

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

GLOBAL OPINION REPORT NO. 96

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Prelude

This week report consists of 35 surveys. Four of these are multi-country surveys while the rest are national surveys.

Since President Obama came to office, he has been making efforts to regain U.S. lost prestige & popularity. His administration's efforts, his own personality and simply the change in leadership in U.S. have ameliorated the declining image of U.S. in various parts of the world. Latin America is one of the regions where one can see improved image of U.S.¹ but this is not the case in many Muslim countries. Turkey is among the Muslim countries where U.S. image had turned very poor since the beginning of war on terror. Recent polling shows that despite Obama's various efforts to improve the relations with the Muslim world, U.S. image in Turkey dismal. There has been only nominal improvement in U.S popularity in Turkey. Interesting U.S. president has become more popular than it was a year ago. This shows that change in leadership has won 30 percentage points in popularity of U.S. leadership in Turkey.² This difference between popularity of U.S. as a state and popularity of its leadership shows that negative U.S. image in the Muslim world is not part of any ideology or religion rather it is only the result of U.S. policies towards Muslim countries. Had it been the result of religion or ideology than everything American would have been hated in the Muslim world and the change in leadership in Washington would not have brought positive ratings for him. Secondly, does it not also show that only change in faces or simply speeches cannot improve U.S. relations with Muslim world rather U.S. policies would have to be reconsidered.

At the eve of Copenhagen, across the world people have showed high concerns about climate change. Almost two third of the global citizens believe it to be a serious problem and eight in ten believe it to be a 'somewhat a problem'. Moreover a majority also show willingness to pay for program and policies dealing with the climate change. Does Copenhagen summit going to achieve any goal? Does nations like U.S, China and Russia are going to cut off their emission of green gases? This will definitely have impact on the production as well as growth and development of the country. Americans especially have always shown the least concern about climatic issues, however recently more Americans express concern about climate change. It is important to see how the leaders translate public concern into their policies. All the developed states being influential will have to play important role in such development. But will they be ready to sacrifice their growth or pay for dealing with such issues, remains to be answered in recent future.

¹ <http://www.gallup.com/poll/124514/leadership-obama-winning-favor-latin-america.aspx>

² <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1429/negative-views-of-america-unchanged-in-turkey>

Summary of Polls

WEST & CENTRAL ASIA

Negative Views of U.S. Unchanged in Turkey

While overall ratings for the U.S. have improved throughout much of the world, in Turkey they remain dismal -- only 14% of Turks expressed a positive view of the U.S. in the spring 2009 Pew Global Attitudes survey, the lowest rating among the 25 nations included in the poll.

December 3, 2009

SOUTH ASIA

Postwar Optimism Soars in Sri Lanka

Although they are suffering financially as are residents in many other countries in the region, the number of Sri Lankans who believe their economy is getting better increased dramatically in the past year -- jumping from 36% in 2008 to 64% in 2009.

December 3, 2009

EAST EUROPE

Fewer Russians Would Restore Death Penalty

Fewer adults in Russia believe capital punishment should be completely restored in the country, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 37 per cent of respondents would like to see this happen, down 17 points since 2000.

December 05, 2009

Russians Are Smitten With President Medvedev

A large majority of people in Russia express satisfaction with Dmitry Medvedev's leadership, according to a poll by Yury Levada Analytical Centre. 74 per cent of respondents approve of the president's performance, up two points since October.

December 02, 2009

WEST EUROPE

Britons Doubtful About Copenhagen Success

People in Britain do not expect this month's Climate Change Summit in Denmark to result in a comprehensive agreement to deal with global warming, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. While 58 per cent of respondents would prefer to see a legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories, only nine per cent foresee this actually happening.

December 03, 2009

Relations with EU Will Not Change, Say Britons

Most people in Britain believe the appointment of Belgian prime minister Herman Van Rompuy as president of the European Union (EU) and Catherine Ashton as high representative for foreign policy will make no difference in how Britain relates to the continental group, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents share this view.

December 01, 2009

NORTH AMERICA

U.S. Seen as Less Important, China as More Powerful

The general public and members of the Council on Foreign Relations are apprehensive and uncertain about America's place in the world. Growing numbers in both groups see the United States playing a less important role globally, while acknowledging the

increasing stature of China. And the general public, which is in a decidedly inward-looking frame of mind when it comes to global affairs, is less supportive of increasing the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan than are CFR members.

December 3, 2009

In U.S., Trust Varies With Income, Education, Race, and Age

Is community trust a luxury in America? Gallup data offer some support for that idea -- 82% of those making \$90,000 per year or more say they would expect a neighbor who found a lost wallet or purse containing \$200 to return it. In contrast, 50% of those making less than \$24,000 per year expressed this kind of trust in their neighbors.

December 04, 2009

In U.S., More Support for Increasing Troops in Afghanistan

Americans over the last two weeks have become slightly more likely to favor sending more U.S. troops to Afghanistan, and slightly less likely to favor a reduction in forces. At this point, 47% of Americans would advise President Obama to increase the number of U.S. troops -- either by the roughly 40,000 recommended by the commanding general in Afghanistan or by a smaller amount -- while 39% would advise Obama to reduce the number of troops. Another 9% would opt to leave troop levels as they are, while 5% have no opinion.

December 2, 2009

Americans Split on Whether Goals in Afghanistan Will Be Met

The unveiling of President Obama's new military strategy for Afghanistan has not left Americans overly confident that it will succeed -- 48% say the U.S. is certain or likely to achieve its goals in the war, while 45% say the U.S. is unlikely to do so or is certain not to achieve its aims.

December 4, 2009

Obama's Plan for Afghanistan Finds Bipartisan Support

President Obama has managed to thread the needle with his newly announced Afghanistan strategy, with his approach winning the approval of a majority of both Democrats (58%) and Republicans (55%) in a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Wednesday night. At the same time, less than a majority of independents approve (45%). Among Americans overall, 51% approve of the strategy while 40% disapprove.

December 3, 2009

Americans See Protectionism, Tax Cuts as Ways to Create Jobs

As President Obama holds a jobs summit Thursday to discuss ways to address the problem of growing unemployment in the United States, Americans' top prescriptions for creating more jobs are to keep manufacturing jobs in the U.S. (18%), lower taxes (14%), provide more help to small businesses (12%), and create more infrastructure work (10%).

December 2, 2009

Majority of Americans Think Near-Term Terrorism Unlikely

By 57% to 39%, more Americans think a terrorist attack on the United States is unlikely to happen in the next few weeks than say an attack is likely. This is based on Gallup polling conducted Nov. 20-22, prior to President Obama's address to the nation on Afghanistan in which he said the need to fight terrorism is the primary reason he is committing more U.S. troops to the conflict there.

December 2, 2009

Few Americans Expect Real Deal at Copenhagen

Few Americans believe the upcoming Climate Change Summit in Denmark will lead to a legally binding agreement to tackle global warming, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. While 44 per cent of respondents would like to see a deal that sets specific targets for all signatories, only 11 per cent think this will happen.

December 04, 2009

Support for Afghan Mission Dwindles in U.S.

Fewer adults in the United States are backing the mission in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 49 per cent of respondents support the military operation involving American soldiers in Afghanistan, down five points since October.

December 03, 2009

Republicans Say Palin Would Be Good President

Former Alaska governor Sarah Palin is a popular option for the 2012 presidential election in the United States amongst Republican Party supporters, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 47 per cent of GOP voters think Palin would be a good president.

December 02, 2009

Approval for Congress Improves in the U.S.

Public satisfaction with the work of the House of Representatives and the Senate increased this month, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 27 per cent of respondents approve of the performance of the U.S. Congress, up five points since October.

November 30, 2009

Canadians Decline Expanded Role in Afghanistan

People in Canada believe their country should not commit more soldiers to the war in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 66 per cent of respondents agree with this rationale.

December 04, 2009

Canadians Review Bilateral Ties with China

Canadians believe their country's long-term policy with China should focus on human rights and minority rights, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 63 per cent of respondents feel this way, while 37 per cent would place more emphasis on the trading relationship.

December 03, 2009

Canadians Want Free Trade Deal with India

Most people in Canada would endorse a potential free trade agreement with India, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 55 per cent of respondents would agree with establishing bi-lateral trade relations with the South Asian country.

December 01, 2009

Canadians Reject Infidelity, Polygamy and Cloning

A large proportion of Canadians believe certain specific social behaviours are morally acceptable, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion published in *Maclean's*. At least 79 per cent of respondents feel this way about contraception, sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman, divorce, and having a baby outside of marriage.

November 30, 2009

Canadians Want Inquiry on Afghan Allegations

Most people in Canada believe a public inquiry on what the government and the Canadian Forces knew about reports of prisoner torture in Afghanistan is necessary at

this time, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion published in the *Toronto Star*. 53 per cent of respondents support this notion, while 36 per cent oppose it.

November 29, 2009

LATIN AMERICA

Mexicans Want to Keep Drug War Going

Few adults in Mexico would consent to the legalization of drugs, according to a poll by GEA-ISA. 75 per cent of respondents think it is necessary to keep fighting drug traffickers for an unlimited amount of time.

December 05, 2009

Half of Mexicans Content with Calderón

Public support for Mexican president Felipe Calderón fell last month, according to a poll by Berumen y Asociados published in *El Universal*. 50.4 per cent of respondents approve of Calderón's performance, down 3.3 points since June.

December 04, 2009

Brazil's Serra Loses Appeal as Election Looms

The presidential bid of Sao Paulo governor Jose Serra is losing traction as the election year draws near, according to a poll by Instituto Sensus. 31.8 per cent of respondents would vote for Serra of the conservative Brazilian Party of Social Democracy (PSDB) in the 2010 election, down 7.7 points since September.

December 03, 2009

Peruvians Want to Scrap Mandatory Voting

The vast majority of people in Peru would support holding a referendum on whether voting should become voluntary as opposed to mandatory, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 74 per cent of respondents agree with holding the referendum, while 24 per cent disagree.

December 02, 2009

Mexicans Would Back PRI Candidate in 2012

Mexico's presidency could return to the hands of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in the next election, according to a poll by GEA-ISA. 49 per cent of respondents would vote for the PRI candidate in the next presidential ballot, up four points since August.

December 02, 2009

More Cubans Urge for Change in Politics, Economy

The number of Cubans calling for an overhaul of the country's political system has increased, according to a poll by the International Republican Institute. If given the chance, 75.2 per cent of respondents would vote to change the current system into a democracy, up 12 points since November 2008.

December 01, 2009

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December 01, 2009

Early Presidential Leaders Emerge in Peru

Presidential hopefuls in Peru remain moderately unpopular but there are two discernible frontrunners, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 23 per cent of respondents would vote for Lima mayor Luis Castañeda Lossio in the 2011 ballot, up one point since October.

November 29, 2009

Revolution was About Freedom, Say Mexicans

Most people in Mexico believe freedom was the main achievement of the Mexican Revolution, according to a poll by *El Universal*. 40 per cent of respondents feel this way about the armed struggle that began in 1910.

November 29, 2009

MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

Majority of People Across the World Want Action on Climate Change, Even if it Entails Costs

A new poll of 15 nations, most of them in the developing world, finds that majorities of the people canvassed want their governments to take steps to fight climate change, even if that entails costs.

December 3, 2009

Climate Concerns Continue to Increase: Global Poll

Public concern about climate change is at its highest level since GlobeScan began international tracking in 1998, according to a new GlobeScan/BBC World Service poll conducted in 23 countries. Nearly two thirds of those polled now say climate change is a “very serious” problem. However, concern has fallen in China and the USA.

December 07, 2009

Global Warming Seen as a Major Problem Around the World

A 25 countries PEW survey reveals that majorities in 23 of 25 countries agree that protecting the environment should be given priority, even at the cost of slower economic growth and job losses. And many are willing to make sacrifices, such as having to pay higher prices, to address global warming.

December 2, 2009

U.S. Leadership, Obama Winning Favor in Latin America

Less than one year into President Barack Obama's administration, many foreign policy objectives are still works in progress. Gallup finds, however, that in Latin America, Obama is enjoying improved perceptions of U.S. leadership. Gallup surveyed across the region between July and September 2009 and found regional median approval of U.S. leadership at 51%, up significantly from the previous three years.

December 1, 2009

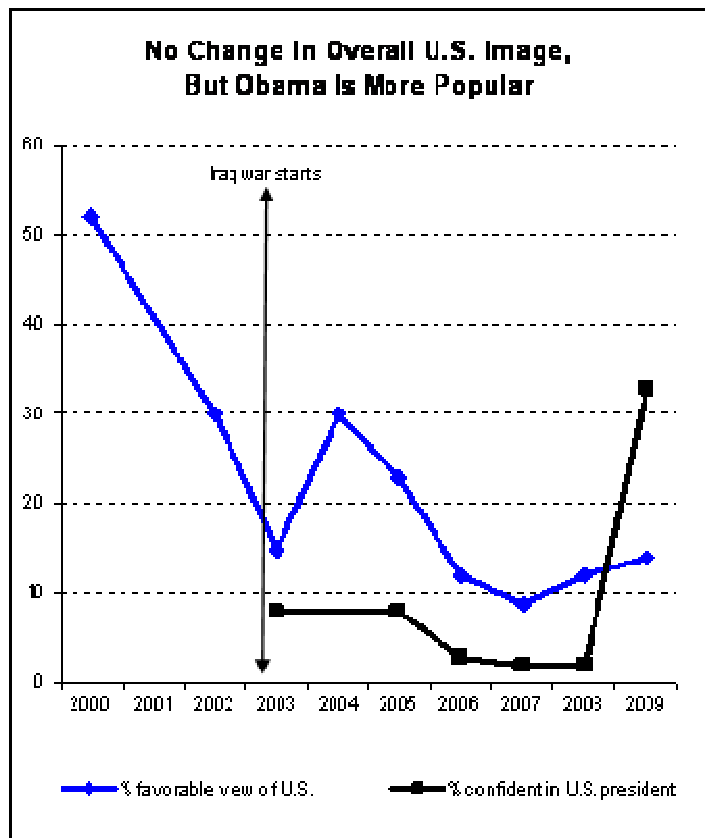
West & Central Asia

Negative Views of U.S. Unchanged in Turkey

But Some Signs of Improvement

December 3, 2009

The Obama administration has exerted a considerable amount of diplomatic energy on Turkey: Secretary of State Hillary Clinton visited there in March, the president himself followed in April and next week Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan will call on the White House. Nonetheless, the administration continues to face serious challenges in this strategically important nation. While overall ratings for the U.S. have improved throughout much of the world, in Turkey they remain dismal -- only 14% of Turks expressed a positive view of the U.S. in the spring 2009 Pew Global Attitudes survey, the lowest rating among the 25 nations included in the poll.



Still, there are modest signs of a potential for improvement. While just one-third of Turks have confidence that President Obama will do the right thing in world affairs, this is a significant increase from 2008, when only 2% voiced confidence in then-President Bush. And while most Turks continue to oppose U.S.-led anti-terrorism efforts and most still believe the U.S. could be a military threat to their country some day, these views are less common than they were in the waning years of the Bush administration.

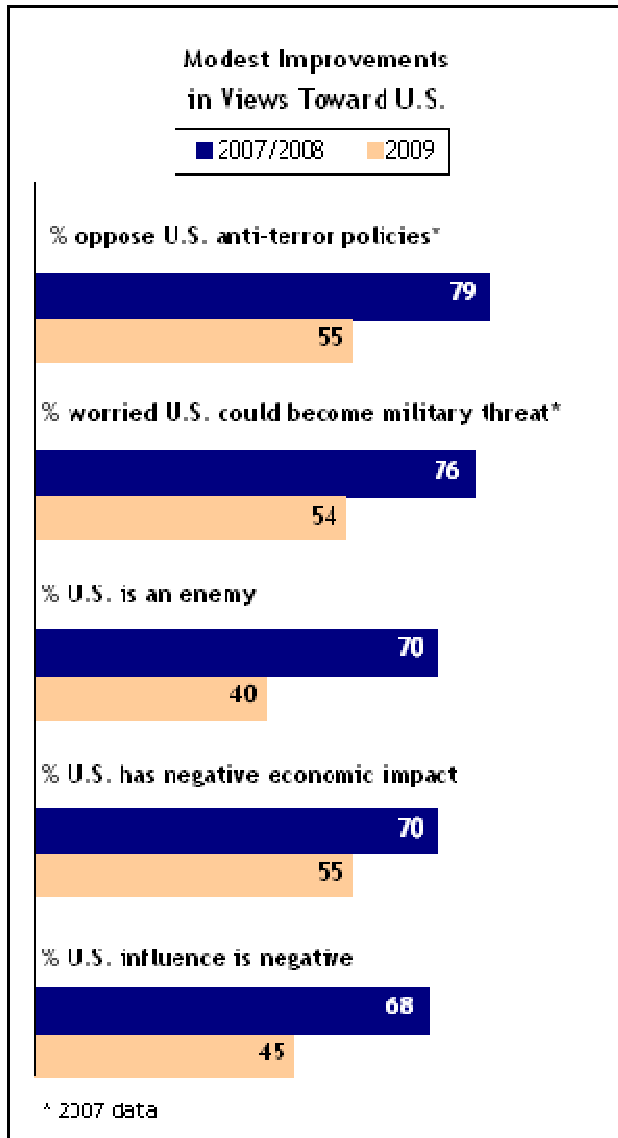
As the survey reveals, the U.S. is not the only major power receiving negative reviews in Turkey -- China, Russia and the European Union also get poor ratings.

U.S. Image Remains Negative

Turkish views of the U.S. have not always been so downbeat. U.S. State Department polling from the beginning of this decade found just over half (52%) of Turks expressing a favorable opinion of the U.S. However, the widely unpopular Iraq war led to a steep decline in America's image, and it has essentially never recovered.

Similarly, views of the American people remain low in Turkey -- just 14% say they have a favorable opinion of Americans. As with ratings of the U.S. overall, Turkey's is the lowest rating among the 25 nations surveyed.

Concerns about American unilateralism also continue. Just 15% of Turks think the U.S. considers the interests of countries like theirs when making foreign policy decisions -- again, the lowest percentage among the countries surveyed.



A Few Promising Signs

As noted above, there are some indications that Turkish views of the U.S., and of American foreign policy, are turning less negative. For instance, in 2007, 79% opposed U.S.-led efforts to combat terrorism, compared with 55% in 2009.

Similarly, fewer Turks now see the U.S. as a potential military threat. Just over half (54%) say the U.S. could pose a military threat to their country some day -- a rather striking finding, since Turkey is a longtime NATO ally of the U.S. However, this is down significantly from 76% two years ago.

And while four-in-ten still consider the U.S. an enemy of their country, this is a sharp decrease from 70% in the 2008 poll.

In addition, fewer Turks now characterize America's influence in their country as negative. Last year, seven-in-ten said the U.S. economy was having a harmful effect on the Turkish economy; this year, 55% expressed this view. In 2008, 68% described America's overall impact in their country as negative, compared with 45% today.

Dim Views of Other Major Powers

Turkish Views of China, EU Increasingly Negative			
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Change</u>
% favorable	%	%	
China	40	16	-24
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Change</u>
% favorable	%	%	
EU	58	22	-36

One point to keep in mind about the largely negative ratings the U.S. has received in Turkey over the last few years is that America is not alone in this regard. Other major powers also receive harsh assessments from the Turkish public.

In the 2009 survey, just 16% expressed a favorable view of China, down from 40% in 2005. Frustration with stagnated negotiations to admit Turkey into the European Union is also reflected in the survey data -- 22% said they had a positive opinion of the EU in the 2009 poll, down 36 percentage points from five years ago. Russia fares even worse than China or the EU: only 13% of Turks gave it a favorable rating.

SOUTH ASIA

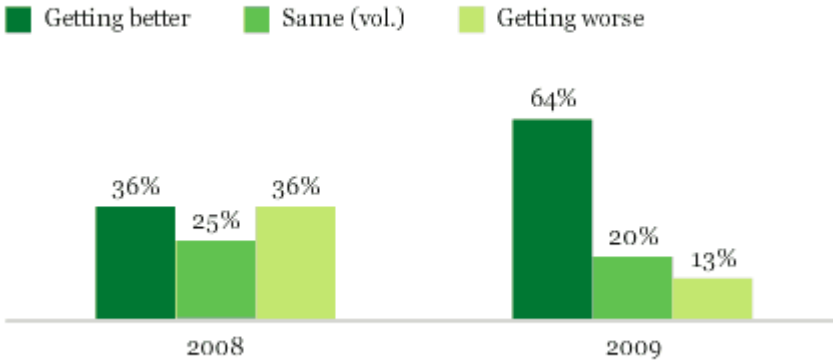
Postwar Optimism Soars in Sri Lanka

Economic optimism swells in tandem with confidence in government

December 3, 2009

Given the severe global economic downturn, optimism is in short supply among many of the export-reliant nations in Asia. Sri Lanka is an exception. Although they are suffering financially as are residents in many other countries in the region, the number of Sri Lankans who believe their economy is getting better increased dramatically in the past year -- jumping from 36% in 2008 to 64% in 2009.

Are economic conditions in your country, as a whole, getting better or getting worse?



