010

### U.S. Approval of Labor Unions Remains Near Record Low

A slim majority of 52% of Americans say they approve of labor unions, the second lowest approval rating in Gallup's 70-year history of this trend, behind only last year's 48%.

August 12, 2010

### Student Poll: 34% in Grades 5-12 Hopeful, Engaged, Thriving

As students nationwide prepare to return to the classroom, a national Gallup Student Poll classifies one-third of U.S. students in grades 5-12 as "hopeful," "engaged," and "thriving" -- three metrics that pave the way for future achievement. While 53% of

students are hopeful, 63% are engaged, and 70% are thriving, many students fall short in at least one of these dimensions.

August 12, 2010

#### Spending Slumps Even With Back-to-School Underway

Americans' self-reported spending in stores, restaurants, gas stations, and online averaged \$62 per day during the week ending Aug. 8. Early August consumer spending trends trail 2009 and will need to surge to match last year's anemic back-to-school results.

August 12, 2010

#### Unauthorized Immigrants and Their U.S.-Born Children

An estimated 340,000 of the 4.3 million babies born in the United States in 2008 were the offspring of unauthorized immigrants, according to a new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.

August 11, 2010

#### Americans' Confidence in the Medical System on the Rebound

Providing a benchmark as America's new healthcare reform law begins to take effect, 40% of Americans express "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the U.S. medical system, the highest percentage since 2005. Americans' confidence in the medical system hit a low of 31% in 2007, at a time when confidence across almost all institutions was down, but has been steadily rebounding in the years since.

August 9, 2010

#### Religion in the 2008 Presidential Election

The Democratic Party made a concerted effort to court religious voters in the 2008 presidential election that pitted Democrat Barack Obama against Republican John McCain. Led by Obama himself and aided by progressive religious activists, the Democrats reached out to numerous religious groups in hopes of narrowing the "God gap," a media catchphrase for a striking pattern in American politics: the more often Americans go to church or other worship services, the more likely they are to vote Republican.

August 11, 2010

#### Americans Want to Scrap Electoral College

Most people in the United States would like to eliminate the Electoral College system to elect presidents, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 64 per cent of respondents share this view, and think that whoever gets the most votes should be elected president.

August 09, 2010

#### Americans Back Extending Jobless Benefits

Most people in the United States want the government to extend jobless benefits for those who have been unable to find a position, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 71 per cent of respondents share this view.

August 12, 2010

#### Half of Canadians Oppose Mission in Afghanistan

A majority of people in Canada reject their country's participation in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 53 per cent of respondents oppose the military operation involving Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

August 11, 2010

### Canadian Tories Lose Steam, Liberals Gain Ground

Canada's governing Conservative Party has lost popularity and is seeing its main opponent get closer, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 33 per cent of respondents would support the Tories in the next election to the House of Commons, down three points since early July.

August 13, 2010

### LATIN AMERICA

#### President Piñera Stumbles in Chile

Fewer people in Chile are expressing support for Sebastián Piñera, according to a poll by Adimark Gfk. 46 per cent of respondents approve of their president's performance, down six points since June.

August 13, 2010

#### Brazilians Reject Lula's Anti-Spanking Law

Most people in Brazil disagree with a proposed law to ban spanking, pinching and other forms of physical punishment for children and teenagers, according to a poll by Datafolha published in *Folha de Sao Paulo*. 54 per cent of respondents are against the idea, sponsored by the government of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

August 08, 2010

### AUSTRALASIA

#### Smoking continues to decline, but quitters in regional Australia lag behind

According to the latest Roy Morgan Research Health Monitor, the four years to March 2010, have shown a 3% point reduction in the incidence of smoking (estimated as 260,000 fewer smokers aged 18 plus) down to a level of 17% of the overall population (an estimated 2,860,000 smokers).

August 09, 2010

### MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

#### In the CIS, Desired Migration Destinations Depend on Motive

Thirty-five percent of adults in 12 former Soviet nations say they would like to migrate to another country -- either permanently, for temporary work, or for study or work study -- if they had the opportunity. They express the most interest in moving to Russia, Germany, the United States, and the United Kingdom, but each nation's popularity depends on people's motives for migrating.

August 12, 2010

#### Many Africans Say Foreigners Traffic Drugs in Their Countries

As the United Nations observes the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking on June 26, Gallup surveys in eight sub-Saharan African countries in 2009 and 2010 show that a median of 54% of respondents say foreigners are using their country as a place to move illegal drugs and 66% say this increases corruption.

June 25, 2010

### CYBER WORLD

#### Broadband 2010: A Big Slowdown

After several consecutive years of modest but consistent growth, broadband adoption slowed dramatically in 2010. Two-thirds of American adults (66%) currently use a high-speed internet connection at home, a figure that is not statistically different from what the

Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project found at a similar point in 2009, when 63% of Americans were broadband adopters.  
August 11, 2010

## **Gulf Cooperation Council**

### **Two in five UAE residents support BlackBerry ban – survey**

*YouGov survey shows one third of country's BlackBerry subscribers will continue to use handset without banned services.*

August 11, 2010

Two in five United Arab Emirates residents support the decision by the country's telecom watchdog to suspend key BlackBerry services from October and two-thirds expect the announced ban to be implemented, a survey showed Wednesday.

About a quarter of the country's residents oppose the decision to cut BlackBerry services, with resistance particularly strong among Western expatriates, according to the survey, which was conducted by YouGov Siraj between Aug. 3-8 among 750 U.A.E. residents.

The survey found that one-third of current BlackBerry users plan to continue using their handset without the banned services and applications if the service is cut off.

The U.A.E.'s Telecommunication Regulatory Authority said earlier this month it would block key BlackBerry services due to national-security concerns from Oct. 11 but said it remained open for discussions with the handset's maker, Research in Motion.

Little more than a week after the decision by the U.A.E.'s Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, three-quarters of residents are aware of the situation, the survey showed.

BlackBerry maker RIM has come under pressure from authorities in the U.A.E., Saudi Arabia and several other countries in the region and beyond to provide greater access to the encrypted information sent by its handset's devices.

Of the estimated 500,000 BlackBerry users in the U.A.E., Emirates Telecommunications Corp., or Etisalat, the country's top telco in terms of customers, accounts for the bulk of subscribers. The country's second operator, Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Co., better known as Du, has about 100,000 Blackberry subscribers.

Saudi Arabia's telecoms regulator said Tuesday it will allow BlackBerry messenger services to continue in the kingdom as some of its regulatory requirements had been satisfied. The country's Communication and Information Technology Commission had earlier announced it planned to ban some BlackBerry services from Aug. 9.

Source: Yougov Siraj

---

## WEST ASIA

### Afghans, Pakistanis Critical of Efforts to Fight Terrorism

*Pakistanis more unsure than Afghans about efforts to control cross-border terrorism*

August 10, 2010

After last month's leak of U.S. intelligence documents related to the war in Afghanistan suggested Pakistani collusion with the Taliban, Afghan President Hamid Karzai criticized the West, as well as Pakistan, for not doing enough to counter cross-border terrorist threats from within Pakistan. Gallup surveys conducted before the leak found 78% of Afghans would agree Pakistan's efforts fall short.

*Do you think \_\_\_\_\_ is doing enough to control cross-border terrorism?*

Asked of Afghans

	<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>Afghanistan</b>
Yes, doing enough	17%	34%
No, not doing enough	78%	59%
Don't know/Refused (volunteered response)	6%	7%

April 2010

Due to rounding, not all columns will add to 100%.

GALLUP®

A majority of Afghans (59%) also feel this way about their own country's efforts to control cross-border terrorism. Understandably, those closest to the Afghanistan-Pakistan border are the most critical of each country's efforts. More than 90% of Afghans living in the East say both countries are not doing enough.

Across the border in Pakistan, 44% of adults say Afghanistan isn't doing enough to control cross-border terrorism. A similar percentage of Pakistanis (41%) say their own country's efforts fall short.

*Do you think \_\_\_\_\_ is doing enough to control cross-border terrorism?*

Asked of Pakistanis

	<b>Afghanistan</b>	<b>Pakistan</b>
Yes, doing enough	27%	32%
No, not doing enough	44%	41%
Don't know/Refused (volunteered response)	29%	27%

May 2010

Due to rounding, not all columns will add to 100%.

GALLUP®

Pakistanis, even those living closer to the border regions, are less decided than Afghans on this issue. Nearly 3 in 10 Pakistani adults (29%) volunteer they "don't know" whether Afghanistan's cross-border anti-terrorism efforts are sufficient.

About half Pakistanis living in Baluchistan (47%), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (formerly North West Frontier Province; 46%), which border the volatile tribal regions, and Punjab (52%), which borders the Kashmir region, say their country isn't doing enough. More than 4 in 10 in these three provinces also say the same about Afghanistan's efforts.

## **Implications**

Even before the recent intelligence leaks, Gallup surveys showed neither Afghans nor Pakistanis placed much faith in each other's efforts to control cross-border terrorism nor their own respective country's efforts. The situation is likely even more fragile now, but leaders may do better to focus on improving perceptions of their own country's efforts before pointing a finger at the other.

## **Survey Methods**

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted in April 2010 in Afghanistan. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4.1$  percentage points. Gender-matched sampling was used during the final stage of selection.

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted in May 2010 in Pakistan. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3.7$  percentage points. FATA/FANA were excluded. The excluded area represents less than 5% of the population. Gender-matched sampling was used during the final stage of selection.

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

---

**More Than One Third Of All Pakistanis (37%) Claim To Be Affected By The Recent Flood; 14% Severely Affected: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN**

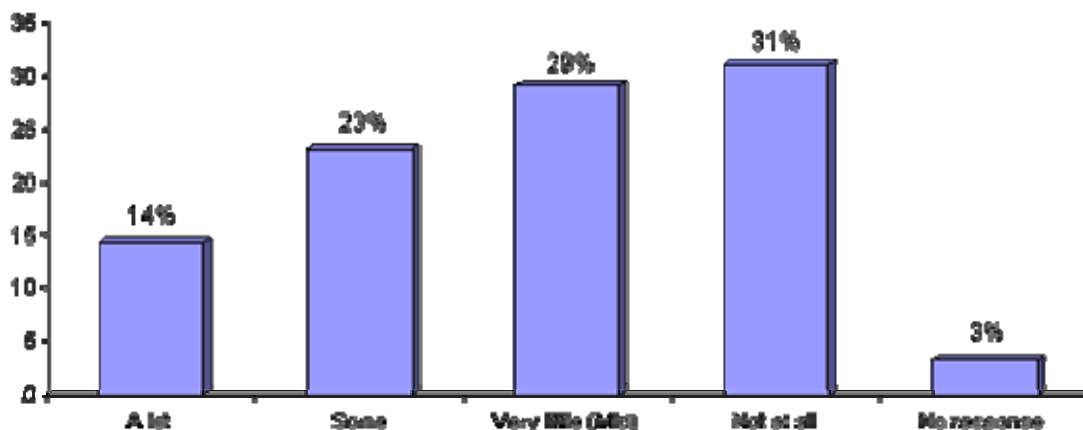
August 12, 2010

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, almost one third of all Pakistanis (37%) claim to be the victims of the flood water, 29% state the affect on them has been very mild while only 31% say they were not affected at all. 3% have given no response. The figures reflect their perceptions and may or may not correspond with the actual flood situation.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: *“The recent spell of rain has caused unnecessary supply of water which has created a lot of problems for the citizens. To what extent have you been affected by the flood water?”* Fourteen percent (14%) said that they have been affected by the flood very seriously, 23% claimed to be the victim of the flood water to some extent. 29% said that their loss has been mild where as 31% claimed not to be affected at all. 3% gave no response.

The findings of the survey reveal that larger proportion of residents of the rural areas (17%) claim to be affected by the flood severely as compared to the urban areas (8%). A comparison among the provinces shows that the residents of Kyber Pakhtoonkhwa (KP) claim to be affected by the flood water the most.

*“The recent spell of rain has caused overflow of water which has created a lot of problems for the citizens. To what extent have you been affected by the flood water?”*



Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan ,

*the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association ([www.gallup-international.com](http://www.gallup-international.com); [www.gallup.com.pk](http://www.gallup.com.pk))*

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan , the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2708 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during August 2010. Error margin is estimated to be approximately  $\pm$  2-3 per cent at 95% confidence level.

---

### **Turks Evenly Split On Constitutional Changes**

August 14, 2010

Results of an upcoming referendum on constitutional amendments in Turkey are hard to call at this point, according to a poll by Sonar Arastirma. 49.1 per cent of respondents would vote yes to enact the government-proposed changes, whereas 50.9 per cent would vote to reject them.

Turkish voters renewed the Great National Assembly in July 2007. Final results gave the Justice and Development Party (AKP) 46.6 per cent of the vote and 341 seats in the legislature. Parties require at least 10 per cent of the vote to earn seats under the country's proportional representation system. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, a member of the AKP, has served as prime minister since March 2003.

Turkey's current constitution was ratified in November 1982, and has been criticized for providing too much power to the Turkish Armed Forces through the National Security Council, an advisory body tasked with developing the "national security policy of the state."

In March, the Turkish government presented 26 amendments to the constitution. The package seeks to expand the Constitutional Court from 11 to 19 members and modify the way these judges are appointed, establish new regulations to ban political parties, and guarantee specific preferential treatment for women, children, the elderly and the disabled.

Erdogan has defended his proposals, saying that the changes are needed for the country to come closer to European Union (EU) membership. The Great National Assembly has approved the reform package. A nationwide referendum will take place on Sept. 12.

On Aug. 8, Erdogan offered an impassioned defence of his proposed amendments, saying, "Will you stand up for a constitution that is the work of a military coup? Or will you stand up for a constitution which is the work of the people? Will you say 'yes' to the law of the privileged? Or will you say 'yes' to the supremacy of law?"

#### **Polling Data**

How would you vote in the referendum? ("Decided Voters" listed)

Yes	49.1%
No	50.9%

*Source: Sonar Arastirma*

*Methodology: Interviews with 4,000 Turkish adults, conducted from Aug. 1 to Aug. 9, 2010.*

*Margin of error is 2.0 per cent.*

---

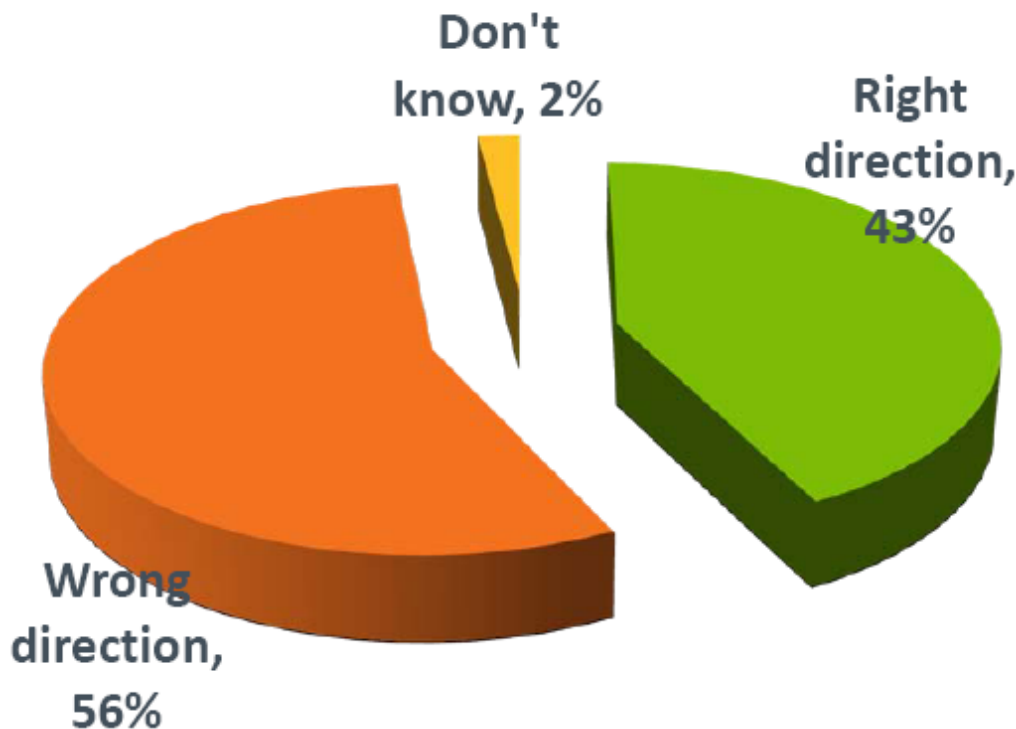


## IRI Poll: Turks Most Concerned with Economic Issues

July 12, 2010

IRI conducted a comprehensive, nationally representative poll in Turkey from May 8 – 16, 2010 (PDF). By examining Turks' views on a variety of national and international topics, as well as attitudes on local government, the survey provides fresh insights into Turkey's socio-economic and political trends.

