

# **BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD**

## **Global Opinion Report No. 139**

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M. Zubair

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## Prelude

This week report consists of 20 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 18 are national surveys.



### Topic of the week:

### **Estimated 1 Billion Adults Struggled to Afford Food in 2009**

This page is devoted to opinions of countries whose polling activity is generally known very widely or where a recent topical issue requires special attention .

**Commentary:** *In 22 countries, more than half didn't have enough money to buy food at times*  
By Cynthia English and Julie Ray-- While the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reported last week that the recent volatility in food prices is not a sign of an impending food crisis, Gallup surveys in 113 countries in 2009 underscore people's vulnerability to such fluctuations. An estimated 1 billion adults worldwide reported not having enough money at times to buy the food they or their families needed. A disproportionate percentage of people in sub-Saharan Africa are affected.

*Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?*

Regional medians

	Yes	No
World*	26%	73%
Sub-Saharan Africa	56%	44%
Americas	32%	67%
Former Soviet Union	32%	67%
Asia	23%	77%
Middle East/North Africa	15%	83%
Europe	13%	87%

\*Based on surveys conducted in 113 countries in 2009.

### GALLUP

Across the 113 countries surveyed, a median of 26% adults reported struggling at times to afford food for themselves or their families. Consistent with what **Gallup** has documented in previous years, the percentage of adults struggling in 2009 was highest in *sub-Saharan Africa*. At least 4 in 10 adults in every country surveyed in this region, with the exception of Djibouti, reported problems.

In fact, of the 22 countries where more than half of adults reported difficulties affording food at times in 2009, 15 are in *sub-Saharan Africa*. Struggles to afford food are not new to citizens in most of these countries. Food riots took place and there were fears of unrest in several countries, such as *Cameroon* and the *Philippines*, when global food prices surged in 2008.

*Countries in Which Half or More Residents Struggle to Afford Food*

Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?

	Yes (2008)	Yes (2009)	Change from 2008
Cameroon	66%	73%	+7
Zimbabwe	79%	73%	-6
Comoros	-	72%	-
Niger	68%	71%	+3
Zambia	67%	69%	+2
Philippines	58%	68%	+10
Burundi	74%	67%	-7
Kenya	67%	64%	-3
Congo (Kinshasa)	-	61%	-
Azerbaijan	60%	60%	0
Tanzania	62%	60%	-2
Malawi	-	60%	-
Nigeria	55%	59%	+4
Ecuador	46%	58%	+12
Georgia	51%	56%	+5
Chad	54%	56%	+2
South Africa	56%	55%	-1
Dominican Republic	59%	55%	-4
Cambodia	53%	55%	+2
Ivory Coast	-	53%	-
Uganda	62%	52%	-10
Honduras	48%	51%	+3

- Survey not conducted in 2008.

**GALLUP®**

In several of these countries, the proportion of residents reporting problems with affording food in 2009 remained relatively flat or declined since 2008. But the situation worsened by at least 10 percentage points between 2008 and 2009 in the *Philippines* and *Ecuador*.

Adults in *Europe* and the *Middle East* and *North Africa* region generally fared much better than respondents from other regions, with medians of 13% and 15%, respectively, struggling to afford food at times. However, residents in some countries in these regions were more likely than others to report problems affording food. At least 3 in 10 adults in *Yemen* (45%), the *Palestinian Territories* (43%), *Romania* (40%), *Turkey* (37%), and *Albania* (30%) said there were times when they didn't have enough money to buy food.



### **Bottom Line**

Gallup's global surveys in 2009 suggest higher or lower food prices could mean the difference in whether billions around the world go hungry. The United Nations' recent announcement that the number of undernourished worldwide has declined so far in 2010 is a positive indicator for the future.

**SOURCE:** <http://www.gallup.com/poll/143255/estimated-billion-adults-struggled-afford-food-2009.aspx>

## **SUMMARY OF POLLS**

### **WEST ASIA**

#### **FATA Residents Oppose U.S. Operations**

A recent survey of TFT shows that residents of FATA in Pakistan highly oppose U.S. military and drone attacks in border areas of Pakistan. They are equally against the presence of Taliban or Al-Qaeda in the region. There is somewhat support for Pakistani military operations.

September 2010

### **WEST EUROPE**

#### **Half of Britons Foresee Economic Recession Lasting Until 2012**

There are no signs of optimism regarding an economic recovery in Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,006 British adults, the vast majority of Britons (82%) describe the United Kingdom's economy as being in poor or very poor condition.

September 29, 2010

#### **Coalition Partners Cameron and Clegg Drop Below 50% in Britain**

The proportion of respondents who are dissatisfied with the two leaders has increased by double-digits since May. For the first time since the Coalition Government took office

earlier this year, public approval for its two main players has dropped below the 50 per cent mark, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

September 28, 2010

#### UK: Most blame bankers for recession

A recent poll of Britons by ORB found that blame for the recession is still pinned on “bankers” – whom 54% think are responsible for the mess we’re in. This is higher than last year figure.

September 2010

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### Americans Predict GOP Will Win Control of House in Fall

Americans are much more likely to believe the Republicans rather than the Democrats will win control of the U.S. House of Representatives in this fall's midterm elections. More than 8 in 10 Republicans believe their party will win, while 62% of Democrats think their party will win. Independents by almost 2 to 1 (50% to 28%) think Republicans will win.

September 28, 2010

#### Nearly Half of Small-Business Owners May Never Retire

Nearly half, 47%, of small-business owners now plan to never retire until forced to do so for health reasons -- up from about 4 in 10 in 2005 and 2007 -- according to a recent Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index poll. Another 41% plan to cut back on work but stay involved with their business when they retire.

October 1, 2010

#### Romney, Palin at Front of GOP Presidential Field

Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin lead other potential candidates in Republicans' preferences for the party's 2012 presidential nomination. Mike Huckabee, Newt Gingrich, and Ron Paul also receive more than 5% support from Republicans nationwide.

September 30, 2010

#### GOP Retakes Congressional Generic Ballot; Obama Approval Drops to 45%

Republicans now have a 46%-41% lead over Democrats in a generic congressional ballot test, and President Barack Obama's approval rating has dropped to 45%, a new Zogby Interactive survey finds.

September 27, 2010

#### In Midterms, Dems Gain With Young Voters, Slip With Hispanics

Registered voters aged 18 to 29 were more likely in September than in August to favor the Democratic candidate in their congressional district, resulting in the widest generational gaps so far this year in the vote for Congress.

October 1, 2010

#### Distrust in U.S. Media Edges Up to Record High

For the fourth straight year, the majority of Americans say they have little or no trust in the mass media to report the news fully, accurately, and fairly. The 57% who now say this is a record high by one percentage point.

September 29, 2010

#### Obama 52%, Clinton 37% for 2012 Democratic Nomination

If Secretary of State Hillary Clinton were to challenge President Barack Obama for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2012, she would currently have the support of 37% of Democrats nationally, while 52% would support Obama.

September 30, 2010

#### One Recession, Two Americas

The Great Recession has divided America into two groups that are roughly the same size but that experienced very different economic downturns. For 55 percent of Americans recession brought a variety of economic difficulties but for 45 percent it was free of such difficulties as mentioned by the other group.

September 24, 2010

#### No Recovery for President Obama or Congress in United States

The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama remained stable month, and half of Americans continue to disapprove of his performance, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

September 30, 2010

#### Americans Praise Carter for Work Done After Leaving White House

Earlier this month, former president Jimmy Carter stated that his role as a former president is “probably superior to that of other presidents.” A new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll shows that Carter indeed outranks six other former American heads of state in this indicator.

September 29, 2010

#### Americans Paint Bleak Picture of Own Finances and National Economy

People in the United States almost unanimously describe the country’s economic situation as poor and few believe a swift recovery will materialize, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,012 American adults, 88 per cent of respondents say economic conditions are bad or very bad at the moment, up three points since the August Economic Panorama.

September 28, 2010

#### U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey

Atheists and agnostics, Jews and Mormons are among the highest-scoring groups on a new survey of religious knowledge, outperforming evangelical Protestants, mainline Protestants and Catholics on questions about the core teachings, history and leading figures of major world religions.

September 28, 2010

#### In Canada, People in BC and Quebec are More Concerned About Corruption

A majority of residents of three Canadian provinces express concern about the level of corruption they perceive, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll conducted for Maclean’s has found.

October 02, 2010

#### Conservatives Lead by Eight Points in Canada as Greens Gain

The Conservative Party maintains the upper hand in Canada as the Green Party reaches double-digits for the first time this year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,008 Canadian adults, 34 per cent of respondents (+1 since August) would support the governing Conservative Party in the next federal election.

September 29, 2010

### **MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS**

#### U.S. Approval Gains Nearly Erased in Middle East/North Africa

Approval of U.S. leadership is now similar or lower than what it was in 2008 in several of the Middle East and North African countries Gallup surveyed in 2010, erasing gains seen after the transition from the Bush administration to the Obama administration. Egypt, Syria, and Algeria are the exceptions, though in all cases approval remains relatively low.

September 30, 2010

#### Estimated 1 Billion Adults Struggled to Afford Food in 2009

While the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reported Friday that the recent volatility in food prices is not a sign of an impending food crisis, Gallup surveys in 113 countries in 2009 underscore people's vulnerability to such fluctuations. An estimated 1 billion adults worldwide reported not having enough money at times to buy the food they or their families needed. A disproportionate percentage of people in sub-Saharan Africa are affected.

September 28, 2010

## **WEST ASIA**

### **FATA Residents Oppose U.S. Operations**

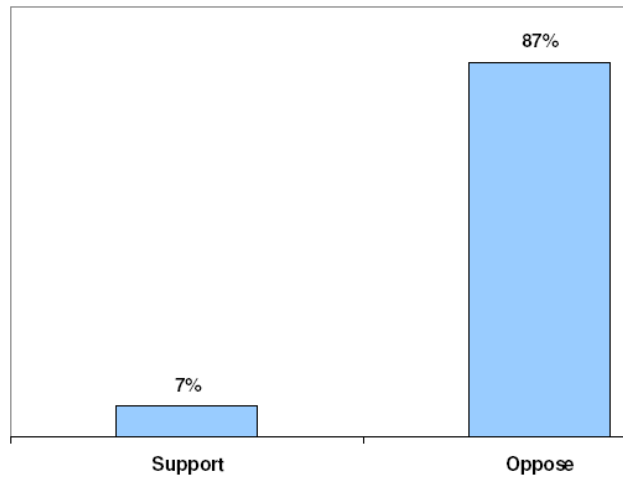
The New America Foundation and Terror Free Tomorrow have conducted the first comprehensive public opinion survey covering sensitive political issues in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan. The unprecedented survey, from June 30 to July 20, 2010, consisted of face-to-face interviews of 1,000 FATA residents age 18 or older across 120 villages/sampling points in all seven tribal Agencies of FATA, with a margin of error of +/- percent, and field work by the locally-based Community Appraisal & Motivation Programme. Funding for the poll was provided by the United States Institute of Peace, a congressionally funded think tank, which had no other role in the poll.

The poll was conducted before the large-scale floods that have inundated Pakistan.

### **Public Opposition to the U.S. Military and Drone Campaign**

Nearly nine out every ten people in FATA oppose the U.S. military pursuing al-Qaeda and the Taliban in their region. Nearly 70 percent of FATA residents instead want the Pakistani military alone to fight Taliban and al-Qaeda militants in the tribal areas. The intensity of opposition to the American military is high. While only one in ten of FATA residents think suicide attacks are often or sometimes justified against the Pakistani military and police, almost six in ten believe these attacks are justified against the U.S.

**FATA Residents who Support/Oppose US Military Action against Al-Qaeda and Taliban in their Regio**



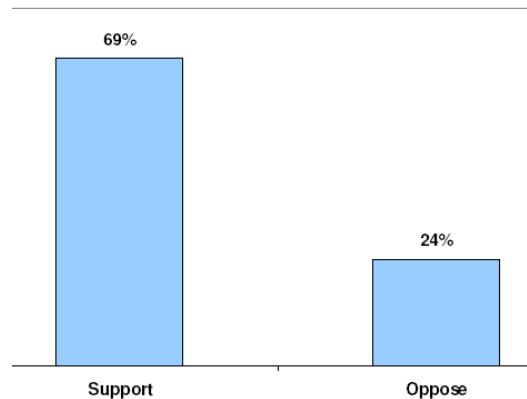
military. (The United Nations has determined that many of the suicide attackers in Afghanistan hail from the Pakistani tribal regions.) More than three-quarters of FATA residents oppose American drone strikes. Indeed, only 16 percent think these strikes accurately target militants; 48 percent think they largely kill civilians and another 33 percent feel they kill both civilians and militants. Directed by the Central Intelligence Agency, missiles are launched from unmanned drone aircraft in the FATA region of Pakistan.

President Obama has dramatically ramped up the drone program, authorizing 122 so far during his administration, more than double the number authorized by President George W. Bush during his entire eight-years in office.<sup>2</sup> This may help account for why Obama is viewed unfavorably by 83 percent of FATA residents in our poll.

A plurality of FATA residents consider the United States to be the party most responsible for the violence that is occurring in their region today. Nearly 80 percent of the people in FATA also oppose the U.S.-led “war on terror,” and believe its real purpose is to weaken and divide the Islamic world, while ensuring American domination. Only 10 percent thought the U.S. was motivated to defeat Al-Qaeda and its allies. Similarly, three-quarters of FATA residents thought that the continuing American occupation of Afghanistan was because of its larger war on Islam or part of an effort to secure oil and minerals in the region. 11 percent said it was because of the 9/11 attacks, and just 5 percent to prevent the Taliban from returning to power.



**FATA Residents who Support/Oppose Pakistani Military Action against Al-Qaeda and Taliban in their Region**



### **FATA Residents Reject Al-Qaeda and the Taliban**

Opposition to American policies in the region does not mean, however, that the people of FATA embrace either Al-Qaeda or the Taliban. More than three-quarters of FATA residents oppose the presence inside their region of Al-Qaeda and over two-thirds the Pakistan Taliban (60 percent oppose the Afghan Taliban led by Mullah Omar). Indeed, if Al-Qaeda or the Pakistani Taliban were on the ballot in an election, less than one percent of FATA residents said they would vote for either group.

### **FATA Residents Want Different American Policies in the Region**

What is interesting about our findings, however, is that the intense opposition to the U.S. military and the drone program is not based on general anti-American feelings. Almost three-quarters of the people inside the tribal regions said that their opinion of the United States would improve if the U.S. increased visas for FATA residents and educational scholarships to America, withdrew the American military from Afghanistan or brokered a comprehensive peace between Israelis and Palestinians. A majority even said their opinions of the U.S. would improve a great deal. Two-thirds said that policies such as American aid for education and medical care would improve their opinions as well.