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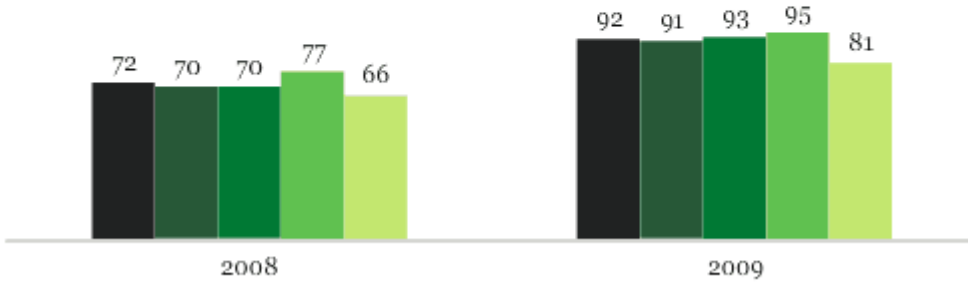
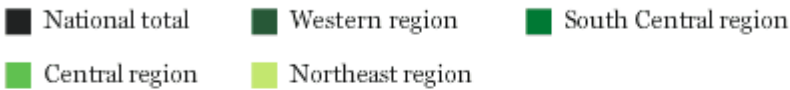
It is likely, however, that heightened expectations after the end of the decades-long civil war, rather than improving economic conditions, are spurring such optimism. Economic growth has slowed considerably in Sri Lanka, from 6% in 2008 to a projected 3.5% this year. Last May, after more than 25 years of violence between the Sinhalese majority government and ethnic minority Tamil Tigers, the Sri Lankan government announced it had defeated the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and killed its leader Velupillai Prabhakaran. Although a flurry of stock market activity and foreign investment in government securities followed the announcement, long-term growth in Sri Lanka still depends on internal stability and global economic recovery. But, with the war behind them, Sri Lankans' optimism and confidence is strengthening on many fronts.

According to a Gallup survey conducted in Sri Lanka in May just as the war ended, confidence in national government increased significantly among all Sri Lankans from 72% in 2008 to 92% in 2009. Trust also climbed 15 percentage points in the Northeast region where violence had been the fiercest. Although Gallup collected fewer interviews in Northeast Sri Lanka than in other regions of the country (105 interviews were collected in 2008 and 135 interviews in 2009), these data indicate a statistically significant increase in confidence toward the national government.

In your country, do you have confidence in each of the following, or not?

National government

Percentage responding "yes"



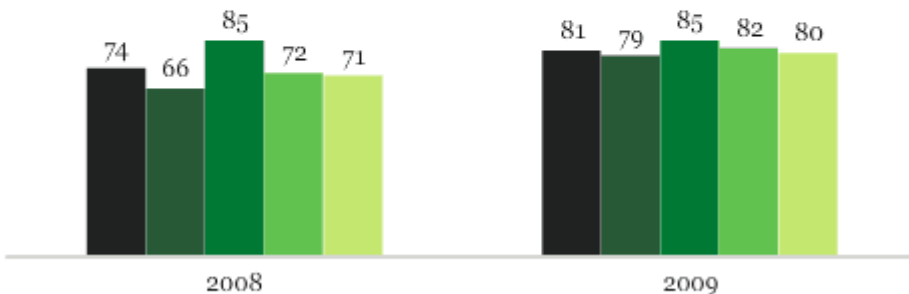
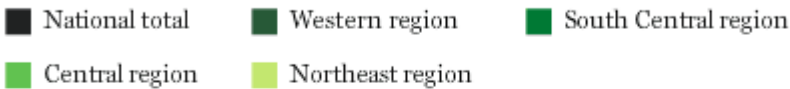
GALLUP®

More confidence in the rule of law may be another example of a positive outcome of the government's defeat of LTTE. Trust in Sri Lanka's judicial system and the courts has increased significantly overall from 74% in 2008 to 81% in 2009, including some improved confidence in three out of four regions. Support for the judicial system remains strong in South Central Sri Lanka -- 85% for the past two years.

In your country, do you have confidence in each of the following, or not?

Judicial system and the courts

Percentage responding "yes"



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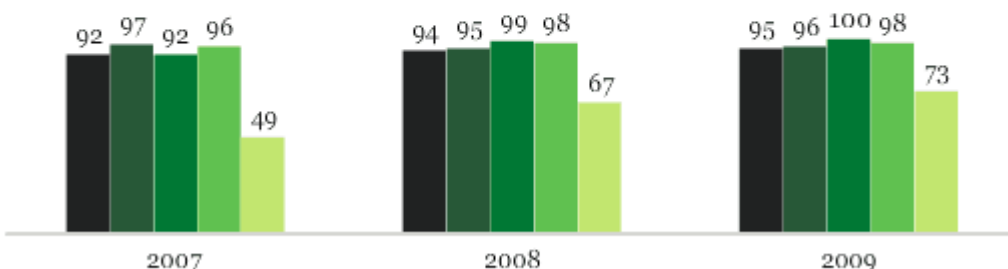
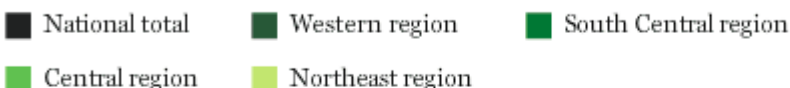
Confidence in the nation's military continues at near universal high levels. The majority of Sri Lankans have expressed trust in their armed forces since Gallup began tracking this

measurement by region in 2007, several years before the war ended. Ninety-two percent of the population had confidence in the military that year, rising to 95% in 2009. Even in Sri Lanka's Northeast region, confidence in the military has risen substantially -- from 49% in 2007 to 73% this year.

In your country, do you have confidence in each of the following, or not?

Military

Percentage responding "yes"



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Last Sunday, the retired Sri Lankan Army Gen. Sarath Fonseka, who led the long-awaited military victory against the Tamil Tigers, announced he will run against the incumbent President Mahinda Rajapaksa in January elections. With trust in the military at peak levels, it will be interesting to see if such confidence translates into an advantage for the military candidate.

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted in May 2007, May 2008, and May 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged between ±3.3 and ±4.1 percentage points. For regional breakdowns, the maximum margin of sampling error can be as high as ±12 percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

The ongoing conflict in the North and East provinces of Sri Lanka limited Gallup's polling in these core combat areas. Thus, attitudes reported here are those of approximately 90% of Sri Lankans living outside the war zone. Provinces in each region include Western: Western Province; South Central: Southern and Central Provinces; Central: North Central, North Western, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces; and Northeast: North and East Provinces.

EAST EUROPE

Fewer Russians Would Restore Death Penalty

December 05, 2009

Fewer adults in Russia believe capital punishment should be completely restored in the country, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 37 per cent of respondents would like to see this happen, down 17 points since 2000.

Both the Soviet Union and Russia contemplated the death penalty as punishment for several crimes. Executions were usually carried out by firing squad. Russian president Boris Yeltsin introduced a decree to enact a "gradual cessation" of the practice. In 1997, Yeltsin signed a moratorium on capital punishment, which remains in place today.

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

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

Last month, Russia's Constitutional Court ruled that the moratorium on capital punishment must be extended until the Russian Federation acts to completely ban executions.

Presidential advisor Mikhail Krotov discussed the possible next steps, saying, "The State Duma hasn't yet ratified the protocol banning capital punishment because many in Russia support the death penalty. The society needs more time to ban the death penalty. But the government structures support a ban on capital punishment."

Polling Data

Which of the following statements comes closest to how you feel about the death penalty?

	2009	2000
The death penalty should be completely restored (as it was in the early 1990s)	37%	54%
The death penalty should remain as it is now	20%	15%
The death penalty should be completely abolished	14%	12%
The death penalty should be applied to more crimes	16%	10%
Hard to answer	13%	10%

Source: Yury Levada Analytical Center

Methodology: Interviews to 1,600 Russian adults, conducted from Jun. 26 to Jun. 29, 2009. No margin of error was provided.

Russians Are Smitten With President Medvedev

December 02, 2009

A large majority of people in Russia express satisfaction with Dmitry Medvedev's leadership, according to a poll by Yury Levada Analytical Centre. 74 per cent of respondents approve of the president's performance, up two points since October.

Support for former president and current prime minister Vladimir Putin is also high at 79 per cent.

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On Nov. 29, Medvedev released a proposal for a new pan-European security strategy that would replace the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The Russian president said that, in a new framework, "No nation or international organization (...) is entitled to strengthen its own security at the cost of other nations or organizations," adding, "I'm convinced that Europe's problems won't be solved until its unity is established, an organic wholeness of all its integral parts, including Russia."

Polling Data

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

	Nov. 2009	Oct. 2009	Sept. 2009
Approve	74%	72%	75%
Disapprove	23%	24%	23%

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

	Nov. 2009	Oct. 2009	Sept. 2009
Approve	79%	78%	82%
Disapprove	19%	20%	18%

Source: Yury Levada Analytical Center

Methodology: Interviews with 1,600 Russian adults, conducted from Nov. 20 to Nov. 23, 2009. No margin of error was provided.

WEST EUROPE

Britons Doubtful About Copenhagen Success

December 03, 2009

People in Britain do not expect this month's Climate Change Summit in Denmark to result in a comprehensive agreement to deal with global warming, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. While 58 per cent of respondents would prefer to see a legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories, only nine per cent foresee this actually happening.

In addition, 38 per cent of respondents expect no agreement to come out of Copenhagen, and 38 per cent foresee a political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis.

The term global warming refers to an increase of the Earth's average temperature. Some theories say that climate change might be the result of human-generated carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. In 2007, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report which states that global warming has been "very likely"—or 90 per cent certain—caused by humans burning fossil fuels.

In 1998, several countries agreed to the Kyoto Protocol, a proposed amendment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The agreement commits nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

The Copenhagen Climate Change Summit is scheduled to take place from Dec. 7 to Dec. 18. Countries attending the summit are supposed to draft a new agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which is due to expire in 2012.

Yesterday, British prime minister Gordon Brown outlined his expectations for the Climate Summit, saying, "We are in the happy position of being able to work with the rest of Europe to get a climate change agreement. The talks that are taking place now, including at the Commonwealth Conference, are a desire to bring together the richest countries who will have to contribute to a climate change deal financially as well as with bold and ambitious targets and the developing countries who we want to make progress but whom we want to be able to help."

Polling Data

As you may know, representatives from 170 countries will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, next month to participate in a Climate Summit organized by the United Nations. Which of these scenarios would you prefer to see when the Climate Summit is over?

A legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories	58%
A political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis	19%
No agreement—countries dealing with climate change independently of each other	10%
Not sure	13%

And which of these scenarios do you expect will actually happen when the Climate Summit is over?

A legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories	9%
A political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis	38%
No agreement—countries dealing with climate change independently of each other	38%
Not sure	15%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,019 British adults, conducted from Nov. 25 to Nov. 27, 2009. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Relations with EU Will Not Change, Say Britons

December 01, 2009

Most people in Britain believe the appointment of Belgian prime minister Herman Van Rompuy as president of the European Union (EU) and Catherine Ashton as high representative for foreign policy will make no difference in how Britain relates to the continental group, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents share this view.

Only 10 per cent of respondents say the two appointments will improve British-EU relations, while 15 per cent expect them to become worse.

A new common European body of law, known as the Lisbon Treaty, has been ratified by all of the EU's 27 members. The document's provisions call for the creation of new posts, such as a foreign policy chief, and a high representative who will answer to EU governments and serve as vice-president of the European Commission.

Under the terms of the Lisbon Treaty, EU leaders would also choose a president of the European Council for a two and a half year renewable term. This will effectively eliminate the current six-month rotating presidency among member nations. The Lisbon Treaty also provides for the creation of a mutual defence clause, in case one of the member states is attacked.

On Nov. 19, EU leaders appointed Van Rompuy and Ashton to the new posts.

British prime minister Gordon Brown—who had actively campaigned for the post of EU president to go to former British prime minister Tony Blair—stated that Van Rompuy is "well known as a consensus builder."

Polling Data

As a result of the election of Herman Van Rompuy and Catherine Ashton, do you expect the UK's relationship with the EU to be better, the same, or worse than before?

Better	10%
The same	54%
Worse	15%
Not sure	22%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,019 British adults, conducted from Nov. 25 to Nov. 27, 2009. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

NORTH AMERICA

U.S. Seen as Less Important, China as More Powerful

Isolationist Sentiment Surges to Four-Decade High

December 3, 2009

The general public and members of the Council on Foreign Relations are apprehensive and uncertain about America's place in the world. Growing numbers in both groups see the United States playing a less important role globally, while acknowledging the increasing stature of China. And the general public, which is in a decidedly inward-looking frame of mind when it comes to global affairs, is less supportive of increasing the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan than are CFR members.

Public Less Supportive than Council Members of Afghan Troop Increase		
	General public	CFR members
<i>Number of troops should be...</i>	%	%
Increased	32	50
Decreased	40	24
Kept the same	19	19
Don't know/No answer	8	7
	100	100

Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

In polling conducted before President Obama's decision to increase U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan, both groups expressed pessimism about prospects for long-term stability in Afghanistan. Fewer than half of the public (46%) and CFR members (41%) say it is very or somewhat likely that Afghanistan will be able to withstand the threat posed by the Taliban. While half of the CFR members (50%) favor increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan, just 32% of the public agrees.

In the midst of two wars abroad and a sour economy at home, there has been a sharp rise in isolationist sentiment among the public. For the first time in more than 40 years of polling, a plurality (49%) says the United States should "mind its own business internationally" and let other countries get along the best they can on their own.

Council Members' Views of China Improve...			
CFR members			
<i>China's emergence as world power is...</i>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2009</u>
	%	%	%
Major threat	38	30	21
Minor/not a threat	55	69	78
No answer	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100
But Public Remains Wary			
General public			
<i>China's emergence as world power is...</i>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2009</u>
	%	%	%
Major threat	51	52	53
Minor/not a threat	40	41	40
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100
Q1 2a CFR & Q26aF1 public.			

The quadrennial survey of foreign policy attitudes, conducted among the general public and members of the Council on Foreign Relations, finds broad recognition of China's growing power. But the public takes a less benign view of China's rise than do the members of the Council on Foreign Relations.

For CFR members, China has been transformed from a major threat to the United States to an increasingly important future ally. Just 21% of CFR members view China's emergence as a world power as a major threat to the United States. In 2001, 38% of foreign policy opinion leaders said that China's emergence was a major threat, as did 30% in 2005.

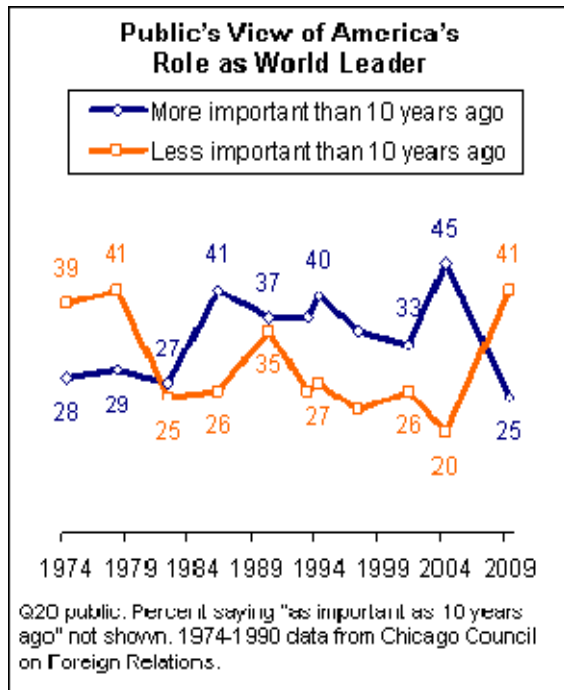
More important, there is a growing belief among CFR members that China, along with India, will be more important U.S. allies in the future. Majorities of the Council

China, India Seen as More Important U.S. Allies		
CFR members		
<i>More important future U.S. allies*...</i>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2009</u>
	%	%
China	31	58
India	43	55
Brazil	17	37
Europe/EU	23	19
Russia	16	17
Japan	32	16
Great Britain	27	10
* Open-ended questions, top responses shown. For complete results, see CFR topline, Q19.		

members surveyed say China (58%) and India (55%) will be more important U.S. allies; Brazil is a distant third (37%). And while more CFR members view China, India and Brazil as more

important future allies than did so four years ago, substantially fewer say the same about Japan and Great Britain.

The public sees China's emerging power as more worrisome than do the foreign policy opinion leaders. There has been virtually no change since 2005 in the percentage of the public saying that China represents a major threat to the United States (53% today, 52% then). Moreover, while Iran is mentioned most often as the country that poses the greatest danger to the United States, China continues to rank among the countries frequently named by the public as dangers to the U.S.



The new survey finds that 41% of the public says the United States plays a less important and powerful role as a world leader today than it did 10 years ago -- the highest percentage ever in a Pew Research survey. And while the foreign policy opinion leaders differ with the public about many issues -- including President Obama's foreign policy, the war in Afghanistan and China -- a growing proportion of Council on Foreign Relations members agree that the United States is a less important world leader. Fully 44% of the CFR members say the U.S. is a less important global leader, up from 25% in early September 2001, just before the 9/11 attacks.

In a reversal of opinion from the beginning of last year, 44% of the public now says China is the world's leading economic power, while just 27% name the United States. In February 2008, 41% said the U.S. was the top economic power while 30% said China. Somewhat fewer people now say China is the top economic power than named Japan as the leading economic power in the late 1980s (58% in 1989).

**Public Now Sees China
as Top Global Economic Power**

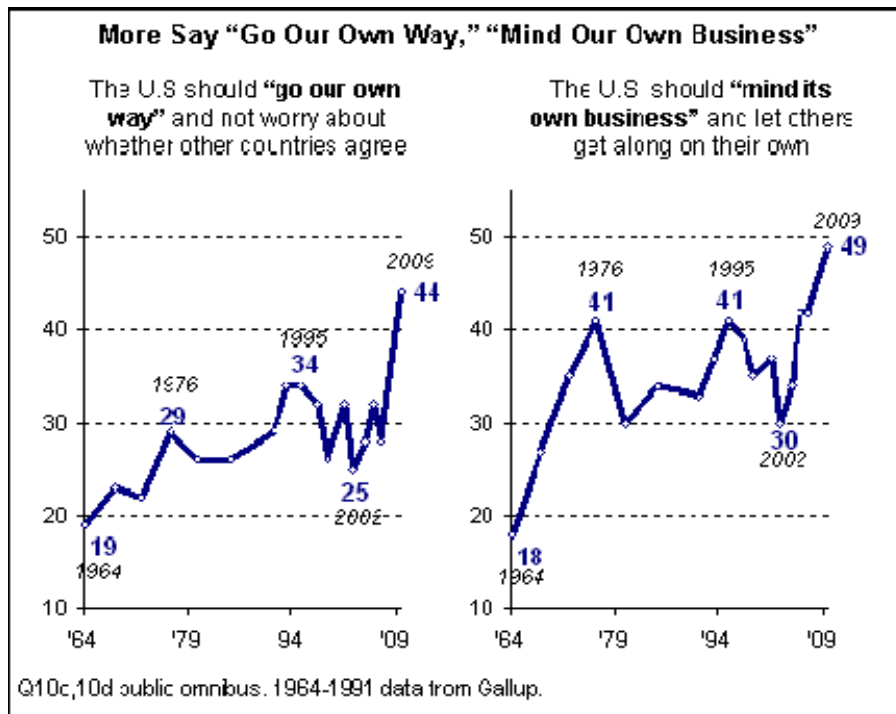
General public	Feb	Nov
<i>World's leading economic power...</i>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
	%	%
United States	41	27
China	30	44
Japan	10	13
EU countries	9	5
Other/DK	10	11
	100	100
 <i>World's leading military power</i>		
United States		63
China		18
Russia		6
EU countries		2
Other/DK		11
		100

Q19 & Q20 public omnibus. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The United States is widely viewed as the world's leading military power -- 63% express this view, while just 18% name China. A majority of the public (57%) continues to say that U.S. policies should try to maintain America's role as the world's only military superpower -- although far fewer favor this if it risks alienating U.S. allies.

However, the percentage saying that the United States should "mind its own business internationally and let other countries get along the best they can on their own" has reached an all-time high of 49%. Four years ago, 42% agreed that the U.S. should "mind its own business" in international affairs; in December 2002, just 30% agreed with this statement.

At the same time, there has been a rise in unilateralist sentiment. Fully 44% say that because the United States "is the most powerful nation in the world, we should go our own way in international matters, not worrying about whether other countries agree with us or not." That is by far the highest percentage agreeing since the question was first asked by Gallup in 1964.



CFR members continue to strongly support the United States playing an assertive role in global affairs: 69% say the U.S. should be either the single world leader (7%) or the most assertive of leading nations (62%). These opinions are little changed from previous surveys.

Yet CFR members assign a far lower priority to several globally oriented policy goals than they did at the beginning of the decade. Just 10% of CFR members say that promoting democracy in other nations should be a top U.S. foreign policy goal, down from 44% in early September 2001, shortly before the 9/11 attacks.

Defending human rights (down by 22 percentage points as a top priority), strengthening the United Nations (19 points) and improving living standards in developing countries (13 points) also are now viewed as less important priorities by CFR members.

Fewer CFR Members Give Priority to Promoting Democracy, Human Rights and Foreign Aid

% of CFR members rating each as top priority...	Sept 1993	Sept 1997	Early Sept 2001	Oct 2005	Nov 2009	01-09 change
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Promoting democracy abroad	28	32	44	18	10	-34
Defending human rights	22	28	43	22	21	-22
Strengthening the UN	45	32	37	29	18	-19
Improving living standards in developing nations	25	31	48	47	35	-13

Q21 CFR.

These are among the principal findings of America's Place in the World, a survey of foreign policy and national security attitudes conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, in collaboration with the Council on Foreign Relations, an independent, nonpartisan organization focused on helping government officials and the public better understand the world and foreign policy. The survey was conducted among 642 members of the Council on Foreign Relations and 2,000 members of the public.

The survey finds that the Council members are much more positive about President Obama's approach to foreign policy and his handling of specific issues than is the public. About three-quarters (77%) of the members of the Council of Foreign Relations approve of Obama's overall job performance, compared with just 51% of the public. There are comparable or even larger differences in opinions about Obama's handling of Iran, Iraq, global climate change and several other issues. Yet the CFR members are nearly as critical of Obama's handling of the situation in Afghanistan as is the public. Just 42% approve of Obama's job performance on Afghanistan, which is modestly higher than his rating among the public (36%).