The governing Justice and Development Party has dominated Turkey for the past decade, but IRI's poll suggests there are opportunities for opposition parties to make up ground in the next general elections, particularly if they focus their efforts on the economy. IRI's poll reveals that 56 percent of Turks believe the country is going in the wrong direction, with the economy and jobs being their chief concerns. Moreover, 85 percent of respondents identified unemployment as either the first or second most urgent problem facing Turkey. Turks are concerned that their representatives are not paying enough attention to these problems: a 43 percent plurality say politicians are not talking enough about economic issues. This could have implications for the next general elections, as a 56 percent combined majority responded that economic stability and fighting unemployment would be the most important issues to them in the next election.



In contrast to the national outlook, attitudes toward local government tend to be more positive. Sixty-three percent of respondents believe their municipality is heading in the right direction. IRI's poll also revealed that there is considerable public interest for greater personal involvement in the oversight of local government. Sixty-three percent of Turks said they would participate, at

some level, if citizen councils were formed to audit the decisions and practices of their municipal governments.

The survey also explored some of the most publicly debated national issues in Turkey, including the government's controversial constitutional reform package. With constitutional amendments approved by the Turkish Grand National Assembly and slated for a referendum in September, a slim 51 percent majority believes that the constitution needs to be amended.

Finally, despite increasing concern that Turkey and the European Union (EU) are drifting apart, 63 percent of Turks still believe that their country's membership in the EU is a good thing. At the same time, only 51 percent would actually vote for Turkey's EU membership if a referendum were held today.

---

## **EAST EUROPE**

### **Russians Still Smitten with Putin, Medvedev**

August 11, 2010

President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin remain highly popular in Russia, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 72 per cent of respondents approve of Medvedev's performance, and 77 per cent endorse Putin's.

Support for Medvedev is down two points since June; Putin's popularity is down one point.

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

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

The next presidential election is scheduled for March 2012. Both Putin and Medvedev are eligible to run as candidates.

On Jul. 29, Medvedev was reported as saying that he was "bored to death" by ministers in his cabinet who fill performance reports with positive news, leaving the bad news hidden or unmentioned.

### **Polling Data**

Do you approve or disapprove of Russian president Dmitry Medvedev's performance?

<b>Jul. 2010</b>	<b>Jun. 2010</b>	<b>May 2010</b>
------------------	------------------	-----------------

Approve	72%	74%	77%
Disapprove	26%	23%	21%

Do you approve or disapprove of Russian prime minister Vladimir Putin's performance?

	Jul. 2010	Jun. 2010	May 2010
Approve	77%	78%	80%
Disapprove	21%	20%	19%

Source: Yury Levada Analytical Center

Methodology: Interviews with 1,600 Russian adults, conducted from Jul. 23 to Jul. 26, 2010.

Margin of error is 3.4 per cent.

### **Poles Stand Behind Governing Civic Platform**

August 09, 2010

The popularity of Poland's governing Civic Platform (PO) party is on the rise, according to a poll by GfK Polonia published in *Rzeczpospolita*. 48 per cent of respondents would vote for the PO in the next legislative election, up four points since mid-June.

The opposition Law and Justice Party (PiS) is behind with 40 per cent, followed by the Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) with nine per cent, and the Peasant's Party (PSL) with one per cent.

In October 2007, Polish voters renewed the Diet, or lower house of Parliament. Final results gave the PO 41.51 per cent of the vote and 209 seats, followed by the PiS with 32.11 per cent and 166 seats. In November, the PO and the PSL—who together hold 240 seats in the 460-member Diet—agreed to form a coalition government. PO leader Donald Tusk was sworn in as prime minister.

In Poland, the definition of presidential powers declares that the head of state is the "guardian of Polish sovereignty and security" who "co-operates" with the government. Last month, Bronislaw Komorowski of the PO won the presidential election in a run-off against Jaroslaw Kaczynski of the PiS with 53.01 per cent of the vote.

Kaczynski's brother Lech served as the country's president from December 2005 until April 2010. He was expected to seek a new term in office in an election tentatively scheduled for October 2010, but died—along with his wife Maria and 94 other government officials—in a plane crash while heading to an official ceremony in Russia.

Komorowski was the parliamentary speaker and took over as acting president following Lech Kaczynski's death.

On Aug. 6, Komorowski was sworn in. In his inauguration speech, the new president vowed to strengthen Polish ties with the European Union (EU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and Russia, declaring, "We want to reinforce, inspire and make the Old Continent more dynamic."

### **Polling Data**

What party would you support in the next election?

	<b>Jul. 12</b>	<b>Jun. 15</b>	<b>May 11</b>
Civic Platform (PO)	48%	44%	45%
Law and Justice Party (PiS)	40%	36%	36%
Democratic Left Alliance (SLD)	9%	8%	8%
Peasant's Party (PSL)	1%	3%	5%

*Source: GfK Polonia / Rzeczpospolita*

*Methodology: Interviews to 985 Polish adults, conducted from Jul. 8 to Jul. 12, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

## **WEST EUROPE**

### **Nurses are Most Respected Professionals in Britain**

August 10, 2010

Most people in Britain hold nurses in a favourable light, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 94 per cent of respondents have a great deal or a fair amount of respect for nurses.

Doctors are next on the list with 91 per cent, followed by soldiers with 90 per cent. At least four-in-five respondents have a great deal or a fair amount of respect for scientists, engineers, farmers, veterinarians, teachers and dentists.

Conversely, fewer than one-in-four respondents express a great deal or a fair amount of respect for journalists, politicians, bankers and car salesmen.

Since 1948, the publicly-funded National Health Service (NHS) has provided health care services to citizens and residents of the United Kingdom. The NHS was originally created to meet the medical requirements of every person, be free at the point of delivery and be based on clinical needs, and not the ability to pay.

Earlier this week, Scottish shadow health secretary Richard Simpson expressed dismay at some NHS expenditures, saying, "I am astonished that Scottish health boards have spent nearly

£4million over the last three years on hospitality. I want to see the NHS using its resources to employ nurses and midwives, rather than entertaining people."

### **Polling Data**

Generally speaking, do you tend to have a great deal of respect, a fair amount of respect, not much respect or very little respect for each of the following professions? - A great deal of respect / A fair amount of respect

Nurses	94%
Doctors	91%
Soldiers	90%
Scientists	87%
Engineers	86%
Farmers	85%
Veterinarians	85%
Teachers	83%
Dentists	81%
Police Officers	79%
Architects	70%
Athletes	68%
Psychiatrists	65%
Judges	61%
Car mechanics	60%
Priests / Ministers	56%
Actors / Artists	51%
Lawyers	49%

Accountants	48%
Building contractors	41%
Business executives	32%
Journalists	24%
Politicians	21%
Bankers	17%
Car salesmen	12%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,992 British adults, conducted from Jul. 20 to Jul. 23, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.*

### **Britons Still Think the Economy is in Shambles**

August 08, 2010

The mood of people in Britain regarding the national economy remains sour, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 82 per cent of respondents say the economy is in poor or very poor shape, down six points since June.

Britain has been greatly affected by the global financial crisis that stemmed from defaults on subprime mortgages in the United States. In 2007, the British Northern Rock bank—a prominent mortgage lender—was forced to seek emergency funding from the government.

Britain's deficit—one of the highest in the G-20—reached 11.1 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the year through March.

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 Aug. 3, Cameron commented on his government's austerity budget, declaring, "it is a difficult thing to do but I think the British people understand it's necessary. There'll be a stronger, better, a more balanced British economy at the end of this process."

### **Polling Data**

How would you rate the economic conditions in the United Kingdom today?

	<b>Jul. 2010</b>	<b>Jun. 2010</b>	<b>May 2010</b>	<b>Apr. 2010</b>
Very Good / Good	13%	9%	13%	14%
Poor / Very Poor	82%	88%	83%	81%
Not sure	5%	3%	4%	4%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,956 British adults, conducted from Jul. 28 to Aug. 1, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.*

## **Support For Female And Gay Bishops**

July 14, 2010

British adults are supportive of the appointment of female Bishops, results from a recent YouGov survey reveal.

When asked if they think the Church of England should allow the appointment of female Bishops, the majority (63%) said that they should. Only 1 in 10 respondents are not in favour of the change, which has proved controversial amongst traditionalists who argue that it is against the Bible's teachings.

Although to a somewhat lesser extent, there is also support amongst British adults for the appointment of gay Bishops, with 39% believing the Church of England should allow the appointment of Bishops who are homosexual.

Over a quarter (27%) of respondents think the Church of England should not allow the appointment of Bishops who are gay.

The Dean of St Albans, Jeffrey John, who is openly gay but celibate, has reportedly been blocked from nomination as Bishop of Southwark. Seven years ago Jeffrey John withdrew his acceptance of appointment as Bishop of Reading in response to controversy over his sexuality.

Do you think the Church of England should or should not allow the appointment of Bishops who are gay?

Should	39	32	45	49	33	44	42	52	39	25	42	34	45	38	35	38	44
Should not	27	37	21	20	32	22	22	16	27	40	26	28	24	26	31	26	26
Have no opinion either way	31	30	32	28	33	29	29	27	32	34	29	34	27	34	29	32	28
Don't know	3	2	3	2	2	4	7	5	2	1	3	4	4	2	5	3	3

The General Synod of the Church of England is also still considering how to accommodate the appointment of female Bishops. Do you think the Church of England should or should not allow the appointment of female Bishops?

Should	63	58	70	73	59	67	61	70	66	55	65	61	64	61	66	64	59
Should not	10	15	8	7	12	9	6	7	9	17	12	9	12	11	10	9	11
Have no opinion either way	24	25	20	17	27	20	25	19	23	28	21	27	21	26	20	24	26
Don't know	3	2	2	3	2	4	8	4	2	0	2	3	3	2	3	3	4

There is also a difference of opinion between genders, with 44% of women in Britain supporting the appointment of homosexual Bishops, compared to 33% of men.

The results show a similar story when it comes to the appointment of female Bishops. As was the case with attitudes to allowing homosexuals to become Bishops, more women think the Church of England should ordain female Bishops than men - 67% compared to 59%.

Source: Yougov

---

### **Few Italians Want Berlusconi to Finish his Term**

August 08, 2010

Few people in Italy want Silvio Berlusconi to finish his current term in office, according to a poll by Digis. Only 28 per cent of respondents want the prime minister's government to stay in place until the end of the term.

Conversely, 42 per cent of respondents would prefer to form a Grand Coalition government, and 30 per cent would choose to hold a snap general election.

Italian voters renewed the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate in April 2008. Final results gave Berlusconi's right-wing coalition—encompassing the Italian People of Freedom Party (PdL), the Northern League (LN), and the Movement for Autonomy (MPA)—344 seats in the lower house, and 174 seats in the upper house. The victory put an end to the government of the centre-left Union (Unione), headed by Romano Prodi.

Berlusconi was sworn in as the country's new head of government in May 2008. He had previously served as prime minister from May 1994 to January 1995, and from June 2001 to May 2006.

In March 2009, the National Alliance (AN)—a political party with fascist roots—was officially dissolved and merged with Berlusconi's PdL. The AN has been a steady supporter of the prime minister and was instrumental in Berlusconi's latest electoral victory. AN leader Gianfranco Fini is the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

Since May, two members of Berlusconi's cabinet have resigned: industry minister Claudio Scajola and minister without portfolio Aldo Brancher. Scajola stepped down over allegations of improper real-estate dealings, and Brancher was on trial in a case of embezzlement.

The governing coalition has recently faced in-fighting, with Fini creating a splinter movement in the legislature—called Future and Freedom for Italy (FLI)—which has criticized Berlusconi.



On Aug. 6, Fabrizio Cicchitto, leader of center-right parliamentarians in the Lower House, said Berlusconi will force a confidence vote in the fall to test the unity of the right-wing coalition, declaring, "In September, Berlusconi will present a platform based on a few points. We hope that a majority can be found to support them and renew the confidence in the government. Otherwise, at that point, there can be no alternative to elections."

### **Polling Data**

Which of these options would you prefer for Italy's political future?

A Grand Coalition government taking over	42%
A snap general election	30%
The Berlusconi government staying in place until the end of the term	28%

*Source:*

*Digis*

*Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,000 Italian adults, conducted on Jul. 23 and Jul. 24, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

---

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### **The Vote for Congress: GOP Fares Better with Whites, Men, Independents and Seniors**

Who's Moving, Who's Staying: 2006-2010

August 10, 2010

The Republican Party's prospects for the midterm elections look much better than they did four years ago at this time, while the Democrats' look much worse. Voter preferences for the upcoming congressional elections remain closely divided (45% support the Democratic candidate or lean Democratic, while 44% favor the Republican or lean Republican). In polling conducted in August-September 2006, the Democrats held an 11-point advantage (50% to 39%).

## Who's Moving, Who's Staying: 2006-2010

Vote for Congress...	Aug-Sept 2006			August 2010		
	Rep %	Dem %	Dem Adv	Rep %	Dem %	Dem Adv
All voters	39	50	+11	44	45	+1
<i>Rep-leaning groups returning to the fold</i>						
White, non-Hispanic	43	45	+2	51	38	-13
Men	43	46	+3	49	40	-9
<i>Swing groups becoming disillusioned with the Democrats</i>						
Independents	31	46	+15	42	35	-7
White non-Hisp Catholics	39	49	+10	48	43	-5
Ages 65 and older	39	50	+11	46	43	-3
<i>Dem-leaning groups remaining with the party</i>						
Black, non-Hispanic	14	78	+64	9	84	+75
Ages 18 to 29	38	52	+14	39	49	+10

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010.  
Based on registered voters. Figures read across.

Major shifts in sentiment among key voting blocs account for the improved GOP standing in 2010. The Republicans now enjoy advantages among typically loyal voting blocs that wavered in 2006, notably men and whites.

The GOP is also now running better than four years ago among three key swing groups in recent elections -- independents, white Catholics and seniors.