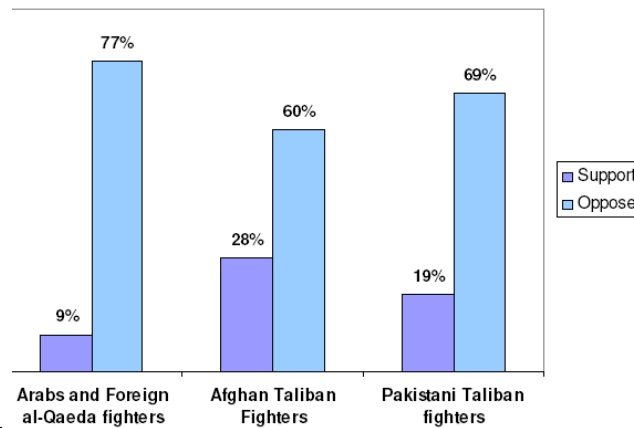
This dramatic willingness to think better of the America demonstrates a notable lack of deep-seated hostility. For many FATA residents, opposition to the U.S. is based on current American military policy, not any intractably held anti-American beliefs.

### **FATA Residents Decisively Back the Pakistani Army**

While the United States' military, as well as Taliban and Al-Qaeda fighters, enjoy little popular support in the region, the people overwhelmingly support the Pakistani Army. Nearly 70 percent back the Pakistani military pursuing Al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters in the Tribal Areas. By a significant margin, the most popular individual among the people of FATA is General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, the Pakistani Army Chief of Staff. And even though American drone attacks are strongly opposed, the public's approval of the drones program actually almost splits even if those attacks were carried out by the Pakistani military instead. Indeed, when asked how FATA should

be governed, 79 percent say it should be governed by the Pakistani military, followed by FATA becoming a separate province of Pakistan (70 percent). Becoming part of Afghanistan was the

FATA Residents who Support/Oppose inside FATA  
the Presence of:

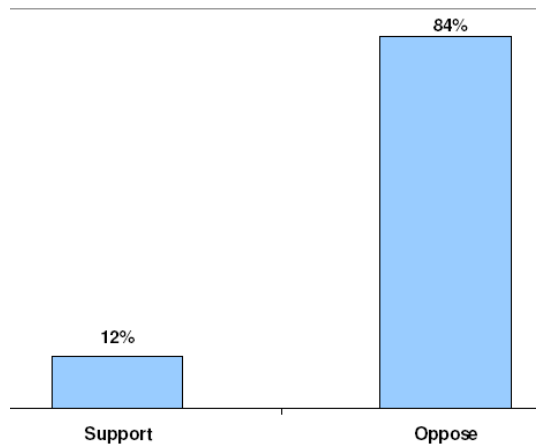


most unpopular choice.

### Priorities of the people of FATA are Unemployment and Education

Unemployment is very high in FATA, with only 20 percent of respondents in our survey saying they were working full-time. Indeed, lack of jobs was chosen as the most important problem in the region by 95 percent of those surveyed. This was closely followed by lack of schools, good roads and security, poor health care and corruption of local official officials. Lesser problems to be addressed in descending order of importance were: drone attacks, Taliban and foreign fighters

FATA Residents who Support/Oppose inside FATA  
the Presence of the U.S. Military:



and problems involving refugees.

Despite the reputation that the people in FATA are socially conservative, nine out of every ten people identified lack of education and schools as their most important problem. Indeed, building new schools was chosen as a high priority for both boys and girls. In terms of administering justice in the tribal regions, the least popular option was having justice delivered by the Taliban, with only 12 percent believing this to be very important. By contrast, nearly two-thirds chose be governed by local tribal leaders.

Views of FATA residents are not inconsistent with past Terror Free Tomorrow/New America surveys of Pakistanis generally, though the intensity of opposition to the U.S. military inside FATA is significantly higher. A full statement on survey methods, topline questions and answers, charts and background information follows.

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## **WEST EUROPE**

### **Half of Britons Foresee Economic Recession Lasting Until 2012**

September 29, 2010

*Just 14 per cent of respondents think the UK economy is currently in “very good” or “good shape.”*

There are no signs of optimism regarding an economic recovery in Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,006 British adults, the vast majority of Britons (82%) describe the United Kingdom’s economy as being in poor or very poor condition. This proportion has dropped four points since last month’s Economic Panorama. Three-in-five (59%) respondents rate their personal finances as poor.

While only 14 per cent of Britons think the economy will rebound in the next six months, 33 per cent fear it will get worse.

Two thirds of respondents think the recession will not be over until next year (20%) or even after 2011 (49%).

#### Concerns, Inflation and Debt

Unemployment remains the top concern among Britons (39% have worried about joblessness affecting their household in the past two months), followed by the value of investments (30%) and savings (30%); being able to meet mortgage or rent payments (29%); and employers facing serious financial problems (21%).

Fears of inflation have risen compared to last month. The vast majority of Britons continue to expect petrol (88%) and grocery (86%) prices to go up. Many people also think that a new car (51%) and a new TV (42%) will cost more in the next six months. Britons have mixed feelings about property prices: 28 per cent say they will rise, but 30 per cent think they will fall.

Britons would mostly focus on paying debt and saving money if they had extra cash. Respondents were asked what they would do if they suddenly were given an extra £1,000. On average, people would allocate £260 to paying back debt; £209 to a savings bank account; £161 to cover daily expenses such as groceries; £126 to pay for personal items such as gifts or a treat; £115 towards a big purchase such as a car or a home improvement; £100 to invest in an ISA; and £28 to buy shares in a particular company.

Economic Panorama						
When do you think the UK economy will get out of recession?						
	Region					
	Total	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
It is already out of recession	7%	5%	7%	5%	8%	10%
In the second half of 2010	4%	6%	5%	3%	3%	4%
In 2011	20%	20%	21%	21%	16%	25%
After 2011	45%	44%	47%	50%	53%	46%
Not sure	15%	21%	15%	21%	15%	15%

## The UK Economy Compared to Others

At least two-in-five respondents say Britain's economy compares poorly with that of five other industrialized countries, including China (53%), Germany (43%), Australia (44%), Japan (42%), Canada (42%). One-in-four think the UK economy is in worse shape than that of France (27%) and the United States (26%).

## Political Leadership

Prime Minister David Cameron has surpassed other political and economic leaders as the most trusted leader to handle the economy, with 46 per cent of Britons expressing trust in him.

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg is up three points to 45 per cent, tied with Mervyn King, Governor of the Bank of England (he is down six points since last month). Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne (36%) and Labour Shadow Chancellor Alistair Darling (28%) are last.

By a wide margin, the Conservatives remain favoured over Labour to rein in the national debt (55% to 19%), end the recession (44% to 25%), and control inflation (46% to 25%). Labour (38%) is slightly on top of the Tories (33%) in the category of creating jobs. These indicators are practically unchanged since August.

Methodology: From September 22 to September 24, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,005 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

## **Coalition Partners Cameron and Clegg Drop Below 50% in Britain**

September 28, 2010

The proportion of respondents who are dissatisfied with the two leaders has increased by double-digits since May. For the first time since the Coalition Government took office earlier this year, public approval for its two main players has dropped below the 50 per cent mark, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,016 British adults, 49 per cent approve of David Cameron’s performance as Prime Minister (-4 since July), while 38 per cent (+3) disapprove.

Coalition Government				
Do you approve or disapprove of David Cameron's performance as Prime Minister?				
	Sept 20 10	Jul. 20 10	Jun. 20 10	May 20 10
Approve	49%	53%	54%	54%
Disapprove	38%	35%	32%	25%
Not sure	13%	12%	15%	22%

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg holds lower numbers, with 42 per cent of respondents (-5) approving of his performance, and 42 per cent disapproving (+4).

Since May, when the Coalition Government was first announced, the proportion of respondents who disapprove of Cameron and Clegg has increased by 13 points and 16 points respectively.

Coalition Government				
Do you approve or disapprove of Nick Clegg's performance as Deputy Prime Minister?				
	Sept 20 10	Jul. 20 10	Jun. 20 10	May 20 10
Approve	42%	47%	50%	52%
Disapprove	42%	38%	34%	26%
Not sure	16%	15%	15%	22%

Methodology: From September 17 to September 20, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,016 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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**UK: Most blame bankers for recession**

September 2010

A recent poll by ORB found that blame for the recession is still pinned on “bankers” – whom 54% think are responsible for the mess we’re in.

A recent poll by ORB found that blame for the recession is still pinned on “bankers” – whom 54% think are responsible for the mess we’re in. This is higher than this time last year – while perception of Labour’s and Gordon Brown’s culpability has not changed, despite all the debate about the recession in the General Election campaign. So the bad news for the Coalition is that its attempts to pin the blame for the recession on the last Labour Government have failed. Less than one in five adults (18%) thinks that Labour or Gordon Brown are responsible.

ORB interviewed 1,007 British adults by telephone between 10th and 12th of September 2010. Data are weighted to reflect the age, gender, regional and socio-economic profile of the UK.

**Recession Survey**  
**CATI Fieldwork : September 10th-12th 2010**

Table 1  
**Q.1 Looking back, which of the following do you blame the most for the recession in the UK?**  
**Base: All respondents**

	Gender			Age						Social Grade				Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid-lands	North Eng-land	Wales & South West	Scott-land
Unweighted base	1007	453	554	83	115	161	199	191	258	359	211	150	289	267	262	246	140	92
Weighted base	1007	493	514	121	161	192	171	151	211	272	292	211	232	256	266	253	145	87
The bankers	542 54%	281 57%	261 51%	56 46%	74 46%	107 56%	99 57%	93 61%	116 55%	151 55%	158 54%	109 52%	123 53%	117 46%	144 54%	146 58%	79 54%	56 65%
It was an international problem	213 21%	97 20%	116 22%	34 28%	51 32%	32 17%	34 20%	30 20%	32 15%	65 24%	67 29%	45 21%	36 15%	70 27%	47 18%	49 20%	29 20%	17 19%
The Labour government	116	57	59	21	20	24	19	13	19	28	32	29	28	33	39	22	15	8
	12%	12%	12%	17%	13%	13%	11%	9%	9%	10%	11%	14%	12%	13%	15%	9%	10%	9%
Gordon Brown	65 6%	28 6%	37 7%	5 4%	6 4%	14 7%	10 6%	9 6%	23 11%	14 5%	15 5%	13 6%	23 10%	20 8%	15 6%	12 5%	14 9%	4 5%
The media	39 4%	19 4%	21 4%	4 4%	4 2%	9 5%	4 2%	5 3%	13 6%	9 3%	13 4%	4 2%	13 6%	10 4%	10 4%	13 5%	5 4%	-
Don't know	32 3%	12 2%	20 4%	1 1%	7 4%	6 3%	8 5%	2 1%	8 4%	5 2%	8 3%	11 5%	9 4%	6 2%	10 4%	10 4%	4 3%	2 2%

## NORTH AMERICA

### Americans Predict GOP Will Win Control of House in Fall

*Fifty-two percent think Republicans will win; 32% think Democrats will*

September 28, 2010

Americans are much more likely to believe the Republicans rather than the Democrats will win control of the U.S. House of Representatives in this fall's midterm elections. More than 8 in 10 Republicans believe their party will win, while 62% of Democrats think their party will win. Independents by almost 2 to 1 (50% to 28%) think Republicans will win.

*Regardless of how you, yourself, plan to vote, which party do you think will win control of the U.S. House of Representatives in the congressional elections this fall -- [ROTATED: the Republicans (or) the Democrats]?*

	<b>Republicans will win</b>	<b>Democrats will win</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
All Americans	52%	32%	15%
Democrats	26%	62%	13%
Independents	50%	28%	22%
Republicans	83%	10%	7%

Gallup, Sept. 23-26, 2010

**GALLUP'**

These results are based on a Gallup poll conducted Sept. 23-26. While Americans' party preferences do influence their predictions to a large degree, the gap in the Republicans' favor in terms of who Americans think will win the elections is much larger than the gap in voter preferences for Congress. In recent weeks, Gallup has found the 2010 vote to be tied or showing a slight Republican advantage among all registered voters.

Americans have been quite successful in forecasting election outcomes, correctly predicting the winner of each of the four prior midterm elections when Gallup asked the same question in 1946, 1958, 1962, and 2006. The public also correctly predicted Barack Obama would win the 2008 presidential election.

Though Americans may expect a Republican victory in the fall, they do not necessarily believe the country will benefit. The poll finds the largest number, 36%, saying the country will be better off if Republicans control Congress, but 24% believe the country will be worse off and 32% say it will not make any difference.

These results are not necessarily problematic to the Republicans' hopes of winning, as they are nearly identical to what Gallup measured when asking about a possible shift to Democratic control of Congress prior to the 2006 midterm elections.

*Suppose the [...] win control of Congress in this November's elections. Do you think the country would be better off, worse off, or would it not make any difference?*

	<b>Better off</b>	<b>No difference</b>	<b>Worse off</b>
Sep 23-26, 2010 [Republicans]	36%	32%	24%
Oct 20-22, 2006 [Democrats]	39%	32%	27%

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In 2006, as now, about one in three Americans believed a change in party control would not make a difference, perhaps indicating some general cynicism about government in general. In the current data, even one in five Republicans say it will not make a difference if Republicans win back control of Congress.

More generally, opinions on whether the country would benefit from Republican control are predictably partisan, with Republicans thinking the country would be better off if the GOP gained control, and Democrats believing the U.S. would be worse off. Independents are inclined to say it will not make any difference, though slightly more view it as a positive than a negative development.

*Suppose the Republicans win control of Congress in this November's elections. Do you think the country would be better off, worse off, or would it not make any difference?*

	<b>Better off</b>	<b>No difference</b>	<b>Worse off</b>
All Americans	36%	32%	24%
Democrats	7%	33%	56%
Independents	29%	43%	17%
Republicans	75%	21%	1%

Gallup, Sept. 23-26, 2010

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**Bottom Line**

Americans generally believe the Republicans will wrest party control of Congress back from the Democrats in this fall's elections, and the public has been accurate each time Gallup has asked it to predict the winner of an election. This track record may demonstrate a degree of sophistication on Americans' part, in terms of their ability to read and process the signs in the political environment that point to a particular election outcome. It could also be the result of a self-



fulfilling prophecy whereby Americans expect a party to win, and act in such a way (by voting for the party they think will win, or not voting if they think their favored party will lose) that helps make their expectation a reality.

## **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 23-26, 2010, with a random sample of 1,036 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.