Sizable Gaps between Public, CFR Members over Afghanistan		
	General public	CFR members
<i>Initial decision to use force</i>	%	%
Right decision	56	87
Wrong decision	34	10
Don't know/No answer	10	3
	100	100
<i>US military effort is going...</i>		
Very/fairly well	36	8
Not too/not at all well	57	90
Don't know/No answer	6	2
	100	100
<i>Likelihood that Afghanistan can withstand Taliban threat...</i>		
Very/somewhat likely	46	41
Not too/Not at all likely	47	57
Don't know/No answer	8	2
	100	100

Q53-54, 56 public & Q28-29, 31 CFR. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Only about half of CFR members (49%) say the Taliban's growing strength in Afghanistan represents a major threat to the United States; 70% of the public sees this as a major threat. Yet CFR members are much more supportive than the public of the initial decision to use force in Afghanistan -- fully 87% say this was the right decision compared with 56% of the public. CFR members also are more supportive than the public of increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan.

There is little optimism among either the members of the Council on Foreign Relations or the public about prospects that Afghanistan can become stable enough to withstand the threat posed by the Taliban. Just 41% of the Council members and 46% of the public think that it is very or somewhat likely that Afghanistan will become stable enough to withstand the threat from the Taliban and other extremist groups.

Major Threats and Long-Term Priorities

Public Concerned about China, North Korea, CFR Members Concerned about Pakistan			
	% "major threats"		<i>Dif</i>
	General public	CFR members	
<i>Viewed as greater threats by public...</i>	%	%	
China's emerging power	53	21	+32
N. Korea's nuclear program	69	44	+25
Tension bet. Russia & neighbors	38	12	+26
Tal ban's growing strength	70	49	+21
<i>Viewed as greater threats by CFR members..</i>			
Instability in Pakistan	49	85	+36
Global climate change	44	59	+15
Int'l financial instability	61	74	+13

Q2E public & G12 CFR.

The public and Council on Foreign Relations members generally agree on three of the major threats facing the United States -- large majorities of both groups say Islamic extremist groups like al Qaeda, Iran's nuclear program and international financial instability are major threats to the well-being of the United States. But they differ over the seriousness of other global threats. The public views China's emergence as a world power as a more serious threat than do CFR members, and the gap is nearly as large over North Korea's nuclear program.

Fully 69% of the public says that North Korea's nuclear program is a major threat to the well-being of the United States, which is little changed from 2005 (66%). But concerns about North Korea have declined markedly among CFR members over this period: just 44% currently regard North Korea's nuclear program as a major threat, down from 67% in 2005. While growing tensions between Russia and its neighbors are viewed as a major threat by just 38% of the public, even fewer CFR members (12%) say this is a major threat.

Policy Priorities: Jobs Rate Much Higher for Public, Climate Change for CFR Members			
	% "top priorities"		<i>Diff</i>
	General public	CFR members	
<i>Viewed as greater priorities by public...</i>	%	%	
Protecting U.S. jobs	85	21	+64
Reducing illegal immigration	46	11	+35
Combating drug trafficking	56	22	+34
Strengthening the UN	37	18	+19
<i>Viewed as greater priorities by CFR members...</i>			
Dealing w/ climate change	40	57	+17
Preventing spread of WMD	74	88	+14
Improving living standards in developing nations	26	35	+9

Q27 public & Q21 CFR.

More than eight-in-ten (85%) CFR members say instability in Pakistan is a major threat to the U.S.; this is a much lower concern for the public -- just 49% view this as a major threat. In addition, higher percentages of CFR members view global climate change (by 15 percentage points) and international financial instability (by 13 points) as major threats to the United States.

The CFR members' concerns over Pakistan are seen in other ways as well. Nearly one-in-five (18%) says that Pakistan represents America's most important international problem. However, Pakistan is mentioned by only 1% of the general public as America's top international problem.

In terms of long-range policy priorities, large majorities of both the public and CFR members see preventing another terrorist attack on the United States and reducing U.S. dependence on imported energy sources as top priorities.

But on other goals -- particularly protecting American jobs -- there are substantial differences. Fully 85% of the public views this as a top foreign policy priority compared with just 21% of CFR members. This gap is not new: It was as large in the first America's Place in the World survey in 1993 (85% of public, 19% of foreign policy opinion leaders) and has remained about as large in each of the succeeding studies.

Greater percentages of the public than CFR members also view reducing illegal immigration (by 35 points) and combating drug trafficking (by 34 points) as top long-range priorities. And while 37% of the public says strengthening the United Nations is a top priority, just 18% of CFR members agree. By contrast, a clear majority (57%) of CFR members say that dealing with global climate change should be a top long-range priority, compared with 40% of the public.

Support for Free Trade Holds Steady

	Nov <u>2007</u>	April <u>2008</u>	April <u>2009</u>	Nov <u>2009</u>
General public	%	%	%	%
Good thing	40	35	44	43
Bad thing	40	48	35	32
Don't know	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>25</u>
	100	100	100	100

Q40 public. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The survey underscores the public's anxiety over the nation's economy. Fully 85% say protecting jobs should be a top foreign policy priority and economic issues are cited most frequently as the greatest international problem confronting the United States, followed closely by the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Despite these concerns, public support for free trade agreements like NAFTA and the policies of the World Trade Organization (WTO) has increased somewhat over the past year. In April 2008, nearly half of Americans (48%) said that free trade agreements were bad for the country, while 35% said such agreements were good for the country. In two polls this year, including the current survey, pluralities have said that free trade agreements and WTO policies are good for the country; currently, 43% say that free trade agreements are good for the country, while 32% express a negative opinion.

Nonetheless, foreign policy specialists have long been more supportive of free trade compared with the public, and that remains the case today. Nearly nine-in-ten CFR members (88%) say that free trade agreements and the policies of the WTO are good for the country, which is little changed from previous America's Place in the World surveys.

The public expresses more negative opinions about the specific impact of free trade agreements on jobs, economic growth and wages. Still, somewhat smaller percentages say that free trade agreements lead to job losses (53%), lower wages (49%) and slower economic growth (42%) than did so in April 2008 (61%, 56% and 50%, respectively).

Public's Terrorism Concerns Grow

**Terror Concerns Rise Among Public,
Fall among CFR Members**

<i>Compared w/ 9/11 terrorists' ability to strike U.S. is...</i>	Oct <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2008</u>	Feb <u>2009</u>	Nov <u>2009</u>
General Public	%	%	%	%
Greater	26	16	17	29
The same	41	41	44	38
Less	29	39	35	29
Don't know	4	4	4	4
	100	100	100	100
CFR members				
Greater	13	--	--	11
The same	43	--	--	30
Less	44	--	--	56
No answer	0	--	--	3
	100			100

Q64F1 public & Q45 CFR.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The survey also finds substantial differences between the public and CFR members over anti-terrorism strategies and tactics -- and even over the ability of terrorists to launch new attacks on the United States. Currently, 29% of the public says the ability of terrorists to launch a major attack on the U.S. is greater than it was at the time of the 9/11 attacks; that percentage has risen 12 points since February. (NOTE: The main survey of the public was mostly conducted before the Nov. 5 shootings at the Ft. Hood Army base in Texas.)

The public's attitudes about terrorists' capabilities are comparable to opinions in October 2005: While 29% say the ability of terrorists to conduct a major attack is greater than it was at the time of 9/11, 38% say their ability to launch a major strike is the same as it was around 9/11, while 29% say it is less.

By contrast, an increasing proportion of CFR members say the ability of terrorists to launch a major attack is less now than at the time of the Sept. 11 attacks; 56% of CFR members say that currently, up from 44% in 2005.

**Public More Likely to See Torture
Against Terrorism Suspects as Justified**

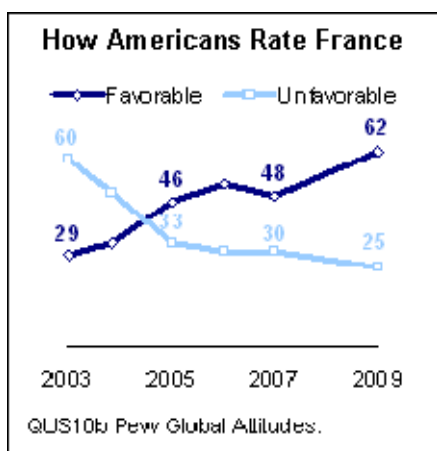
<i>Use of torture to gain information from suspected terrorists can be...</i>	General <u>public</u>	CFR <u>members</u>
	%	%
Often justified	19	2
Sometimes justified	35	11
Rarely justified	16	38
Never justified	25	44
Don't know/No answer	5	4
	100	100

Q70 public & Q49 CFR.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The public and CFR members continue to support divergent policies to combat terrorism. Most notably, 19% of the public says the use of torture is often justified to gain important information from terrorist suspects, while 35% say the use of torture in these circumstances is at least sometimes justified. Just 2% of CFR members say torture is often justified, and 11% say it is sometimes justified, to gain important information from suspected terrorists.

The proportion of the public saying torture is at least sometimes justified against suspected terrorists has increased modestly over the past year. Currently, 54% say torture is at least sometimes justified to gain important information from suspected terrorists, compared with 49% in April and 44% in February.

Other findings:



- France's Comeback: A separate survey by the Pew Global Attitudes Project finds that France's image has improved substantially in recent years. Fully 62% of the public says they have a favorable opinion of France, up from just 29% in May 2003, during tensions over France's opposition to the Iraq war.
- Pakistan's Slide: Ratings of Pakistan, by contrast, have become more negative just in the past year. Currently, just 16% of the public expresses a favorable opinion of Pakistan, down from 37% in the spring of 2008.
- Divided over Military Action: Among the public, 63% approve of the use of U.S. military force against Iran if it were certain that Iran had produced a nuclear weapon; just 33% of CFR members agree. But a greater percentage of CFR members (63%) than the public (51%) favors using U.S. military force if extremists were poised to take over Pakistan.
- Obama -- Best and Worst: CFR members overwhelmingly see President Obama's emphasis on engagement and diplomacy as the best thing about his administration's foreign policy (44%). The most frequently cited negatives about Obama's foreign policy are his handling of Afghanistan and Pakistan (27%).
- Fewer See U.S. as Less Respected: Most Americans (56%) say the United States is less respected than in the past, but that is down from 70% last year. In contrast with surveys during the Bush administration, more Republicans (68%) than Democrats (49%) now say the U.S. is less respected.
- Less Support for U.N.: The proportion of CFR members saying that strengthening the United Nations should be a top long-term policy priority is down sharply from 2001.

Meanwhile, only about half the public (51%) says the United States should "cooperate fully" with the U.N., slightly fewer than in 2005 (54%) and the lowest percentage since 1976.

In U.S., Trust Varies With Income, Education, Race, and Age

Money, schooling, race, age all related to trust in one's neighbors

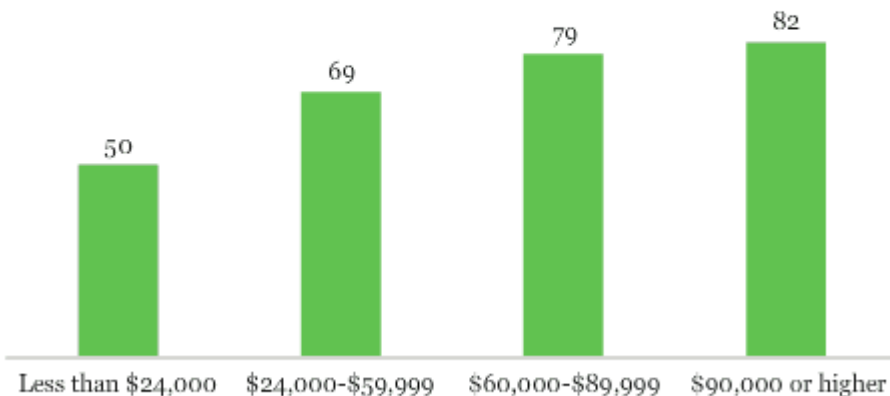
December 4, 2009

Is community trust a luxury in America? Gallup data offer some support for that idea -- 82% of those making \$90,000 per year or more say they would expect a neighbor who found a lost wallet or purse containing \$200 to return it. In contrast, 50% of those making less than \$24,000 per year expressed this kind of trust in their neighbors.

Trust in One's Neighbors by Income

If you lost a wallet or purse that contained \$200, and it was found by a neighbor, do you think it would be returned with the money in it, or not?

■ Percentage yes



GALLUP®

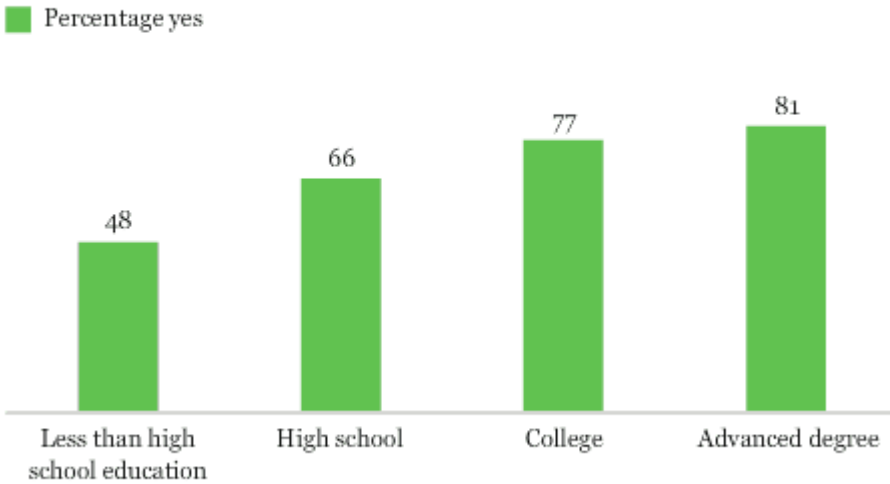
These findings are consistent with previous state-level findings showing that states with higher per-capita income levels also tend to have higher proportions of residents who express trust in their neighbors.

More Education, More Trust

More highly educated people are also more likely to express trust in their neighbors. Whereas 81% of those with an advanced degree say they believe their neighbor would return their lost wallet, 48% of those without a high school diploma express the same sentiment.

Trust in One's Neighbors by Education Level

If you lost a wallet or purse that contained \$200, and it was found by a neighbor, do you think it would be returned with the money in it, or not?



GALLUP®

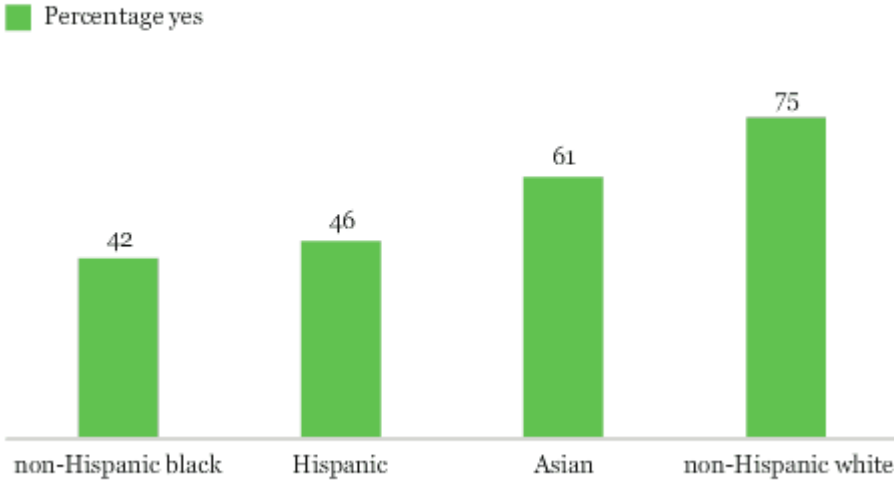
Although education is closely related to income, more analysis clearly shows that education is related to expressions of trust regardless of income. In every income category, those who are more highly educated are more likely to say their neighbor would return a lost wallet. In the lowest income category, for example, the "trust gap" between the least educated group and the most highly educated group was 27 percentage points. In the highest income category, the gap was 20 points.

How Race Is Related to Trust

Race is also strongly related to trust in one's neighbors. On average, non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics are less likely to say they would trust a neighbor to return their wallet with the money in it than are whites and Asians.

Trust in One's Neighbors by Race

If you lost a wallet or purse that contained \$200, and it was found by a neighbor, do you think it would be returned with the money in it, or not?



GALLUP®

Again, the gaps don't just reflect the differences in average income among the groups. In high- and low-income categories, the "trust gap" between blacks and whites is at least 20 points. In fact, in the two lowest income groups, the gap is at least 30 points. Hispanics are also less likely to express trust than whites, with gaps of 13 point to 29 points across all income groups. Finally, the gap between whites and Asians is at least 10 points in every income group.

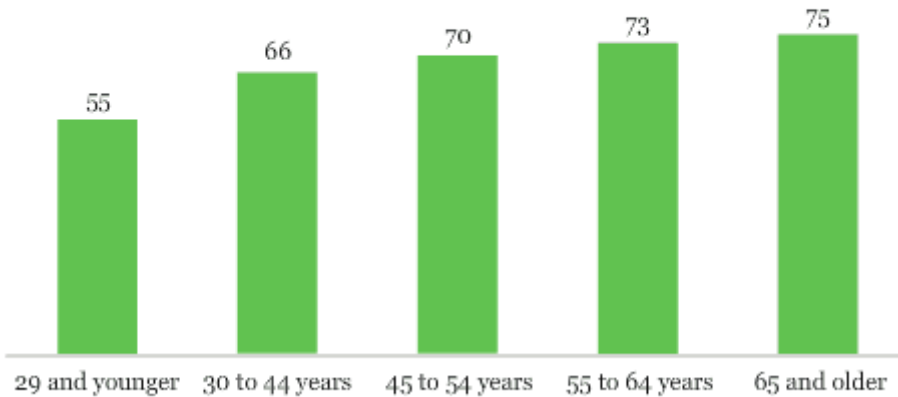
Trust Comes With Time and Age

Averaging across all ethnic groups, older people are more likely than their younger counterparts to say they would trust a neighbor to return their wallet with the money in it. A slight majority (55%) of those aged 29 and younger say so, and this figure increases steadily among higher age groups. Among those aged 65 and older, 3 in 4 (75%) express confidence that their neighbor would return the wallet complete with its contents.

Trust in One's Neighbors by Age

If you lost a wallet or purse that contained \$200, and it was found by a neighbor, do you think it would be returned with the money in it, or not?

■ Percentage yes



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Women and Men About Equally Trusting

The only demographic variable examined here that is unrelated to trust is gender. Sixty-eight percent of women and men expressed confidence that their neighbor would return their money. The only hint of a meaningful gender difference in these data showed up among the youngest respondents. Among those aged 29 and younger, 57% of men and 53% of women expressed trust in their neighbor.

It All Adds Up

We can get an idea of the total effect of income, education, race, and age on Americans' likelihood of trusting their neighbors by looking at people whose characteristics all predict whether they will express such trust. At one extreme are young, black respondents who do not have a high school education and who fall into the lowest income category; among this group, 17% say a neighbor would return their wallet with the money in it. At the other demographic extreme, the oldest group of non-Hispanic whites who have an advanced degree and make at least \$90,000 per year, 90% report that their neighbors would return a lost wallet.

The additive nature of these effects is also a reminder that trust is a two-way street. Reports of trust have to do with properties of those who ponder losing their wallets and properties of those who consider returning them. People with lower incomes, for example, are more likely to live in neighborhoods with high crime rates, which may help explain their relative lack of trust. In other words, people who say they trust their neighbors are not merely expressing trust in a social vacuum. They are also describing the actual people who live in the house or apartment next door.

Implications

The Gallup data point to considerable "trust deficits" among Americans who are less financially secure, or more likely to have faced racial biases. This information is important for two reasons.

First, a growing body of research shows that social connections are important to individuals' personal well-being, so a lack of trust may reduce opportunities to build friendships among those who need them most.

Second, low levels of trust among neighbors in a community may be a result of residents' low socioeconomic status, but they may also help perpetuate it. In other words, close neighborhood ties may give people access to resources and opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have. People may be more likely to start a business in their area, for example, if they can find trusted partners to share the risk.

For these reasons, those seeking to increase opportunities for disadvantaged Americans in at-risk communities may want to consider how many people in a given community lack trust in their neighbors.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with more than 238,000 national adults, aged 18 and older, surveyed between Sept. 4, 2008 and Oct. 31, 2009. Sample sizes for the main demographic groups range from a low of 3,221 Asians to a high of 123,543 respondents with a high school education. Margins of error thus range from ± 2 percentage points for Asians to less than ± 1 percentage point for most other demographic groups.

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

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

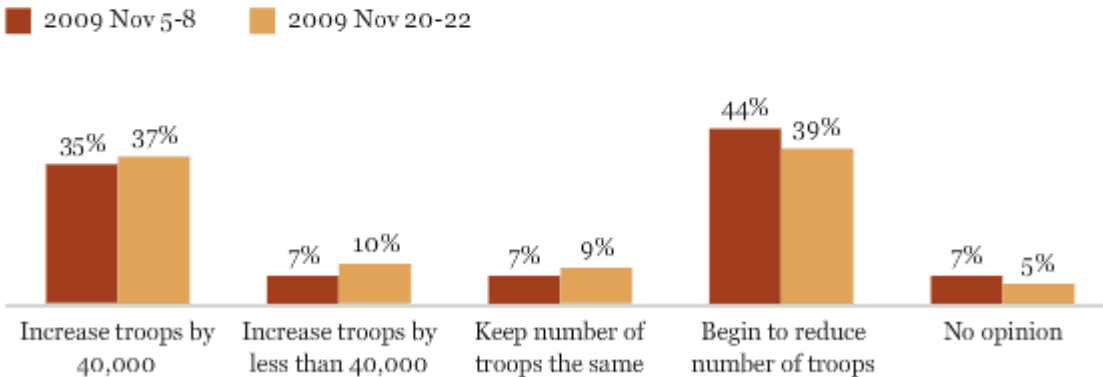
In U.S., More Support for Increasing Troops in Afghanistan

Americans now tilt slightly toward sending in new troops as opposed to reducing number

December 2, 2009

Americans over the last two weeks have become slightly more likely to favor sending more U.S. troops to Afghanistan, and slightly less likely to favor a reduction in forces. At this point, 47% of Americans would advise President Obama to increase the number of U.S. troops -- either by the roughly 40,000 recommended by the commanding general in Afghanistan or by a smaller amount -- while 39% would advise Obama to reduce the number of troops. Another 9% would opt to leave troop levels as they are, while 5% have no opinion.