The Republicans also continue to enjoy an engagement advantage over the Democrats, which at least in part reflects the greater disposition to vote among these voting blocs that have swung their way. In contrast, groups such as young people and African Americans, who continue to support the Democrats by comparable margins as in 2006, are relatively unenthusiastic about voting.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 21-Aug. 5 among 3,003 adults, including 2,431 registered voters, finds that the basic contours of opinion about the midterm election have changed little since the start of the year. In four previous surveys in 2010, preferences among registered voters were also evenly divided. Also as in past surveys, economic issues continue to be most important for voters. At the other end of the spectrum, same-sex marriage ranks last in importance among 13 issues tested in the new poll.

---

## Congressional Horse Race

	<b>Vote Rep %</b>	<b>Vote Dem %</b>	<b>DK %</b>	<b>N</b>
All voters	44	45	11	2431
Republican	93	5	3	754
Conservative Rep	95	3	2	538
Mod/Liberal Rep	86	9	5	200
Democrat	4	93	3	824
Cons/Mod Dem	6	90	4	477
Liberal Dem	2	98	1	316
Independent	42	35	23	747
Lean Rep	85	5	10	342
Lean Dem	10	78	12	277
Men	49	40	11	1035
Women	39	49	11	1396
18-29	39	49	12	294
30-49	44	44	12	657
50-64	44	47	9	790
65+	46	43	11	641
White non-Hispanic	51	38	11	1874
Black non-Hispanic	9	84	7	279
Hispanic	30	60	10	136
College graduate	46	45	10	996
Some college	44	44	12	651
High school or less	42	46	11	769
Protestant	49	42	9	1352
White evangelical	67	23	10	566
White mainline	50	41	9	460
Black Protestant	7	86	7	227
Catholic	41	49	10	528
White non-Hisp	48	43	9	420
Unaffiliated	36	49	16	320
<i>Tea Party</i>				
Agree with	84	9	7	696
Disagree with	9	84	6	578
No opinion/ Never heard of	38	47	15	1157

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010.  
Based on registered voters. Figures read across.

---

## The Vote for Congress

Republicans and Democrats express near-unanimous support for candidates of their own party (93% each), while independents are divided (42% for Republican candidates vs. 35% for Democratic candidates).

More than eight-in-ten Republican-leaning independents (85%) favor the GOP candidate in their district; 78% of Democratic-leaning independents support the Democratic candidate.

Men are 10 points more likely than women to favor Republican candidates (49% vs. 39%). About half of white voters (51%) favor Republican candidates, while blacks overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates (84%). Hispanic voters favor Democrats by a two-to-one margin (60% to 30%).

About a quarter of all voters (27%) say they generally agree with the Tea Party political movement; and the vast majority of this group (84%) says they will vote Republican this fall. Conversely, those who disagree with the Tea Party (22% of voters) overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates (84%). About half of voters (51%) have never heard of the Tea Party or have no opinion of it; these voters favor Democratic candidates over GOP candidates by a modest margin (47% to 38%)

### **Wide Partisan Gap in Engagement Persists**

In the current survey, 44% of voters say they have given "quite a lot" of thought to the November election. This is comparable to the level of interest expressed by voters in September 2006 (45%), though it is quite a bit higher than in September 2002, when just 36% said they had given a lot of thought to the upcoming elections. Currently, interest is on par with levels later in the 1994 and 1998 midterm campaigns (44% and 42%, respectively, in early October of those two years).

---

## GOP's Engagement Advantage

	<b>Given a lot of thought to the election</b>	<b>Absolutely certain to vote</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
All voters	44	70
<i>Plan to...</i>		
Vote Republican	59	79
Vote Democratic	34	66
<i>Party identification</i>		
Republican	55	77
Conservative Rep	62	81
Mod/Liberal Rep	41	71
Democrat	37	69
Cons/Mod Dem	37	69
Liberal Dem	39	69
Independent	43	66
Lean Rep	62	76
Lean Dem	29	59

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010.  
Based on registered voters.

---

The partisan enthusiasm gap seen in surveys earlier this year persists. (For a detailed analysis of the GOP's enthusiasm advantage, see "[Voting Intentions Even, Turnout Indicators Favor GOP](#)," July 1, 2010).

Republicans and conservatives continue to express far greater interest in the election than do Democrats and liberals. More than half of Republicans (55%) say they have given a lot of thought to the election, compared with 37% of Democrats. Among Republican-leaning independents, 62% have given a lot of thought to the election; Democratic-leaning independents are much less engaged (29%). Among Republicans, conservatives are far more engaged than those who describe themselves as moderates or liberals (62% vs. 41%).

Republican voters also are more likely than Democrats to say they are absolutely certain to vote in November. More than three-quarters of Republicans (77%) say they are certain to vote, compared with 69% of Democrats.

## Men, Seniors and Whites More Eager to Vote

	<i>Engagement in the campaign*</i>		
	<b>High</b> %	<b>Medium</b> %	<b>Low</b> %
All voters	39	36	25
Men	46	33	22
Women	34	38	27
18-29	23	34	43
30-49	35	39	26
50-64	47	33	19
65+	49	36	15
White, non-Hispanic	43	35	23
Black, non-Hispanic	24	43	33
Hispanic	35	33	32
College graduate	47	33	20
Some college	39	39	22
High school or less	33	36	31

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010.

Based on registered voters.

\*High engagement voters are those who have given "a lot of thought" to the election and are "absolutely certain" to vote in November. Medium engagement are those who say yes to one of these two. Low engagement are those who say yes to neither of these two questions.

There is a somewhat larger gap between independents who lean Republican (76% certain to vote) and those who lean Democratic (59%). As with thought given to the election, conservative Republicans are the most engaged, with fully 81% saying they are certain to vote.

Taking two indicators of engagement together -- thought given to the election and intention to vote -- it is clear that Republicans and Republican-leaning groups are far more energized at this point in the campaign than are Democrats and Democratic groups. Overall, 39% of registered voters are highly engaged: They have given a lot of thought to the campaign and say they definitely will vote. Among voters who identify as Republicans, 50% fall into to this high engagement category. Perhaps equally important, 57% of independents who say they lean to the GOP are rated as highly engaged.

By comparison, Democrats are significantly less engaged. Just 33% of Democrats and 23% of Democratic-leaning independents fall into the high engagement category. Similarly, relatively few among two key demographic groups that supported Democratic candidates in 2006 and 2008, African Americans and young people, rate high on campaign engagement (24% for African Americans, 23% for voters ages 18 to 29).

It is important to keep in mind that interest in the election is not the only factor that motivates voting. Many people vote as a habit, which may be why the overall percentage saying they are "certain to vote" -- either absolutely or fairly certain -- is more similar between the parties. This

survey did not ask about previous voting behavior, which is a usual part of pollsters' indexes of likely voting.

Much as the Democratic Party attempted to make the 2006 elections a referendum on Republican control of the government, Republican candidates are stressing national issues this year, and Republican voters are more likely than others to say national issues are important. Asked which factor among four would be most important in their vote, a small plurality (36%) of all voters picked national issues, followed by 29% for local or state issues, 22% for candidate character and experience and just 5% who said the candidate's political party would be most important. The percentage choosing national issues is higher than in September 2006, when 29% chose this option, and is far larger than in off-year elections from 1994 through 2002.

Among voters who support the GOP candidate in their district, 45% say national issues are most important, compared with 30% among those who say they intend to vote Democratic.

---

### **On the Issues, Obama Finds Majority Approval Elusive**

*Scores best on race relations, education*

August 11, 2010

Barack Obama's 52% approval rating for handling race relations is the only issue among 13 tested in two recent Gallup polls for which the president receives majority-level approval. In fact, a majority disapprove of the job the president is doing on eight of these issues, with his worst scores for his handling of immigration and the federal budget deficit.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling -- [RANDOM ORDER]?*

	<b>% Approve</b>	<b>% Disapprove</b>
Race relations*	52	38
Education^	49	40
Terrorism^	48	45
Energy policy^	47	42
Foreign affairs^	44	48
The environment*	43	51
The situation in Iraq*	41	53
Taxes^	41	54
Healthcare policy^	40	57
The economy^	38	59
The situation in Afghanistan*	36	57
The federal budget deficit^	31	64
Immigration^	29	62

\*Based on a July 27-Aug. 1 USA Today/Gallup poll

^Based on an Aug. 5-8 Gallup poll

**GALLUP\***

These results are based on a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted July 27-Aug. 1 and a separate Gallup poll conducted Aug. 5-8, which asked Americans to say whether they approve or disapprove of the way the president is dealing with each of several issues. Both polls measured Obama's handling of the economy, which Americans rated essentially the same in each (39% and 38%, respectively).

Obama's generally tepid evaluations on issues are not surprising considering his overall job approval rating has consistently been below 50%.

There is no clear pattern for how Americans rate the president on international versus domestic issues. For example, on the international side, respondents rate him relatively well for how he has handled terrorism but poorly for his handling of the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. On the domestic side, Obama gets fairly high ratings for handling race relations and education but respondents rate him poorly for handling immigration, the federal budget deficit, and the economy.

**Economic Ratings Remain Depressed**

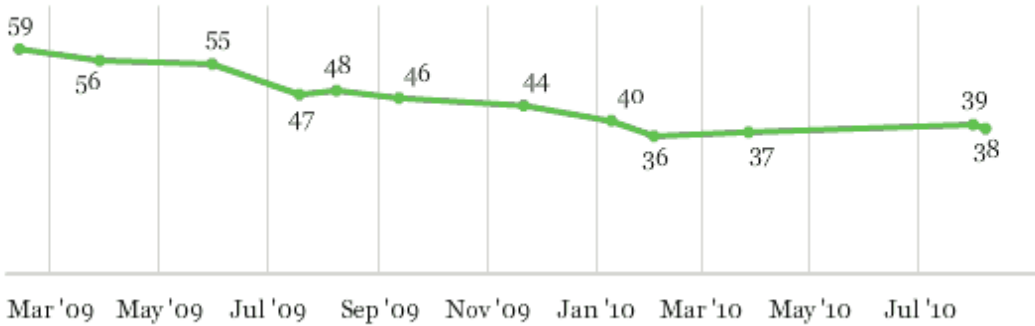
With the economy ranking as the top problem in Americans' minds, Obama's ratings for handling the economy are important to his *and* his party's political fortunes. His economic approval



ratings are generally weak, at 38% approval. Although these are down significantly from last year, they have not gotten appreciably worse in 2010.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the economy?*

■ % Approve

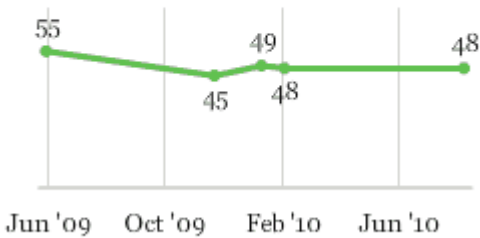


GALLUP®

That same general pattern of declining ratings in 2009 and flat ratings in 2010 also applies to Obama's ratings on terrorism and the federal budget deficit, two other issues Gallup has measured on a regular basis during Obama's presidency.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling terrorism?*

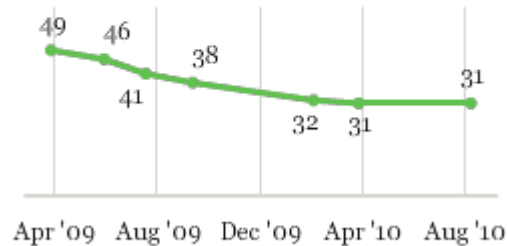
■ % Approve



GALLUP®

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the federal budget deficit?*

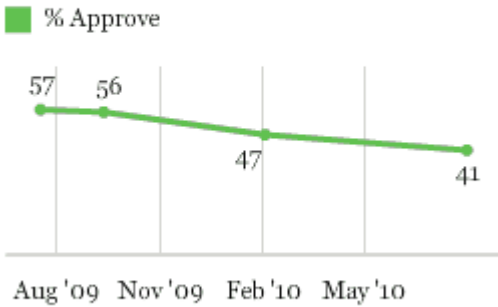
■ % Approve



GALLUP®

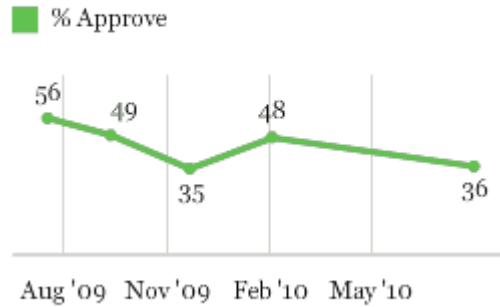
In contrast, Obama's ratings on international issues -- including the two ongoing wars -- have deteriorated this year. In the case of Afghanistan, the decline is due in part to a bump in his rating after he announced his new strategy for that war late last year.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the situation in Iraq?*



GALLUP®

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan?*



GALLUP®

## Implications

Less than a majority of Americans give Obama a positive review for the job he is doing as president overall, and the same applies to their opinions of how he is handling most of the issues he is having to contend with as president.

In general, the public could rate the president poorly on issues for three major reasons. One is a perception that the president is not doing enough to address a problem facing the country, which some could argue applies to the Obama administration handling of immigration and the federal budget deficit. A second possibility is the president has taken obvious action to address a problem but Americans do not necessarily agree with the approach he has taken, which could apply to Obama and the healthcare policy. A third possibility is that Americans may support the president's policies but are disappointed by the lack of progress on an issue, which could apply to Obama and Afghanistan and possibly the economy as well.

## Survey Methods

Results are drawn from two surveys.

A *USA Today*/Gallup poll consisting of telephone interviews conducted July 27-Aug. 1, 2010, with a random sample of 1,208 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  $\pm 3$  percentage points.

A Gallup poll consisting of telephone interviews conducted Aug. 5-8, 2010, with a random sample of 1,013 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell phone only). Each sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone-only respondents and 850 landline respondents per 1,000 interviews, 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.

**Low Approval of Congress Not Budging, Now 19%**

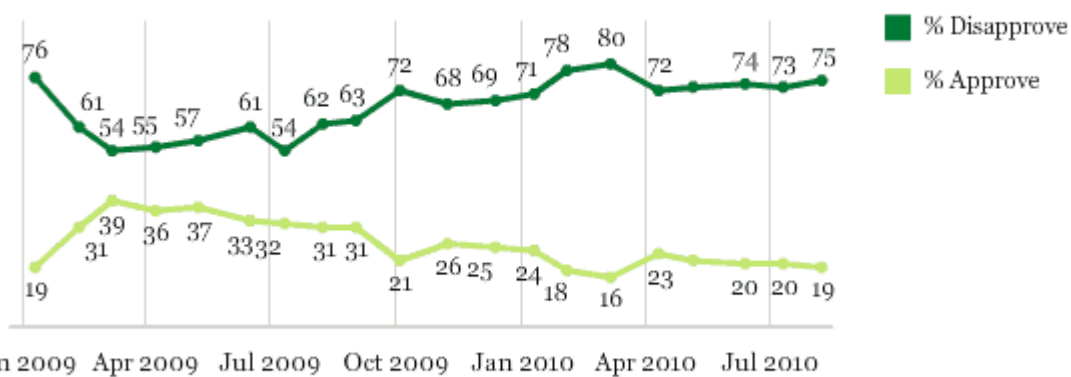
*Democrats' approval is up slightly to 38%; Republicans' hits record-low 5%*

August 11, 2010

Congress' job rating from the American people in August remains near the historical lows seen in recent months. Nineteen percent of Americans now approve of the overall job Congress is doing, while 75% disapprove.