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## **Nearly Half of Small-Business Owners May Never Retire**

*More than 6 in 10 small-business owners changed retirement plans due to economic downturn*

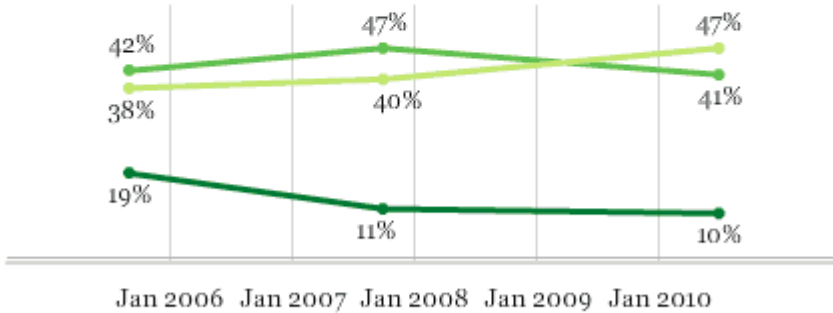
October 1, 2010

Nearly half, 47%, of small-business owners now plan to never retire until forced to do so for health reasons -- up from about 4 in 10 in 2005 and 2007 -- according to a recent Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index poll. Another 41% plan to cut back on work but stay involved with their business when they retire. Those planning to stop working in their business altogether fell to 1 in 10 during 2010 from nearly twice that level in 2005.

### Small-Business Owners' Retirement Expectations

In the long run, which do you expect to do -- retire and stop working in your business, cut back on work but always maintain some involvement in your business, or never retire until forced to stop working for health reasons?

- Retire and stop working in your business
- Cut back on work but stay involved
- Never retire until forced by health reasons



Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index conducted July 6-12, 2010

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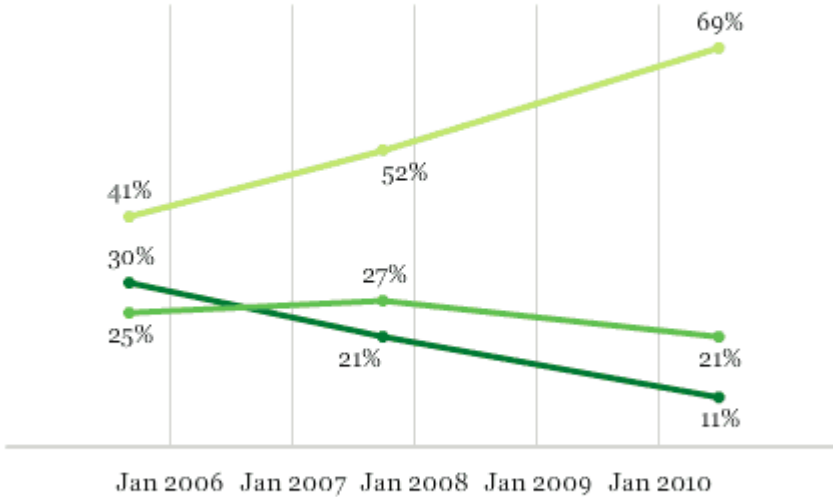
### More Will Retire Later

When asked about a target retirement age, 69% intend to retire at age 65 or older -- up significantly from 41% in 2005 and 52% in 2007. At the same time, 21% of owners plan to retire between the ages of 60 and 64, while 11% intend to do so prior to age 60 -- both percentages representing significant declines from 2007.

### Small-Business Owners' Target Dates for Retirement

At what age do you expect to retire or cut back on work?

■ Younger than 60   ■ 60-64   ■ 65 and older



Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index conducted July 6-12, 2010

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### Fewer Will Retire Comfortably

Nearly 8 in 10 small-business owners prior to the recession in 2007 thought they would have enough money to live comfortably when they retire. By 2010, fewer than two in three felt that way.

At least in part, this may be the result of the damage the recession and financial crisis have done to the assets small-business owners plan to rely on as a major source of income for their retirement. When asked to rate each of a list of 11 different sources of retirement income, small-business owners are most likely to say: a 401(k) or similar account, the value of their business, the equity in their home, and individual stock and stock mutual funds, followed by Social Security.

### *Small-Business Owners' Expected Sources of Retirement Income*

When you retire, how much do you expect to rely on the following sources of money?

	<b>Major source of income</b>	<b>Minor source of income</b>	<b>Not a source at all</b>
A 401(k), IRA, Keogh, or other retirement savings account	36%	37%	26%
The value of the sale of your business	33%	36%	28%
The equity you have built up in your home	28%	43%	28%
Individual stock or stock mutual fund investments	27%	40%	32%
Social Security	25%	62%	13%
Other savings such as a regular savings account or CDs	24%	52%	23%
Rent or money from property or real estate	22%	31%	46%
A work-sponsored pension plan	13%	28%	58%
Part-time work	10%	56%	33%
Annuities or insurance plans	9%	42%	48%
Money from inheritance	6%	29%	64%

Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index conducted July 6-12, 2010

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Sixty-two percent of small-business owners look to Social Security as a minor source of retirement, followed by 56% pointing to part-time work and 52% relying on regular savings accounts or CDs.

### **Economic Crisis Cost Savings That May Never Be Rebuilt**

More than 6 in 10 small-business owners say they have made "major" or "minor" changes to their retirement strategy as a result of the economic downturn. While 58% say they are looking forward to retirement a "great deal" or "somewhat," one in four say they are not looking forward to it at all. Nearly two in three think of retirement as a time when they can work at something they enjoy and do so on their own terms. The other third see retirement as a time to rest, relax, and enjoy life.

Regardless of how they view retirement, small-business owners do have retirement worries that the recession and financial crisis of the past several years have exacerbated. For example, 58%

say they worry they won't be able to maintain the standard of living they now enjoy when they retire, compared with 36% saying this in late 2007, prior to the start of the recession. Still, their most prevalent worry about retirement is a new one that many Americans likely share -- 68% worry that they will not be able to build back retirement savings lost during the recent economic downturn.

The economic crisis of the past three years has done great economic damage as many Americans have lost their jobs, seen their incomes decline, lost their homes, and lost their businesses. Though not often discussed, many Americans not experiencing such disastrous events have also suffered as they've seen years of savings disappear that they may never be able to rebuild.

Still, small-business owners do have one major advantage: most love what they do. As a result, many may never retire. When asked if money were no object, which of four things they would do today:

- 51% say they would continue working full- or part-time in their current business;
- 28% say they would retire completely;
- 18% say they would start another business; and
- 2% say they would work for someone else.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for the total data set are based on telephone interviews conducted July 6-12, 2010, with a random sample of 604 small-business owners.

Small businesses are defined as companies having between \$50,000 and \$20 million in revenues or sales. Respondents are selected randomly from a sample provided by Dun & Bradstreet. Results are weighted to be representative of all businesses having \$20 million or less in sales or revenues.

For results based on the total sample of small-business owners, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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.

### **Romney, Palin at Front of GOP Presidential Field**

*Preferences for leaders similar among conservative, moderate/liberal Republicans*

September 30, 2010

Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin lead other potential candidates in Republicans' preferences for the party's 2012 presidential nomination. Mike Huckabee, Newt Gingrich, and Ron Paul also receive more than 5% support from Republicans nationwide.

*Republicans' and Republican Leaners' Preferences for 2012 Republican Presidential Nominee*

Next, I'm going to read a list of people who may be running in the Republican primaries for president in the 2012 election. After I read all the names, please tell me which of those candidates you would be most likely to support for the Republican nomination for president in 2012, or if you would support someone else. [RANDOM ORDER]

	%
Former Massachusetts governor, Mitt Romney	19
Former Alaska governor, Sarah Palin	16
Former Arkansas governor, Mike Huckabee	12
Former speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich	9
Texas congressman, Ron Paul	7
Minnesota governor, Tim Pawlenty	3
Mississippi governor, Haley Barbour	3
Former Pennsylvania senator, Rick Santorum	2
South Dakota senator, John Thune	2
Indiana governor, Mitch Daniels	2
Indiana congressman, Mike Pence	1
Chris Christie (vol.)	1
Former New Mexico governor, Gary Johnson	1
Other (vol.)	4
Any/All (vol.)	1
None (vol.)	7
No opinion	11

Gallup, Sept. 25-26, 2010  
 (vol.) = Volunteered response

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Gallup, in a poll conducted Sept. 25-26, asked Republicans and Republican-leaning independents which of 12 possible candidates they would be most likely to support for the party's nomination. All 12 candidates are thought to be seriously considering a run for president, and many of them have already visited Iowa and New Hampshire, the states holding the first nominating contests.

In addition to the 12 named candidates, 1% of respondents volunteered the name of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. Christie, in his first year as governor of the state, has become a prominent GOP figure, though he is not expected to run for president in 2012.

The current results are similar to prior Gallup polling on the 2012 nomination, using an open-ended format as well as a closed-ended format that offered a shorter list of candidates. Those polls also found Romney and Palin leading, with Huckabee and Gingrich next in line among likely candidates.

### **Little Ideological Differentiation on Romney, Palin**

Romney and Palin are the top choices of both conservative and moderate or liberal Republicans, and in fact their support is similar among both groups. Of the top five candidates, Huckabee receives support that is most divided along ideological lines; he gets significantly more support among conservative Republicans.

*Support for Top Five Potential 2012 Republican Nomination Candidates,  
by Political Ideology*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	<b>% Conservative</b>	<b>% Liberal or Moderate</b>
Mitt Romney	19	21
Sarah Palin	16	15
Mike Huckabee	15	5
Newt Gingrich	10	6
Ron Paul	7	7

Gallup, Sept. 25-26, 2010

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Huckabee, an ordained Baptist minister, likely fares better among conservative Republicans because the group tends to be more religious. Among Republicans who say religion is important in their lives, Huckabee (14%) is essentially tied with Romney (17%) and Palin (16%).

### **Candidates Get More Support in Home Regions**

Typically, support for presidential nomination candidates varies geographically, with candidates generally faring best in their home regions. This appears to be the case with most of the current group of GOP contenders, as Palin's support is highest in the West, and Huckabee gets somewhat higher support in the South. Romney shows particular strength in both the East, where he was governor of Massachusetts, and the West, where he served as chief executive of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic games.

*Support for Top Five Potential 2012 Republican Nomination Candidates,  
by Region*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	East %	Midwest %	South %	West %
Mitt Romney	26	15	14	27
Sarah Palin	13	13	17	20
Mike Huckabee	8	11	16	10
Newt Gingrich	8	12	8	7
Ron Paul	3	8	9	6

Gallup, Sept. 25-26, 2010

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### **Bottom Line**

Generally speaking, the better-known candidates tend to fare best in early tests of support for presidential nominations. That helps explain why 2008 presidential candidates Romney and Huckabee, 2008 vice presidential nominee Palin, and former House Speaker Gingrich currently generate more support for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination than those who have not previously run for national office or held a high position in national government, such as Tim Pawlenty or Haley Barbour.

Historically, Republicans have generally nominated the early front-runner as the party's presidential candidate. The notable exception came in the last presidential election, when Rudy Giuliani led in most of the early nomination polls but had several poor early primary or caucus showings before withdrawing from the race.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 25-26, 2010, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 906 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, 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 Republicans and Republican leaners, 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 of national adults includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender



within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

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

The questions reported here were asked of a random half-sample of respondents for 2 nights on the Gallup Daily tracking survey.

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.

**Zogby Interactive: GOP Retakes Congressional Generic Ballot; Obama Approval Drops to 45%**

**GOP Voters More Favorable to Tea Party Than Republican Party**

9/27/2010

**UTICA, New York** - Republicans now have a 46%-41% lead over Democrats in a generic congressional ballot test, and President Barack Obama's approval rating has dropped to 45%, a new Zogby Interactive survey finds.

Previous polling from Sept. 20 showed Democrats with a one-point lead in the Congressional generic ballot question and Obama had an approval rating of 49%.

The most recent survey was conducted from Sept. 24-27 and also asked voters to rate the favorability of the Republican and Democratic parties, and that of the Tea Party conservative movement. The Tea Party rated higher than both the Republicans and Democrats among likely voters. An overwhelming majority of Republican voters (86%) rated the Tea Party favorably.

*In the Congressional race in 2010, for which party's candidate do you intend to vote - Democrat or Republican?*

	<b>Sept. 27</b>	<b>Sept. 20</b>	<b>Sept. 14</b>	<b>Aug. 30</b>	<b>Aug. 23</b>	<b>Aug. 12</b>	<b>Aug. 4</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>June 28</b>	<b>June 7</b>
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Democrat	41%	44%	41%	41%	41%	41%	41%	38%	40%	41%	41%	41%
Republican	46%	43%	47%	43%	43%	42%	46%	43%	43%	43%	43%	41%
Neither	4%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Not sure	10%	10%	10%	12%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	16%

*Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.*

On the Congressional generic ballot, a three-point advantage for Republicans among independent voters in our Sept. 20 poll is now a nine-point lead for the GOP. Support for Democrats from party members continued to increase over previous Zogby Interactive polls, and is now 86%. But support for Republicans among GOP voters also increased, and is now 89%.

<b>Obama Job Performance</b>	<b>Sept. 27</b>	<b>Sept. 20</b>	<b>Sept. 14</b>	<b>Aug. 30</b>	<b>Aug. 23</b>	<b>Aug. 12</b>	<b>Aug. 4</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>June 28</b>	<b>June 7</b>	<b>May 10</b>	<b>Apr. 19</b>	<b>Apr. 3</b>	<b>Mar. 4</b>
<b>Approve</b>	45%	49%	46%	44%	46%	43%	43%	46%	45%	46%	47%	47%	49%	48%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	54%	51%	54%	56%	53%	56%	57%	53%	54%	53%	53%	53%	51%	52%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%

*Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.*

Democratic voter approval of the president dropped eight points from Sept. 20, going from 87% to 79%. Obama's approval also dropped three points among independents to 45% and two points among Republicans to 46%.

*The table below shows the combined very favorable and somewhat favorable opinions of the Democratic and Republican parties and of the Tea Party movement.*

<b>Party</b>	<b>All Voters</b>	<b>Republican Voters</b>	<b>Democratic Voters</b>	<b>Independent Voters</b>
<b>Democrat</b>	38%	4%	73%	31%
<b>Republican</b>	30%	57%	11%	24%
<b>Tea Party</b>	44%	86%	14%	36%

Our results show that the percentage of voters who have an opinion of the Tea Party is now at 93%, with just 7% saying they were not sure if they were favorable or unfavorable toward it. Less than one percent say they are not sure of their opinions about either party.

In other findings:

- 36% of all voters say the nation is headed in the right direction, and 57% say it is headed in the wrong direction.
- The job approval of Congress is 19%. Approval of Congressional Democrats' performance is 34%, and approval of Congressional Republicans is 27%.

*Pollster John Zogby: "Given the number of establishment Republicans who have lost their party's nomination to Tea Party insurgents, it is no surprise that Republican voters are more favorable to the Tea Party than they are to the Republican Party. The Tea Party's pre-emption of the Republican Party is among the biggest political stories of the year. Whether you believe it is an organic movement or just the same conservative base that has been around for decades, the Tea Party has been enormously successful in drawing attention to itself and its beliefs."*

The interactive poll consisted of 2,073 likely voters and has a margin of error of +/-2.2%. A sampling of Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population.