Which of the following would you like to see President Obama do -- [ROTATED: increase the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan by the roughly 40,000 the U.S. commanding general there has recommended, increase the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan but by a smaller amount than the 40,000 the U.S. commanding general there has recommended, keep the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan the same as now, (or) begin to reduce the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan]?



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President Obama on Tuesday announced that he will present his new "comprehensive strategy" on Afghanistan to the American people early next week. Obama gave no indication of exactly what he will recommend. Media reports suggest that Obama's strategy will probably include the addition of at least some new U.S. troops. It is not known whether that number will approach the 40,000 new troops the U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, has recommended.

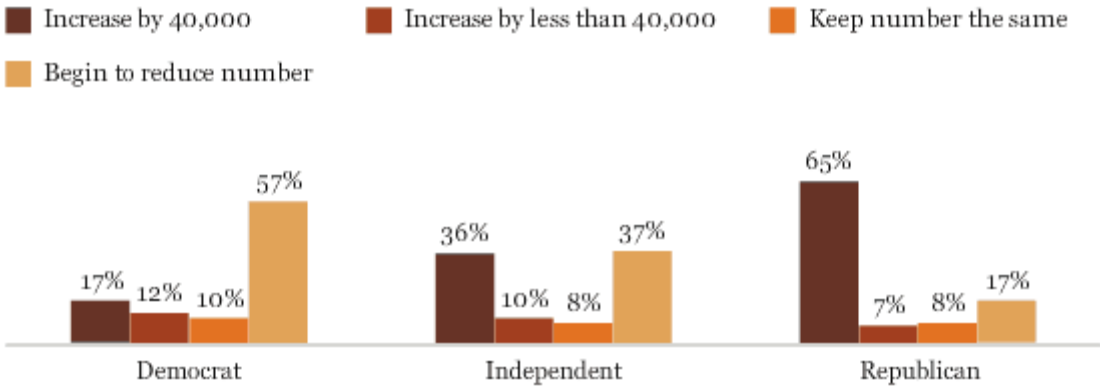
The question in the Nov. 20-22 *USA Today*/Gallup poll gives respondents four choices and asks them to indicate which action they would most like to see President Obama take.

Asked the same question earlier in November, Americans tilted toward the troop-reduction option over the troop-increase option, 44% to 42%. Now, the data tilt in the other direction. Those who want a troop increase outnumber those who want a reduction, 47% to 39%.

Despite these modest shifts, the data continue to show that less than half of Americans would support an Obama decision to increase troops. Similarly, slightly less than half would support a decision to leave things unchanged (9%) or to begin to withdraw troops (39%). In short, Americans remain split on the volatile subject of what to do in Afghanistan.

Republicans have historically been more supportive than Democrats of American involvement in Afghanistan. That partisan distinction continues. The majority of Democrats currently favor a reduction of troops; the majority of Republicans favor a troop increase. Independents tilt more toward the Republican position.

Preference for U.S. Troops in Afghanistan, by Political Party



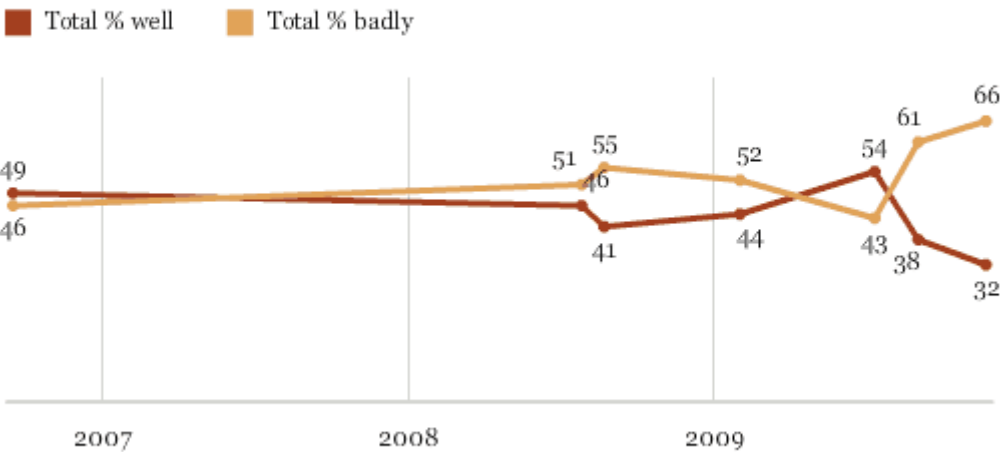
USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

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Views on Afghanistan More Broadly

President Obama is making decisions on Afghanistan at a time when Americans' perceptions that the war there is going badly for the U.S. have reached a new high. A record 66% of Americans now say things are going badly for the U.S. in Afghanistan, up from 61% in early September. At the same time, 36% say U.S. involvement was a mistake, unchanged from views over the summer.

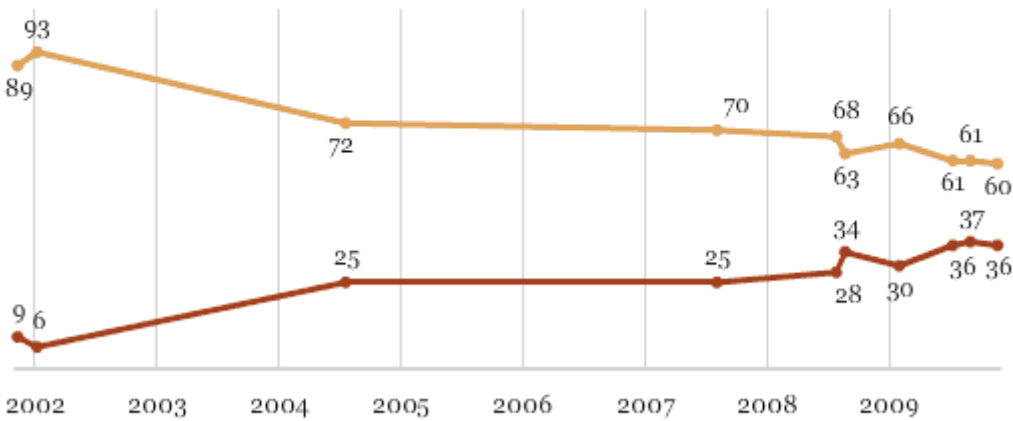
In general, how would you say things are going for the U.S. in Afghanistan -- [ROTATED: very well, moderately well, moderately badly, (or) very badly]?



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Thinking now about U.S. military action in Afghanistan that began in October 2001, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending military forces to Afghanistan, or not?

■ % Yes ■ % No



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Support for U.S. involvement in Afghanistan was very high in November 2001, shortly after then-President George W. Bush first sent U.S. troops there in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Nine percent said sending troops was a mistake, a percentage that fell to 6% in January 2002. Perceptions that U.S. involvement was a mistake rose thereafter, albeit modestly. Since August 2008, between 30% and 37% of Americans have said it was a mistake to send troops to Afghanistan. Sixty percent in the current poll say U.S. involvement was not a mistake.

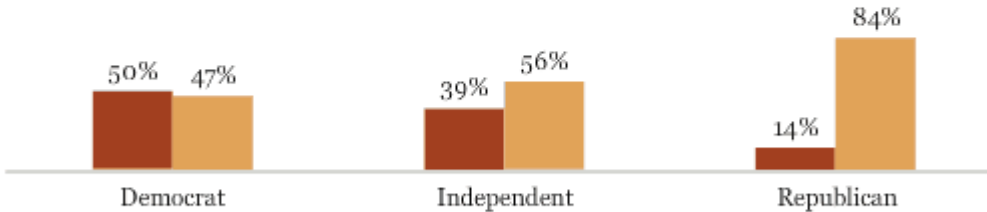
Gallup first asked Americans to assess the way things were going in Afghanistan in 2006, at which time slightly less than half said the war was going badly for the U.S. Perceptions that the war was going badly increased to above 50% in three polls in 2008 and early 2009, only to fall to a new low of 43% in July of this year. Views on the war became sharply more negative near the end of the summer -- by early September, 61% said the war was going badly. Now, 66% of Americans share a negative view of the way the war is going for the U.S.

President Obama is making his decision on Afghanistan in the context of a split opinion on the war among those who identify with his own party. Fifty percent of Democrats say the war in Afghanistan has been a mistake, while 47% say it has not. Republicans overwhelmingly reject the idea that the war was a mistake. Independents echo the Republican view that it was not a mistake, though their views are more evenly divided.

Thinking now about U.S. military action in Afghanistan that began in October 2001, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending military forces to Afghanistan, or not?

By party ID

■ % Yes ■ % No



USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

GALLUP®

Implications

President Obama's decision on U.S. military policy in Afghanistan will be one of the most important of his first year -- if not his first term -- as president. If, as expected, the president decides to "stay the course" in Afghanistan, he will be doing so with the understanding that most Americans agree that U.S. involvement there is warranted. At the same time, the majority of Americans now perceive that the situation there is going badly for the U.S., perhaps helping explain Americans' increased willingness to sanction sending additional troops to Afghanistan. Still, Obama will have less-than-majority support if he increases the number of U.S. troops in that country. This underscores the political sensitivity of any decision he makes on Afghanistan, particularly given that those who identify with his own party are solidly against sending in new troops.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,017 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted Nov. 20-22, 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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

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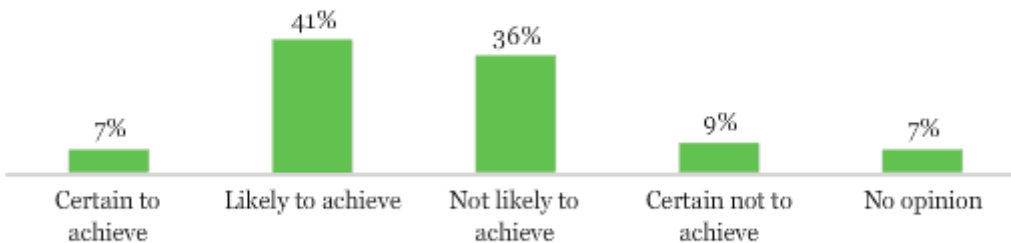
Americans Split on Whether Goals in Afghanistan Will Be Met

Forty-eight percent say the U.S. is certain or likely to meet its goals

December 4, 2009

The unveiling of President Obama's new military strategy for Afghanistan has not left Americans overly confident that it will succeed -- 48% say the U.S. is certain or likely to achieve its goals in the war, while 45% say the U.S. is unlikely to do so or is certain not to achieve its aims.

Now, thinking in general about the goals for U.S. military policy in Afghanistan, do you think the United States is -- certain to achieve its goals in Afghanistan, likely to achieve its goals, not likely to achieve its goals, or certain NOT to achieve its goals in Afghanistan?



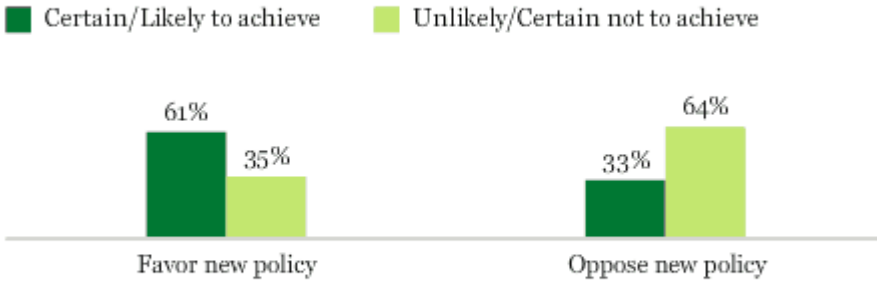
USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

GALLUP®

These results are based on a one-night reaction poll of 1,000 Americans conducted Dec. 2, the night after Obama's nationally televised address to unveil the new war strategy. The poll found Americans more likely to favor (51%) than oppose (40%) the new strategy.

There are a significant number of doubters even among those who support the new war policy. Among this group, 61% believe the U.S. is likely to achieve its goals, but 35% are pessimistic. Likewise, though the majority of the new policy's opponents do not expect the U.S. to achieve its goals in Afghanistan, that is far from a unanimous position.

Perceptions of U.S. Ability to Achieve Goals in Afghanistan, by Support for New War Policy



USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

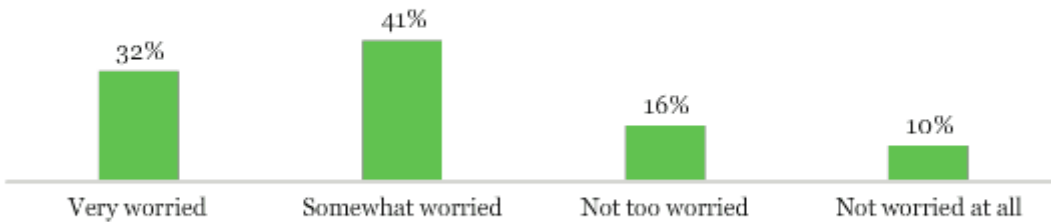
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There are modest differences in expectations for success by party, with 56% of Republicans, 47% of independents, and 45% of Democrats believing the U.S. will achieve its goals.

Cost and Security Concerns

Some opponents of escalating the United States' involvement in Afghanistan are questioning the increasing costs to the U.S. of the war effort. And many Americans share this concern, at least to some degree. The poll finds 73% saying they are worried about the war's costs making it more difficult for the U.S. to address domestic problems, including 32% who are very worried.

How worried are you that the costs of the war in Afghanistan will make it more difficult for the government to address the problems facing the United States at home -- very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not worried at all?



USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

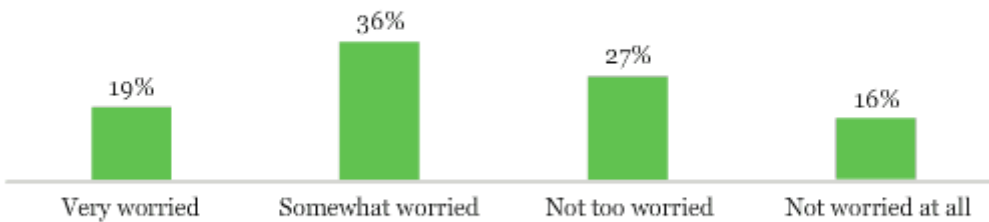
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"Even if a substantial proportion of Americans doubt the United States' ability to succeed in Afghanistan or express concern about possible outcomes of the new war policy, the public generally does not second-guess the initial decision to enter the war."

Some Democratic members of Congress have called for a new income tax to help fund the increased cost of U.S. military operations in Afghanistan brought about by the decision to send an additional 30,000 service men and women there. However, the top two Democrats in Congress, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, have come out in opposition to such a tax, making its passage highly unlikely. It would appear Pelosi and Hoyer are in tune with American public opinion; the poll shows that Americans overwhelmingly oppose a war surtax, by 68% to 24%.

While much of the Democratic criticism of the new Afghanistan policy has centered on cost, Republicans have expressed concern about setting a timetable for withdrawal. The poll finds 55% of Americans saying they are concerned that withdrawing troops from Afghanistan would make the U.S. more vulnerable to terrorist attacks, including 19% who are very concerned.

How worried are you that withdrawing U.S. troops from Afghanistan will make the United States more vulnerable to terrorist attacks -- very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not worried at all?

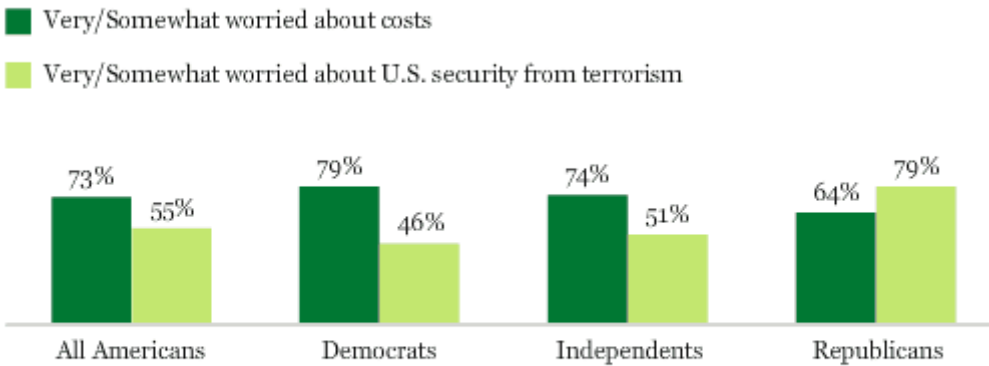


USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

GALLUP®

In line with the concerns of their party leaders, rank-and-file Democrats are more concerned about the war's costs limiting the United States' ability to address domestic problems, while rank-and-file Republicans are more concerned that withdrawing troops could affect U.S. security from terrorism.

Worry About Afghanistan War Policy's Effects, by Party



USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

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Even if a substantial proportion of Americans doubt the United States' ability to succeed in Afghanistan or express concern about possible outcomes of the new war policy, the public generally does not second-guess the initial decision to enter the war. The poll finds 62% saying that, looking back, sending troops to Afghanistan was the right thing to do, while 32% say it was the wrong thing. This is similar to what Gallup has found on its primary "mistake" trend question that measures support for the war.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,005 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted Dec. 2, 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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

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Obama's Plan for Afghanistan Finds Bipartisan Support

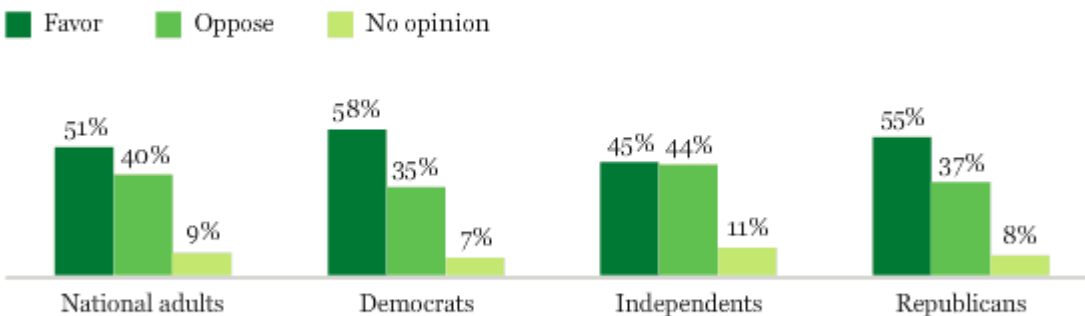
Overall, 51% of Americans support the new policy, while 40% are opposed

December 3, 2009

President Obama has managed to thread the needle with his newly announced Afghanistan strategy, with his approach winning the approval of a majority of both Democrats (58%) and Republicans (55%) in a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Wednesday night. At the same time,

less than a majority of independents approve (45%). Among Americans overall, 51% approve of the strategy while 40% disapprove.

As you may know, President Obama has decided to increase the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan by 30,000 while also setting a timetable that calls for the U.S. to begin withdrawing troops from that country in 2011. In general, do you favor or oppose this plan?



USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

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"Obama's new policy has managed to bridge the pre-existing partisan gap on this issue to some degree, bringing the support levels of Democrats and Republicans closer together."

The question used in Wednesday's poll explicitly associated the policy with President Obama, and included a reference to both the increase of 30,000 U.S. troops and the setting of a timetable that calls for the U.S. to begin withdrawing troops from Afghanistan in 2011.

The overall 51% positive reaction to the new policy is slightly higher than the 47% who in a November poll (before Obama's new policy was announced) supported the basic concept of increasing troops in Afghanistan.

The rough similarity between the responses to two questions on Afghanistan masks a significant difference in partisan sentiment. When asked earlier about just sending troops, Democrats were much less likely than Republicans to be in favor. Now, in response to the new question asking specifically about Obama's multipart strategy, including references to increasing troops and to the timetable, Democrats and Republicans show similar levels of support. (Independents' attitudes are roughly the same in both polls.)

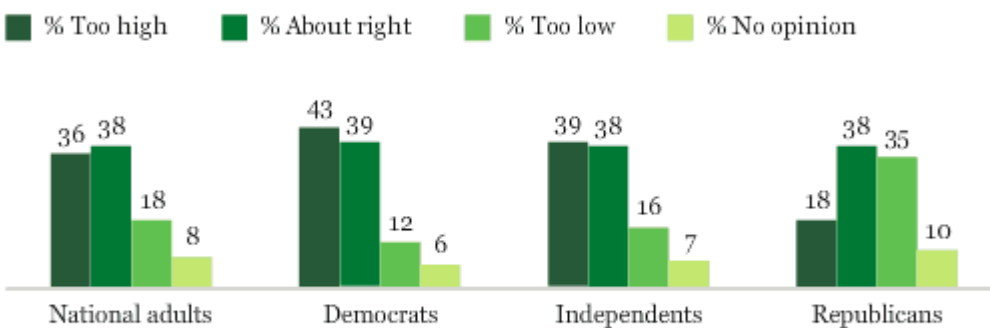
More generally, Obama's new policy has managed to bridge the pre-existing partisan gap on this issue to some degree, bringing the support levels of Democrats and Republicans closer together. This is an unusual situation. Most major policy initiatives that a president promulgates find support among the president's own party and opposition among the other party. In the current situation, Obama has, at least in the short term, generated majority support among Democrats -- who previously had been opposed to a troop increase in Afghanistan -- while holding on to

majority support among Republicans. Obama's continuing problem appears to be independents, less than half of whom support the new policy.