*Congressional Job Approval, January 2009-August 2010*

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?



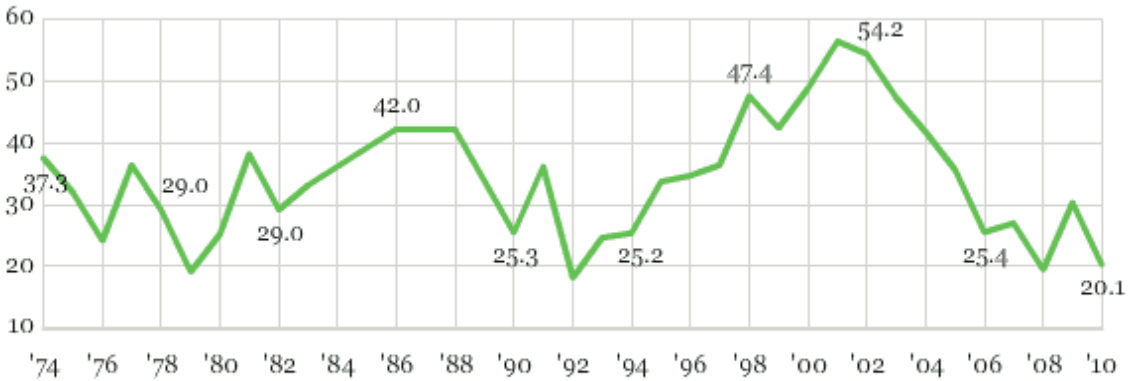
GALLUP®

Congress' average approval rating thus far in 2010 is 20% -- down from 30% in 2009, the first year of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. This year's average easily trails the 36% average approval Gallup has recorded for Congress since the measure was established in 1974, and is the lowest seen in any

midterm congressional election year since then. The record-low single rating for the measure is 14% in July 2008.

*Congressional Job Approval -- Annual Averages*

% Approve



Average approval for midterm election years shown; 2010 figure based on January-August data

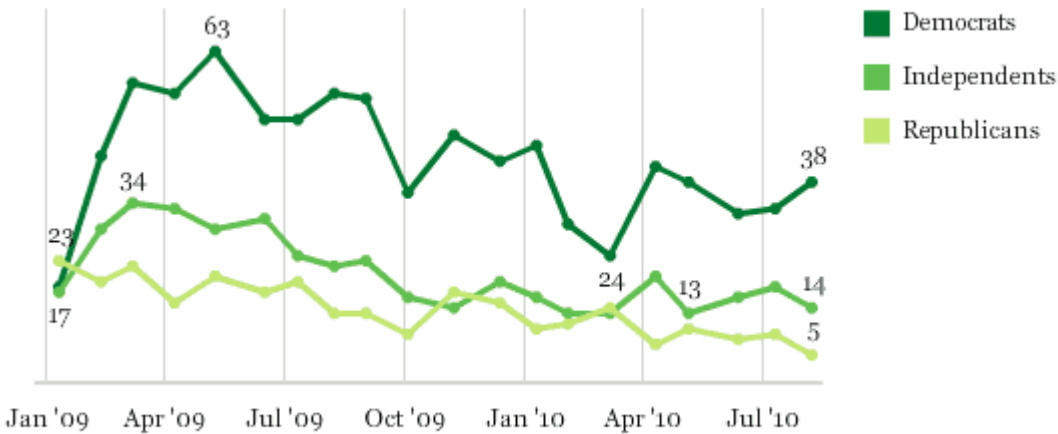
GALLUP®

With just three months remaining before the congressional midterm elections, public opinion of Congress may be growing slightly more polarized. Democrats' approval of Congress now stands at 38%, a bit higher than its June and July levels. In contrast, approval among Republicans, as well as independents, is down from where it has been since June.

The 5% of Republicans who currently approve of Congress is also the absolute lowest approval rating from members of either party that Gallup has found since at least 1993.

*Congressional Job Approval by Party ID, January 2009-August 2010*

% Approve



GALLUP®

**Bottom Line**

The persistently low approval of Congress this year is a strong signal of public discontent with the legislative branch. While it is understandable that Republicans would be unhappy with a Congress that has passed some major legislation initiated by the Democratic Obama administration, it is noteworthy that approval is also low among Democrats. A year ago at this time, 55% of Democrats approved of the job Congress was doing.

Low congressional job approval is generally associated with large seat losses by the majority party in midterm elections, a sign of potential trouble for the Democrats in 2010.

**Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 5-8, 2010, with a random sample of 1,013 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 adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

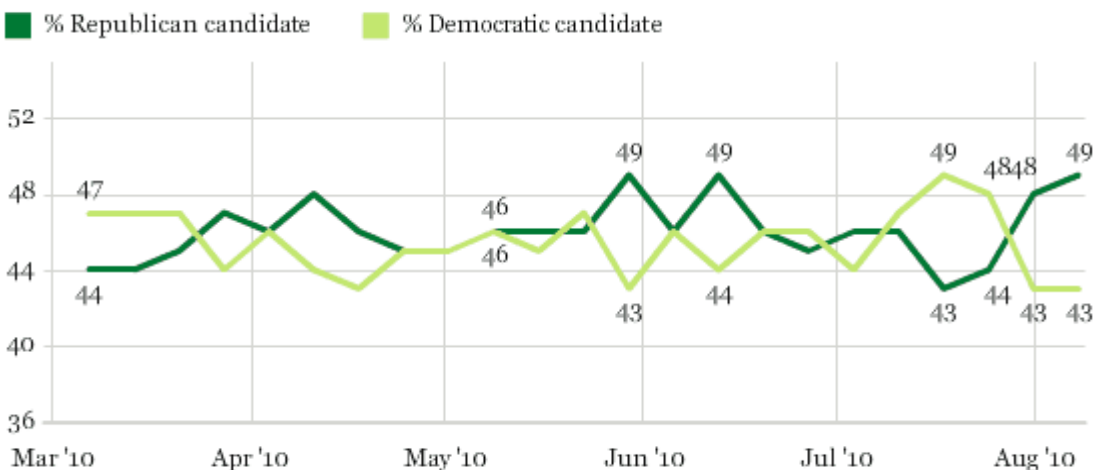
## **GOP Maintains Lead on Generic Ballot for Congress**

*Second week in a row favorable to Republicans*

August 10, 2010

Republicans have a 49% to 43% lead over Democrats among registered voters in Gallup's generic ballot for Congress for the week of Aug. 2-8, the second straight week in which Republicans have held an edge in projected voting.

*Candidate Preferences in 2010 Congressional Elections, Among Registered Voters*



Results based on weekly averages of Gallup Daily tracking

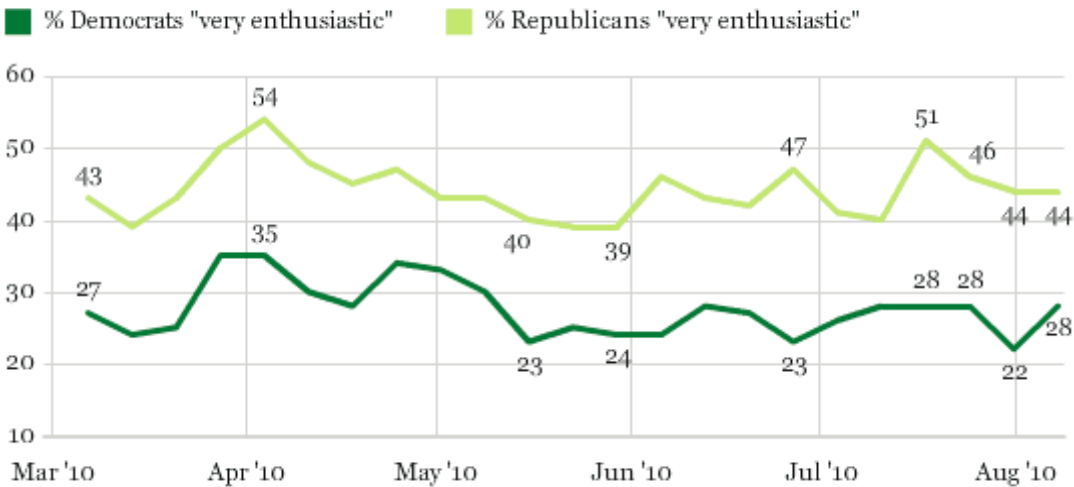
GALLUP®

The current six-percentage-point Republican lead ties the largest for either party so far, although Republicans have generally tied or held an advantage over Democrats since Gallup began tracking the generic ballot in March. The major exception to this prevailing pattern came July 12-25, when Democrats moved ahead with six- and four-point weekly advantages.

Republicans have maintained at least a 10-point advantage in voting enthusiasm since March, including this past week's 16-point lead over Democrats in the percentage who are "very enthusiastic" about voting. The widest such gap was 24 points in late June.

### Registered Voters' Enthusiasm About Voting in 2010

Would you say you are enthusiastic or not enthusiastic about voting in this year's congressional elections? (If enthusiastic): Are you very enthusiastic or somewhat enthusiastic?



Results based on weekly averages of Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

### Implications

Gallup's weekly generic ballot updates are based on relatively large sample sizes -- more than 1,500 interviews with registered voters in most weeks -- providing a solid sample base for estimated voting intentions. The Republican and Democratic Parties have essentially been tied on a number of occasions -- with some upticks in GOP support from time to time, as has been the case for the past two weeks, but also with a Democratic advantage during the two-week period in July.

Republicans historically enjoy a turnout advantage in midterm elections, meaning that a final pre-election registered-voter margin either tied or tilting in the GOP's direction would almost certainly translate into major Republican seat gains. This possibility is underscored by Republicans' substantial advantage in enthusiasm over Democrats so far this year. However, given that Democratic candidates moved ahead of Republican candidates in the generic ballot for two weeks at the end of July, the possibility exists that Democrats could gain support again between now and Nov. 2.

### Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup Daily tracking survey Aug. 2-8, 2010, with a random sample of 1,554 registered voters, 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 registered voters, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  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.

---

### **In U.S., Confidence in Newspapers, TV News Remains a Rarity**

*No more than 25% say they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in either*

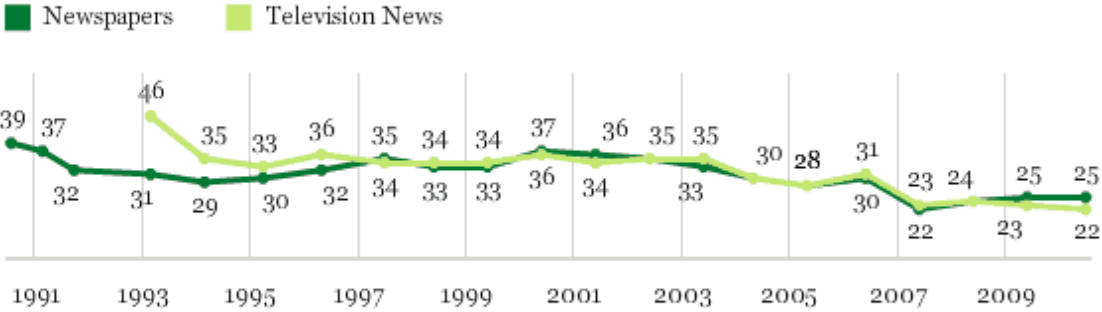
August 13, 2010

Americans continue to express near-record-low confidence in newspapers and television news -- with no more than 25% of Americans saying they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in either. These views have hardly budged since falling more than 10 percentage points from 2003-2007.



### Americans' Confidence in Newspapers and Television News

% "Great deal"/"quite a lot"



Gallup trend since 1990

GALLUP®

The findings are from Gallup's annual Confidence in Institutions survey, which found the military faring best and Congress faring worst of 16 institutions tested. Americans' confidence in newspapers and television news is on par with Americans' lackluster confidence in banks and slightly better than their dismal rating of Health Management Organizations and big business.

The decline in trust since 2003 is also evident in a 2009 Gallup poll that asked about confidence and trust in the "mass media" more broadly. While perceptions of media bias present a viable hypothesis, Americans have not over the same period grown any more likely to say the news media are too conservative or too liberal.

No matter the cause, it is clear the media as a whole are not gaining new fans as they struggle to serve and compete with growing demand for online news, social media, and mobile platforms. The Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism's annual report on the State of the News Media, released in March, found for a third straight year, only digital and cable news sources growing in popularity, while network news, local news, and newspaper audiences shrink. These findings align with a similar 2008 Gallup poll that found cable and Internet news sources growing in popularity while all others held steady or declined.

While it is unclear how much respondents factored in the online and cable offshoots of "newspapers" and "television news" when assessing their confidence in these institutions, their responses do not provide much encouragement for the media more broadly. Confidence is hard to find, even among Democrats and liberals, who have historically been the most trusting of the news media. While 18- to 29-year-olds express more trust in newspapers than most older Americans, Gallup polling has found they read national newspapers the least. Younger Americans also expressed more confidence than older Americans in several other institutions tested, including Congress, the medical system, and the criminal justice system, suggesting younger Americans are more confident in institutions in general.

*Americans' Confidence in Newspapers and Television News,  
by Age, Party, and Ideology*

% "Great deal"/"quite a lot"

	<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Television News</b>
National adults	25	22
18- to 29-year-olds	49	24
30- to 49-year-olds	16	16
50- to 64-year-olds	22	23
65-year-olds and older	24	25
Republicans	21	16
Independents	20	18
Democrats	33	31
Conservatives	18	18
Moderates	25	25
Liberals	35	24

Gallup poll, July 8-11, 2010

GALLUP®

**Implications**

With nearly all news organizations struggling to keep up with the up-to-the-minute news cycle and to remain profitable in the process, Americans' low trust in newspapers and television news presents a critical barrier to success. The Pew report asserts that 80% of new media links are to legacy newspapers and broadcast networks, making clear that traditional news sources remain the backbone of the media. But so long as roughly three in four Americans remain distrustful, it will be difficult to attract the large and loyal audiences necessary to boost revenues.

**Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 8-11, 2010, with a random sample of 1,020 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

---

### **Economy Remains Top Concern as Nov. Elections Draw Nearer**

*Two-thirds of Americans mention aspects of the economy as the nation's top problem*

August 13, 2010

Americans of all political persuasions say the economy and jobs are the most important problems facing the country today. These concerns easily outpace all others, thus providing politicians seeking office in this fall's midterm elections with clear marching orders from their constituents: Fix the economy.

*What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?*

	<b>% Mentioning</b>
Economy in general	30
Unemployment/Jobs	28
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians; poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power	12
Federal budget deficit/federal debt	7
Poor healthcare/hospitals; high cost of healthcare	7
Immigration/illegal aliens	7
Ethics/moral/religious/family decline; dishonesty	5
Wars/War (non-specific)/Fear of war	4
Education/poor education/access to education	3
Lack of respect for each other	3
Natural disaster response/relief	3

Gallup poll, Aug. 5-8, 2010

**GALLUP®**

Economic concerns have dominated Americans' views of the nation's top problems since early 2008. In the Aug. 5-8 Gallup poll, 65% of Americans mention some aspect of the economy as the top problem facing the country, down only slightly from the beginning of this year.