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## In Midterms, Dems Gain With Young Voters, Slip With Hispanics

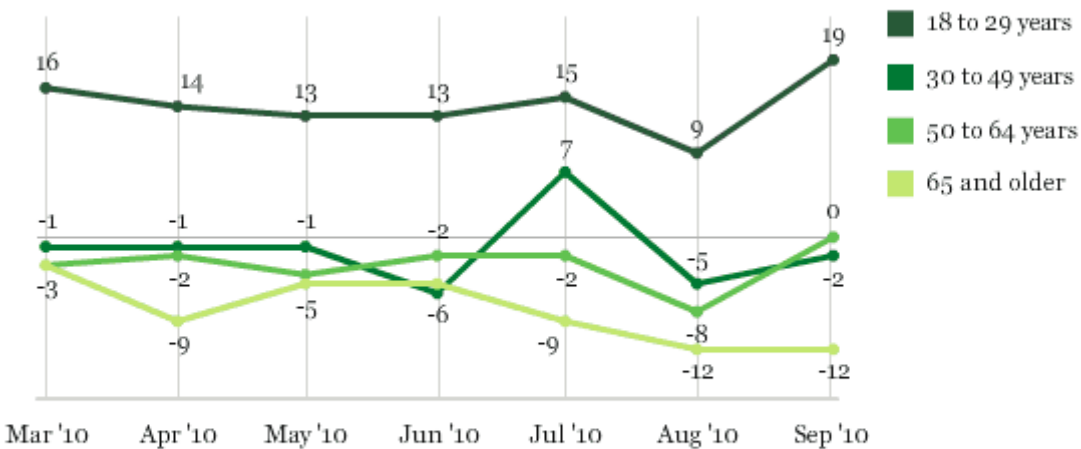
*Barely half of Hispanics in September planned to vote Democratic*

October 1, 2010

Registered voters aged 18 to 29 were more likely in September than in August to favor the Democratic candidate in their congressional district, resulting in the widest generational gaps so far this year in the vote for Congress.

### Vote for Congress -- Monthly Averages by Age

Net percentage voting Democratic (% Democrat minus % Republican, in percentage points)



Note: A positive number indicates a Democratic advantage; a negative number, a Republican one

Based on registered voters

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According to the September data, young registered voters favored the Democrats by 55% to 36% over the Republicans -- a 19-point margin. That was up from 9 points in August, and contrasts with a 12-point advantage for the Republicans in September among seniors (52% to 40%).

While young adults have turned more Democratic in their voting preferences, seniors grew progressively more likely to favor the Republicans in July and August, and maintained that higher support level in September.

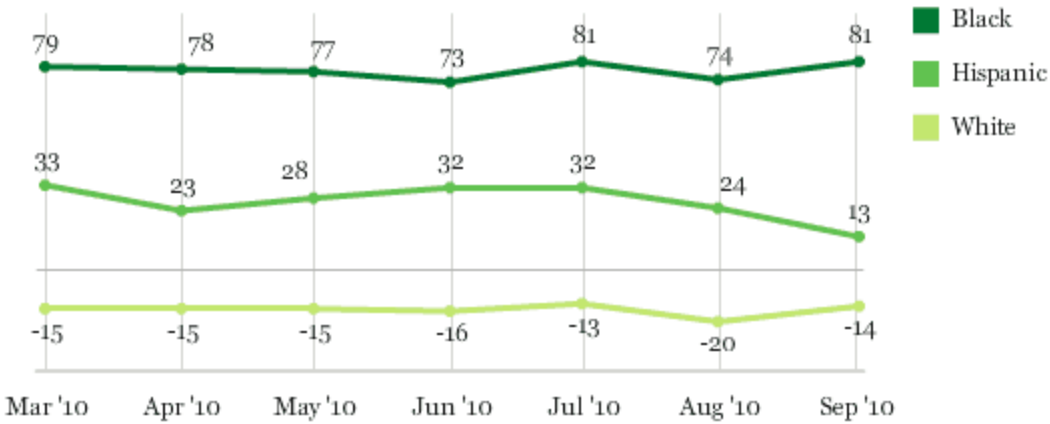
### Hispanics' Preferences Shift, While Whites' and Blacks' are Stable

Hispanic voters' support for Democratic candidates waned in August and September. As a result, Hispanics in September favored Democrats by a 13-point margin (51% to 38%), compared with 32-point margins in June and July.

Whites in September favored Republican over Democratic candidates by a 14-point margin, similar to their support level in most other months this year. The vast majority of blacks continued to favor Democrats.

*Vote for Congress -- Monthly Averages by Race/Ethnicity*

Net percentage voting Democratic (% Democrat minus % Republican, in percentage points)



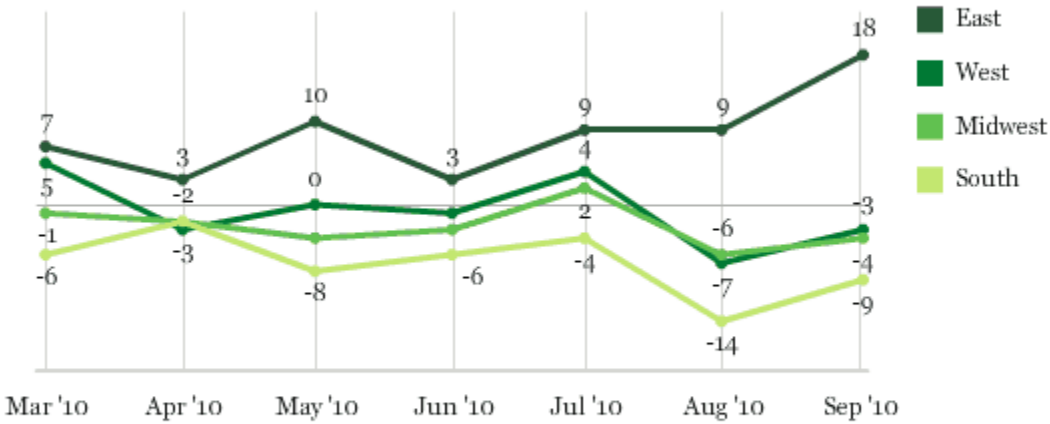
Note: A positive number indicates a Democratic advantage; a negative number, a Republican one  
Based on registered voters

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Gallup also finds that Democrats did sharply better in the East in September than in any month since the start of Gallup Daily tracking of the vote for Congress. Support for the Democrats in the other three regions was up a bit from where it stood in August, but remained slightly lower than it was earlier in the year. The Democrats trail the Republicans in all regions but the East.

*Vote for Congress -- Monthly Averages by Region*

Net percentage voting Democratic (% Democrat minus % Republican, in percentage points)



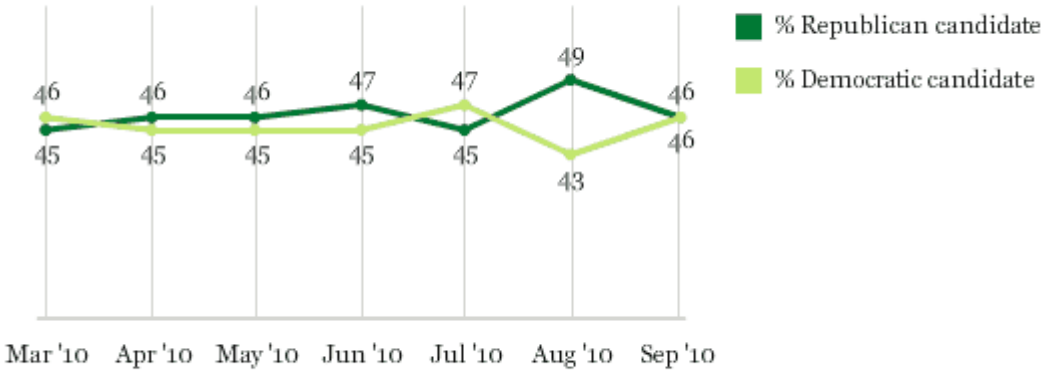
Note: A positive number indicates a Democratic advantage; a negative number, a Republican one  
Based on registered voters

GALLUP®

Nationwide, Republicans and Democrats have been closely matched in Gallup's monthly averages of the vote for Congress this year, although the Republicans enjoyed elevated support in August. The two parties were tied at 46% across the more than 8,000 interviews conducted with registered voters in September.

*Generic Ballot Vote for Congress -- Monthly Averages*

Based on registered voters



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**Bottom Line**

President Barack Obama's efforts this week to stir young voters to turn out in November on behalf of his party's candidates come as Gallup finds support among this group -- so important to the Democrats' success in 2008 -- improving. Gallup's September polling suggests that young voters remain in the Democrats' corner, and show increased support at a time when seniors have shifted more to the Republicans. The key question is whether young adults will vote in big enough numbers to offset the impact of the senior vote. The most recent indications on this from Gallup polling are not promising for the Democrats.

Hispanics present a different problem for the president's party. While they voted strongly for Obama in 2008 and were supposed to be one of the building blocks of Democratic victory in 2010, Gallup's recent polling suggests their support for Democratic congressional candidates is slipping. This is in line with Hispanics' dwindling approval of Obama as president, with the initial decline seen in May possibly linked to the Democrats' failure to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

The detailed September results of Gallup's generic ballot measure of the vote for Congress, based on registered voters, are shown on page 2.

## **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Sept. 2-26, 2010, with a random sample of 8,773 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  $\pm 1$  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.

## **Distrust in U.S. Media Edges Up to Record High**

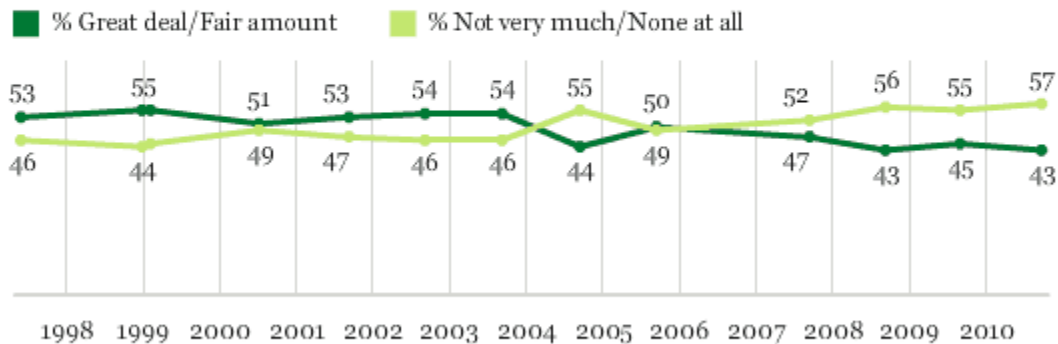
*Perceptions of liberal bias still far outnumber perceptions of conservative bias*

September 29, 2010

For the fourth straight year, the majority of Americans say they have little or no trust in the mass media to report the news fully, accurately, and fairly. The 57% who now say this is a record high by one percentage point.

*In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media -- such as newspapers, TV, and radio -- when it comes to reporting the news fully, accurately, and fairly -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?*

Gallup trend since 1997



GALLUP®

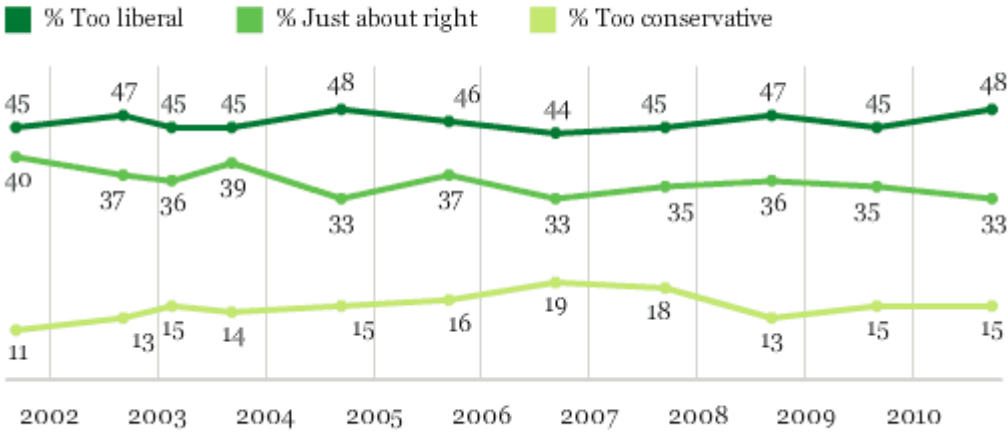
The 43% of Americans who, in Gallup's annual Governance poll, conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, express a great deal or fair amount of trust ties the record low, and is far worse than three prior Gallup readings on this measure from the 1970s.

Trust in the media is now slightly higher than the record-low trust in the legislative branch but lower than trust in the executive and judicial branches of government, even though trust in all three branches is down sharply this year. These findings also further confirm a separate Gallup poll that found little confidence in newspapers and television specifically.

Nearly half of Americans (48%) say the media are too liberal, tying the high end of the narrow 44% to 48% range recorded over the past decade. One-third say the media are just about right while 15% say they are too conservative. Overall, perceptions of bias have remained quite steady over this tumultuous period of change for the media, marked by the growth of cable and Internet news sources. Americans' views now are in fact identical to those in 2004, despite the many changes in the industry since then.



*In general, do you think the news media are -- [ROTATED: too liberal, just about right, or too conservative]?*



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Democrats and liberals remain far more likely than other political and ideological groups to trust the media and to perceive no bias.

*Views of Mass Media, by Party and Ideology*

	% Great deal/ Fair amount of trust	% Not very much/ No trust	% Too liberal	% Just about right	% Too conservative
Democrats	59	40	22	48	26
Independents	39	61	45	35	15
Republicans	32	67	76	15	6
Liberals	54	46	11	51	33
Moderates	47	52	40	40	15
Conservatives	33	66	73	17	8

Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

GALLUP®

Lower-income Americans and those with less education are generally more likely to trust the media than are those with higher incomes and more education. A subgroup analysis of these data suggests that three demographic groups key to advertisers -- adults aged 18 to 29, Americans making at least \$75,000 per year, and college graduates -- lost more trust in the media in the past year than other groups, but the sample sizes in this survey are too small to say so definitively.

**Bottom Line**

Gallup's annual update on trust in the mass media finds Americans' views entrenched -- with a record-high 57% expressing little to no trust in the media to report the news fully, accurately, and fairly, and 63% perceiving bias in one direction or the other. At the same time, the steady nature of these views stands in contrast to Americans' views of the three branches of government, which are all down sharply this year. Thus, in an environment in which few institutions elicit high levels of trust, it appears the media are neither gaining nor losing significant ground -- but are just managing to hold steady.

## Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling. The question on whether the media are too liberal, too conservative, or just about right is part of a *USA Today*/Gallup poll series conducted as part of the same survey.