The survey included questions asking Americans to evaluate two key components of Obama's new policy: the level of new U.S. troops being sent to Afghanistan, and the setting of a specific timetable for beginning to withdraw troops.

Overall, Americans are split on the troop-level component. Most believe that the number of new troops being sent as part of the new strategy is either too high (36%) or about right (38%). Relatively few Americans believe the number of additional troops is "too low" (18%).

What is your view of sending 30,000 more U.S. troops to Afghanistan -- do you think that number is too high, about right, or too low?



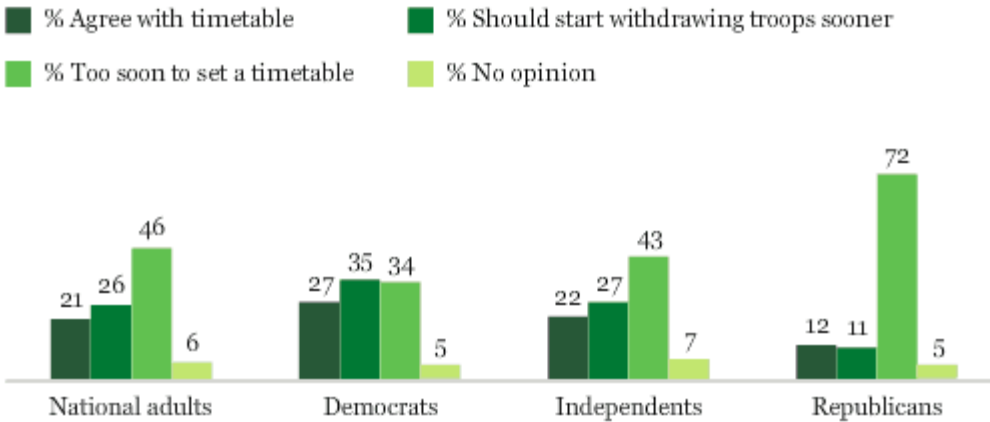
USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

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Roughly the same percentage of Republicans and Democrats (38% to 39%) say the announced troop increase is "about right." But Democrats who disagree with the increase are much more likely to say that the troop levels are too high than too low, while Republicans who disagree tilt in the other direction. Independents have much the same pattern of sentiments as Democrats.

Regarding the timetable component of Obama's new policy, the plurality of Americans, 46%, say it is too soon to set a timetable for beginning to withdraw troops. The rest are split between the belief that the U.S. should begin withdrawing troops earlier and agreement with the timetable.

Which comes closest to your view about setting a timetable for beginning to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan in 2011?



USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 2, 2009

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Republicans' reactions to the idea of a timetable are strongly negative: 72% say it is too soon to set one. Democrats are much more evenly split on the issue. Thirty-five percent agree with the timetable as announced, while 34% say it is too soon to set a timetable and 27% say the troops should be withdrawn sooner. Independents' views fall in between those of the two groups.

Implications

All in all, slightly more than half of Americans support Obama's new policy in Afghanistan, while 4 out of 10 oppose it. The president at the moment enjoys an unusual situation in which a majority of both Democrats and Republicans favor his newly announced strategy. This level of bipartisan support is counterbalanced to a degree, however, by the fact that less than half of independents support the plan.

Well less than half of Democrats agree either with the level of new troops the U.S. is sending or with the specifics of the new timetable. Similarly, less than half of Republicans agree with either of these two components, and almost three out of four Republicans disagree with the concept of setting a timetable at this point.

Thus, partisan reactions to the *specific* components of the new plan do not explain the majority support for the plan among both Republicans and Democrats.

It may be that while Democrats disagree with the specifics of the timetable as announced, they approve of the idea of having *any* timetable included. And it may be that while Republicans strongly disagree with the having any timetable included, they approve of the general idea of an increase of troop levels.

Whatever the explanations, the bottom line at the moment is that Obama has managed to generate a slim majority support among all Americans for his new policy. Obama faces the highest level of skepticism among independents, but has knit together a coalition of support that includes a majority of both Democrats and Republicans. Given that in large part, political and pundit voices that are solidly partisan are debating Afghanistan, this majority approval level among Democrats and Republicans may be the most politically significant short-term reaction to the new policy.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,005 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted Dec. 2, 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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Americans See Protectionism, Tax Cuts as Ways to Create Jobs

Offer a mixed forecast for U.S. jobs climate over the next year

December 2, 2009

As President Obama holds a jobs summit Thursday to discuss ways to address the problem of growing unemployment in the United States, Americans' top prescriptions for creating more jobs are to keep manufacturing jobs in the U.S. (18%), lower taxes (14%), provide more help to small businesses (12%), and create more infrastructure work (10%).

*Americans' Prescription for Increasing U.S. Jobs**

In your opinion, what would be the best way to create more jobs in the United States? (open-ended)

	National adults	Repub- licans	Indepen- dents	Demo- crats
	%	%	%	%
Keep manufacturing jobs in the U.S.	18	15	18	20
Lower taxes	14	29	14	2
Help small businesses	12	13	14	9
Create more infrastructure work	10	7	9	13
Reduce government regulation	7	8	7	3
Create more "green" jobs	6	2	6	7
Provide more "stimulus" funding	4	2	5	5
Buy American/Raise taxes on imports	4	4	4	4

* Responses named by at least 4% of Americans shown; for full list of responses, see table at end.

USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

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The results are from an open-ended question asked in a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Nov. 20-22, 2009. Additional tactics cited by at least 4% of Americans include reducing government regulations on business (7%), creating more green jobs (6%), providing more federal stimulus funding (4%), and implementing more pro-"buy American" policies (4%).

"The main factor in public perceptions of a jobs recovery also appears to be politics."

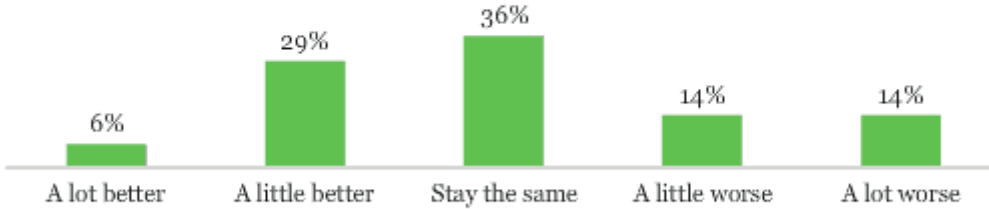
These ideas are strongly related to partisanship. Democrats are somewhat more likely than Republicans to focus on keeping manufacturing jobs in the U.S. and creating certain types of jobs (infrastructure work and green jobs). Republicans are significantly more likely than Democrats to favor lowering taxes and reducing government regulation.

The Jobs Outlook Over the Next Year

Americans offer mixed forecasts for what will happen to the U.S. job market over the next year. Twenty-eight percent predict it will get worse while slightly more, 35%, say it will get better, and 36% think it will stay the same. At the extremes of this spectrum, however, more than twice as many Americans foresee the job market getting "a lot worse" as say it will get "a lot better" -- 14% vs. 6%, respectively.

One-Year Outlook for U.S. Job Market

Just your best guess, over the next 12 months, do you think the job market in the United States will get better, stay about the same, or get worse? (If better/worse:) Do you think it will get a lot [better/worse], or only a little [better/worse]?



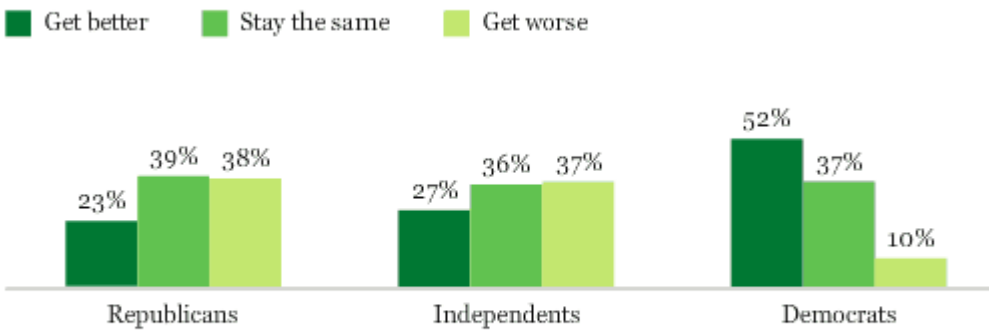
USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

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These perceptions overlay Americans' fundamentally bad views of where the job market currently stands. In mid-November, Gallup found a record-low percentage of Americans -- 8% -- saying now is a good time to find a quality job. In this context, maintaining the current jobs climate could be perceived as a negative forecast.

The main factor in public perceptions of a jobs recovery also appears to be politics -- a finding that suggests Americans consider their jobs outlook to be a referendum on the Obama administration's economic policies. Republicans and independents are more likely to believe the job market will get worse, rather than better, over the next year, while an outright majority of Democrats say it will get better.

One-Year Outlook for U.S. Job Market -- Summary Forecast, by Party ID



USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

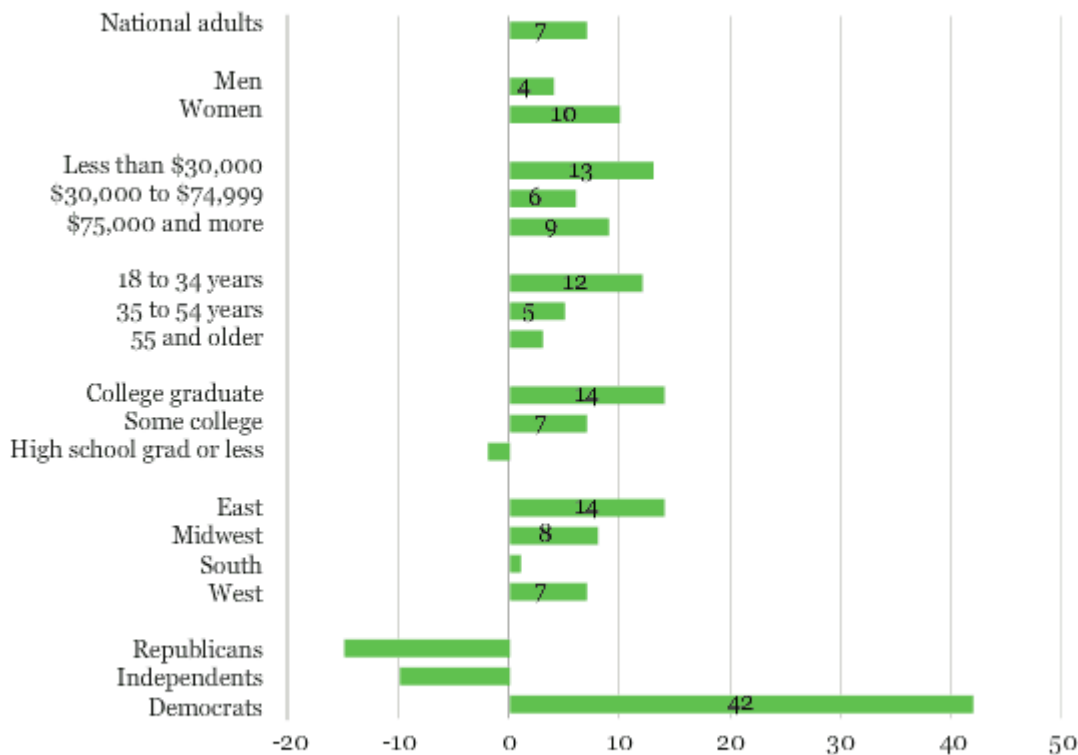
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Gallup finds little differentiation in these views by gender and income. There are only slight differences by educational background, region and age, with college graduates, Easterners, and younger adults (aged 18 to 34) showing the most optimism.

On balance, most of the major demographic groups (aside from political ones) believe the job market is more likely to improve than to get worse over the next year, but by fairly slim margins.

Net Outlook for U.S. Job Market

Percentage saying job market "will get better" minus percentage saying it "will get worse"



USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

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Bottom Line

With the official unemployment figure now topping 10% nationwide, a lack of jobs threatens to send the American economy into a deeper recession at a time when other aspects of the economy are struggling to recover. Americans' top prescriptions for creating more jobs are instituting greater protections for U.S. manufacturing, lowering taxes, helping out small businesses, and creating more infrastructure work. Democrats largely favor more government involvement in terms of protectionism, stimulus spending, and shovel-ready jobs. Republicans tend to favor a free-enterprise approach, exemplified by lowering taxes and reducing government regulation.

Just over a third of Americans predict the job market won't change much in the next year -- not a particularly positive sentiment given the current climate. Of the remainder who believe the job market will change, most -- 43% of all Americans -- foresee fairly small changes (either improvement or decline). However, a combined 20% believe it will change a lot, with most of these saying the problems will deepen rather than improve.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,017 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted Nov. 20-22, 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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Majority of Americans Think Near-Term Terrorism Unlikely

Thirty-nine percent say it is likely, nearing low since 2001

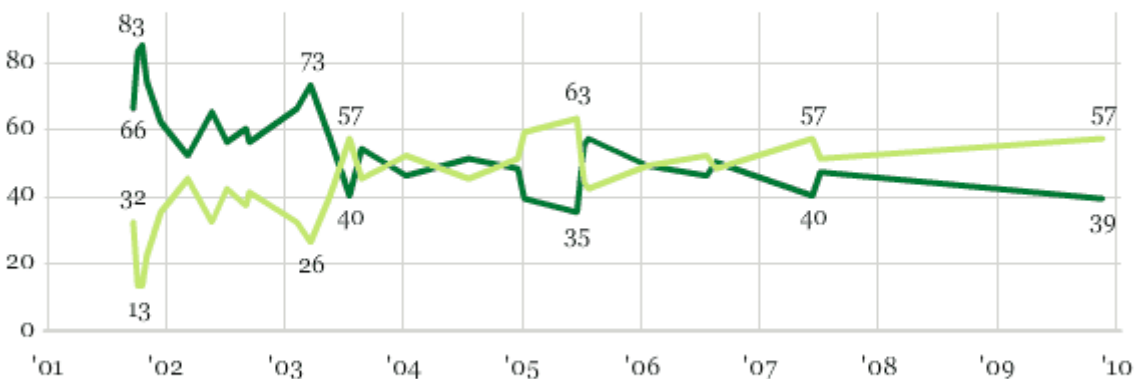
December 2, 2009

By 57% to 39%, more Americans think a terrorist attack on the United States is unlikely to happen in the next few weeks than say an attack is likely. This is based on Gallup polling conducted Nov. 20-22, prior to President Obama's address to the nation on Afghanistan in which he said the need to fight terrorism is the primary reason he is committing more U.S. troops to the conflict there.

Perceived Likelihood of Terrorist Attack -- September 2001-November 2009

How likely is it that there will be acts of terrorism in the United States over the next several weeks -- very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?

■ % Very/Somewhat likely ■ % Not too/Not at all likely

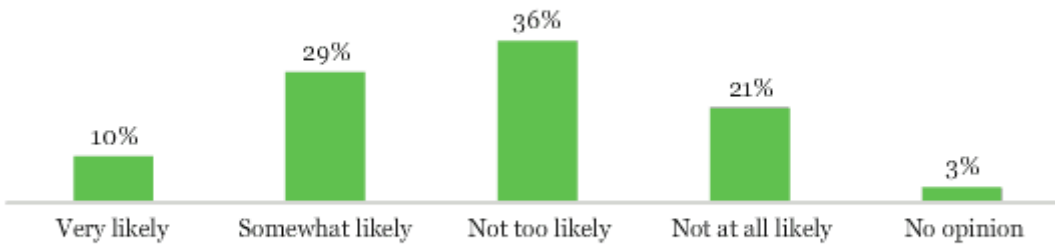


Sept. 2001 survey conducted Sept. 21-22, 2001

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More specifically, 10% of Americans believe it is very likely that terrorist acts will occur in the U.S. over the next several weeks while 29% say this is somewhat likely, 36% say not too likely, and 21% say not at all likely.

How likely is it that there will be acts of terrorism in the United States over the next several weeks -- very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?



USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

GALLUP*

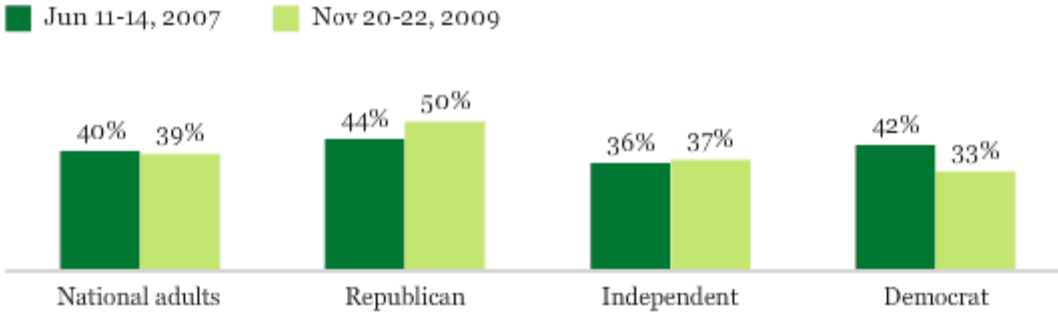
"Republicans have grown more concerned about the chances of a terrorist attack (spanning the transition from President Bush to President Obama). Democrats have become less concerned, while the views of political independents have not changed."

Despite the recent mass killing at Ft. Hood in Texas, which some have referred to as a terrorist attack, public anxiety about the likelihood of terrorism today is on the low end of the range Gallup has recorded since establishing the question right after 9/11. In fact, the only lower reading occurred in June 2005, when 35% said terrorism was likely. That result came just weeks before suicide bombings carried out on the London transit system took 52 lives and injured hundreds of others. The bombings helped push concern about a near-term U.S. attack up to 57% in the first month after they occurred.

Today's finding is nearly identical to the reading from June 2007, when 40% said an attack was likely. However, there are significant differences by party ID between those two measurements. Republicans have grown more concerned about the chances of a terrorist attack (spanning the transition from President Bush to President Obama). Democrats have become less concerned, while the views of political independents have not changed.

Perceived Likelihood of Terrorist Attack -- 2007 vs. 2009, by Party ID

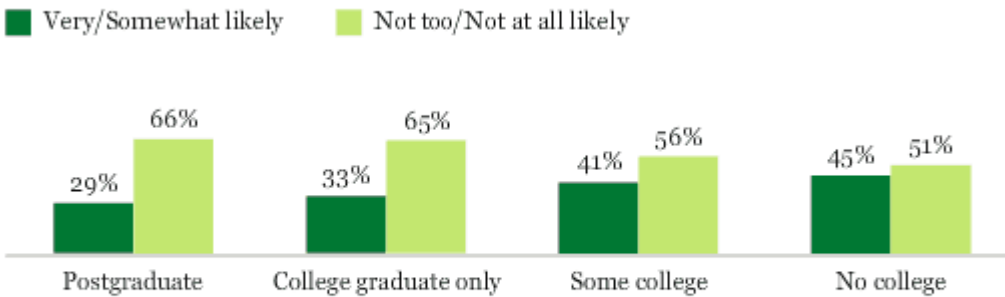
Percent very/somewhat likely



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The November 2009 poll finds relatively small differences between men and women, and among various age groups, in their perceptions about the likelihood of a near-term terrorist event. However, Americans with higher levels of education are less likely to say a terrorist attack is likely than are those with no college degree.

Perceived Likelihood of Terrorist Attack, by Education



USA Today/Gallup, Nov. 20-22, 2009

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Bottom Line

Since 9/11, U.S. public officials have relayed the United States' success in foiling numerous terrorist plots against the country. President Obama did the same Tuesday night, saying, "In the last few months alone, we have apprehended extremists within our borders who were sent here from the border region of Afghanistan and Pakistan to commit new acts of terror." Yet the Gallup trend shows that without the occurrence of a clear terrorist attack in the U.S. or abroad, or an obvious event -- such as the beginning of military action in Iraq or Afghanistan -- that might heighten the perceived risk of terrorism, Americans have been inclined to downplay the chances of terrorism in recent years. The latest finding is consistent with Gallup polling earlier this year that showed Americans' fear of becoming a victim of terrorism was near the five-year low.

Whether this relative complacency among Americans about terrorism continues, and how it affects public support for Obama's troop surge in Afghanistan, remains to be seen.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,017 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted Nov. 20-22, 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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

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

Few Americans Expect Real Deal at Copenhagen

December 04, 2009

Few Americans believe the upcoming Climate Change Summit in Denmark will lead to a legally binding agreement to tackle global warming, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. While 44 per cent of respondents would like to see a deal that sets specific targets for all signatories, only 11 per cent think this will happen.

In addition, 34 per cent of respondents believe the countries will fail to come to an agreement in Copenhagen, and 32 per cent expect a political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis.

The term global warming refers to an increase of the Earth's average temperature. Some theories say that climate change might be the result of human-generated carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. In 2007, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report which states that global warming has been "very likely"—or 90 per cent certain—caused by humans burning fossil fuels.

In 1998, several countries agreed to the Kyoto Protocol, a proposed amendment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The agreement commits nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

The Copenhagen Climate Change Summit is scheduled to take place from Dec. 7 to Dec. 18. Countries attending the summit are supposed to draft a new agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which is due to expire in 2012. U.S. president Barack Obama has said he will attend the summit.

On Nov. 25, Danish prime minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen discussed the importance of Obama's presence, saying, "A strong commitment of the American president to the climate change issue is very valuable. [It] underlines the will of the president to contribute to an ambitious global deal in Copenhagen."