Other problems 5% or more of Americans mention include dissatisfaction with government and Congress, healthcare, immigration issues, and the decline in ethics/morals/family values.

"There are many political and ideological differences in the way Republicans, independents, and Democrats view the world in today's highly partisan political environment, but there is general agreement across these three groups that the economy and jobs are the nation's top problems."

Immigration -- in the news recently as a result of Arizona's controversial new immigration law -- is tied for fourth on the list of problems. Other specific issues receiving significant news coverage recently do not appear to be highly top of mind with Americans. These include gay marriage, the war in Afghanistan, and global warming -- none of which more than 2% of Americans specifically mention as the nation's top problem.

Americans are much less likely to mention healthcare as the nation's top problem than they were likely to in February, in the middle of debate over President Obama's new healthcare reform law. Additionally, 3% of Americans mention natural disaster recovery today compared with 18% in June, when the Gulf of Mexico oil spill dominated the news.

The current political environment is substantially different than prior to the last midterm election four years ago. The most frequently mentioned concern in August 2006 was Iraq (which 26% of

Americans then considered the nation's most important problem), followed by 15% who named the price of gas and fuel, and 10% who mentioned terrorism. Four years ago, 8% of Americans named the economy as the top problem, while 4% mentioned jobs.

### Economy and Jobs Dominate Across Political Groups

There are many political and ideological differences in the way Republicans, independents, and Democrats view the world in today's highly partisan political environment, but there is general agreement across these three groups that the economy and jobs are the nation's top problems.

*What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?*

<b>Republicans</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Independents</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>%</b>
Economy in general	34	Unemployment/jobs	30	Unemployment/jobs	32
Unemployment/jobs	21	Economy in general	27	Economy in general	29
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians; Poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power	16	Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians; Poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power	12	Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians; Poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power	10
Immigration/illegal aliens	11	Federal budget deficit/federal debt	7	Poor healthcare/hospitals; high cost of healthcare	7
Federal budget deficit/federal debt	10	Immigration/illegal aliens	5	Fear of war	7

Gallup poll, Aug. 5-8, 2010

GALLUP®

Republican politicians have been highly critical of the role of the federal government in American society, and 16% of rank-and-file Republicans list dissatisfaction with government as their top concern, putting it third on their list behind the economy and jobs. These concerns are also on independents' and Democrats' lists of top five concerns. Immigration issues are on Republicans' and independents' top five list, but not on Democrats'. On the other hand, Democrats' list of top concerns includes healthcare and fear of war, neither of which appear among the top five of the other two partisan groups.

### Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 5-8, 2010, with a random sample of 1,013 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  $\pm 4$  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.

### U.S. Approval of Labor Unions Remains Near Record Low

*More Americans want unions to have less influence than more*

August 12, 2010

A slim majority of 52% of Americans say they approve of labor unions, the second lowest approval rating in Gallup's 70-year history of this trend, behind only last year's 48%.

*Do you approve or disapprove of labor unions?*



GALLUP®

The update of one of Gallup's longest standing trend questions is based on results of Gallup's annual Work and Education poll, conducted Aug. 5-8.

Gallup first asked Americans to evaluate labor unions in 1936, at which time 72% approved. The all-time high of 75% approval came in 1953 and 1957 surveys. Support for unions declined in

the late 1960s and early 1970s, but mostly hovered around the 60% mark until last year, when it dropped below the majority level for the first time.

In the poll, 10% of Americans identify themselves as union members, and an additional 6% say another member of their household belongs to a union. Seventy-two percent of Americans who are union members or live in a union household approve of unions, compared with 48% of those in non-union households.

Union approval varies widely by political party affiliation -- it is 71% among Democrats compared with 34% of Republicans and 49% among independents. All three party groups expressed their lowest approval of unions last year and, although views improved slightly, they remain less positive than before.

*Approval of Labor Unions, by Political Party*

Recent Trend



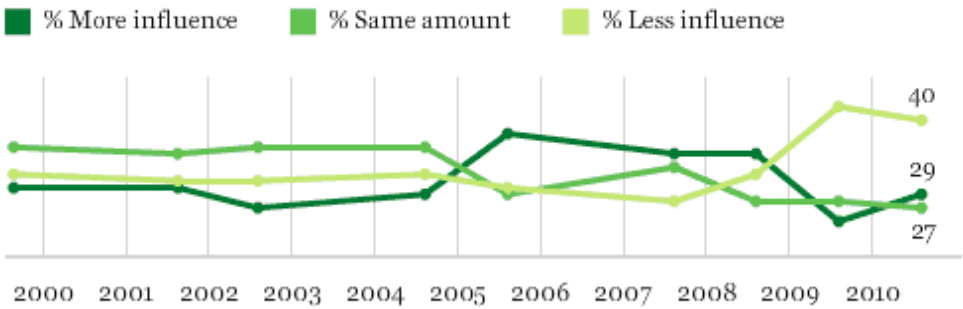
GALLUP®

**The Future of Union Power**

Gallup finds significantly more Americans saying they want labor unions to have less (40%) rather than more (29%) influence than they have today. Twenty-seven percent say their influence should stay about the same.

Prior to last year, Americans were about equally divided in saying they wanted labor unions to have more versus less influence, or showed a tendency toward wanting unions to have more influence.

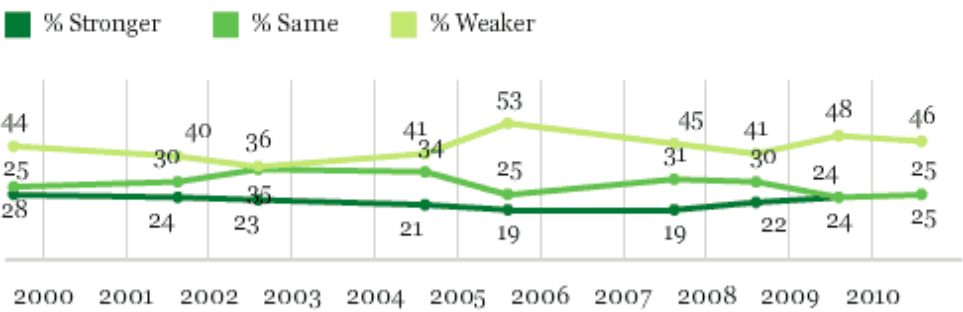
Would you, personally, like to see labor unions in the United States have --  
 [ROTATED: more influence than they have today, the same amount as  
 today, (or) less influence than they have today]?



GALLUP®

Regardless of their preference, Americans by a nearly 2-to-1 margin predict union influence will decline in the future. The poll finds 46% of Americans saying unions will become weaker in the future compared with 25% who say stronger. This general pattern has held each time Gallup has asked the question since 1999.

Thinking about the future, do you think labor unions in this country will  
 become -- [ROTATED: stronger than they are today, the same as today, (or)  
 weaker than they are today]?



GALLUP®

### Implications

Labor unions are less popular now in the United States than they have been for most of the last 70 years. One reason for this could be the economic downturn. With many Americans out of work and struggling to find work, organized labor groups' missions may not seem appropriate or even fair as they might have when jobs are more plentiful. There is some precedence for an economic-related downturn in union approval, as Gallup found a mild drop in union approval during the late 1970s and early 1980s when the U.S. economy was in poor shape.



The more negative appraisal of unions the last two years could be due to the belief from union opponents that unions are likely to benefit or are benefitting from the policies of the Obama administration, including recent legislation providing aid to states that will preserve thousands of education and public sector jobs.

## **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 5-8, 2010, with a random sample of 1,013 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

---

### **Student Poll: 34% in Grades 5-12 Hopeful, Engaged, Thriving**

*Others fall short in at least one of these dimensions*

August 12, 2010

As students nationwide prepare to return to the classroom, a national Gallup Student Poll classifies one-third of U.S. students in grades 5-12 as "hopeful," "engaged," and "thriving" -- three metrics that pave the way for future achievement. While 53% of students are hopeful, 63% are engaged, and 70% are thriving, many students fall short in at least one of these dimensions.

## Gallup Student Poll: Overall Results

Among U.S. students in grades 5-12

	%
"Ready for the Future" (high category score on all three measures)	34
Hope Index	
Hopeful	53
Stuck	31
Discouraged	16
Engagement Index	
Engaged	63
Not Engaged	23
Actively Disengaged	14
Wellbeing	
Thriving	70
Struggling	29
Suffering	1

June 11- July 6, 2010

GALLUP®

The results are from a nationally representative Gallup Student Poll of 642 U.S. students aged 10-18 years conducted June 11-July 6, 2010. It is designed to serve as a national benchmark for surveys Gallup administers in school districts around the country. Students are asked 20 questions meant to gauge their hope, engagement, and wellbeing and then are classified as "Ready for the Future" if they score high on all three dimensions. Gallup research suggests that students who do well on all three metrics tend to achieve higher grades, complete more credits, and report fewer health problems than their peers. The research is meant to help leaders and educators improve student performance and, in turn, the high school graduation rate nationwide, believed to be roughly 70%. About 13% of U.S. adults are believed to be high school dropouts, earning far less than their more educated peers and creating a ripple effect, not only in their own lives, but for the U.S. economy.

### More Than Half of American Students Are Hopeful

More than half of the students surveyed (53%) are classified as "hopeful" based on their responses to a series of questions about their goals and aspirations at school and for the future. The rest are either "stuck" (31%) or "discouraged" (16%).

Nearly all students surveyed say there is an adult in their life who cares about their future and 92% strongly agree that they will graduate from high school. The findings suggest hopes are not always translating into reality. While 62% say they can think of many ways to get good grades, far fewer say they energetically pursue their goals and can find ways around any problem. Just under half are strongly confident about finding a good job after graduation.

*Gallup Student Poll: Hope Index*

Among U.S. students in grades 5-12

	<b>% Strongly agree</b>
There is an adult in my life who cares about my future.	95
I know I will graduate from high school.	92
I can think of many ways to get good grades.	62
I know I will find a good job after I graduate.	48
I energetically pursue my goals.	42
I can find lots of ways around any problem.	35

June 11- July 6, 2010

GALLUP®

**Nearly Two-Thirds of Students Engaged in School**

Nearly two-thirds of students surveyed (63%) are classified as "engaged" in school, based on their responses to a series of questions about their experiences at school. About a quarter (23%) are not engaged, and thus not maximizing their potential. The other 14% are "actively disengaged" to the extent that they may be undermining the teaching and learning process for others.

Students tend to say they have friends at school and feel safe there, but their answers suggest schools and communities can do more to help students perform at a higher level by helping them leverage their strengths. Less than half say they have received recognition or praise for doing good schoolwork within the last week.

*Gallup Student Poll: Engagement Index*

Among U.S. students in grades 5-12

	<b>% Strongly agree</b>
I have a best friend at school.	73
I feel safe in this school.	63
My teachers make me feel my schoolwork is important.	51
In the last seven days, I have received recognition or praise for doing good schoolwork.	44
At this school, I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day.	42
My school is committed to building the strengths of each student.	41
In the last month, I volunteered my time to help others.	39

June 11- July 6, 2010

GALLUP®

**Most Students Thriving and Happy, But Respect and Health Could Be Improved**

Encouragingly, 70% of students rate their lives well enough to be considered "thriving," rating their current life a 7 or higher on a ladder scale from 0 to 10, and their future life an 8 or higher. Most others (29%) are classified as "struggling," and 1% rate their lives low enough that they are considered to be "suffering."

Nearly all students report having friends and family they can count on whenever they need them, and most report smiling and laughing and having plenty of energy. However, the findings suggest about one quarter of students are not treated with respect or lack opportunities to learn or do something interesting. A noteworthy 13% say they have health problems that keep them from doing things others their age can do.

## Gallup Student Poll: Wellbeing Measures

Among U.S. students in grades 5-12

	<b>% Yes</b>
If you are in trouble, do you have family or friends you can count on whenever you need them?	98
Did you smile or laugh a lot yesterday?	89
Did you have enough energy to get things done yesterday?	86
Were you treated with respect all day yesterday?	77
Did you learn or do something interesting yesterday?	76
Do you have health problems that keep you from doing things other people your age can do?	13

June 11- July 6, 2010

GALLUP®

Together, the Gallup Student Poll results reveal areas of strength and weakness among America's students. While most students express confidence in their friends and family and the safety of their schools, many lack the push they need to turn their hopes into reality. Teachers and leaders in education should note that students are less positive about the metrics that adults can influence, for example having an opportunity to do what they do best or receiving praise or recognition for good work. Educators can also play an active role in helping students think of practical ways to solve problems, improve their grades, and pursue their goals. Doing so provides the opportunity to maximize the potential of more students and, in turn, the graduation rate, with benefits for communities and the nation as a whole.

### About the Gallup Student Poll

The Gallup Student Poll seeks to give students a voice and provide leaders with valuable intelligence about the young people in their communities. By measuring students' hope, engagement, and wellbeing, the Gallup Student Poll reveals both strengths and weaknesses within U.S. schools, helping to pinpoint where improvement is most needed and where new initiatives should be targeted. This innovative tool also gives leaders in education a new framework for understanding issues related teacher quality and school climate. Read the complete report and learn how to involve your district or school.

### Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup Student Poll are based on surveys conducted June 11-July 6, 2010 with a sample of 642 youth, aged 10 to 18, living in the continental U.S., who reside in households that are members of the Gallup Panel. Gallup panel households are initially recruited by telephone through random selection methods.

In order to identify the sample of 10 to 18 year olds, Gallup identified households within the Panel that were known to either have a panelist in this age range, or whose household was known to have a child in the age range (as verified in a January 2010 profile survey). The survey was conducted by mail and Web to accommodate those households that lack internet access or do not prefer to respond to surveys online. The survey was mailed or e-mailed directly to the young panelists in the specified age range and also e-mailed or mailed to the parents of the young panelists, seeking their consent for their child to respond to the survey.

The sample is weighted so that it is demographically representative of the U.S. youth population. For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4.95$  percentage points.

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

### Spending Slumps Even With Back-to-School Underway

Early August consumer spending of \$62 per day is down from July average of \$68

August 12, 2010

Americans' self-reported spending in stores, restaurants, gas stations, and online averaged \$62 per day during the week ending Aug. 8. Early August consumer spending trends trail 2009 and will need to surge to match last year's anemic back-to-school results.

*Self-Reported U.S. Consumer Spending, May-August 2009 vs. 2010*

Weekly averages of average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

### Self-Reported Spending Implies Weak Back-to-School Sales

Gallup's consumer spending measure averaged \$68 per day in July compared with \$67 per day in June. This is consistent with the "mixed" chain store sales reported in July and the consensus expectation of a 0.2% increase in retail sales, excluding auto sales, when the Commerce Department reports on Friday. Retail sales is a broader measure -- it includes the total receipts at stores selling durable and nondurable goods -- than Gallup's spending measure, which is more oriented toward discretionary spending, but the two measures often trend together when auto sales are excluded.

More importantly, Gallup's weekly spending measure for the first week of August shows no improvement over that of the last week in July or that of the same week a year ago. In turn, this suggests that back-to-school sales are unlikely to substantially exceed last year's depressed levels. In fact, this week's comparable of a year ago was a big spending week, making for challenging sales comparables for many retailers this year.