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.

## **Obama 52%, Clinton 37% for 2012 Democratic Nomination**

*Clinton's support highest among conservative, less well-educated Democrats*

September 30, 2010

If Secretary of State Hillary Clinton were to challenge President Barack Obama for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2012, she would currently have the support of 37% of Democrats nationally, while 52% would support Obama.

*Democrats and Democratic Leaners' Preferences for 2012 Democratic Presidential Nominee*

Suppose Hillary Clinton ran against Barack Obama for the Democratic nomination for president in 2012. If that happened, would you be more likely to support -- [ROTATED: Barack Obama (or) Hillary Clinton] -- for the Democratic nomination in the next presidential election?

	%
Barack Obama	52
Hillary Clinton	37
No opinion	10

Gallup, Sept. 25-26, 2010

GALLUP®

NBC's "Meet the Press" host David Gregory on Sept. 5 raised the possibility that Clinton might renew her battle against Obama for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, asking outside White House adviser David Plouffe, "Do you envision a primary challenge from another Democrat in 2012 against this president?" Gregory then asked more specifically, "Do you -- can you rule out, based on actual information, that Secretary of State Clinton would not pursue the presidency again, would not challenge President Obama?"

Clinton was Obama's main challenger for the 2008 Democratic nomination in a long-fought and, at times, contentious battle. Once Obama clinched the nomination, Clinton and her husband Bill Clinton strongly supported Obama's nomination, and Hillary Clinton now serves in Obama's cabinet as secretary of state.

President Obama has yet to announce his intentions for 2012, although Harry Truman in 1952 and Lyndon Johnson in 1968 have been the only presidents since Calvin Coolidge to decline to seek re-election when they were eligible to do so.

Presidents with relatively low job approval ratings heading into a possible re-election bid are vulnerable to intra-party challenges. As two examples, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter were challenged for their respective parties' nomination as sitting presidents -- Ford by Ronald Reagan, and Carter by Edward Kennedy and Jerry Brown. Ford's job approval rating had reached as low as 37% in 1975, the year before he ran for re-election, and Carter's had reached 28% in 1979. Obama's current weekly job approval rating is 44%, albeit with more than two years until the next presidential election.

Obama's strengths among Democrats in the hypothetical matchup with Clinton lie with college graduates and liberals, the latter of whom make up about 36% of this sample of 859 Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents. Clinton does better among less well-educated Democrats and bests Obama among conservatives, who make up 22% of Democrats. Clinton does slightly better among women than among men.

*Support for Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton for 2012 Democratic Nomination,  
by Gender, Education, and Political Ideology*

Based on Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents

	<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>Hillary Clinton</b>
	%	%
Men	56	33
Women	50	40
College graduates	66	25
Did not graduate from college	46	44
Liberal	63	30
Moderate	49	39
Conservative	41	48

Gallup, Sept. 25-26, 2010

GALLUP®

## **Implications**

As is the case for the 2012 Republican nomination, voter sentiments at this stage of the 2012 election cycle have low predictive validity. In late 2006, for example, Gallup polls showed that Clinton led Obama as the choice of Democrats for their party's nomination, and Rudy Giuliani was tied with John McCain for the Republican nomination (Giuliani pulled further ahead of McCain through most of 2007).

Even though most observers assume Obama will run for re-election, from time to time he has said he would be content to be a one-term president if he accomplished his goals. There is also the very real question of whether Clinton, or any other Democrat, will mount a challenge to Obama as 2012 approaches. That decision will in turn depend in part on Obama's perceived strengths and job approval ratings next year. These data show that conservative Democrats are the least likely to support Obama when Clinton is his hypothetical opponent, suggesting that Obama may be most vulnerable to a possible challenge from that wing of his party.

## **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 25-26, 2010, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 859 Democrats and Democratic leaning independents, 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 of national adults 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, 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.

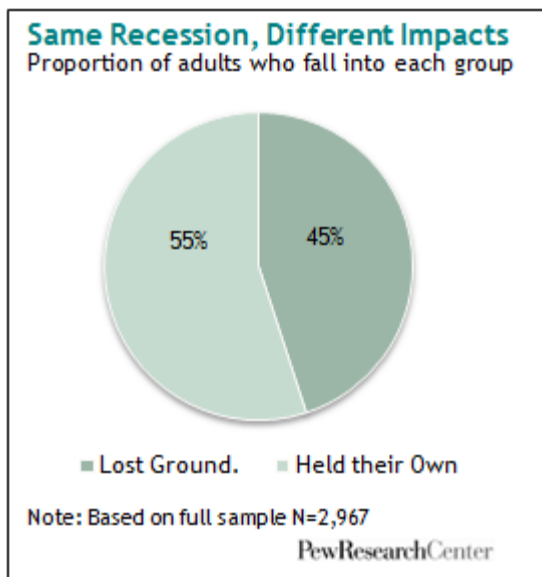
In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

## One Recession, Two Americas

*Those Who Lost Ground Slightly Outnumber Those Who Held Their Own*

September 24, 2010

The Great Recession has divided America into two groups that are roughly the same size but that experienced very different economic downturns.



For a narrow majority of Americans (55%), the Great Recession brought a mix of hardships, usually in combination: a spell of unemployment, missed mortgage or rent payments, shrinking paychecks and shattered household budgets, according to a recent survey by the Pew Research Center's Social & Demographic Trends project. But for the other 45% of the country, the recession was largely free of such difficulties.

These two groups differ in their demographic makeup. About seven-in-ten retirees and other older adults largely held their own during the recession, while an equally lopsided majority of 20-somethings did not. Where you live also is associated with how well you fared during hard times: Easterners are significantly more likely than residents of the South, West or Midwest to have better weathered the economic storm. At the same time, suburban and rural residents experienced fewer problems than city dwellers.

Republicans, too, are somewhat disproportionately represented among those who had an easier passage through hard times, while Democrats and political independents are more likely to have lost ground. And as other research has consistently shown, a college diploma is a strong shield against hard times: nearly six-in-10 college graduates count themselves among the 45% who experienced fewer difficulties during the recession, compared with 38% of those whose educational attainment was a high school diploma or less.

This portrait emerges from an analysis of survey data collected from a national representative sample of 2,967 respondents interviewed May 11-31, 2010.<sup>1</sup> Using a statistical technique called cluster analysis, the sample was grouped on the basis of how the respondents answered eight questions designed to measure the economic hardships Americans experienced as a result of the Great Recession.<sup>2</sup> The recession officially began in December 2007 and was recently determined to have ended in June 2009.

<b>The Two Americas</b>		
% in each group who ...	Held their Own	Lost Ground
Were unemployed at some point during recession*	1	43
Say recession brought "major" changes to lives	0	44
Had to borrowed money from friends/family to pay bills	0	42
Had trouble finding or paying for medical care	0	48
Had trouble paying rent or mortgage	0	35
Say household finances "worse" now than before recession	29	64
Say family income declined during recession	14	48
Withdrew money from savings, retirement to pay bills	19	60
Average number of hardships	0.6	3.7

\*Includes those currently in the labor force who are unemployed or employed but were unemployed during the recession.

The remainder of this report examines the two groups -- those who **Lost Ground** and those who **Held their Own** -- in more detail. The first section examines the different ways the recession affected each group; the second section provides group demographic profiles; the third section looks at how the two groups differ in their experiences on the job; and a final section examines the different ways the groups view the economy.

It is important to understand the limitations of this analysis. Not everyone in each cluster answered each question in exactly the same way. But overall, members of each group are more similar to each other in terms of their responses to the questions than they are to those in the other group. Also, while these two clusters describe these data well, different questions or questions that more precisely measured recession-related harms may have further divided these two major groupings into smaller, even more sharply defined groups. The survey, for example, asked whether an individual owned stocks, bonds or other investments but did not ask for precise estimates of changes in the value of investment holdings. Had such questions been asked, the number, size or the characteristics of the clusters may have been somewhat different.

One final caveat: This analysis is not intended to assert or imply that those in the **Held their Own** group suffered no economic reversals. In a recession such as this -- featuring not just high unemployment but also a bursting of the stock market and housing bubbles -- nearly everyone got hurt in one way or another. However, the questions that form the basis of this cluster analysis were designed to measure serious economic hardship. So, for example, someone who saw the value of a home decline but who did not experience the sort of day-to-day financial strains and behavioral changes measured by this survey would wind up in the Held their Own cluster.

1. A total of 22 respondents did not fit into either cluster. These cases were coded as "Not Categorized" and included in the analysis but did not affect the results because they constituted less than one-half of one percent of the weighted sample.
2. See the accompanying [topline](#) at [pewsocialtrends.org](http://pewsocialtrends.org) for the exact question wording.

## No Recovery for President Obama or Congress in United States

September 30, 2010

*Half of Americans disapprove of Obama's performance.*

The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama remained stable month, and half of Americans continue to disapprove of his performance, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,012 American adults, 43 per cent of respondents (= since August) approve of Obama's performance, while 50 per cent (-1) disapprove.

The level of strong approval for the U.S. President (13%, -1) continues to trail the level of strong disapproval by double digits (30%, -4).

U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?				
Party ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	13%	23%	3%	6%
Moderately approve	30%	48%	7%	30%
Moderately disapprove	19%	16%	20%	23%
Strongly disapprove	30%	8%	68%	34%
Not sure	7%	5%	3%	7%

Four-in-five Republicans (88%, +4) are dissatisfied with Obama, while seven-in-ten Democrats (71%, -3) are content with the American president.



Three-in-five Independents (57%, -5) disapprove of Obama’s performance, while more than a third approve of it (36%, +2).

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress stands at 19 per cent this month (-3), while 69 per cent of respondents disapprove of its actions (-1).

The level of strong approval for federal lawmakers is three per cent (-1), while two-in-five Americans (38%, -3) are strongly dissatisfied.

This month, Congress garnered a slightly lower level of support from Democrats (32%, -6). The numbers are decidedly worse among Independents (13%, =) and Republicans (8%, -2).

U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?				
Party ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	3%	4%	1%	2%
Moderately approve	17%	28%	7%	11%
Moderately disapprove	31%	31%	30%	30%
Strongly disapprove	38%	25%	58%	47%
Not sure	12%	11%	4%	10%

#### Analysis

September did not bring a recovery for President Obama, who maintains the same approval rating he had in August. The silver lining for Obama is that there is a marked reduction in the proportion of Independents who disapprove of his performance

Less than one-in-five Americans are satisfied with the way Congress is doing its job. The level of animosity continues to be higher for Republicans and Independents, but even Democrats are starting to become disenchanted with the federal lawmakers.

Methodology: From September 22 to September 23, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,012 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States.

#### **Americans Praise Carter for Work Done After Leaving White House**

September 29, 2010

*Richard Nixon and George W. Bush perceived as former presidents who have done the least for the world.*

Earlier this month, former president Jimmy Carter stated that his role as a former president is “probably superior to that of other presidents.” A new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll shows that Carter indeed outranks six other former American heads of state in this indicator.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,012 American adults, one third of respondents (32%) think Carter has done the most for the world after leaving office. Bill Clinton is second with 29 per cent, followed by Ronald Reagan with nine per cent.

Former Presidents				
Which of these presidents do you think has done the most for the world after leaving office?				
	Total	Party ID		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Jimmy Carter	32%	34%	32%	39%
Bill Clinton	29%	41%	17%	24%
Ronald Reagan	9%	7%	11%	7%
George H. W. Bush	3%	1%	8%	2%
George W. Bush	2%	2%	5%	2%
Richard Nixon	2%	2%	1%	3%
Gerald Ford	1%	0%	3%	1%
Not sure	22%	13%	25%	22%

Carter is regarded positively for his post-White House work by Democrats (34%), Republicans (32%) and Independents (39%). Clinton gets praise from two-in-five Democrats (41%), but Independents (24%) and Republicans (17%) are not as supportive.

When asked which of the last seven former American presidents has done the least for the world after leaving office, respondents choose George W. Bush (22%) and Richard Nixon (22%), followed by Gerald Ford (9%) and George H. Bush (9%). Democrats are particularly disappointed with Bush (31%), while Republicans are more likely to point the finger at Nixon (28%).

Methodology: From September 22 to September 23, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,012 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States.

### **Americans Paint Bleak Picture of Own Finances and National Economy**

September 28, 2010

*Democratic Party holds slight advantage over Republican Party as most trusted to handle the economic file.*

People in the United States almost unanimously describe the country's economic situation as poor and few believe a swift recovery will materialize, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,012 American adults, 88 per cent of respondents say economic conditions are bad or very bad at the moment, up three points since the August Economic Panorama.

Three-in-five Americans (60%) say their personal finances are in poor shape.

A quarter of respondents (25%) think the American economy will continue to erode, whereas only one fifth (20%) are optimistic about the near future.

A large majority of respondents (63%) say the recession will not be over until next year or after 2011.

#### Concerns, Inflation and Debt

Confidence in financial institutions remains weak, as almost half of respondents report that they have recently worried about the safety of their savings (49%) and investments (48%). Half of respondents are troubled by the notion of unemployment hitting their household (51%), and over two-in-five (44%) are also worried about missing mortgage or rent payments.

Fewer, yet still a significant proportion of Americans (34%), report concerns over their employer running into serious financial trouble.

Summer may be over but not the fears of high gas prices. Two thirds of Americans (65%) expect gas to increase in price, and even more people fret about more expensive groceries (68%). Many foresee a rise in the price of cars (41%) and televisions (27%), but few people think the real estate market will pick up (26%).

Paying debt remains a priority, but extra cash would also go to paying for daily needs. If respondents suddenly got \$1,000 in extra money, they would allocate \$322 to pay down debt; \$255 to cover daily expenses; \$209 to savings; \$81 towards making a big purchase; \$78 to spend on personal items; \$33 to invest in individual stocks; and \$23 to invest in mutual funds.

#### Political Leadership

President Barack Obama remains the most trusted leader to handle the economy (42%), followed by the Democratic Party (37%), the Republican Party (32%), Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke (31%), and House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi (26%). These indicators have remained practically unchanged since last month.

The governing Democratic Party is preferred over the Republican Party to end the recession (37% to 31%), to create jobs (42% to 31%), and to control inflation (34% to 33%). The Republicans are seen as the more capable party to rein in the national debt (38% to 30% for the Democrats).

#### The U.S. Economy Compared to Others

The proportion of Americans thinking that their country's economy is in worse shape than the economies of other industrialized nations has increased since last month.

At least three-in-ten Americans think that their country's economy is doing worse than those of China (47%), Japan (32%), and Canada (31%). Some respondents also think the U.S. compares poorly against Australia (22%), Germany (22%), and the United Kingdom (17%).