Polling Data

As you may know, representatives from 170 countries will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, next month to participate in a Climate Summit organized by the United Nations. Which of these scenarios would you prefer to see when the Climate Summit is over?

A legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories	44%
A political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis	23%
No agreement—countries dealing with climate change independently of each other	15%
Not sure	18%

And which of these scenarios do you expect will actually happen when the Climate Summit is over?

A legally binding agreement that sets specific targets for all signatories	11%
A political compromise to meet certain milestones on a voluntary basis	32%
No agreement—countries dealing with climate change independently of each other	34%
Not sure	22%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,008 American adults, conducted on Nov. 24 and Nov. 25, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Support for Afghan Mission Dwindles in U.S.

December 03, 2009

Fewer adults in the United States are backing the mission in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 49 per cent of respondents support the military operation involving American soldiers in Afghanistan, down five points since October.

In addition, 47 per cent of respondents support the plan outlined by U.S. president Barack Obama to send about 30,000 additional soldiers to Afghanistan in the next few weeks, while 40 per cent disagree.

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

At least 1,524 soldiers—including 926 Americans—have died in the war on terrorism, either in support of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom or as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

On Dec. 1, Obama officially introduced his strategy for Afghanistan, declaring, "It is easy to forget that when this war began, we were united—bound together by the fresh memory of a horrific attack and by the determination to defend our homeland and the values we hold dear. I refuse to accept the notion that we cannot summon that unity again.(...) We will go forward with

the confidence that right makes might, and with the commitment to forge an America that is safer, a world that is more secure and a future that represents not the deepest of fears but the highest of hopes."

Polling Data

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

	Dec. 2009	Oct. 2009	Jul. 2009
Support	49%	54%	55%
Oppose	42%	35%	35%
Not sure	10%	11%	9%

As you may know, President Obama has outlined a plan to send about 30,000 additional soldiers to Afghanistan in the next few weeks. From what you have seen, read or heard about this, do you support or oppose the President’s plan?

Support	47%
Oppose	40%
Not sure	13%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,003 American adults, conducted on Dec. 1 and Dec. 2, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Republicans Say Palin Would Be Good President

December 02, 2009

Former Alaska governor Sarah Palin is a popular option for the 2012 presidential election in the United States amongst Republican Party supporters, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 47 per cent of GOP voters think Palin would be a good president.

Palin is tied for second place with former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani. Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee is the preferred candidate with 49 per cent.

Former state secretary Condoleezza Rice is fourth with 37 per cent, followed by former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney with 32 per cent, former House speaker Newt Gingrich with 28 per cent, and Texas congressman Ron Paul with 24 per cent. Support is lower for current Louisiana governor Bobby Jindal, current Minnesota governor Tim Pawlenty, current Republican National Committee (RNC) chairman Michael Steele, and current New Mexico governor Gary Johnson.

Amongst the general population, Giuliani leads with 32 per cent, followed by Huckabee with 28 per cent, Rice with 27 per cent, Palin with 24 per cent, Romney with 21 per cent, and Paul with 18 per cent.

In American elections, candidates require 270 votes in the Electoral College to win the White House. In November 2008, Democratic nominee Barack Obama secured a majority of electoral votes, defeating Republican candidate John McCain. On Jan. 20, Obama became the first African American president in U.S. history.

Last month, Palin said in a televised interview that a run for the presidency in 2012 is "not on my radar screen right now." Huckabee discussed his own chances, saying, "It's hard to say. A lot of it depends on how the elections turn out next year. (...) I would have to see that the Republicans would be willing to unite behind me."

Polling Data

Several politicians have been mentioned as possible presidential candidates for the Republican Party in 2012. For each of these politicians, please say whether you think they would make a good president or a bad president. - "Good president" listed

	All	Rep.
Rudy Giuliani	32%	47%
Mike Huckabee	28%	49%
Condoleezza Rice	27%	37%
Sarah Palin	24%	47%
Mitt Romney	21%	32%
Ron Paul	18%	24%
Newt Gingrich	16%	28%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	10%
Bobby Jindal	9%	14%
Michael Steele	4%	7%
Gary Johnson	3%	4%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,000 Canadian adults, conducted on Nov. 17 and Nov. 18, 2009. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Approval for Congress Improves in the U.S.

November 30, 2009

Public satisfaction with the work of the House of Representatives and the Senate increased this month, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 27 per cent of respondents approve of the performance of the U.S. Congress, up five points since October.

American voters renewed the House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate in November 2006. In January 2007, the Democratic Party took control of the lower house for the first time since 1994, with 233 lawmakers. Democratic California congresswoman Nancy Pelosi became the first female speaker of the House.

A new congressional election took place in November 2008. The Democrats received 53.04 per cent of the vote and secured 257 seats in the lower house, while the Republicans got 44.16 per cent of the vote and won 178 seats.

On Nov. 7, lawmakers in the lower house of Congress approved a health care bill—known as the Affordable Health Care for America Act—in a 220-215 vote. The proposal is now being reviewed by the Senate and could be amended before gaining final approval.

On Nov. 25, Democratic Nebraska senator Ben Nelson explained his views on the legislation, saying, "The first goal is that the Senate, now able to follow normal parliamentary procedures, will produce a bipartisan bill cutting the cost of health care for Nebraskans and all Americans. The second goal is that by following normal procedures—allowing much debate, many amendments and even an opportunity to consider a complete alternative to the new bill offered by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid—we have avoided for now bringing up health care legislation by using the tactic known as budget reconciliation."

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?

	Nov. 2009	Oct. 2009	Sept. 2009
Approve	27%	22%	24%
Disapprove	62%	67%	65%
Not sure	10%	11%	12%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,003 American adults, conducted on Nov. 17 and Nov. 18, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Decline Expanded Role in Afghanistan

December 04, 2009

People in Canada believe their country should not commit more soldiers to the war in Afghanistan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 66 per cent of respondents agree with this rationale.

Overall support for the military mission stands at 42 per cent, up five points since October.

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

At least 1,525 soldiers—including 133 Canadians—have died in the war on terrorism, either in support of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom or as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

On Dec. 1, U.S. president Barack Obama officially introduced his strategy for Afghanistan, which includes the deployment of about 30,000 additional soldiers in the next few weeks.

On Dec. 2, Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon declared: "Canada welcomes the additional military and civilian resources the U.S. will deploy to Afghanistan, in particular to the south. This will allow Canada to further concentrate its efforts on its priorities and signature projects."

Polling Data

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

	Dec. 2009	Oct. 2009	Jul. 2009
Support	42%	37%	43%
Oppose	53%	56%	52%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%

As you may know, the United States and Britain have outlined plans to send more soldiers to Afghanistan in the next few weeks. From what you have seen, read or heard about this, would you support or oppose Canada committing more soldiers to the war in Afghanistan?

Support	28%
Oppose	66%
Not sure	6%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,006 Canadian adults, conducted on Dec. 1 and Dec. 2, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Review Bilateral Ties with China

December 03, 2009

Canadians believe their country's long-term policy with China should focus on human rights and minority rights, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 63 per cent of respondents feel this way, while 37 per cent would place more emphasis on the trading relationship.

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

Yesterday, Harper began a four-day visit to China, his first since becoming prime minister. An article published in the *China Daily* alleged that bilateral relations "hit rock bottom" after the Conservatives took power in Canada.

Harper stated that his government will build on trade and business opportunities without compromising "Canadian values," adding, "Those are the things we live by, those are the things that give us the prosperity and peaceful and pluralistic society that we enjoy. So we never check those things at the door."

Polling Data

In terms of Canada’s long-term policy with China, where do you think we should place more emphasis?

	Dec. 2009	Apr. 2007
On human rights and minority rights, regardless of the economic implications	63%	76%
On the trading relationship, regardless of the human rights situation in China	37%	24%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,006 Canadian adults, conducted on Dec. 1 and Dec. 2, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Want Free Trade Deal with India

December 01, 2009

Most people in Canada would endorse a potential free trade agreement with India, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 55 per cent of respondents would agree with establishing bi-lateral trade relations with the South Asian country.

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

On Nov. 17, during his first state visit to India, Harper signed an agreement with his Indian counterpart, Manmohan Singh, to start negotiations for a bi-lateral free trade deal. Harper celebrated the decision, declaring, "India’s rapidly growing economy and its commitment to expand its investment regime will provide significant opportunities for investors in a variety of sectors, including infrastructure, education, life sciences, science and technology and natural resources among many others."

Polling Data

As you may know, Canada and India are planning to establish a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, which is essentially a free trade deal. Do you agree or disagree with Canada establishing a free trade deal with India?

Agree	55%
Disagree	24%
Not sure	21%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,000 Canadian adults, conducted on Nov. 25 and Nov. 26, 2009. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Canadians Reject Infidelity, Polygamy and Cloning

November 30, 2009

A large proportion of Canadians believe certain specific social behaviours are morally acceptable, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion published in *Maclean's*. At least 79 per cent of respondents feel this way about contraception, sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman, divorce, and having a baby outside of marriage.

In addition, at least half of respondents think medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos, abortion, sexual relations between two people of the same sex, doctor-assisted suicide, gambling, buying and wearing clothing made of animal fur and the death penalty are morally acceptable.

Less than 20 per cent of respondents believe married men and/or women having an affair, polygamy, cloning humans and paedophilia are morally acceptable.

Since 2007, the proportion of Canadians who find same-sex relations morally acceptable has increased by seven points.

In 1967, Canadian justice minister Pierre Trudeau presented a bill to partially liberalize abortion. On the same bill, Trudeau urged for the legalization of homosexuality and contraception, saying, "The state has no business in the bedrooms of the nation." The bill was signed into law in 1969, when Trudeau was prime minister.

In January 1988, Canada's Supreme Court ruled—on an appeal filed by pro-abortion advocate Henry Morgentaler—that Canada's abortion law was unconstitutional. Abortion is now legal in Canada with no limitation on when to perform it.

In July 1976, the House of Commons passed Bill C-84, which abolished the death penalty in the country. In July 2005, Canada legalized same-sex marriage.

Earlier this month, former Olympic swimming champion Mark Tewksbury—who was the first Canadian athlete to willingly disclose his sexual orientation while still competing—discussed the current state of affairs, saying, "Ultimately change will come (...) from the people who can create the environment for progress to happen. (...) This issue, and others that make people feel uncomfortable at times, exists."

Polling Data

Regardless of whether or not you think each of the following issues should be legal, please indicate whether you personally believe they are morally acceptable or morally wrong. - "Morally acceptable" listed

	2009	2007
Contraception	93%	93%
Sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman	87%	81%
Divorce	84%	83%
Having a baby outside of marriage	79%	77%
Medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos	69%	64%
Abortion	66%	61%
Sexual relations between two people of the same sex	66%	59%
Doctor-assisted suicide	65%	62%
Gambling	62%	61%
Buying and wearing clothing made of animal fur	53%	51%
The death penalty	53%	47%
Medical testing on animals	44%	40%
Prostitution	42%	36%
Pornography	41%	38%
Suicide	28%	25%
Cloning animals	27%	29%
Using illegal drugs	25%	20%
Married men and/or women having an affair	15%	17%
Polygamy, when one husband has more than one wife at the same time	12%	10%
Cloning humans	11%	11%
Paedophilia	1%	1%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion / Maclean's

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,003 Canadian adults, conducted on Oct. 7 and Oct. 8, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Want Inquiry on Afghan Allegations

November 29, 2009

Most people in Canada believe a public inquiry on what the government and the Canadian Forces knew about reports of prisoner torture in Afghanistan is necessary at this time, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion published in the *Toronto Star*. 53 per cent of respondents support this notion, while 36 per cent oppose it.

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

At least 1,520 soldiers—including 133 Canadians—have died in the war on terrorism, either in support of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom or as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

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

On Nov. 19, New Democratic Party (NDP) foreign affairs critic Paul Dewar called for a public inquiry into this matter, declaring, "There are concerns that the government was complicit in torture, in violation of international law, while engaging in a massive cover-up that put our diplomats and soldiers on the ground at risk."

Polling Data

Do you support or oppose launching a public inquiry on what the government and the Canadian Forces knew about reports of prisoner torture in Afghanistan?

Support	53%
Oppose	36%
Not sure	11%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion / Toronto Star

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,010 Canadian adults, conducted on Nov. 24 and Nov. 25, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

LATIN AMERICA

Mexicans Want to Keep Drug War Going

December 05, 2009

Few adults in Mexico would consent to the legalization of drugs, according to a poll by GEA-ISA. 75 per cent of respondents think it is necessary to keep fighting drug traffickers for an unlimited amount of time.

Mexican president Felipe Calderón took over as Mexico's head of state in December 2006. During his campaign, he vowed to combat illicit drug trafficking and drug-related crime. One of Calderón's first measures was to send military personnel to northern towns severely affected by drug trafficking. More than 6,300 people have died in 2008 and 2009, many of them caught in conflicts between drug cartels.

Under the so-called Merida initiative, the U.S. is giving Mexico \$1.4 billion U.S. in order to combat organized crime and drug trafficking.

On Dec. 4, U.S. ambassador to Mexico Carlos Pascual discussed the current state of affairs, saying, "In any program there is a necessary lead time for obtaining the resources, for executing the contracts, for producing the necessary equipment, for training the people on their use, and that's what we've been doing now. And what you'll see over the course of the next year and a half is a radical change in the pace of the implementation."

Polling Data

Do you think it is necessary to keep fighting drug traffickers for an unlimited amount of time, or do you think it would be better to legalize drugs?

Keep fighting drug traffickers	75%
Legalize drugs	19%
Not sure	6%

Source: GEA-ISA

Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,000 Mexican adults, conducted from Nov. 13 to Nov. 15, 2009. Margin of error is 4 per cent.

Half of Mexicans Content with Calderón

December 04, 2009

Public support for Mexican president Felipe Calderón fell last month, according to a poll by Berumen y Asociados published in *El Universal*. 50.4 per cent of respondents approve of Calderón's performance, down 3.3 points since June.

Mexican voters chose their new president in July 2006. Official results placed Calderón of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) as the winner with 36.68 per cent of all cast ballots. Calderón—a former energy secretary—took over as Mexico's head of state in December. During

his campaign, he vowed to combat illicit drug trafficking and drug-related crime, as well as to boost Mexico's economy.

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

On Dec. 2, Calderón warned about the possibility of organized crime interfering in political affairs, declaring, "The first option for criminals is to contact authorities before they are elected, by financing their campaigns. Once this economic link between criminal activity and candidate has been established, it is practically impossible to dissolve the relationship."

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of Felipe Calderón's performance as president?

	Nov. 2009	Jun. 2009	Mar. 2009
Approve	50.4%	53.7%	51.6%
Disapprove	32.8%	19.7%	18.4%
Neither / Not sure	16.8%	26.6%	30.0%

Source: Berumen y Asociados / El Universal

Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,400 Mexican adults, conducted from Nov. 20 to Nov. 22, 2009. Margin of error is 2.8 per cent.

Brazil's Serra Loses Appeal as Election Looms

December 03, 2009

The presidential bid of Sao Paulo governor Jose Serra is losing traction as the election year draws near, according to a poll by Instituto Sensus. 31.8 per cent of respondents would vote for Serra of the conservative Brazilian Party of Social Democracy (PSDB) in the 2010 election, down 7.7 points since September.

Current government chief of staff Dilma Rousseff of the Worker's Party (PT) is second with 21.7 per cent, followed by Ciro Gomes of the Socialist People's Party (PSB) with 17.5 per cent, and Marina Silva of the Green Party (PV) with 5.9 per cent.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva—a member of the PT—won the October 2002 presidential election with 61 per cent of the vote in a run-off against Serra. In October 2006, he earned a new four-year term, defeating PSDB candidate Geraldo Alckmin with 60.8 per cent of the vote in the second round.

Lula has publicly endorsed Rousseff as his preferred successor. On Nov. 27, presidential advisor Olivio Dutra praised Rousseff as a worthy competitor, declaring, "We're building victory for our candidate who represents a model of country that can't be put back, that can't be delayed, and

which must be perpetuated. We are certain Dilma is the right person, she has all the conditions to be elected."

Lula is ineligible for a third term in office. The first round of Brazil's next presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 3, 2010.

Polling Data

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

	Nov. 2009	Sept. 2009	Mar. 2009
Jose Serra (PSDB)	31.8%	39.5%	45.7%
Dilma Rousseff (PT)	21.7%	19.0%	16.3%
Ciro Gomes (PSB)	17.5%	n.a.	n.a.
Marina Silva (PV)	5.9%	4.8%	n.a.
None / Blank ballot	11.1%	14.4%	16.7%
Not sure / Undecided	12.1%	12.8%	10.3%
Heloisa Helena (PSOL)	n.a.	9.7%	11.0%

Source: *Instituto Sensus*
Methodology: Interviews with 2,000 Brazilian adults, conducted from Nov. 16 to Nov. 20, 2009. Margin of error is 3 per cent.

Peruvians Want to Scrap Mandatory Voting

December 02, 2009

The vast majority of people in Peru would support holding a referendum on whether voting should become voluntary as opposed to mandatory, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 74 per cent of respondents agree with holding the referendum, while 24 per cent disagree.

Voting is currently compulsory in Peru for citizens between 18 and 70 years of age. If voting became voluntary, 20 per cent of respondents would not cast a ballot, while 77 per cent would do so.

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

On Oct. 29, the Peruvian government announced it had launched a campaign to collect enough signatures to call a referendum on challenging compulsory voting.

On Oct. 30, Humala denounced the campaign as an attempt to marginalize some voters, declaring, "You cannot cut the representation from rural areas. This measure will deepen the exclusion that communities outside urban centres already feel."

Polling Data

Do you agree or disagree with holding a referendum on whether voting should be voluntary instead of compulsory?

Agree	74%
Disagree	24%
No answer	2%

If voting became voluntary instead of compulsory, would you vote?

Yes	77%
No	20%
No answer	3%

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

Methodology: Interviews with 1,000 Peruvian adults, conducted from Nov. 11 to Nov. 13, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Mexicans Would Back PRI Candidate in 2012

December 02, 2009

Mexico's presidency could return to the hands of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in the next election, according to a poll by GEA-ISA. 49 per cent of respondents would vote for the PRI candidate in the next presidential ballot, up four points since August.

The ruling National Action Party (PAN) candidate would come a distant second with 26 per cent, followed by the Democratic Revolution Party (PRD) nominee with 17 per cent.

The PAN's Vicente Fox ended 71 years of uninterrupted rule by the PRI in the 2000 presidential election, winning a six-year term with 42.5 per cent of the vote.

Mexican voters chose their new president in July 2006. Official results placed Felipe Calderón of the PAN as the winner with 36.68 per cent of all cast ballots, followed by Andrés Manuel López Obrador of the PRD with 36.11 per cent, and Roberto Madrazo of the PRI with 22.71 per cent. Calderón—a former energy secretary—took over as Mexico's head of state in December.

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

The list of prospective presidential candidates for the PRI includes Mexico state governor Enrique Peña Nieto, national party leader Beatriz Paredes, Sonora senator Manlio Fabio

Beltrones, and Veracruz state governor Fidel Herrera. López Obrador and current Mexico City mayor Marcelo Ebrard are expected to vie for the PRD nod. Possible PAN contenders include former interior secretary Santiago Creel, current interior secretary Fernando Gómez Mont, education secretary Josefina Vázquez Mota, and social development secretary Ernesto Cordero.

On Nov. 30, PRD leader Jesús Ortega rejected the possibility of his party joining forces with the PAN in order to avert the PRI's return to power, saying, "No, that would literally be insane."

The next presidential election is scheduled for July 2012.

Polling Data

If you had to vote right now to elect a president, which party's candidate would you vote for? (Decided Voters)

	Nov. 2009	Aug. 2009
Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI)	49%	45%
National Action Party (PAN)	26%	32%
Democratic Revolution Party (PRD)	17%	19%
Other	8%	4%

Source: GEA-ISA

Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,000 Mexican adults, conducted from Nov. 13 to Nov. 15, 2009. Margin of error is 4 per cent.

More Cubans Urge for Change in Politics, Economy

December 01, 2009

The number of Cubans calling for an overhaul of the country's political system has increased, according to a poll by the International Republican Institute. If given the chance, 75.2 per cent of respondents would vote to change the current system into a democracy, up 12 points since November 2008.

In addition, 85.6 per cent of respondents would support an economic system including freedoms such as being able to buy and sell property.

Fidel Castro became the de facto leader of Cuba in 1959, following the conclusion of the revolution he led to overthrow Fulgencio Batista. In 1962, the United States imposed a trade embargo against Cuba.

In July 2006, the Cuban government announced a "provisional transfer of duties" to vice-president Raúl Castro, Fidel's brother, after the president suffered "an acute intestinal crisis, with sustained bleeding" which required immediate medical intervention.

In February 2008, Fidel Castro announced that he would not accept a nomination to seek a new term as head of state. His brother remains Cuba's political leader.

Raúl Castro has introduced several reforms since taking office, which have been regarded by some as the beginning of more profound changes, and deemed merely cosmetic by others.

On Nov. 19, U.S. president Barack Obama answered a set of questions submitted by Yoani Sánchez—the renowned Cuban blogger of "Generación Y"—saying that he is against lifting the embargo but wants to have a direct talk with Raúl Castro about it. The American president added: "I applaud these collective efforts to empower your compatriots to express themselves through technology. The U.S. government and the people are with you in anticipation of the day when all Cubans will be able to express themselves freely and publicly without fear."

Polling Data

If you were given the opportunity to vote to change from the current political system to a democratic system—with multi-party elections, freedom of speech and freedom of expression—would you vote in favour of, or against, that change?

	Aug. 2009	Nov. 2008
In favor	75.2%	63%
Opposed	5.8%	32.4%
No answer	19%	4.6%

If you were given the opportunity to vote to change from the current economic system to a market economy system—with economic freedoms, including opportunities for Cubans to own property and run businesses—would you vote in favour of, or against, that change?