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index showed a slight uptick last week, suggesting that the preliminary estimate from the Reuters/University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index is also likely to show a modest improvement compared with July. This could provide some cheer for Wall Street and hope for the nation's retailers. However, much of that improvement may have been a result of the stunning performance of the stock market in July. Wednesday's plunge in the equity markets is not likely to help economic confidence or consumer spending in the immediate term.

Importantly, Gallup's Job Creation Index finds more companies hiring during this back-to-school season compared with a year ago. Still, weak sales will make it difficult for retailers or small businesses to turn any temporary jobs added for back-to-school into the permanent jobs the economy so desperately needs right now.

## **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking with a random sample of 1,000 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 averaging 3,000 interviews, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  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.

---

## Unauthorized Immigrants and Their U.S.-Born Children

August 11, 2010

**Table 1**  
Estimates of Births in the United States, by Parents' Status,  
Annual Average, 2008  
*(millions)*

	NUMBER	PERCENT
All Births	4.3	100%
U.S.-born parents	3.3	76%
Immigrant parents	1.0	24%
Legal immigrant parents	0.7	16%
Unauthorized immigrant parents	0.3	8%

Note: A child has unauthorized immigrant parents if either parent is unauthorized; a child has U.S.-born parents if all identified parents are U.S. born.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates based on children under 2 years old from March Current Population Surveys of 2008 and 2009, augmented with legal status assignments and corrected for survey omissions. See Appendix B and Passel and Cohn (2009, 2008) for methods, assumptions and definitions.

An estimated 340,000 of the 4.3 million babies born in the United States in 2008 were the offspring of unauthorized immigrants, according to a new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.

Unauthorized immigrants comprise slightly more than 4% of the adult population of the U.S., but because they are relatively young and have high birthrates, their children make up a much larger share of both the newborn population (8%) and the child population (7% of those younger than age 18) in this country.



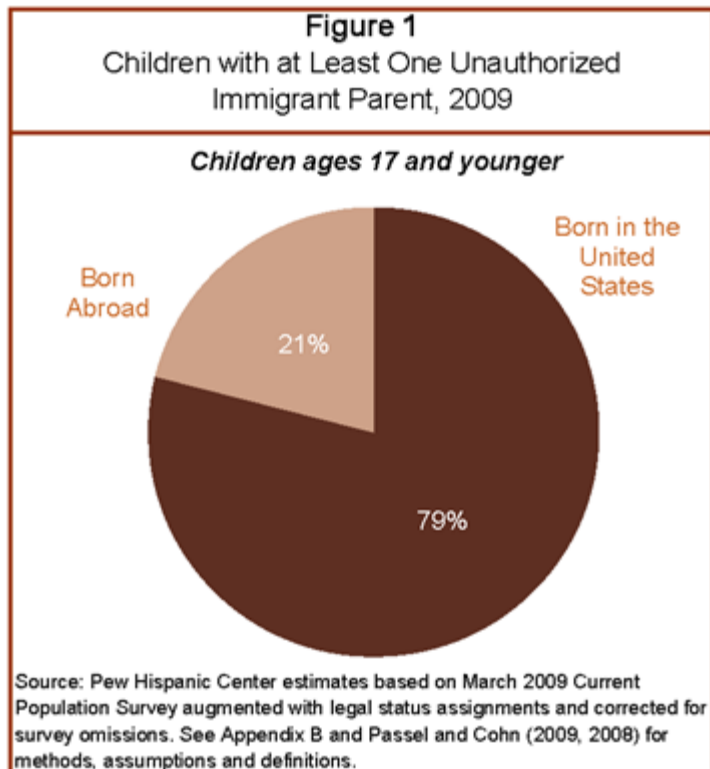
<b>Table 2</b> <b>Estimates of the Number of Children in the</b> <b>United States, by Parents' Status, 2009</b> <i>(millions)</i>		
	NUMBER	PERCENT
All Children (17 and younger)	74.5	100%
U.S.-born parents	57.5	77%
Immigrant parents	17.1	23%
Legal immigrant parents	11.9	16%
Unauthorized immigrant parents	5.1	7%

Note: A child has unauthorized immigrant parents if either parent is unauthorized; a child has U.S.-born parents if all identified parents are U.S. born. Numbers may not total due to rounding.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates based on March 2009 Current Population Survey augmented with legal status assignments and corrected for survey omissions. See Appendix B and Passel and Cohn (2009, 2008) for methods, assumptions and definitions.

These figures are based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau's March 2009 Current Population Survey, augmented with the Pew Hispanic Center's analysis of the demographic characteristics of the unauthorized immigrant population using a "residual estimation methodology" it has employed for the past five years. (For a description, see Appendix B in the [full report](#).)

The new Pew Hispanic analysis finds that nearly four-in-five (79%) of the 5.1 million children (younger than age 18) of unauthorized immigrants were born in this country and therefore are U.S. citizens.



In total, 4 million U.S.-born children of unauthorized immigrant parents resided in this country in 2009, alongside 1.1 million foreign-born children of unauthorized immigrant parents.

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, adopted in 1868, grants an automatic right to citizenship to anyone born in the U.S. In recent weeks, a number of prominent elected officials have called for the repeal of birthright citizenship, which they argue serves as one of the magnets that attract undocumented immigrants to the United States. A nationwide survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press in June found that, by 56% to 41%, the public opposes changing this provision of the Constitution.

This report does not address the merits of the birthright citizenship debate. Rather, it analyzes the family structure and parenting status of unauthorized immigrants. A follow-up Pew Hispanic Center report, expected to be released in several weeks, will examine trends in the size of the unauthorized population and key demographic characteristics, including its geographic settlement patterns; its countries and regions of origin; and its economic circumstances.

### **Americans' Confidence in the Medical System on the Rebound**

*Confidence in HMOs continues to hover below 20%*

August 9, 2010

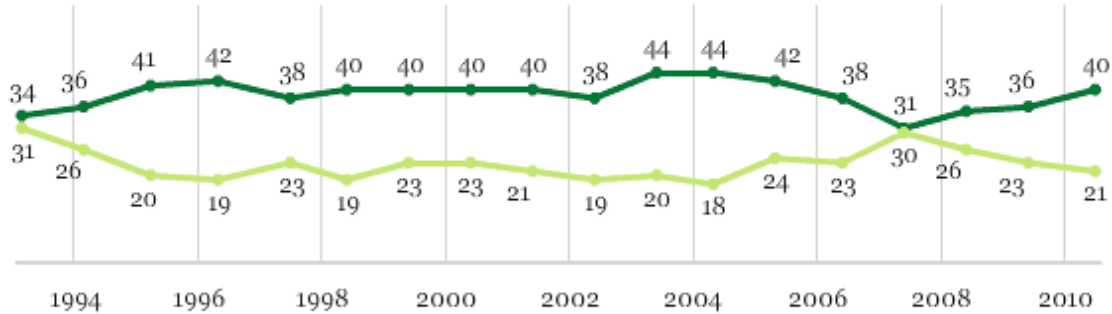
Providing a benchmark as America's new healthcare reform law begins to take effect, 40% of Americans express "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the U.S. medical system, the highest percentage since 2005. Americans' confidence in the medical system hit a low of 31% in

2007, at a time when confidence across almost all institutions was down, but has been steadily rebounding in the years since.

*Confidence in Institutions, 1993-2010: The Medical System*

Now I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one -- a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?

■ % Great deal/Quite a lot of confidence    ■ % Very little/None (vol.)



(vol.) = Volunteered response

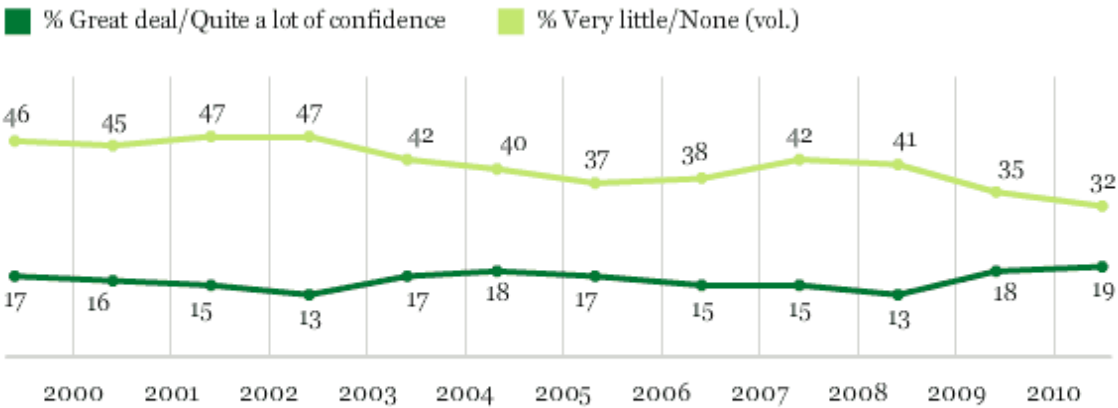
GALLUP®

The medical system ranks fifth out of 16 institutions tested in Gallup's annual Confidence in Institutions poll, faring better than the U.S. Supreme Court and the presidency but inspiring confidence from less than half of all Americans. Americans' confidence in the medical system has now returned to the general levels found between 1995 and 2006, although still below the high point of 44% confidence in 2003 and 2004.

**Americans' Confidence in HMOs Remains in Low Range**

Americans' confidence in health maintenance organizations (HMOs) is less than half that of the medical system as a whole, and exceeds only confidence in Congress among the 16 institutions tested in this year's poll. While low on an absolute basis, the 19% who express a high level of confidence in HMOs is the highest Gallup has measured for this institution, though not significantly better than last year's 18%.

*Confidence in Institutions, 1999-2010: Health Maintenance Organizations*



(vol.) = Volunteered response

GALLUP®

At the same time, 32% have "very little" or no confidence in HMOs, a new low.

**Bottom Line**

Gallup's most recent measures of Americans' confidence in the medical system and HMOs come nearly four months after President Obama signed the new health reform bill, the Affordable Care Act, into law. Major provisions that will affect the way health insurance plans work, including the elimination of lifetime limits on coverage and prohibiting insurance companies from rescinding coverage, have yet to be implemented. These changes and others could have a significant impact on Americans' perceptions of HMOs and the medical system as a whole.

**Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 8-11, 2010, with a random sample of 1,020 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

---

## **Religion in the 2008 Presidential Election**

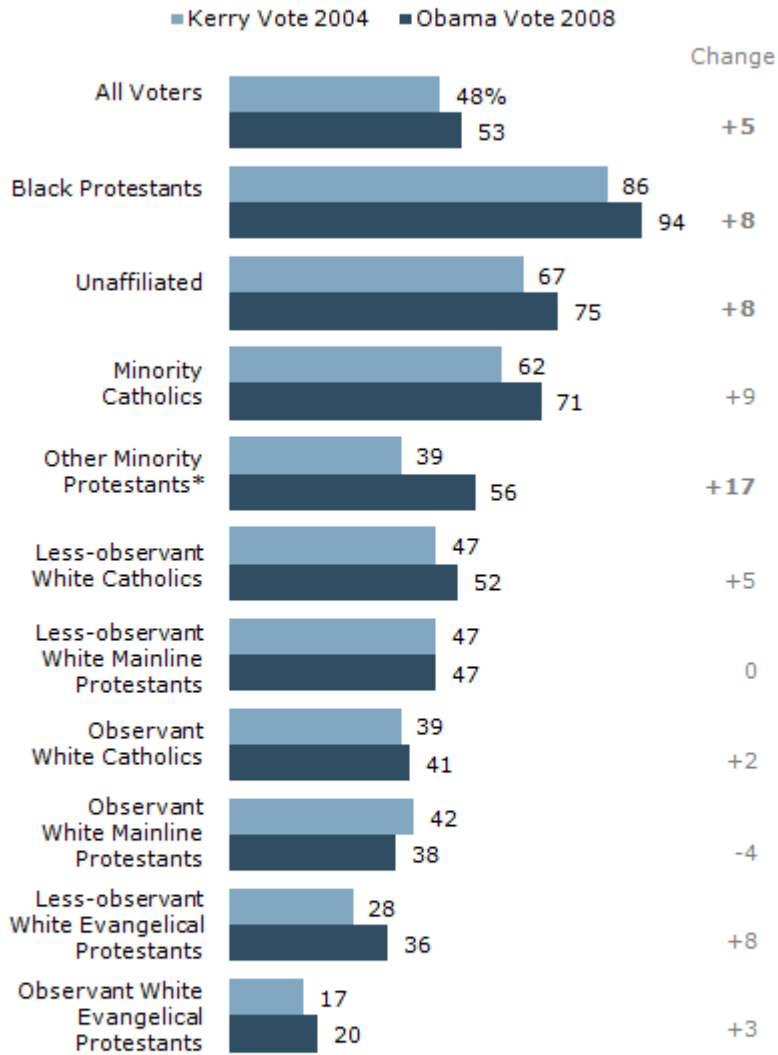
*An Analysis of 2008 Exit Polls*

August 11, 2010

The Democratic Party made a concerted effort to court religious voters in the 2008 presidential election that pitted Democrat Barack Obama against Republican John McCain. Led by Obama himself and aided by progressive religious activists, the Democrats reached out to numerous religious groups in hopes of narrowing the "God gap," a media catchphrase for a striking pattern in American politics: the more often Americans go to church or other worship services, the more likely they are to vote Republican.

## Changes in Support for the Democratic Candidate Among Religious Groups

Listed in order of Obama 2008 vote



\*Includes Hispanics, Asians and other races, but does not include blacks.

Statistically significant changes are indicated by boldface type.

"Observant" refers to voters who report attending religious services at least once a week. "Less Observant" refers to those attending monthly, yearly or never. See the appendix for additional details on the definitions of religious groups.

Source: National Election Pool data

Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life

An analysis of newly released exit poll data by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life finds that Obama succeeded in attracting a larger share of the vote from some religious groups than the 2004 Democratic nominee, John Kerry, had received. Among white

evangelical Protestants, for example, Obama picked up 5 percentage points more support than Kerry (26% vs. 21%). And Obama's gains were particularly large among white evangelical Protestants younger than the age of 40. He received 33% of their votes, compared with 12% for Kerry four years earlier.

In general, however, the contours of religion and politics were the same in 2008 as in 2004. Religion remained a very strong predictor of voters' choices, and the large gaps in the electorate that had developed along religious lines in earlier elections persisted in 2008. Some of Obama's largest gains, in fact, were among religious groups that already leaned Democratic, such as black Protestants and religiously unaffiliated voters (those who answer "none" when asked about their religious affiliation in exit polls).

Among the most religiously observant Americans -- those who say they attend worship services more than once a week (12% of the total electorate in 2008) -- Obama received 43% of the vote, up from 35% for Kerry. But all of Obama's 8-point improvement among these very frequent churchgoers came from minorities, who voted Democratic in 2008 by even larger margins than in 2004.

One group that moved strongly in the Democratic direction after having voted Republican in 2004 was Hispanic, Asian and other minority Protestants, not including blacks. These voters (about 3% of the total electorate) had backed Bush over Kerry by a 58%-to-39% margin in 2004. In 2008, 56% of this group voted for Obama.