Methodology: From September 22 to September 23, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,012 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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#### **U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey**

September 28, 2010

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## Atheists and Agnostics, Mormons and Jews Score Best on Religious Knowledge Survey

*Average # of questions answered correctly out of 32*

<b>Total</b>	<b>16.0</b>
Atheist/Agnostic	20.9
Jewish	20.5
Mormon	20.3
White evangelical Protestant	17.6
White Catholic	16.0
White mainline Protestant	15.8
Nothing in particular	15.2
Black Protestant	13.4
Hispanic Catholic	11.6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S  
FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE May 19-June 6, 2010

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Atheists and agnostics, Jews and Mormons are among the highest-scoring groups on a new survey of religious knowledge, outperforming evangelical Protestants, mainline Protestants and Catholics on questions about the core teachings, history and leading figures of major world religions.

On average, Americans correctly answer 16 of the 32 religious knowledge questions on the survey by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life. Atheists and agnostics average 20.9 correct answers. Jews and Mormons do about as well, averaging 20.5 and 20.3 correct answers, respectively.

Protestants as a whole average 16 correct answers; Catholics as a whole, 14.7. Atheists and agnostics, Jews and Mormons perform better than other groups on the survey even after controlling for differing levels of education.

On questions about Christianity -- including a battery of questions about the Bible -- Mormons (7.9 out of 12 right on average) and white evangelical Protestants (7.3 correct on average) show the highest levels of knowledge.

Jews and atheists/agnostics stand out for their knowledge of other world religions, including Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Judaism; out of 11 such questions on the survey, Jews answer 7.9 correctly (nearly three better than the national average) and atheists/agnostics answer 7.5 correctly (2.5 better than the national average).

Atheists/agnostics and Jews also do particularly well on questions about the role of religion in public life, including a question about what the U.S. Constitution says about religion.

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## Mormons and Evangelicals Know Most about Christianity; Atheists/Agnostics and Jews Do Best on World Religions

Average # of questions answered correctly about...

	Bible and Christianity (out of 12)	World religions (out of 11)	Religion in public life (out of 4)
<b>Total</b>	6.0	5.0	2.2
Christian	6.2	4.7	2.1
Protestant	6.5	4.6	2.1
White evangelical	<b>7.3</b>	4.8	2.3
White mainline	5.8	4.9	2.2
Black Protestant	5.9	3.9	1.7
Catholic	5.4	4.7	2.1
White Catholic	5.9	5.1	2.2
Hispanic Catholic	4.2	3.6	1.7
Mormon	<b>7.9</b>	5.6	2.3
Jewish	6.3	<b>7.9</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Unaffiliated	5.3	6.0	2.3
Atheist/Agnostic	6.7	<b>7.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Nothing in particular	4.9	5.4	2.1

The two highest scores in each category are shown in bold.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S FORUM  
ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE May 19-June 6, 2010

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These are among the key findings of the U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey, a nationwide poll conducted from May 19 through June 6, 2010, among 3,412 Americans age 18 and older, on landlines and cell phones, in English and Spanish. Jews, Mormons and atheists/agnostics were oversampled to allow analysis of these relatively small groups.<sup>1</sup>

Previous surveys by the Pew Research Center have shown that America is among the most religious of the world's developed nations. Nearly six-in-ten U.S. adults say that religion is "very important" in their lives, and roughly four-in-ten say they attend worship services at least once a week.

But the U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey shows that large numbers of Americans are uninformed about the tenets, practices, history and leading figures of major faith traditions -- including their own. Many people also think the constitutional restrictions on religion in public schools are stricter than they really are.

More than four-in-ten Catholics in the United States (45%) do not know that their church teaches that the bread and wine used in Communion do not merely symbolize but actually become the body and blood of Christ.

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## What the Public Knows About Religion

### At least two-thirds know...

Public school teachers cannot lead class in prayer	89%
Atheist is someone who does not believe in God	85
Mother Teresa was Catholic	82
Moses was the Bible figure who led the exodus from Egypt	72
Jesus was born in Bethlehem	71
Constitution says government shall neither establish nor interfere with religion	68
Most people in Pakistan are Muslim	68

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### About half know...

Golden rule is not one of Ten Commandments	55
Koran is the Islamic holy book	54
Ramadan is the Islamic holy month	52
Joseph Smith was Mormon	51
Dalai Lama is Buddhist	47
Martin Luther inspired Reformation	46
Jewish Sabbath begins on Friday	45
Four Gospels are Matthew, Mark, Luke, John	45

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### Less than a third know...

Most people in Indonesia are Muslim	27
Public school teachers can read from Bible as example of literature	23
Only Protestants (not Catholics) traditionally teach salvation comes through faith alone	16
Jonathan Edwards participated in First Great Awakening	11
Maimonides was Jewish	8

See survey topline (Appendix B) for full question wording and results for all questions.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S  
FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE May 19-June 6, 2010

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About half of Protestants (53%) cannot correctly identify Martin Luther as the person whose writings and actions inspired the Protestant Reformation, which made their religion a separate branch of Christianity.

Roughly four-in-ten Jews (43%) do not recognize that Maimonides, one of the most venerated rabbis in history, was Jewish.

In addition, fewer than half of Americans (47%) know that the Dalai Lama is Buddhist. Fewer than four-in-ten (38%) correctly associate Vishnu and Shiva with Hinduism. And only about a quarter of all Americans (27%) correctly answer that most people in Indonesia -- the country with the world's largest Muslim population -- are Muslims.

The survey also finds widespread confusion over the line between teaching and preaching in public schools. Out of a total of 41 knowledge questions (32 about religion and nine testing general knowledge) the single question that respondents most frequently get right is whether U.S. Supreme Court rulings allow teachers to lead public school classes in prayer. Nine-in-ten (89%) correctly say this is not allowed.

But among the questions most often answered incorrectly is whether public school teachers are permitted to read from the Bible as an example of literature. Fully two-thirds of people surveyed (67%) also say "no" to this question, even though the Supreme Court has clearly stated that the Bible may be taught for its "literary and historic" qualities, as long as it is part of a secular curriculum.<sup>2</sup>

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## Knowledge of Religion in Schools

*% who know public school teachers...*

CANNOT lead class in prayer	89%
CAN offer comparative religion course	36
CAN read from Bible as example of literature	23

Q50a-c

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S  
FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE May 19-June 6, 2010

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On a third question along these lines, just 36% of the public knows that comparative religion classes may be taught in public schools. Together, this block of questions suggests that many Americans think the constitutional restrictions on religion in public schools are tighter than they really are.

On the other hand, most Americans are able to correctly answer at least half of the survey's questions about the Bible. For example, roughly seven-in-ten (71%) know that, according to the Bible, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. More than six-in-ten (63%) correctly name Genesis as the first book of the Bible. And more than half know that the Golden Rule -- "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" -- is not one of the Ten Commandments.



On the full battery of seven questions about the Bible (five Old Testament and two New Testament items) Mormons do best, followed by white evangelical Protestants. Atheists/agnostics, black Protestants and Jews come next, all exhibiting greater knowledge of the Bible than white mainline Protestants and white Catholics, who in turn outscore those who describe their religion as nothing in particular.

## Factors in Religious Knowledge

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### Education Linked With Greater Religious Knowledge

*Average # of questions answered  
correctly out of 32*

		<b>Sample size</b>
Total	16.0	3,412
College grad+	20.6	1,233
Some college	17.5	803
HS or less	12.8	1,353

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S  
FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE  
May 19-June 6, 2010

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What factors seem to contribute to religious knowledge? Data from the survey indicate that educational attainment -- how much schooling an individual has completed -- is the single best predictor of religious knowledge. College graduates get nearly eight more questions right on average than do people with a high school education or less. Having taken a religion course in college is also strongly associated with higher religious knowledge.

Other factors linked with religious knowledge include reading Scripture at least once a week and talking about religion with friends and family. People who say they frequently talk about religion with friends and family get an average of roughly two more questions right than those who say they rarely or never discuss religion. People with the highest levels of religious commitment -- those who say that they attend worship services at least once a week and that religion is very important in their lives -- generally demonstrate higher levels of religious knowledge than those with medium or low religious commitment.<sup>3</sup>

Having regularly attended religious education classes or participated in a youth group as a child adds more than two questions to the average number answered correctly, compared with those who seldom or never participated in such activities. And those who attended private school score more than two questions better on average than those who attended public school when they were growing up. Interestingly, however, those who attended a private religious school score no better than those who attended a private nonreligious school.

This survey and previous Pew Forum studies have shown that Jews and atheists/agnostics have high levels of educational attainment on average, which partially explains their performance on the religious knowledge survey. However, even after controlling for levels of education and other key demographic traits (race, age, gender and region), significant differences in religious knowledge persist among adherents of various faith traditions.

Atheists/agnostics, Jews and Mormons still have the highest levels of religious knowledge, followed by evangelical Protestants, then those whose religion is nothing in particular, mainline Protestants and Catholics. Atheists/agnostics and Jews stand out for high levels of knowledge about world religions other than Christianity, though they also score at or above the national average on questions about the Bible and Christianity. Holding demographic factors constant, evangelical Protestants outperform most groups (with the exceptions of Mormons and atheists/agnostics) on questions about the Bible and Christianity, but evangelicals fare less well compared with other groups on questions about world religions such as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Judaism. Mormons are the highest-scoring group on questions about the Bible.

When education and other demographic traits are held equal, whites score better than minorities on the survey's religious knowledge questions, men score somewhat better than women, and people outside the South score better than Southerners. The oldest group in the population (age 65 and older) gets fewer questions right than other age groups. However, people 65 and older do about as well as people under age 50 on questions about the Bible and Christianity; they do less well on questions about other world religions.

## **Other Findings**

Other findings of the U.S. Religious Knowledge Survey include:

- On world religions other than Christianity, about six-in-ten Americans (62%) know that most people in India are Hindus. About half know that Ramadan is the Islamic holy month (52%) and can name the Koran as the Muslim holy book (54%). Roughly one-third (36%) correctly associate striving for nirvana with Buddhism.
- Around four-in-ten Americans know that the Mormon religion was founded sometime after 1800 (44%) and that the Book of Mormon tells the story of Jesus appearing to people in the Americas (40%). About half (51%) correctly identify Joseph Smith, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as a Mormon.
- In addition to questions about religious knowledge, the survey included nine general knowledge questions (on history, politics, science and literature) for comparison purposes. These show, for example, that about six-in-ten Americans can name the vice president of the United States (59%) and understand that lasers do not work by focusing sound waves (60%). More than seven-in-ten (72%) correctly associate Susan B. Anthony with the movement to give women the right to vote, while just 42% know that Herman Melville was the author of the novel *Moby Dick*.
- Overall, people who score well on the general knowledge questions also tend to do well on the religion questions. Atheists/agnostics and Jews correctly answer an average of

roughly seven of the nine general knowledge questions. Among the public overall, the average respondent correctly answers 5.2 of these general knowledge questions.

- While people with a high level of religious commitment do better than average on the religion questions, people with low levels of religious commitment do better than average on the general knowledge questions.
- Many Americans are devoted readers of Scripture: More than a third (37%) say they read the Bible or other Holy Scriptures at least once a week, not counting worship services. But Americans as a whole are much less inclined to read other books about religion. Nearly half of Americans who are affiliated with a religion (48%) say they "seldom" or "never" read books (other than Scripture) or visit websites about their own religion, and 70% say they seldom or never read books or visit websites about other religions.
- Mormons, black Protestants and white evangelicals are the most frequent readers of materials about religion. Fully half of all Mormons (51%) and roughly three-in-ten white evangelicals (30%) and black Protestants (29%) report that they read books or go online to learn about their own religion at least once a week. Only a small fraction of all religiously affiliated Americans -- 6% of the general public and no more than 8% of any religious group - say they read books (other than Scripture) or visit websites to learn about religions other than their own at least once a week.

The remainder of this report is divided into two parts. Section II, "[Who Knows What About Religion](#)," focuses on differences between religious groups in eight domains of knowledge: the Bible, Elements of Christianity, Elements of Judaism, Elements of Mormonism, World Religions, Atheism and Agnosticism, the Role of Religion in Public Life, and Nonreligious Topics. Section III, "[Factors Linked With Religious Knowledge](#)," describes factors associated with religious knowledge. Details about the survey's methodology are available in [Appendix A](#), and the full wording of all questions and topline survey results are provided in [Appendix B](#).

This survey is being released at the God in America National Symposium on Religious Literacy on Sept. 28, 2010, in Washington, D.C. WGBH Television in Boston collaborated with the Pew Forum and the Religious Freedom Education Project at the Newseum on the symposium, which will also feature a screening of the three-part PBS documentary "[God in America](#)." The series interweaves documentary footage, historical dramatization and interviews to explore the historical role of religion in the U.S., including its impact on society, politics and culture.

How much do you know about religion? And how do you compare with the average American? [Take the religious knowledge quiz to find out.](#)

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1. The [Pew Forum's 2007 U.S. Religious Landscape Survey](#) estimated that Jews and Mormons each make up about 1.7% of the U.S. public, while atheists and agnostics combined account for about 4% of the U.S. population. Atheists and agnostics are treated as a single group throughout this report. The survey sample included too few interviews with atheists to analyze them separately. For more details on the sample sizes of religious groups, see [Appendix A](#).

2. Writing for the Supreme Court majority in its 1963 ruling in *Abington School District v. Schempp*, Justice Tom Clark made a case for the importance of the study of religion as the court clarified how public school teachers may go about it: ". . . [I]t might well be said that one's

education is not complete without a study of comparative religion or the history of religion and its relationship to the advancement of civilization. It certainly may be said that the Bible is worthy of study for its literary and historic qualities. Nothing we have said here indicates that such study of the Bible or of religion, when presented objectively as part of a secular program of education, may not be effected consistently with the First Amendment."

3. This may seem paradoxical, since atheists and agnostics have very low levels of religious commitment and yet score very well on the survey questions. However, atheists and agnostics account for a relatively small share of the total number of people with low levels of religious commitment; 4% of Americans describe themselves as atheists or agnostics, while fully 35% have low religious commitment. Atheists and agnostics answer an average of 20.9 questions correctly, compared with an average of 15.4 correct answers among people with low religious commitment who do not describe themselves as atheists or agnostics.

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## **In Canada, People in BC and Quebec are More Concerned About Corruption** **Published on**

October 02, 2010

*Two-in-five Quebecers believe political corruption in their province amounts to a systemic failing.*

A majority of residents of three Canadian provinces express concern about the level of corruption they perceive, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll conducted for Maclean's has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,226 Canadian adults, 55 per cent of Canadians are worried about corruption in their province. The areas registering the highest level of concern are Quebec (68%), British Columbia (61%), and Ontario (56%).

Almost half of respondents in the Atlantic Provinces (46%) also worry about corruption, and about a third in Alberta (37%) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (33%) feel the same way.