	Aug. 2009	Nov. 2008
In favor	85.6%	86.3%
Opposed	3%	12.5%
No answer	19%	4.6%

Source: International Republican Institute

Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 432 Cuban adults, conducted from Jul. 4 to Aug. 7, 2009. Margin of error is 5 per cent.

Early Presidential Leaders Emerge in Peru

November 29, 2009

Presidential hopefuls in Peru remain moderately unpopular but there are two discernible frontrunners, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 23 per cent of respondents would vote for Lima mayor Luis Castañeda Lossio in the 2011 ballot, up one point since October.

Keiko Sofía Fujimori, the daughter of former president Alberto Fujimori, is a close second with 22 per cent, followed by nationalist leader Ollanta Humala with 12 per cent, former president

Alejandro Toledo with 10 per cent, and conservative candidate Lourdes Flores Nano with nine per cent. 24 per cent of respondents remain undecided.

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

Last April, Alberto Fujimori was found guilty "beyond all reasonable doubt" of four charges laid against him—including misuse of public funds, kidnapping and murder—and sentenced to serve 25 years in prison. On Sept. 30, Fujimori was handed a new six-year sentence, this time for corruption.

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

On Nov. 19, Keiko Fujimori vowed to increase funding for the Armed Forces if elected, declaring, "We need a strong, well-paid, and well-equipped army".

Polling Data

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

	Nov. 2009	Oct. 2009	Aug. 2009
Luis Castañeda Lossio	23%	22%	18%
Keiko Sofía Fujimori	22%	20%	22%
Ollanta Humala	12%	13%	13%
Alejandro Toledo	10%	10%	10%
Lourdes Flores Nano	9%	9%	11%
Other / Blank / Undecided	24%	26%	26%

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

Methodology: Interviews with 1,000 Peruvian adults, conducted from Nov. 11 to Nov. 13, 2009. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Revolution was About Freedom, Say Mexicans

November 29, 2009

Most people in Mexico believe freedom was the main achievement of the Mexican Revolution, according to a poll by *El Universal*. 40 per cent of respondents feel this way about the armed struggle that began in 1910.

Porfirio Díaz served as Mexico's president from 1876 to 1880, and took power again in 1884. For the next 26 years, Díaz quashed all political opposition and won elections that were not considered free or fair. In October 1910, Francisco Madero—the leader of Mexico's Anti-Reelection Movement—wrote the Plan of San Luis, which included the phrase "Effective suffrage. No re-election."

The Mexican Revolution began in November 1910, as a Madero-led uprising against Díaz. Several groups and movements participated in the struggle, including agrarian land reform crusader Emiliano Zapata.

Madero went on to serve as Mexico's president from November 1911 to February 1913, when he was deposed by armed forces commander Victoriano Huerta. A new constitution was enacted in 1917, but political stability returned to Mexico in 1920, with the election of Álvaro Obregón as president.

Earlier this month, Mexican president Felipe Calderón discussed the country's historic legacy, declaring, "This has not been, fortunately, about angels or demons, but about men and women with virtues, defects and grand ideals."

Polling Data

What was the main achievement of the Mexican Revolution?

Freedom	40%
Better distribution of land	5%
The new constitution	3%
Change of government	2%
Equality	1%
Reform	1%
Democracy	1%
Social change	1%
Justice	1%
Other / Not sure	45%

Source: El Universal

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 500 Mexican adults, conducted on Oct. 28, 2009. Margin of error is 4.5 per cent.

MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

Multi-Country Poll Reveals That Majority of People Want Action on Climate Change, Even if it Entails Costs ³

December 3, 2009

A new poll of 15 nations, most of them in the developing world, finds that majorities of the people canvassed want their governments to take steps to fight climate change, even if that entails costs. People signaled they would support public measures to limit greenhouse gas emissions and step up adaptation measures. For example, respondents would support higher fuel efficiency standards for cars, preserving or expanding forests, and extending funding to vulnerable countries so they can develop hardier crops suited to more severe climates.

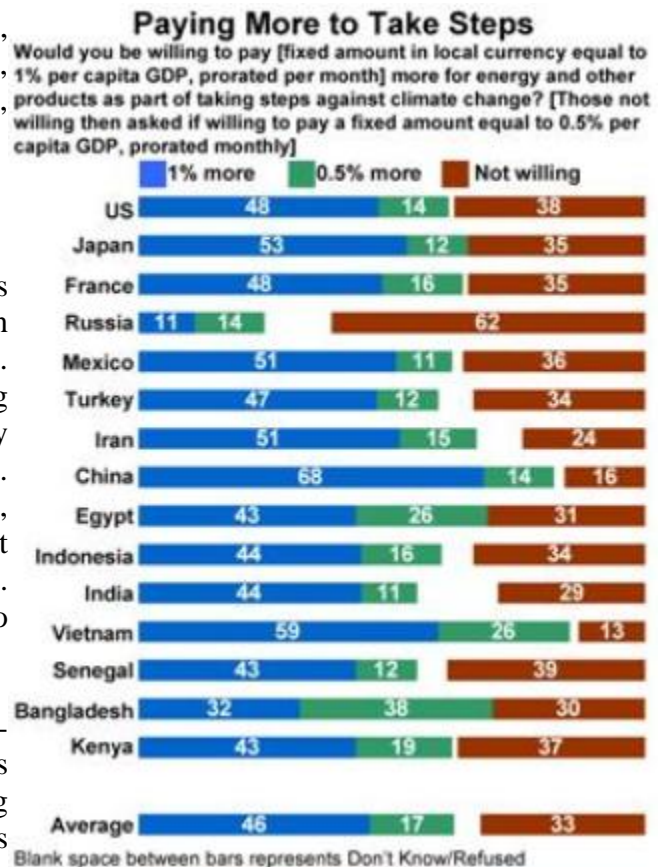
"The poll's findings shed light on global attitudes at a particularly important moment: the run-up to the conference on climate change to be held December 7-18 in Copenhagen. Hearing from people in the developing world offers a new lens on this issue," says Katherine Sierra, World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development.

Carried out by WorldPublicOpinion.org and commissioned by the World Bank, the poll questioned 13,518 respondents in 15 nations-- Bangladesh, China, Egypt, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Russia, Senegal, Turkey, the United States, and Vietnam.

Other key findings include:

- Public concern about climate change is high worldwide, but it's generally higher in developing countries.
- Publics, particularly in developing countries, believe climate change is already having negative effects.
- In most countries, wealthy and poor alike, large majorities are willing to pay to fight climate change.
- Support for increased adaptation funding to poor countries is widespread worldwide

"It is encouraging indeed to see strong across-the-board support for committing to emissions limits in both developed and developing nations, since behavior change and attitudes



³ <http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/articles/btenvironmentra/649.php?nid=&id=&pnt=649&lb=>

will help determine whether we succeed or fail in addressing this global issue," says Marianne Fay, World Bank Chief Economist for Sustainable Development and Co-Director of the World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change.

Ms Fay explained that the poll was commissioned as a follow-up to the recently released WDR. The aim was to gain a better understanding of how the recommendations of the Report to invest substantially and immediately to manage climate change ("Act now, act together, and act differently") resonate in a cross-section of countries.

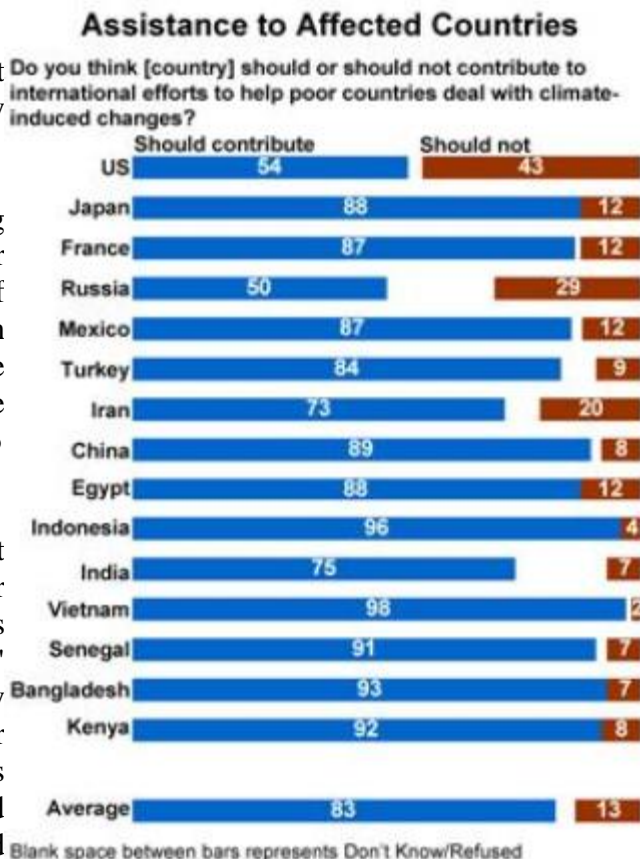
In the low-income country of Vietnam, for example, 98% say their government should commit to limiting emissions as part of a deal, and 93% support the same course in the absence of a deal. At the other end of the wealth spectrum, the people of France express 97% support if an agreement is reached at Copenhagen, and 87% if no agreement emerges.

Majorities in 14 of 15 countries are willing to pay to fight global climate change. In each country, the poll asked people whether they were willing to bear higher prices for energy and other goods, as part of taking steps to fight climate change. These price increases were calculated as 0.5% and 1.0% of each country's per capita GDP, and then described to respondents as defined monthly amounts in local currency. Majorities in six countries--China (68%), Vietnam (59%), Japan (53%), Iran (51%) and Mexico (51%)--say they are willing to pay 1%. In addition, majorities in an additional eight countries are willing to pay between 0.5% and 1.0%.

Majorities in most countries also support measures that would raise costs for energy and transportation.

Majorities in all countries support "limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants, even if this increases the cost of energy." In China, which is highly reliant on coal, 67% support this measure. On average across all countries polled, 68% support the idea (31% strongly) and 26% oppose it (8% strongly).

Similarly, majorities in 12 countries support "gradually increasing the requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles, even if this raises the cost of cars and bus fares." Majorities in 11 countries support "gradually reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation, even if this raises its cost." Majorities in all countries polled support "preserving or expanding forested areas, even if this means less land for



agriculture or construction."

The poll also asked about helping poor countries adapt to the effects of climate change. Fourteen majorities and one plurality say their countries "should contribute to international efforts to help poor countries deal with these climate-induced changes." Many developing countries (such as Vietnam, Indonesia, Kenya, and Senegal) express more than 90% support for acting in solidarity with other countries facing problems like their own.

WorldPublicOpinion.org operates as a collaborative project involving research centers from around the world that is managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. The margins of error for each country range from +/-3 to 4 percentage points. The surveys were conducted across the different nations in September and October 2009.

Climate Concerns Continue to Increase: Global Poll⁴

December 07, 2009

Public concern about climate change is at its highest level since GlobeScan began international tracking in 1998, according to a new GlobeScan/BBC World Service poll conducted in 23 countries. Nearly two thirds of those polled now say climate change is a "very serious" problem. However, concern has fallen in China and the USA.

On the eve of the UN climate change summit in Copenhagen, only six per cent of the 24,000 people polled want their government to oppose a climate deal being reached in Denmark.

The poll also shows that, in spite of the global recession, an average of 61% support their governments making investments to address climate change, even if these investments hurt the economy.

However, the poll finds that public opinion in the world's two largest emitters of CO₂ is more ambivalent. While the Chinese are the most likely to support government investments to address climate change even if these harm the economy (with 89% in favour), only 52% of Americans feel the same way. Also, the percentage of American (45%) and Chinese citizens (57%) who see climate change as "very serious" is below the 23-country average of 64%.

The overall results show that there is strong support for governments taking an ambitious approach to the Copenhagen negotiations. On average, 44%—and majorities in 10 of the 23 countries polled—say they want their government to "play a leading role in setting ambitious targets to address climate change" at Copenhagen. A further 39% think their government should "adopt a more moderate approach and support only gradual action." Only six per cent want their government to oppose any agreement.

Majorities in major European nations support their government playing a strong leadership role in Copenhagen—62% in the UK, 57% in France, and 55% in Germany. Other governments

⁴ http://www.globescan.com/news_archives/bbc2009_climate_change/

being pressed by their citizens to show leadership include Canada (61%), Australia (57%), Japan (57%), and Brazil (53%).

In comparison, Chinese opinion about Copenhagen favours a “moderate approach” involving “only gradual action” (49%) over a “leadership approach” (37%). In the United States, 36% favour a “moderate approach” and 14% oppose any agreement, outweighing the 46% of Americans who want their government to show leadership.

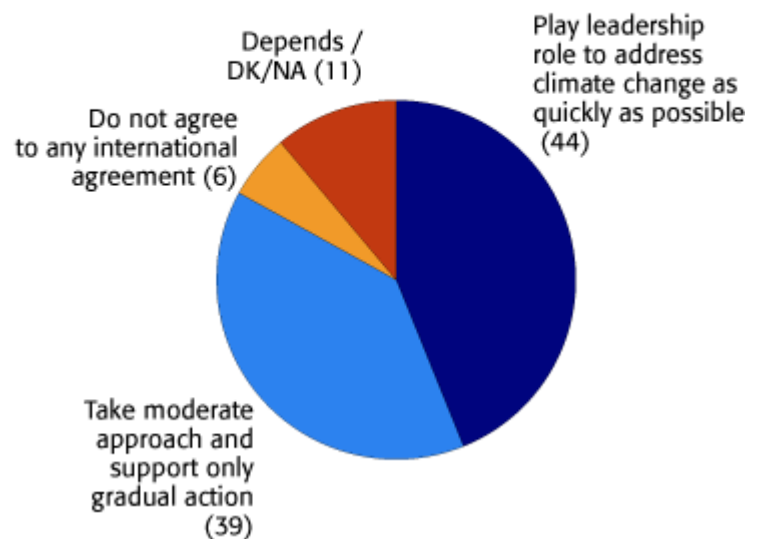
The results are drawn from a survey of 24,071 adult citizens in 23 countries, conducted by the international polling firm GlobeScan between 19 June and 13 October, 2009.

GlobeScan Chairman Doug Miller commented: “The poll shows strong worldwide support for action on climate change, in spite of the recession. However, the mixed opinions in the United States and China suggest leadership in Copenhagen may need to come from others.”

Note: In Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, the Philippines, and Turkey urban samples were used.

Preferred Country Strategy at Copenhagen Summit

Average of 23 Countries, 2009



Detailed Findings

The UK, Canada, and Kenya are the countries whose citizens are keenest for their governments to play leadership roles in setting ambitious targets at the summit (UK 62%, Canada and Kenya each 61%). Otherwise, developing countries are generally more cautious in the approach they are looking for their government to play—only around a third in countries like Pakistan and the Philippines (each 36%), or India (33%), and even fewer in Indonesia (23%), support their governments seeking ambitious targets in Copenhagen.

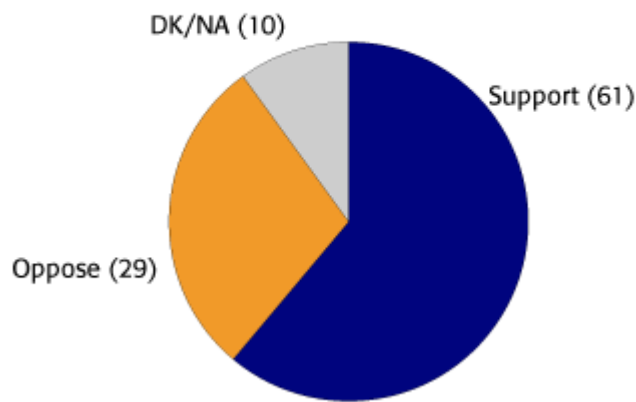
Outright opposition to a deal is limited to small minorities in all survey countries. The countries with the highest proportions of those opposing any international agreement are the United States (14%), Brazil (12%), and Pakistan (12%).

In 19 of 23 countries polled, including all developed nations, there is majority support for government investments to address climate change, including investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency and public transport, even if these hurt the economy. The exceptions are Pakistan, where only 19% would support such investments in these circumstances, the Philippines (32%), Indonesia (38%), and Turkey (49%). After China (89%), the countries where the largest majorities support government investments to address climate change, even where these would cause economic harm, are Kenya (77%), France (75%), Mexico (71%), Australia (70%), and the UK (70%).

The countries with the largest proportions supporting government action are not always those with the highest proportions regarding climate change as very serious. Brazil (86% “very serious”), Costa Rica (83%), the Philippines (83%), and Turkey (81%) appear to be most convinced of the magnitude of the climate change problem. Despite Kenyans’ enthusiasm for government investment, a lower than average proportion (52%) regard climate change as a “very serious” problem.

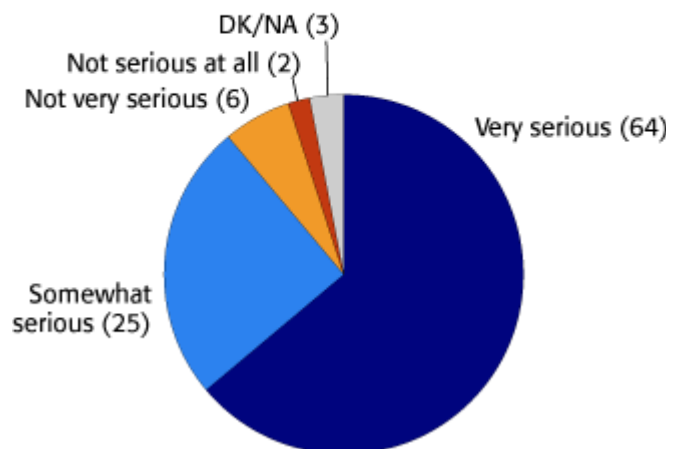
The survey also finds that concern about climate change continues on an upward trend, even in a recession year. Thirteen of the countries in this year’s survey have been polled regularly by GlobeScan over the last eleven years on their views of climate

Support for Government Investment to Address Climate Change, Even If It Hurts the Economy
Average of 23 Countries, 2009



Asked of half of sample

Seriousness of Climate Change
Average of 23 Countries, 2009



change: since 1998, the proportion rating it as a “very serious” issue for the world has climbed from 44% to 63%.

In total 24,071 citizens in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between 19 June and 13 October, 2009 (the exception being Japan where the fieldwork was conducted online). Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by GlobeScan and its research partners in each country. The margin of error per country ranges from +/-2.2 to 4.9 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Global Warming Seen as a Major Problem Around the World⁵

Less Concern in the U.S., China and Russia

December 2, 2009

When world leaders convene in Copenhagen, Denmark, next week to discuss climate change, they will be addressing a concern that, as the latest Pew Global Attitudes survey finds, is widely shared throughout much of the world. The survey, conducted May 18 to June 16, also reveals that majorities in 23 of 25 countries agree that protecting the environment should be given priority, even at the cost of slower economic growth and job losses. And many are willing to make sacrifices, such as having to pay higher prices, to address global warming.

Concern about climate change is much less pervasive in the United States, China and Russia than among other leading nations. Just 44% in the U.S. and Russia, and even fewer in China (30%), consider global warming to be a very serious problem. By comparison, 68% in France, 65% in Japan, 61% in Spain and 60% in Germany say that is the case.

Americans' views of global warming divide along ideological lines -- liberals are more than twice as likely as conservatives to say global warming is a very serious problem (66% vs. 30%). Surveys from 2008 and 2009 suggest that an ideological divide is also evident in Britain, where 66% of those on the political left rate global warming as very serious, compared with 42% of those on the right. A smaller ideological split exists in Germany, France and Spain.

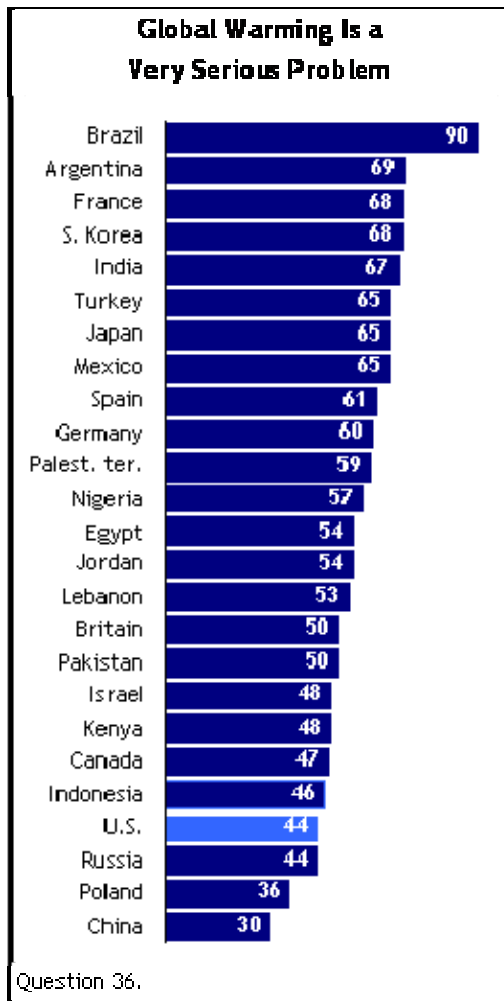
While there is agreement around the world that climate change is a serious problem, there is much less international consensus as to which country is most trusted to do the right thing on this issue. However, expectations for President Barack Obama's approach to climate change are high. Majorities or pluralities in 21 of the 25 countries surveyed believe Obama will "get the U.S. to

⁵ <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1427/global-warming-major-problem-around-world-americans-less-concerned>

take significant measures to control global climate change." Expectations are especially high in Western Europe.

The following excerpt from "Confidence in Obama Lifts U.S. Image Around the World; Most Muslim Publics Not So Easily Moved," released July 23, 2009, analyzes how publics in the 25 countries surveyed view global warming and environmental issues more broadly.