---

## Religious Composition of the Electorate Remained Largely Unchanged

	2004	2008	Change
Observant white evangelical Protestants	13%	13%	0
Less-observant white evangelical Protestants	7	8	+1
Observant white mainline Protestants	5	4	-1
Less-observant white mainline Protestants	14	14	0
Black Protestants	7	8	+1
Other minority Protestants	3	3	0
Observant white Catholics	9	8	-1
Less-observant white Catholics	11	10	-1
Minority Catholics	6	7	+1
Other faith groups*	13	11	-2
Unaffiliated	10	11	+1
Don't know	2	2	0
Total	100	100	
N	9,992	4,195	

\*Other faith groups includes people who have a religious faith other than Protestantism or Catholicism as well as those who did not specify their race or their frequency of religious attendance.

Numbers in this report may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Source: National Election Pool data

Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life

---

But there was little change among other traditionally Republican and swing-voting religious groups, especially white voters who say they attend religious services at least once a week. Obama received the votes of 41% of observant white Catholics (compared with 39% for Kerry), 38% of observant white mainline Protestants (compared with 42% for Kerry) and 20% of observant white evangelical Protestants (compared with 17% for Kerry). Among all white Christian voters who say they go to church at least once a week, Obama received about the same level of support that Kerry did in 2004 (29% for Obama, 28% for Kerry).

The religious composition of the electorate also remained remarkably stable from 2004 to 2008. The overall stability in the relative sizes of the major religious groups is another way in which the contours of religion and politics remained much the same in 2008 as in 2004.

These conclusions result from an analysis by the Pew Forum of 2008 exit polls conducted by the National Election Pool, a consortium of news organizations consisting of ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox



News, NBC News and The Associated Press. The exit poll data were released to the public in May 2010 through the Roper Public Opinion Archives. The newly released data allow a much deeper examination of voting patterns than was previously possible, including breaking the electorate into smaller religious groups and simultaneously taking into account frequency of church attendance, racial or ethnic identity, age, income and other factors. This analysis is based on respondents who were asked religion questions and compares the results with voters who were asked the same questions by the 2004 National Election Pool.

Read the [full report at pewforum.org](http://pewforum.org).

Also see the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life new "[Religion & Politics 2010](#)" page for more [voting trends](#) by religious groups, [election news briefs](#) related to religion, resources on religion in America and more Pew Forum reports on the intersection of religion and politics.

---

### **Americans Want to Scrap Electoral College**

August 09, 2010

Most people in the United States would like to eliminate the Electoral College system to elect presidents, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 64 per cent of respondents share this view, and think that whoever gets the most votes should be elected president.

In the U.S., the president and vice-president are elected in a single ticket to a four-year term by an Electoral College, whose members represent each state of the union with a previously determined number of electoral votes, in accordance with the results of the popular vote in each state.

The members of the Electoral College are chosen via different systems in each state. They can vote for the candidates of their choice, but in practice they generally vote for whomever was the winner of the popular vote in their state.

On Aug. 4, Massachusetts became the sixth state—after Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, Hawaii and Washington—to pass a law that would effectively force the votes of the Electoral College to go to the candidate who wins the national popular vote. Governors of these states must now wait and see if others pass similar legislation. The law can only go into effect when participating states together hold a majority of the Electoral College votes.

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick celebrated as he signed the bill, saying, "This is about a stronger democracy, and it's an important step in that direction."

### **Polling Data**

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? – The U.S. should abandon the concept of the Electoral College—whichever gets the most votes at the national level should become the new president

Agree	64%
Disagree	23%
Not sure	13%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,013 American adults, conducted on Aug. 1 and Aug. 2, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

---

### **Americans Back Extending Jobless Benefits**

August 12, 2010

Most people in the United States want the government to extend jobless benefits for those who have been unable to find a position, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 71 per cent of respondents share this view.

On Aug. 12, the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama revealed that jobless claims for benefits have increased to a six-month high. The Labour Department said that the four-week moving average for the new jobless claims rose to 473,000, an increase of 14,250 from the previous week's revised average of 459,250.

Unemployed Americans are normally entitled to 26 weeks of jobless benefits.

On Jul. 22, Obama signed into law a measure restoring jobless benefits to more than 2.5 million Americans who had seen their benefits expire. The president declared: "Americans who are fighting to find a good job and support their families will finally get the support they need to get back on their feet during these tough economic times."

### **Polling Data**

As you may know, the jobless benefits—that is, money that the federal government provides to people who are out of work—have run out for 2.5 million Americans. All things considered, would you agree or disagree with extending the jobless benefits for people who have been unable to find a job?

Agree	71%
Disagree	20%
Not sure	9%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,013 American adults, conducted on Jul. 22 and Jul. 23, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

---

### **Half of Canadians Oppose Mission in Afghanistan**

August 11, 2010

A majority of people in Canada reject their country's participation in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 53 per cent of respondents oppose the military operation involving Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

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

At least 1,991 soldiers—including 151 Canadians—have died in the war on terrorism, either in support of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom or as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Canadians renewed the House of Commons in January 2006. The Conservative Party—led by Stephen Harper—received 36.3 per cent of the vote, and secured 124 seats in the 308-member lower house. Harper formed a minority administration after more than 12 years of government by the Liberal party.

In May 2006, the House of Commons extended Canada's mission in Afghanistan until February 2009. In March 2008, the House of Commons voted 198-77 to prolong the military deployment until the end of 2011. The Conservative and Liberal parties supported the motion, while the New Democratic Party (NDP) and the Bloc Québécois opposed it. In September 2008, Harper assured that there would be no new extension of the mission.

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

Yesterday, Canadian defence minister Peter MacKay discussed the future of the mission, saying, "There's not a lot of flex as to what we can do, within the context of the [March 2008] parliamentary motion. (...) We'll respect the letter of the motion."

### **Polling Data**

Overall, do you support or oppose the military operation involving Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan?

	<b>Aug. 2010</b>	<b>Jun. 2010</b>	<b>Apr. 2010</b>	<b>Feb. 2010</b>
Support	39%	37%	39%	47%
Oppose	53%	59%	56%	49%

Not sure	8%	4%	6%	4%
----------	----	----	----	----

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*  
*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,024 Canadian adults, conducted on Aug. 5 and Aug. 6, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

**Canadian Tories Lose Steam, Liberals Gain Ground**

August 13, 2010

Canada’s governing Conservative Party has lost popularity and is seeing its main opponent get closer, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 33 per cent of respondents would support the Tories in the next election to the House of Commons, down three points since early July.

The Liberal Party is a close second with 29 per cent, followed by the New Democratic Party (NDP) with 19 per cent, the Bloc Québécois with 10 per cent, and the Greens with nine per cent.

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. In December, Michael Ignatieff took over as Liberal leader, replacing Stéphane Dion.

On Aug. 11, Ignatieff criticized the Harper government’s approach to issues in Canada’s far north while visiting Iqaluit, declaring, "The words from the prime minister are there. But not the action. There’s an infrastructure gap, a housing gap, there’s a self-government gap that he hasn’t closed."

**Polling Data**

If a federal election were held tomorrow, which one of the following parties would you be most likely to support in your constituency?

	<b>Aug. 11</b>	<b>Jul. 8</b>	<b>May 27</b>	<b>Apr. 29</b>
Conservative	33%	36%	35%	35%
Liberal	29%	27%	27%	28%
New Democratic Party	19%	20%	19%	19%
Bloc Québécois	10%	10%	9%	11%
Green	9%	7%	8%	7%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,009 Canadian adults, conducted on Aug. 10 and Aug. 11, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

---

## LATIN AMERICA

### President Piñera Stumbles in Chile

August 13, 2010

Fewer people in Chile are expressing support for Sebastián Piñera, according to a poll by Adimark Gfk. 46 per cent of respondents approve of their president's performance, down six points since June.

Piñera's disapproval rating increased by six points and now stands at 40 per cent.

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.

On Aug. 5, 33 workers were trapped after the collapse of a gold and copper mine near the northern city of Copiapo. Rescue operations are still under way.

On Aug. 11, Piñera fired three top officials in connection with the incident, declaring, "We have called for a vast restructuring within the national service of geology and mining (Sernageomin), and for a team of experts to work with the mining minister to ensure this restructuring happens as soon as possible."

### Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of President Sebastián Piñera?

	Jul. 2010	Jun. 2010	May 2010	Apr. 2010
Approve	46%	52%	53%	50%
Disapprove	40%	34%	30%	31%
Neither / Not sure	14%	14%	17%	19%

Source: Adimark Gfk

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,110 Chilean adults, conducted from Jul. 5 to Jul. 31, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.

---

## **Brazilians Reject Lula's Anti-Spanking Law**

August 08, 2010

Most people in Brazil disagree with a proposed law to ban spanking, pinching and other forms of physical punishment for children and teenagers, according to a poll by Datafolha published in *Folha de Sao Paulo*. 54 per cent of respondents are against the idea, sponsored by the government of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

The bill in question, currently under discussion in Congress, prohibits "cruel or degrading treatment that humiliates or seriously threatens children, including spanking."

Lula is personally backing the measure. Last month, he declared: "If punishment and whipping solved things, we wouldn't have so much corruption or banditry in this country."

### **Polling Data**

Are you in favour or against the proposal from President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to ban spanking, pinching and other physical punishment to children and adolescents?

In favour	36%
Against	54%
Not sure	10%

*Source: Datafolha / Folha de Sao Paulo*

*Methodology: Telephone interviews with 10,905 Brazilian adults, conducted on Jul. 20 to Jul. 23, 2010. Margin of error is 2 per cent.*

---

## **AUSTRALASIA**

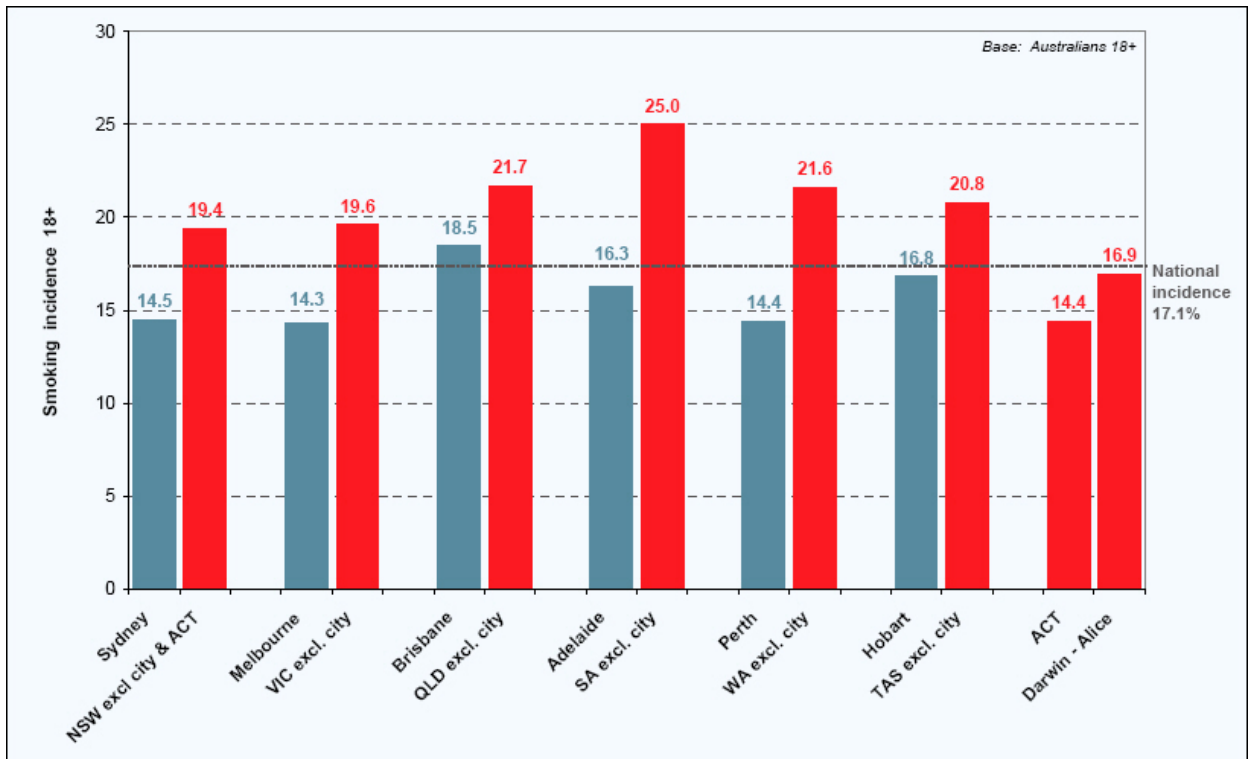
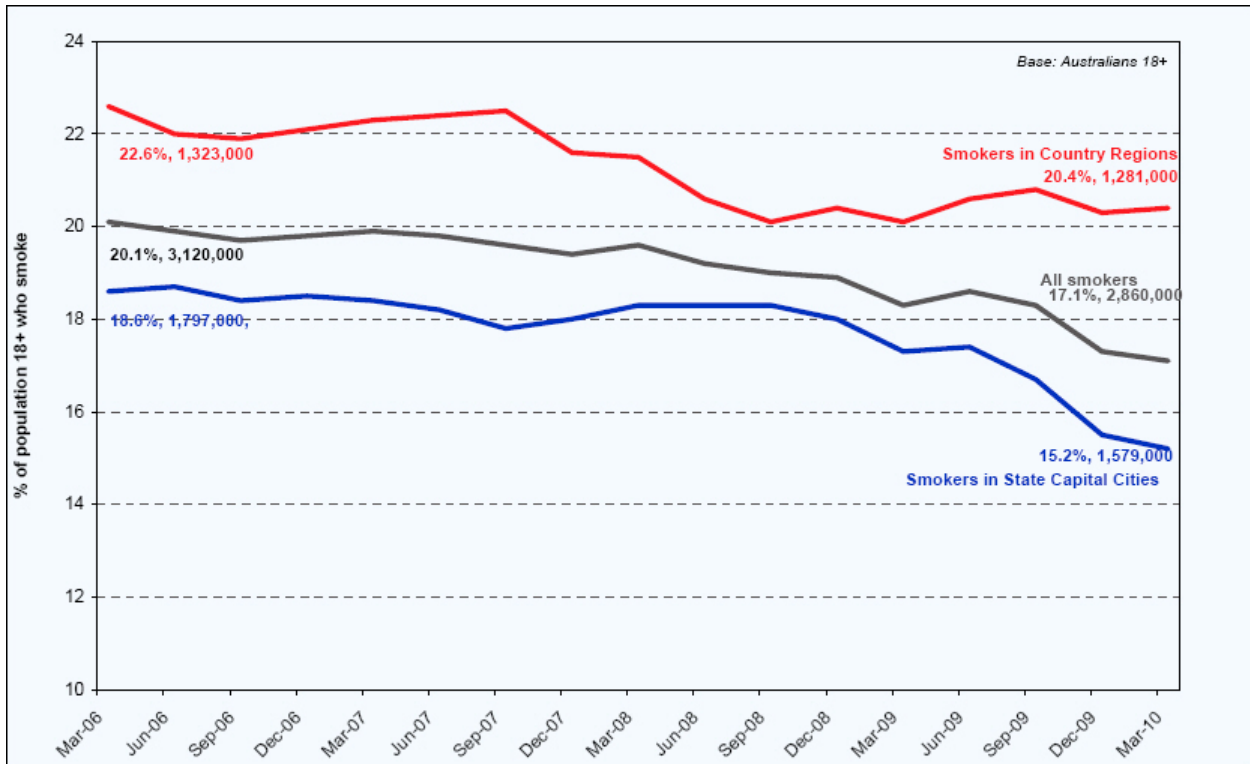
### **Smoking continues to decline, but quitters in regional Australia lag behind**

August 09, 2010

According to the latest Roy Morgan Research Health Monitor, the four years to March 2010, have shown a 3% point reduction in the incidence of smoking (estimated as 260,000 fewer smokers aged 18 plus) down to a level of 17% of the overall population (an estimated 2,860,000 smokers).