### **Ethical Politicians**

Half of Canadians (49%) describe politicians in Quebec as "very unethical" or "moderately unethical"—ranking them as the worst in the country in this indicator. Politicians in Ontario are next on the list with 36 per cent, followed by politicians in British Columbia (29%) and politicians in Alberta (28%).

Corruption

Overall, how would you describe your level of concern with corruption in your province?

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Very concerned	29%	36%	23%	7%	29%	38%	9%
Moderately concerned	27%	25%	14%	25%	27%	30%	36%
All the concerned	25%	22%	42%	37%	22%	22%	26%
Not concerned at all	11%	7%	14%	20%	11%	7%	15%
Not sure	8%	10%	7%	11%	10%	3%	14%
Concerned - net	55%	61%	37%	33%	56%	68%	46%
Not concerned - net	36%	29%	56%	57%	33%	29%	41%

Quebec Corruption Scandal

One third of Canadians (32%) have been following recent media reports of political corruption or ethical violations in Quebec “very closely” or “moderately closely”. Quebecers are particularly aware of the situation (62%), along with about one-in-four Ontarians and Atlantic Canadians. Considerably fewer respondents in the Prairies and the Western Provinces are paying attention to these reports.

Compared to other news stories, the Quebec scandal is not widely watched. More people have been following the debate about the long gun registry (48%) and the war in Afghanistan (50%). Twenty-nine per cent of respondents have been watching stories about the new hockey season.

Two-in-five Canadians (40%) think Quebec politicians are less ethical than their counterparts in other provinces, while 30 per cent say the ethical standards of Quebec politicians are the same as in other areas.

Corruption

Please rate the ethical standards of politicians from the following places – “Very ethical” and “Moderately ethical” listed

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Quebec	16%	10%	8%	10%	17%	24%	16%
Ontario	30%	15%	18%	22%	40%	24%	42%
British Columbia	27%	29%	37%	23%	25%	22%	38%
Atlantic Canada	30%	24%	25%	30%	34%	23%	50%
Alberta	28%	27%	42%	26%	26%	22%	40%
Manitoba	30%	26%	32%	48%	32%	21%	38%
Saskatchewan	32%	30%	34%	48%	33%	21%	52%

Overall, 26 per cent of Canadians say political corruption in Quebec is a matter of “a few bad apples”. The same proportion of respondents (26%) say this is rather a systemic failure that must

be addressed through changes in policy. A fifth of Canadians (22%) say political corruption in Quebec is part of a broader issue in society and cannot be fixed through policy alone.

In Quebec, 41 per cent of respondents side with the notion that corruption in the province is a systemic failure.

Only two per cent of Canadians and three per cent of Quebecers believe that political corruption in Quebec is not a problem.

Methodology: From September 29 to September 30, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,226 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.8%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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### **Conservatives Lead by Eight Points in Canada as Greens Gain**

September 29, 2010

*A third of Canadians would support holding a new federal election this fall, but most believe this possibility is unlikely.*

The Conservative Party maintains the upper hand in Canada as the Green Party reaches double-digits for the first time this year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,008 Canadian adults, 34 per cent of respondents (+1 since August) would support the governing Conservative Party in the next federal election.

The Liberal Party is second with 26 per cent (-3), followed by the New Democratic Party (NDP) with 18 per cent (-1), the Green Party with 11 per cent (+2), and the Bloc Québécois with 10 per cent (=).

The Liberals, NDP and Bloc are matching their vote share from the last federal election, while the Tories are three points behind. The biggest gainers are the Greens, who now stand four points ahead of their 2008 nationwide total.

#### Regional Breakdowns

Half of voters in Alberta (52%) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (50%) continue to express a preference for the Conservatives. In British Columbia, the Tories are ahead with 39 per cent, followed by the NDP with 24 per cent and the Grits with 18 per cent.

In Ontario, the Conservatives are ahead of the Liberals by a three-point margin (36% to 33%). In Quebec, the Bloc continues to dominate (38%), with the three federalist parties far behind (Lib. 22%, NDP 17%, Con. 17%).

## Approval and Momentum

The approval rating for Prime Minister and Conservative leader Stephen Harper stands at 25 per cent this month (-1). NDP leader Jack Layton remains at 27 per cent, and Liberal Party and Official Opposition leader Michael Ignatieff is last with 15 per cent (+1).

While Layton maintains the best momentum score of the three leaders at -9, the proportion of respondents who say their opinion of him has worsened increased by eight points since August. Ignatieff's momentum score is -16 (worse than in August, but better than in July), while Harper checks in at -23.

## Attributes

Canadians were asked to select up to six words or expressions from a list to describe the four party leaders sitting in the House of Commons. The top five results for each one of the leaders are:

- Stephen Harper – Secretive (38%), arrogant (36%), dishonest (36%), out of touch (33%), uncaring (31%)

Compared to August, Harper lost points on three negative categories (arrogant, secretive and boring) and gained points on one negative category (dishonest).

- Michael Ignatieff – Boring (35%), arrogant (33%), out of touch (31%), intelligent (30%), inefficient (24%)

All fluctuations for Ignatieff were smaller than four points.

- Jack Layton – Intelligent (29%), down to earth (27%), honest (25%), compassionate (24%), open (24%)

Compared to August, Layton lost points on one positive category (intelligent) and gained points on one negative category (arrogant).

- Gilles Duceppe – Arrogant (30%), out of touch (27%), inefficient (21%), boring (21%), intelligent (20%)

Compared to August, Duceppe lost points on one positive category (intelligent) and gained points on two negative categories (secretive and inefficient).

## A Fall Election?

Across the country, one third of Canadians (34%) would support holding a federal election this fall, while just under half (44%) disagree with this course of action.

Respondents who voted for the NDP (54%), the Liberals (54%) and the Bloc (50%) in the 2008 federal election are more likely to support holding a new federal ballot than those who voted for the Greens (35%) or the Conservatives (28%).

Almost half of respondents (47%) think it is “not too likely” or “not likely at all” that a federal election will be held this fall in Canada—including majorities of supporters of all five major parties.

## Analysis

The debate over the long gun registry has not helped any of the three main political leaders. The numbers for Harper and Ignatieff are stagnant, and Layton saw a marked drop in momentum, although he continues to outrank his two rivals.

The Greens have been boosted by a surge in support in the West. The party is very close to matching the Liberals in British Columbia, and is ahead of the NDP in Alberta. In Quebec, the Bloc is closing in on the 40 per cent mark, with the NDP matching the Tories for third place. Ontario remains tightly contested, with the Tories once again edging the Grits by a mere three points.

The appetite for a fall election is clearly bigger for supporters of the three main opposition parties currently represented in the House of Commons. However, even they admit that, as of now, the possibility of a new ballot is unlikely.

This year’s editions of the Canadian Political Pulse can be accessed here: [January 2010](#) / [February 2010](#) / [March 2010](#) / [April 2010](#) / [May 2010](#) / [July 2010](#) / [August 2010](#)

Methodology: From September 27 to September 28, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,008 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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## MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

### **U.S. Approval Gains Nearly Erased in Middle East/North Africa**

*Approval fell significantly between 2009 and 2010 in 6 of 10 countries*

September 30, 2010

Approval of U.S. leadership is now similar or lower than what it was in 2008 in several of the Middle East and North African countries Gallup surveyed in 2010, erasing gains seen after the transition from the Bush administration to the Obama administration. Egypt, Syria, and Algeria are the exceptions, though in all cases approval remains relatively low.



*Approval of U.S. Leadership in the Middle East and North Africa*

Do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of the leadership of the United States?

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change from 2008 (pct. pts.)</b>	<b>Change from 2009 (pct. pts.)</b>
Egypt	6%	37%	19%	13	-18
Syria	4%	15%	14%	10	-1
Algeria	25%	43%	30%	5	-13
Palestinian Territories	13%	20%	16%	3	-4
Lebanon	25%	30%	25%	0	-5
Tunisia	14%	17%	10%	-4	-7
Iraq	35%	33%	30%	-5	-3
Morocco	--	38%	24%	--	-14
Yemen	--	22%	19%	--	-3
Libya*	--	--	30%	--	--

-- Surveys not conducted in Libya, Morocco, and Yemen in 2008; question not asked in Libya in 2009

\*Libya sample covered Tripoli, Benghazi, and Al Kufra

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Approval is down significantly in 2010 compared with 2009 in 6 of the 10 countries and areas surveyed both years. Egypt, where President Barack Obama gave a 2009 speech reaching out to the Muslim global community, led these declines and Morocco and Algeria also saw double-digit drops. Approval did not decline significantly in Iraq, Yemen, or Syria as the changes are within the margin of error.

Approval of U.S. leadership is highest in Algeria, Iraq, and Libya, although only a minority expresses approval. Approval ratings are among the lowest in the Palestinian Territories, Syria, and Tunisia. In the Palestinian Territories, the increase in approval between 2008 and 2009 was short-lived and approval returned to its 2008 level in 2010 as the Mideast peace process sputtered. It will be interesting to see if approval changes now that peace talks have started again. Approval in Tunisia is now lower than it was in 2009.

## Approval of U.S. Leadership in 10 Middle East and North African Countries

Do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of the leadership of the U.S.?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/Refused
Algeria	30%	68%	2%
Iraq	30%	61%	10%
Libya	30%	32%	39%
Lebanon	25%	64%	11%
Morocco	24%	69%	6%
Egypt	19%	49%	33%
Yemen	19%	65%	16%
Palestinian Territories	16%	77%	7%
Syria	14%	47%	39%
Tunisia	10%	79%	11%

February-April 2010

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While approval has remained low in Syria, disapproval of U.S. leadership, however, has dropped sharply since 2008 (91% vs. 47%), and a significant proportion (39%) now say they don't know, joining the sizable numbers of residents in Egypt and Libya who offer no opinion. It seems that, at least in Syria and in other countries such as Egypt and Libya where sizable numbers of residents don't offer an opinion, many are still making up their minds about U.S. leadership.

### Bottom Line

Obama's initial efforts to bridge the U.S. and Muslim communities around the world were seen as a hopeful beginning to improved relations. However, the glimmers of improvement seen in 2009 U.S. leadership approval ratings have faded in many of the Middle East and North African countries Gallup surveyed in 2010.

Findings from [sub-Saharan Africa](#) and [Asia](#) also reveal some countries giving back some of the gains in approval seen from [2008 to 2009](#). Gallup will continue to monitor the U.S. leadership approval trends as 2010 data from Europe and Latin America become available.

Explore [trends in U.S. leadership approval](#) in more than 150 countries that Gallup surveys around the world.

### Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults in each country for each year reported in this article. For results based on each sample of national adults, one can say

with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of  $\pm 3.3$  percentage points to a high of  $\pm 4.0$  percentage points.

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### **Estimated 1 Billion Adults Struggled to Afford Food in 2009**

*In 22 countries, more than half didn't have enough money to buy food at times*

September 28, 2010

While the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reported Friday that the recent volatility in food prices is not a sign of an impending food crisis, Gallup surveys in 113 countries in 2009 underscore people's vulnerability to such fluctuations. An estimated 1 billion adults worldwide reported not having enough money at times to buy the food they or their families needed. A disproportionate percentage of people in sub-Saharan Africa are affected.

*Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?*

Regional medians

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
World*	26%	73%
Sub-Saharan Africa	56%	44%
Americas	32%	67%
Former Soviet Union	32%	67%
Asia	23%	77%
Middle East/North Africa	15%	83%
Europe	13%	87%

\*Based on surveys conducted in 113 countries in 2009.

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Across the 113 countries surveyed, a median of 26% adults reported struggling at times to afford food for themselves or their families. Consistent with what Gallup has documented in previous years, the percentage of adults struggling in 2009 was highest in sub-Saharan Africa. At least 4 in 10 adults in every country surveyed in this region, with the exception of Djibouti, reported problems.

In fact, of the 22 countries where more than half of adults reported difficulties affording food at times in 2009, 15 are in sub-Saharan Africa. Struggles to afford food are not new to citizens in most of these countries. Food riots took place and there were fears of unrest in several countries, such as Cameroon and the Philippines, when global food prices surged in 2008.

*Countries in Which Half or More Residents Struggle to Afford Food*

Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?

	<b>Yes (2008)</b>	<b>Yes (2009)</b>	<b>Change from 2008</b>
Cameroon	66%	73%	+7
Zimbabwe	79%	73%	-6
Comoros	-	72%	-
Niger	68%	71%	+3
Zambia	67%	69%	+2
Philippines	58%	68%	+10
Burundi	74%	67%	-7
Kenya	67%	64%	-3
Congo (Kinshasa)	-	61%	-
Azerbaijan	60%	60%	0
Tanzania	62%	60%	-2
Malawi	-	60%	-
Nigeria	55%	59%	+4
Ecuador	46%	58%	+12
Georgia	51%	56%	+5
Chad	54%	56%	+2
South Africa	56%	55%	-1
Dominican Republic	59%	55%	-4
Cambodia	53%	55%	+2
Ivory Coast	-	53%	-
Uganda	62%	52%	-10
Honduras	48%	51%	+3

- Survey not conducted in 2008.

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In several of these countries, the proportion of residents reporting problems with affording food in 2009 remained relatively flat or declined since 2008. But the situation worsened by at least 10 percentage points between 2008 and 2009 in the Philippines and Ecuador.

Adults in Europe and the Middle East and North Africa region generally fared much better than respondents from other regions, with medians of 13% and 15%, respectively, struggling to afford food at times. However, residents in some countries in these regions were more likely than others to report problems affording food. At least 3 in 10 adults in Yemen (45%), the Palestinian

Territories (43%), Romania (40%), Turkey (37%), and Albania (30%) said there were times when they didn't have enough money to buy food.

### **Bottom Line**

Gallup's global surveys in 2009 suggest higher or lower food prices could mean the difference in whether billions around the world go hungry. The United Nations' recent announcement that the number of undernourished worldwide has declined so far in 2010 is a positive indicator for the future. Gallup will continue to monitor the ability for families to afford the food they need and will report on 2010 data next year.

Visit [Real Clear World's Top 5s feature](#) to learn more about the countries with the highest food insecurity.

For complete data sets or custom research from the more than 150 countries Gallup continually surveys, please contact [SocialandEconomicAnalysis@gallup.com](mailto:SocialandEconomicAnalysis@gallup.com) or call 202.715.3030.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone/face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults in 110 countries, 2,000 adults in Russia, 3,000 adults in India, and 4,200 in China, aged 15 and older, conducted in 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error in 2009 ranged from a low of  $\pm 2.1$  percentage points in China to a high of  $\pm 5.7$  percentage points in Slovenia. 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.