Smokers living in capital cities have led the trend to quit with a 3% drop in incidence over the period. This equates to an estimated 218,000 fewer smokers in city areas, whereas amongst Australian country dwellers, smoking showed a solid decrease until 2008, but that decrease has stopped and smoking appears to be on the increase again in country areas.

### **Smoking Trends in Australia**



Nick Williams, Healthcare Consumer Consultant, Roy Morgan Research, says:

“Overall incidence of smoking amongst Australians has declined from 20% to 17% over the past 4 years. However, smoking in regional Australia remains higher than for the capital cities and the rate at which regional smokers are quitting is also slower. This indicates scope for stronger targeted regional implementation of the National Quit campaign and represents an opportunity for improved target marketing from the pharmaceutical marketers of medications that treat nicotine dependence.”

---

## MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

### In the CIS, Desired Migration Destinations Depend on Motive

*Russia No. 1 desired destination for permanent migration, temporary work*

August 12, 2010

Thirty-five percent of adults in 12 former Soviet nations say they would like to migrate to another country -- either permanently, for temporary work, or for study or work study -- if they had the opportunity. They express the most interest in moving to Russia, Germany, the United States, and the United Kingdom, but each nation's popularity depends on people's motives for migrating.

#### *Top-Desired Destinations Where CIS Residents Want to Migrate*

Commonwealth of Independent States member countries, including Georgia and Turkmenistan

	<b>Would like to move to another country permanently</b>	<b>Would like to move for temporary work</b>	<b>Would like to study abroad/participate in work-study program</b>
Germany	14%	18%	18%
United Kingdom	5%	7%	18%
United States	9%	14%	17%
Russia*	30%	25%	19%
Russia	16%	13%	9%
All EU countries	43%	50%	56%

\*Based on CIS countries excluding Russia  
Surveys conducted April to August 2009.

GALLUP®

Gallup in 2009 asked people in 10 Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) member countries, associate CIS member Turkmenistan, and former CIS member Georgia about these three types of migration and where they'd like to go. Adults across the region are more likely to desire to migrate internationally for temporary work (24%) or for study and work-study programs (25%) than to migrate permanently (13%).



Russians and residents of the country's republics share a long history, knowledge of the Russian language, and social networks. It is not surprising that those in the region who desire to migrate are most likely to want to move to Russia permanently or for temporary work (excluding Russians because they already live there).

It is surprising that Russia doesn't overshadow other countries even more. Russia essentially ties Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States as the top draw for those who would like to go to other countries to study or take part in work-study programs. Further, regardless of the type of migration asked about, potential migrants express the most interest in relocating to the European Union (EU).

But Gallup's findings also show these countries don't necessarily attract the same people.

### Most Educated Least Likely to Settle Permanently in Russia

Potential migrants who would resettle in Russia permanently are less likely to be highly educated, which may be bad news, as many businesses there are already experiencing shortages of skilled and qualified labor. Education levels vary far less among potential migrants who choose different destinations.

#### *Top Destinations for CIS Residents Who Desire to Migrate Permanently*

Commonwealth of Independent States, including Georgia and Turkmenistan

	Elementary education or less	Secondary education	Four years beyond high school and/or received a four-year college degree
Germany	9%	17%	12%
United Kingdom	10%	3%	5%
United States	11%	9%	10%
Russia*	28%	34%	19%
Russia	17%	18%	10%
All EU countries	43%	42%	47%

\*CIS countries excluding Russia

Surveys conducted April to August 2009.

GALLUP®

Unlike prospective migrants who desire to move to other countries, who tend to be younger than 25, the ones who would like to relocate to Russia tend to be in their late 40s or older. It's possible that these older people may be looking forward with uncertainty and reflecting nostalgically on the Soviet Russia they grew up with.

## Russia, Germany, U.S. Favored for Temporary Work

Potential migrants who would like to move for temporary work favor Russia (25%), Germany (18%), and the U.S. (14%) over the United Kingdom (7%). People who would like to move to Germany or the EU to work temporarily are more likely to be better educated, while those who would like to move to the United States or Russia for this reason tend to be less educated.

### *Top Destinations for CIS Residents Who Desire to Migrate for Temporary Work*

Commonwealth of Independent States, including Georgia and Turkmenistan

	Elementary education or less	Secondary education	Four years beyond high school and/or received a four-year college degree
Germany	14%	19%	20%
United Kingdom	8%	6%	10%
United States	23%	12%	14%
Russia*	33%	27%	13%
Russia	18%	14%	6%
All EU countries	35%	51%	58%

\*CIS countries excluding Russia

Surveys conducted April to August 2009.

GALLUP®

Potential migrants in this region are least likely to want to go to the United Kingdom for temporary work, but they do want to go there to study. This desire may be a resource the United Kingdom has yet to fully tap. Education is one of the United Kingdom's most important export industries, but according to the UK Council for International Student Affairs, no CIS country makes the top 10 list of countries sending students there.

## United States, Russia, and United Kingdom Attract Less-Educated Prospective Students

Different prospective students are attracted to different countries. Potential migrants who desire to move to the United States, Russia, and the United Kingdom for study or work study are less educated and younger than 25. Aspiring students who would like to go to Germany and the EU in general are more educated and older.

*Top Destinations for CIS Residents Who Desire to Leave for Study/Work Study*  
Commonwealth of Independent States, including Georgia and Turkmenistan

	<b>Elementary education or less</b>	<b>Secondary education</b>	<b>Four years beyond high school and/or received a four-year college degree</b>
Germany	14%	20%	18%
United Kingdom	26%	16%	17%
United States	24%	15%	16%
Russia*	27%	19%	10%
Russia	14%	9%	5%
All EU countries	48%	59%	58%

\*CIS countries excluding Russia  
Surveys conducted April to August 2009.

GALLUP®

It is important to note that while Russia is among the top-desired destinations for study, it may be losing some of its appeal as an educational center among its former compatriots. Potential migrants in the region (Russian residents excluded) are less interested in moving to Russia to study (19%) than moving there for temporary work (25%) or permanently (30%).

### **Implications**

Overall, potential migrants in the former Soviet Union countries studied are most likely to say they would like to move to Russia, EU countries, and the United States if they could. But Gallup's findings also show that these countries do not attract them for the same reasons or attract the same people.

Taken together, this intelligence can help migrant-receiving countries -- particularly Russia, which is in the midst of a population and labor crisis -- identify untapped pools of talent for the classroom or the workplace. It can also help migrant-sending countries in the region identify the talent they may lose. Within the region, desired destinations vary by country and by type of migration, which makes studying each country's unique tendencies even more important for policymakers.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on 13,200 face-to-face interviews with adults, aged 15 in older, conducted in 2009. A minimum of 1,000 interviews were conducted in each of the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

For results based the total sample and subgroups, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of error is between  $\pm 1$  and  $\pm 2$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls. Results are projected to the total population of each country, aged 15 and older, using 2008 World Bank population estimates.

---

## **Many Africans Say Foreigners Traffic Drugs in Their Countries**

*Majorities say the movement of illegal drugs increases corruption*

June 25, 2010

As the United Nations observes the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking on June 26, Gallup surveys in eight sub-Saharan African countries in 2009 and 2010 show that a median of 54% of respondents say foreigners are using their country as a place to move illegal drugs and 66% say this increases corruption.

### *Perceptions of Illegal Drug Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa*

Median percentage

Asked of adults in eight countries

	<b>% Agree</b>
Foreigners are using this country as a place to move illegal drugs to other parts of Africa, Europe, or the United States	54
The movement of illegal drugs increases corruption in this country	66

2009-2010

GALLUP®

Successful efforts to curb drug trafficking into the United States and a growing demand for cocaine in Europe have led traffickers to establish transit routes through sub-Saharan Africa. While West African nations such as Senegal are commonly referenced as part of large-scale cocaine trafficking, respondents in South Africa (85%) and Kenya (74%) are most likely to say foreigners use their country to move illegal drugs.

*Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each statement.  
 Foreigners are using this country as a place to move illegal drugs  
 to other parts of Africa, Europe, or the United States.*

	<b>% Agree</b>	<b>% Disagree</b>	<b>% Don't know/ Refused</b>
South Africa	85	14	1
Kenya	74	25	2
Senegal	65	33	2
Ghana	55	21	24
Uganda	52	45	3
Zimbabwe	45	50	5
Cameroon	36	60	4
Nigeria	32	27	42

2009-2010

GALLUP®

A relatively high percentage of respondents in Nigeria did not offer an opinion. While it is possible respondents have no knowledge of the issue, drugs do funnel through the country. The increased presence of organized drug gangs in recent years may have made respondents uneasy about answering these questions.

The United Nations worries that the billions of dollars in drug money flowing through the region each year can dwarf the size of local economies. The large amount of money involved means traffickers can bribe even the highest levels of government, compounding already existing problems with corruption. A majority of respondents in all countries surveyed agree that the movement of illegal drugs increases corruption in the country, with South Africans (90%) and Kenyans (88%) most likely to say so.

*Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each statement.  
The movement of illegal drugs increases corruption in this country.*

	<b>% Agree</b>	<b>% Disagree</b>	<b>% Don't know/ Refused</b>
South Africa	90	9	1
Kenya	88	12	1
Senegal	76	22	2
Zimbabwe	68	30	2
Ghana	64	12	23
Uganda	63	35	2
Nigeria	58	13	28
Cameroon	56	43	1

2009-2010

GALLUP®

A troubling sign for the future, people in most of the countries surveyed are more likely than not to say illegal drug sales are increasing in their neighborhoods. In South Africa, where respondents are most likely to agree their country is being used for drug trafficking, 88% of respondents say illegal drug sales are increasing locally.

*Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each statement.  
The sale of illegal drugs is increasing in the city or area where  
you live.*

	<b>% Agree</b>	<b>% Disagree</b>	<b>% Don't know/ Refused</b>
South Africa	88	9	3
Kenya	62	36	2
Zimbabwe	58	38	3
Senegal	51	48	2
Ghana	46	37	17
Nigeria	43	31	25
Uganda	43	57	1
Cameroon	39	59	2

2009-2010

GALLUP®

**Bottom Line**

Many residents in these eight sub-Saharan African countries see their nations being used as transit routes for illegal drugs and see increased corruption accompanying the movement of these drugs. The corruption alone exacerbates already existing problems in many of these countries, and perceptions of increasing drug sales suggest this problem is only getting worse.

In light of the focus placed on illegal trafficking in West Africa, it is interesting that South Africa and Kenya topped the list of countries where people say trafficking is taking place and that drug sales are increasing. Gallup will continue to monitor the situation in 2010 and will survey additional countries not included in this report.

## **Survey Methods**

Results are based on 8,000 face-to-face interviews with adults, aged 15 in older, conducted in 2009 and 2010. A minimum of 1,000 interviews were conducted in each of the following countries: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that that the margin of error ranged from a low of  $\pm 3.4$  percentage point in Zimbabwe to a high of  $\pm 4.0$  percentage points in South Africa. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

---

## **CYBER WORLD**

### **Broadband 2010: A Big Slowdown**

August 11, 2010

After several consecutive years of modest but consistent growth, broadband adoption slowed dramatically in 2010. Two-thirds of American adults (66%) currently use a high-speed internet connection at home, a figure that is not statistically different from what the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project found at a similar point in 2009, when 63% of Americans were broadband adopters.

The lack of growth in broadband adoption at the national level was mirrored across a range of demographic groups, with African Americans being a major exception. Broadband adoption by African Americans now stands at 56%, up from 46% at a similar point in 2009. That works out to a 22% year-over-year growth rate, well above the national average and by far the highest growth rate of any major demographic group. Over the last year, the broadband-adoption gap between blacks and whites has been cut nearly in half:

- In 2009, 65% of whites and 46% of African Americans were broadband users (a 19-point gap)
- In 2010, 67% of whites and 56% of African Americans are broadband users (an 11-point gap)

By a 53%-to-41% margin, Americans say they do not believe that the spread of affordable broadband should be a major government priority. Contrary to what some might suspect, non-internet users are less likely than current users to say the government should place a high priority on the spread of high-speed connections.

In this survey, Americans were asked: "Do you think that expanding affordable high-speed internet access to everyone in the country should be a top priority for the federal government, important but a lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?" The majority chose the last two options:

- 26% of Americans say that expansion of affordable broadband access should not be attempted by government.
- 27% said it was "not too important" a priority.
- 30% said it was an important priority.
- 11% said it should be a top priority.

Those who are not currently online are especially resistant to government efforts to expand broadband access. Fully 45% of non-users say government should not attempt to make affordable broadband available to everyone, while just 5% of those who don't use the internet say broadband access should be a top federal government priority. Younger users (those younger than age 30) and African Americans were the most likely to favor expanded government efforts towards broadband access, while older Americans were among the least likely to back the expansion of affordable broadband access as a government priority.

Americans have decidedly mixed views about the problems non-broadband users suffer as the result of their lack of a high-speed connection. Those who do not currently use broadband are notably less likely than broadband users to think they are at a significant disadvantage. There is no major issue on which a majority of Americans think that lack of broadband access is a major disadvantage:

- *Job opportunities and career skills:* 43% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to finding out about job opportunities or gaining new career skills. Some 23% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 28% think it is "not a disadvantage."
- *Health information:* 34% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to getting health information. Some 28% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 35% think it is "not a disadvantage."
- *Learning new things to improve and enrich life:* 31% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to learning new things that might enrich or improve their lives. Some 31% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 32% think it is "not a disadvantage."
- *Government services:* 29% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to using government services. Some 27% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 37% think it is "not a disadvantage."
- *Keeping up with news and information:* 23% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to keeping up with news and information. Some



27% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 47% think it is "not a disadvantage."

- *Keeping up with what is happening in their communities:* 19% of Americans believe that lack of broadband is a "major disadvantage" when it comes to finding out about their local community. Some 32% think lack of access is a "minor disadvantage" and 45% think it is "not a disadvantage."

A fifth of American adults (21%) do not use the internet. Many non-users think online content is not relevant to their lives and they are not confident they could use computers and navigate the web on their own.

In the latest Pew Internet Project survey, 21% of adults said they did not use the internet. A third of non-users (34%) have some connection to the online world, either because they live in a household with a connection that other family members use or because they have gone online in the past. The remaining two-thirds of non-users are not tied in any obvious way to online life and many express little interest in using the internet:

- They do not find online content relevant to their lives. Half (48%) of non-users cite issues relating to the relevance of online content as the main reason they do not go online.
- They are largely not interested in going online. Just one-in-10 non-users say they would like to start using the internet in the future.
- They are not comfortable using computers or the internet on their own. Six-in-10 non-users would need assistance getting online. Just one in five know enough about computers and technology to start using the internet on their own.

### **About the Survey**

The results in this report are based on data from telephone interviews conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International between April 29 and May 30, 2010, among a sample of 2,252 adults ages 18 and older, including 744 reached on a cell phone. Interviews were conducted in English. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 2.4 percentage points. For results based on cell phone owners (n=1,917), the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.7 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting telephone surveys may introduce some error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

---