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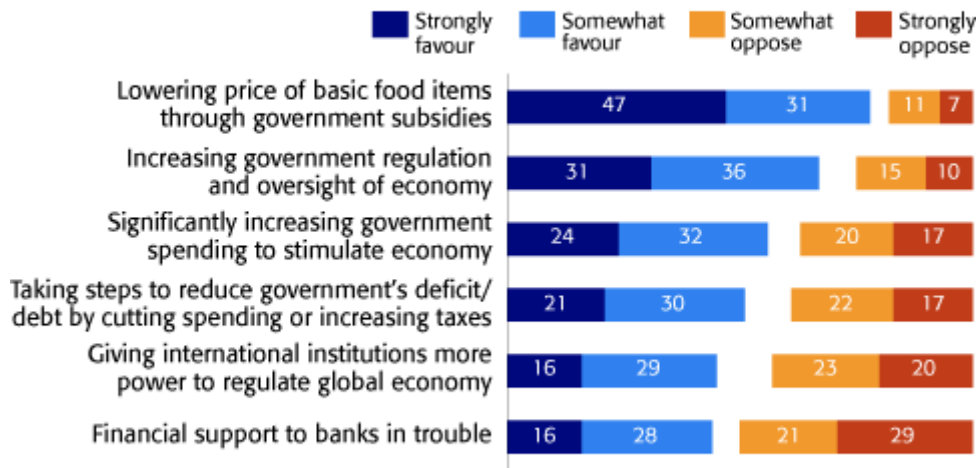
### **Governments Misspend More Than Half of Our Taxes--Global Poll**

September 27, 2010

People believe that their government misspends more than half the money they pay in tax, according to the findings of a new BBC World Service global poll across 22 countries--but many

are still looking to government to play a more active economic role.  
**Support for Government Actions in Current Economic Conditions**

Average of 22 Countries, 2010



The white space in this chart represents "Depends/neither/both" and "DK/NA."  
 Asked of half of sample

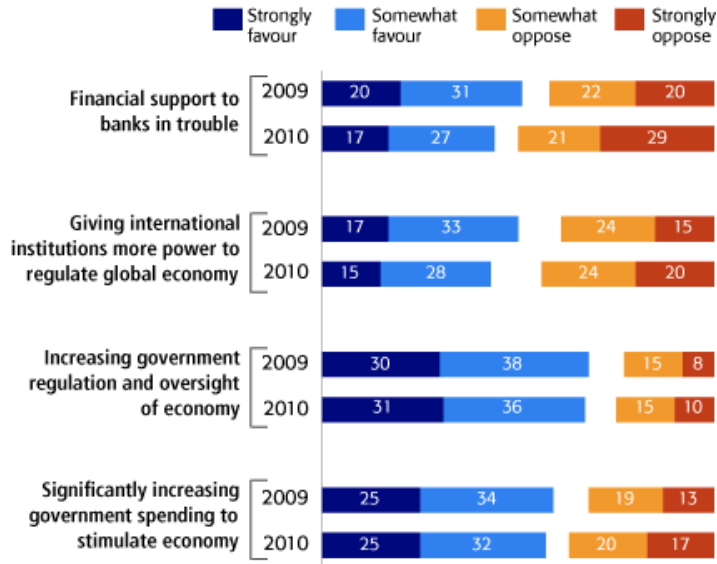
The poll of more than 22,000 people, conducted by GlobeScan/PIPA, found that people estimated on average that 52 per cent of the money they pay in tax is not used in ways that serve the interests and values of the people of their country.

Despite this lack of trust in government to spend tax money responsibly, the poll found on some measures there is a near global consensus for increased government action. Nearly four in five around the world (78%), and majorities in all but one of 22 countries polled, think that government should subsidise food to keep prices for the consumer down, with only 18 per cent disagreeing. Two-thirds overall (67%), and majorities in 19 out of 22 countries, think that government regulation and oversight of their national economy needs to be increased--the US, Turkey and Spain are the only exceptions.

Other government interventions achieve slim majority support. In 14 of 22 countries most people--on average 56 per cent--favour an increase in government spending to stimulate the economy. This includes large majorities of Egyptians (91%), Mexicans (80%), Russians and Indonesians (both 78%), and Nigerians (73%). But majorities are opposed in a number of

industrialised countries that had large stimulus programmes--Germany (66%), France (63%) and  
**Support for Government Actions in Current Economic Conditions**

Average of 19 Tracking Countries,\* Trends: 2009–2010



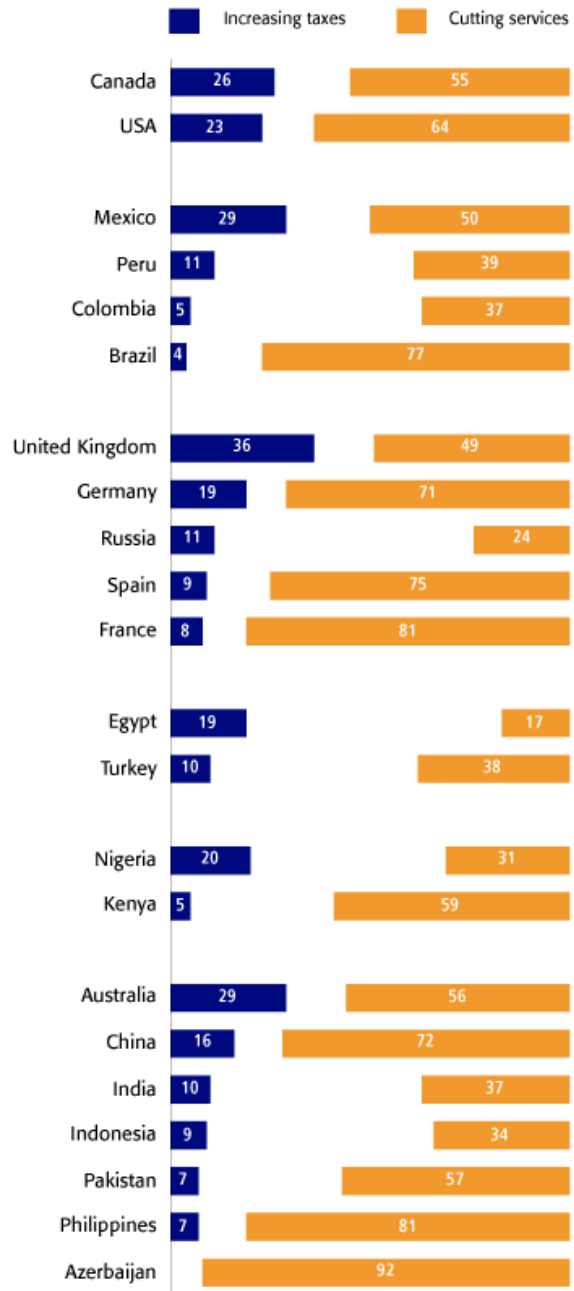
The white space in this chart represents "Depends/neither/both" and "DK/NA."

\*Tracking countries include Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

the US (58%). Asked of half of sample in 2009 and 2010

On average 51 per cent also want their government to take steps now to address their deficit and debt, while 39 per cent are opposed. The United Kingdom is among the countries where support for deficit reduction measures is higher, at 60 per cent. Asked whether they would prefer their government to focus on tax rises or service cuts in dealing with their country's deficit and debt,

in every country but Egypt more people said they preferred a focus on cutting services (on Preferred Focus for Government Approach to Reducing Deficit By Country, 2010



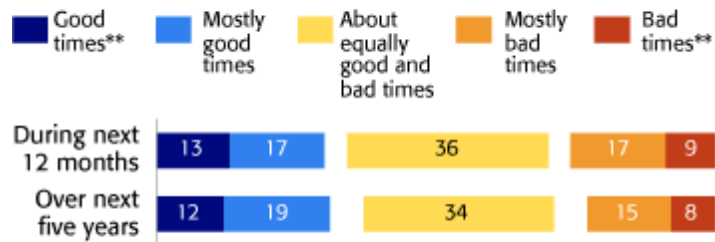
average 54%) than on increasing taxes (14%). The white space in this chart represents "Neither," "Other," "Both," and "DK/NA."

The results show that people who think a large proportion of their taxes are misspent are also less supportive of their government taking steps to address the deficit. While among those who estimate a third or less is misspent, a majority of 57 per cent is in favour of taking action on the



deficit and debt, those who estimate that two-thirds or more of their taxes are misspent are

### Predicted Business Conditions in Country As a Whole Average of 21 Countries,\* 2010



\*Average of 20 countries for "Predicted business conditions over next five years"

\*\*"Continuous" good/bad times over the next five years

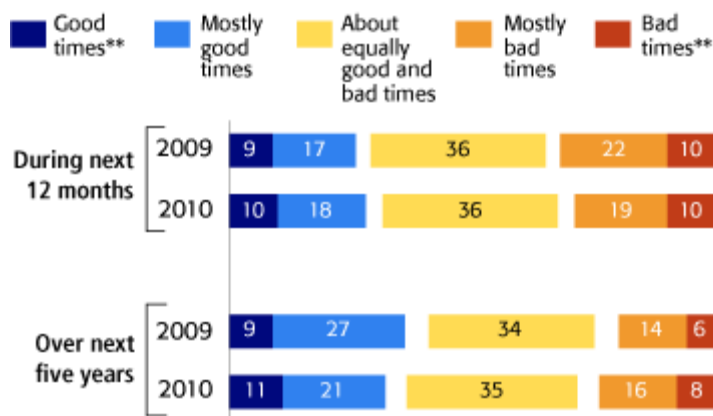
The white space in this chart represents "DK/NA."

divided (45% in favour, 45% opposed). Asked of half of sample

Providing financial support to banks in trouble is only supported by forty-four per cent on average of those polled -- lower than for any other government action measured in the poll. A total of 14 countries have majorities opposing more bank bailouts, but eight countries are in

### Predicted Business Conditions in Country As a Whole

Average of 17 Tracking Countries,\* Trends: 2009–2010



\*Tracking countries include Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

\*\*"Continuous" good/bad times over the next five years

The white space in this chart represents "DK/NA."

favour. Asked of half of sample in 2010

The results are drawn from a survey of 22,783 adult citizens across 22 countries. It was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan together with the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. GlobeScan coordinated fieldwork between June and September 2010. Full-sample results are considered

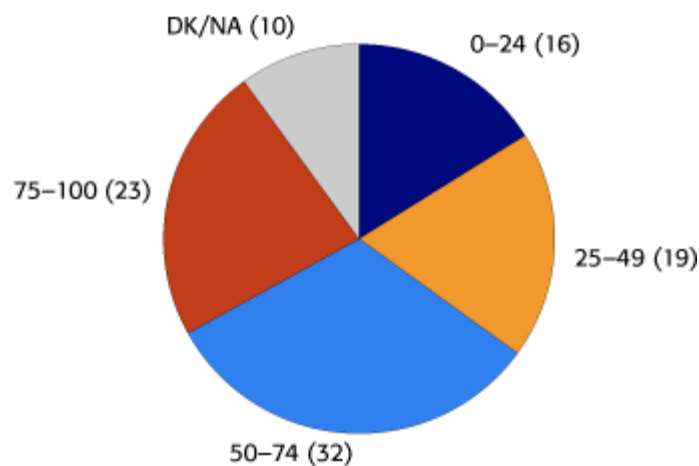
accurate within +/- 2.1 to 3.5 per cent 19 times out of 20. Some questions were asked of half samples.

Doug Miller, GlobeScan Chairman comments, "As countries struggle to achieve economic recovery, citizens want more active government, but also more effective government intervention in the economy to meet the real needs of citizens, including stabilising food prices."

Steven Kull, PIPA's Director, adds: "Beliefs that the government misspends public moneys may arise from perceptions of corrupt government officials, from perceptions of special interests having undue influence, or from repeatedly hearing opposition parties assert that the party in power is wasting their money."

### Percentage of Taxes Used in Ways Considered Not Serving People's Interests

Distribution of Answers Across Four Bands, Average of 22 Countries, 2010



#### Detailed Findings Mean answer: 52%

The countries with the lowest average estimate of misspent tax money were Spain (average 34% misspent), Indonesia (40%), Azerbaijan and Egypt (both 42%). The highest were in Columbia (74% misspent) and Pakistan (69%). In the world's two largest economies, Americans estimate on average that 55 per cent of their taxes are misspent, while in China the figure is 46 per cent.

Despite low overall support, there is strong backing for government bank bailouts in major developing nations like India and Nigeria (77%), the Philippines (75%) and China (59%). But the world's major developed economies have majorities opposed to further government bank bailouts--including Germany (84% opposed), Canada (77%), France and the US (both 68%).

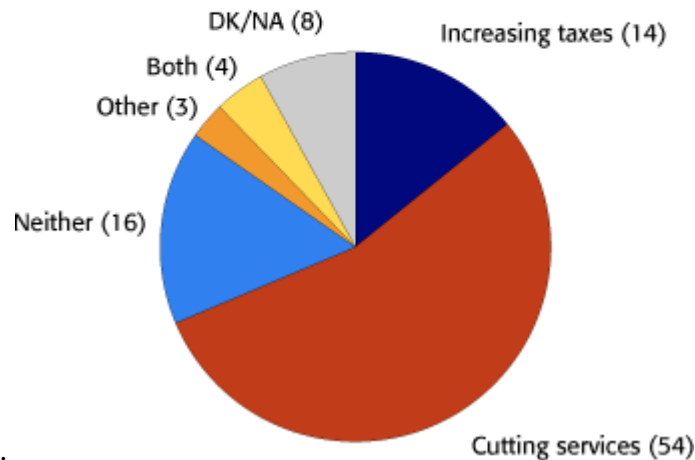
As well as being less likely to support action to address the deficit, those who have the highest estimates of tax misspending are less likely to support government stimulus spending--among

those who think that more than three-quarters of their tax money is misspent, only 47 per cent believe the government should spend to stimulate the economy.

The poll also asked consumers to say whether they expected their nation to experience good or bad economic times over the next year, and reveals that consumer expectations remain subdued, particularly in the world's major economies. On average across 21 countries over the next year only 30 per cent expect good times. Twenty-six per cent expect bad times and 36 per cent expect equally good and bad times. Among the 17 countries polled in 2009 and 2010, there was only a slight increase (two points) in those expecting good times and slight decrease (three points) in

**Preferred Focus for Government Approach to Reducing Deficit**

Average of 22 Countries, 2010



those expecting bad times.

In only five countries is the dominant view that in the next 12 months good times will return. All of these are developing countries led by India (62%), Nigeria (61%), and Brazil (57%), as well as China (51%) and the Philippines (43%).

The most pessimistic countries--those predominantly expecting bad times--are led by the developed countries of the United Kingdom (58%), France (54%), and also include the US (44%), and Spain (38%)--although numbers of pessimists in Spain have dropped 19 points since 2009. However some developing countries lean toward a pessimistic view as well--Mexico (54%), Pakistan (45%), and Turkey (41%).

In total 22,783 citizens in 22 countries, were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between June 24 and September 5, 2010. Some questions were asked of half samples. Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan and its research partners in each country. In nine of the 22 countries, the sample was limited to major urban areas. The margin of error per country ranges from +/-2.1 to 3.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20.