Global Warming



Large majorities in every country surveyed believe that global warming is a serious problem, and majorities in 15 of the 25 countries say it is "very serious." By a wide margin, Brazilians are the most concerned about this issue -- nine-in-ten in Brazil say it is a very serious problem. Roughly two-thirds or more rate it as very serious in Argentina (69%), France (68%), South Korea (68%), India (67%), Turkey (65%), Japan (65%) and Mexico (65%).

Anxiety about global warming is less pervasive among Israelis (48%), Kenyans (48%), Canadians (47%) and Indonesians (44%). Moreover, concern about global warming is low among the publics of some big polluters -- including the U.S., Russia and China. Only about

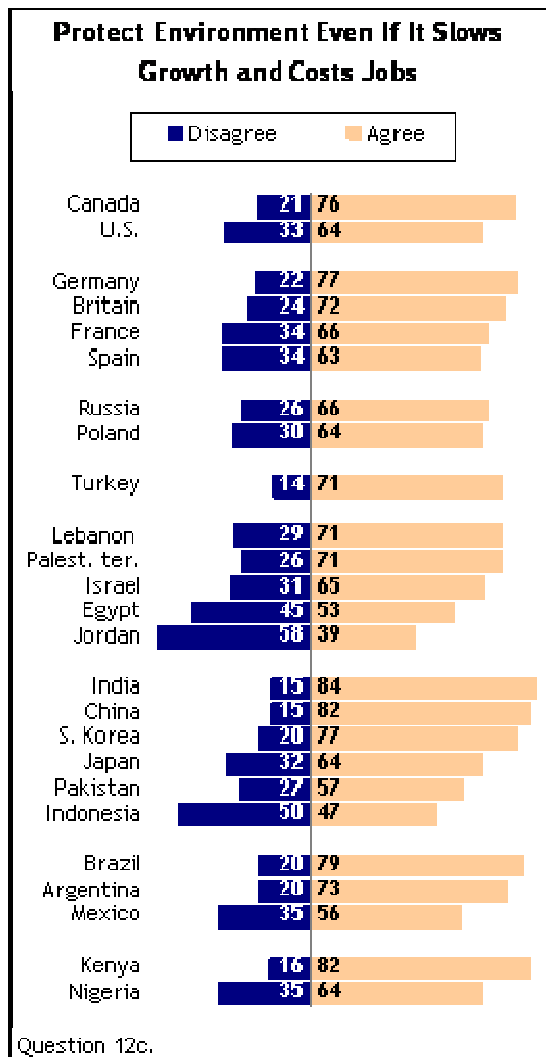
four-in-ten in the U.S. (44%) and Russia (44%) say that global warming is a very serious problem. The Chinese express the least concern -- only 30% say it is a very serious problem, up slightly from last year (24%).

Concern about changes in the global climate has increased in many countries since 2008 -- including the three Middle Eastern countries of Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon. The share of Egyptians who believe that global warming is a very serious problem has increased 16 percentage points, from 38% in 2008 to 54% in 2009. In Lebanon and Jordan, where roughly four-in-ten said this issue was a very serious problem last year (43% in Lebanon, 41% in Jordan), majorities now rate it as very serious (53% in Lebanon, 54% in Jordan). And today in Nigeria a majority (57%) rate this environmental problem as very serious, compared with 45% last year.

While anxieties about global warming remain mostly widespread, some publics are less worried than they were in 2008 -- especially in Turkey, Poland and Japan. The decline was steep in Turkey, where the percentage rating global warming as a very serious problem dropped by 17 points, from 82% last year to a still substantial 65% this year. Today in Poland about one-third (36%) express strong concern about shifts in the global climate, compared with a small majority one year ago (51%). The Japanese have steadily become less worried about this issue since the question was first asked two years ago (78% in 2007, 73% in 2008, 65% in 2009).

In the U.S., where 44% say global warming is a very serious problem, more than six-in-ten Democrats (63%) express concern over this issue, compared with fewer than one-in-five (17%) Republicans. Among independents, 43% say this is a very serious problem.

Prioritizing the Environment



Not only are respondents in many countries expressing concern over the issue of global warming, but beliefs are widespread that sacrifices may need to be made to protect the environment. Majorities in 23 of 25 countries agree with the statement "Protecting the environment should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs."

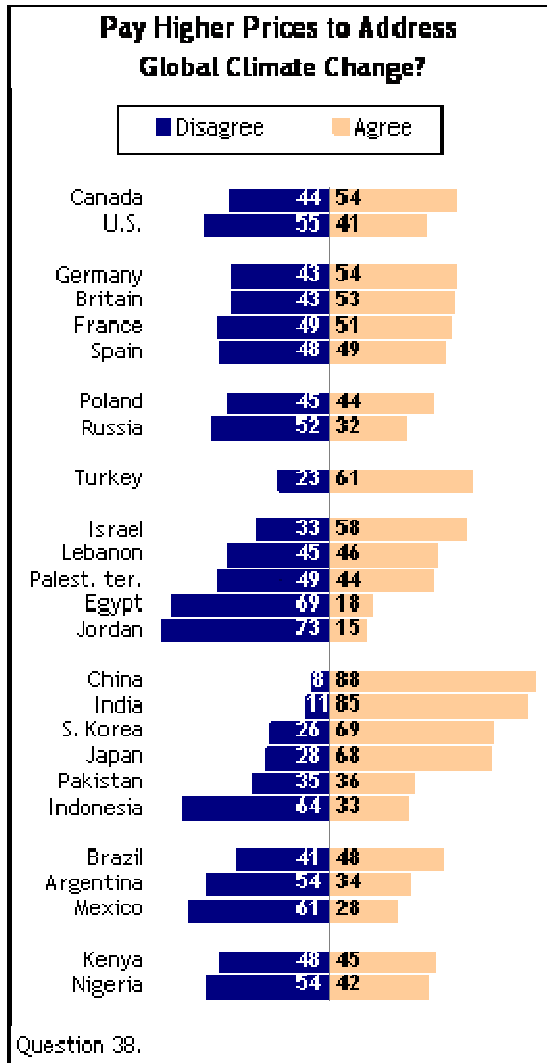
However, in several countries public opinion is not as decisive. Indonesian public opinion is split -- 47% agree with prioritizing the environment over economic growth and 50% disagree. A slim majority of Egyptians (53%) support protecting the environment at the cost of economic expansion, but nearly as many disagree (45%).

Jordanians are the least likely to say that environmental concerns should take precedence over economic growth (39% agree, 58% disagree). This represents a 14-point decrease since 2007, when a majority in Jordan (53%) agreed.

In three nations that have enjoyed strong economic growth in recent years -- India, China and Brazil -- agreement on this issue is nearly universal. Roughly eight-in-ten in India (84%), China (82%) and Brazil (79%) agree with prioritizing the environment over rapid economic expansion.

Agreement on this issue has decreased in several countries. The change has been most dramatic in Spain, where the proportion of respondents who agree with this statement declined by 17 percentage points, from 80% in 2007 to 63% in 2009.

Pay More to Address Climate Change?



While solid majorities in most countries say the environment should be a priority, even at the expense of economic growth, there is less of a consensus regarding whether people should pay higher prices to deal with climate change. Majorities or pluralities in 14 of the 25 nations agree with the statement "People should be willing to pay higher prices in order to address global climate change." In 11 nations however, majorities or pluralities disagree over combating changes in the global climate by paying higher prices.

Agreement on this issue is widespread in many of the Asian nations surveyed. Nearly all in China (88%) and India (85%) and more than two-thirds in South Korea (69%) and Japan (68%) believe that people should be willing to pay higher prices to protect the environment. Only about one-third in Pakistan (36%) agree -- though nearly as many are unable to offer an opinion (29%). On the other hand, a majority of Indonesians disagree with this statement (64%).

In Western Europe, slim majorities in Germany (54%), Britain (53%) and France (51%) support raising prices to address climate change. Opinions are almost equally split among the Spanish (49% agree vs. 48% disagree).

In the U.S., roughly four-in-ten (41%) agree that people should pay higher prices to support the environment, but more (55%) disagree. However, among Canadians more agree than disagree with this statement (54% vs. 44%).

Among the publics surveyed, Jordanians and Egyptians are the most likely to disagree with tackling global climate change through increased prices (73% in Jordan, 69% in Egypt). Disagreement is also common among a solid majority in Mexico (61%), and to a lesser extent majorities in Argentina (54%), Nigeria (54%) and Russia (52%).

Most Trusted to Deal With Global Warming

When asked which country among India, Germany, China, Brazil, Japan, the U.S. and Russia they trust the most to do the right thing in dealing with the problem of global warming, majorities or pluralities in six of 25 countries name the U.S. Americans are the most likely to do so (57%), followed by Nigerians (55%), Kenyans (48%), Israelis (45%), Indonesians (37%) and Canadians (31%).

Germany stands out as the most trusted country among the publics in Western Europe. Majorities of the French (62%) and pluralities of the British (34%) and the Spanish (31%) identify Germany. And not unlike the Americans, a majority of Germans credit their own country (77%) as the most trusted to handle the issue of global warming. Germany is also favored by a small plurality in Lebanon (23%).

Who Is Most Trusted to Do the Right Thing in Dealing With Global Warming?									
	U.S.	Germany	Japan	China	Brazil	India	Russia	(Vol) Other/ none	DK
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
U.S.	57	12	8	3	3	1	2	2	11
Canada	31	27	10	4	3	2	2	4	18
Britain	23	34	7	4	3	2	2	7	18
France	13	62	5	3	4	3	2	3	2
Germany	8	77	2	2	1	1	1	1	6
Spain	25	31	6	5	3	4	3	8	14
Poland	22	21	9	2	4	1	0	2	38
Russia	6	9	11	5	2	1	29	1	36
Turkey	14	3	9	3	0	2	1	8	60
Egypt	11	15	12	6	19	4	3	24	8
Jordan	11	14	25	9	9	3	2	20	8
Lebanon	17	23	14	10	6	7	6	4	13
Palest. ter.	13	14	15	12	3	5	8	2	23
Israel	45	15	6	6	1	1	1	4	20
China	15	4	4	57	1	2	1	1	16
India	15	3	4	5	1	55	1	1	15
Indonesia	37	5	18	9	1	1	1	1	26
Japan	8	32	38	2	3	1	0	1	14
Pakistan	4	3	3	45	0	3	0	3	38
S. Korea	17	21	23	1	2	5	0	2	30
Argentina	15	10	9	10	4	2	3	6	41
Brazil	17	5	6	6	45	3	1	1	16
Mexico	33	9	4	1	2	2	3	3	37
Kenya	43	7	6	9	1	4	1	1	22
Nigeria	55	5	4	15	1	3	1	2	14

Question 37.

Publics in India and Brazil believe their own country can be trusted to do the right thing in dealing with this environmental issue. A majority of Indians (55%) identify India and 45% of Brazilians name Brazil as the country that can most be trusted to address global warming. In no other countries do majorities or pluralities cite India or Brazil as the most trusted.

A majority of Chinese (57%) are not alone in their belief that China is the most trusted country to deal with changes in the global climate -- more than four-in-ten (45%) Pakistanis name China as well. Similarly, in addition to a plurality of the Japanese (38%), a quarter of Jordanians (25%) identify Japan as the most trusted country when it comes to combating global warming.

U.S. Leadership, Obama Winning Favor in Latin America⁶

Significantly more approve of U.S. leadership than in previous years

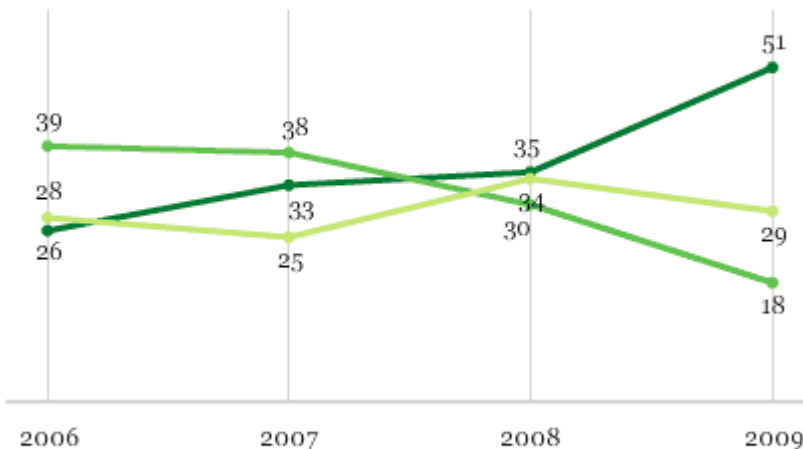
December 1, 2009

Less than one year into President Barack Obama's administration, many foreign policy objectives are still works in progress. Gallup finds, however, that in Latin America, Obama is enjoying improved perceptions of U.S. leadership. Gallup surveyed across the region between July and September 2009 and found regional median approval of U.S. leadership at 51%, up significantly from the previous three years.

Median Approval Ratings of U.S. Leadership in Latin America

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

■ % Approve ■ % Disapprove ■ % Don't know/Refused



Gallup asked this question in 23 countries in 2005-2006; in 20 countries in 2007; in 19 in 2008; and in 16 countries in 2009.

GALLUP®

Median disapproval of U.S. leadership, which remained relatively steady between 2006 and 2008, decreased over the past year from a median of 30% in 2008 to 18% in 2009. A median of 3 in 10 respondents (29%) in 2009 did not express an opinion.

A New Chapter

Even before assuming the presidency, then President-elect Obama declared in January 2009 that his administration would write in "a new chapter" in U.S.-Latin America relations. As president, Obama twice interacted with Latin American leaders on a global stage. In the first -- April's Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago -- political pundits such as *Time* magazine and

⁶ <http://www.gallup.com/poll/124514/leadership-obama-winning-favor-latin-america.aspx>

The Times praised Obama for his commitment to strengthening U.S.-Latin America partnerships, particularly with Venezuela and Cuba. In the second, Obama supported international mediation during Honduras's ongoing leadership struggle. And while the Honduran crisis is not yet completely reconciled, Obama sent senior American officials to help broker an agreement and pave the way for the recent election.

In addition to asking about approval of U.S. leadership more broadly, Gallup surveys in Latin America also asked respondents specifically whether they approved or disapproved of Obama's job performance. Gallup asked the question in 17 countries and found a median of 61% of respondents approved, while 14% disapproved and 27% did not express an opinion.

Median Approval Ratings of President Obama Across Latin America

Now thinking of the president of the United States, do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of Barack Obama?

■ Regional median percentage in 2009



Gallup asked this question in 17 Latin American countries between July and September 2009.

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Mexicans', Colombians', and Brazilians' Opinions of Obama

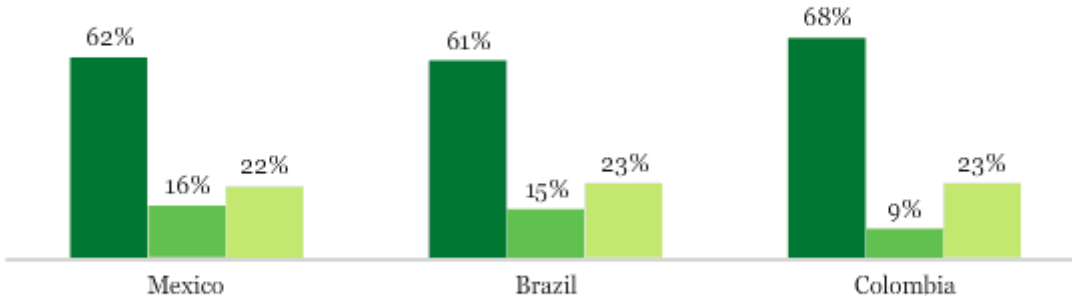
Latin America expert Otto Reich warned Obama early into his presidency to carefully differentiate between nations that are either friendly or hostile toward the United States. Reich named Mexico and Colombia as examples of friendly nations who collaborate with the United States to combat drug trafficking and crime. These two nations -- along with Brazil -- are also among the United States' leading trading partners in the region.

In all three countries, a majority of respondents approved of Obama's job performance. In Colombia, nearly 7 in 10 approved and 9% disapproved.

Approval Ratings of President Obama in Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil

Now thinking of the president of the United States, do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of Barack Obama?

■ Approve ■ Disapprove ■ Don't know/Refused



Data collected in Mexico July 21-Aug. 5, 2009; in Colombia July 14-Aug. 1, 2009; and in Brazil Aug. 11-Sept. 1, 2009.

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In all three countries, the percentages approving of U.S. leadership significantly increased between 2008 and 2009. For instance, approval percentages doubled from 24% to 53% in Mexico and from 23% to 48% in Brazil.

Venezuelans Give Obama the Benefit of the Doubt?

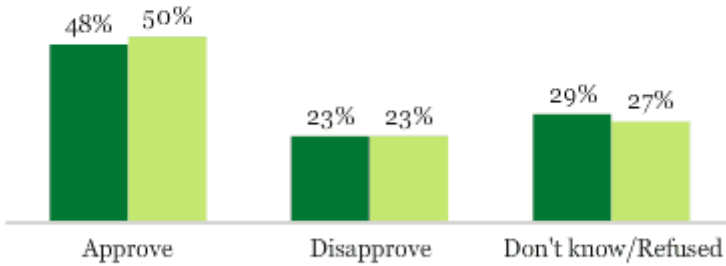
When Reich named hostile countries in Latin America, he singled out Venezuela. Whereas Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez had nicknamed former President George W. Bush "Satan," Chavez was receptive to Obama during the Summit of the Americas, reportedly telling Obama he wanted to be his friend. However, Chavez did not welcome Colombia's recent agreement to host up to seven U.S. military bases, which may jeopardize U.S.-Venezuela relations.

Gallup results show that Venezuelans may be giving Obama the benefit of the doubt: 48% of Venezuelans approved of Obama's job performance in 2009, while 23% disapproved and 29% did not state an opinion.

Venezuelan Approval Ratings of President Obama and U.S. Leadership

Among Venezuelan adults

- Job performance of Barack Obama
- Job performance of U.S. leadership



Data collected July 22-Aug. 12, 2009

GALLUP®

Further, 50% of Venezuelans approved when asked more generally about the job performance of U.S. leadership in 2009, up from 35% in 2008 and 27% in 2007.

One explanation for the boost in attitudes could be that without the famously antagonistic relationship between Chavez and Bush, anti-American sentiment and "Chavismo" in general is losing traction in Venezuela and across the region.

To note, Venezuela has long been one of America's main trading partners as well as one of the top five countries from which America imports crude oil.

Across the Region

Approval ratings of U.S. leadership in each country in Latin America vary from a high of 68% in El Salvador to 40% in Bolivia.

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

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused	Change in approval percentage points since 2008
El Salvador	68%	6%	26%	32
Panama	63%	7%	30%	17
Costa Rica	62%	14%	24%	30
Colombia	60%	17%	23%	12
Chile	59%	16%	25%	30
Honduras	54%	18%	28%	7
Mexico	53%	24%	24%	29
Uruguay	53%	13%	35%	40
Venezuela	50%	23%	27%	15
Brazil	48%	23%	29%	25
Peru	47%	17%	35%	13
Guatemala	45%	18%	36%	6
Argentina	42%	26%	32%	32
Nicaragua	42%	17%	41%	-3
Ecuador	42%	19%	39%	6
Bolivia	40%	28%	31%	-

Data collected between July and September 2009

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Approval ratings specifically of Barack Obama vary from a high of 84% in El Salvador to 40% in Paraguay. Gallup did not ask respondents specifically about Bush in 2008.

Do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of Barack Obama?

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused
El Salvador	84%	5%	11%
Costa Rica	80%	8%	13%
Panama	77%	4%	19%
Chile	72%	8%	20%
Colombia	68%	9%	23%
Honduras	65%	16%	19%
Uruguay	64%	7%	29%
Mexico	62%	16%	22%
Brazil	61%	15%	23%
Nicaragua	56%	14%	30%
Guatemala	55%	18%	27%
Argentina	55%	14%	31%
Peru	53%	15%	32%
Ecuador	50%	18%	32%
Venezuela	48%	23%	29%
Bolivia	46%	23%	31%
Paraguay	40%	7%	53%

Data collected between July and September 2009

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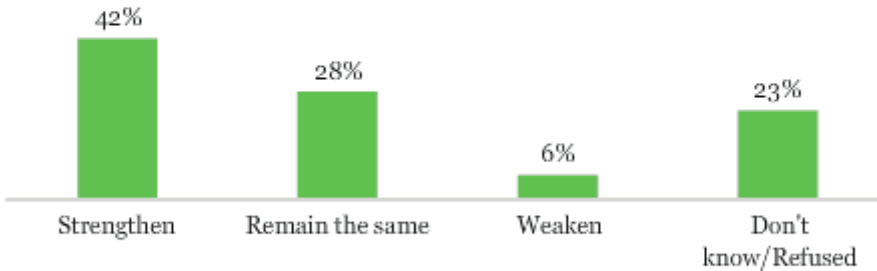
Future of U.S.-Latin America Relations

Obama is not the first U.S. president to promise a new era of U.S.-Latin America relations; George W. Bush made a similar promise. However, Gallup currently finds Latin Americans fairly hopeful in this regard. When asked if they think U.S.-Latin America relations will strengthen, remain the same, or weaken under Obama, a median of 42% said relations would strengthen and 28% said they would remain the same. A median of 6% said they would weaken.

Opinions on the Future of U.S.-Latin America Relations

Do you think the relationship between Latin American countries and the United States will strengthen, remain the same, or weaken with the new president Barack Obama?

■ Regional median percentages in 2009



Question surveyed in 17 Latin American countries between July and September 2009.

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Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with at least 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted between July and September 2009 in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of ± 3.3 percentage points in Brazil to a high of ± 4.0 percentage points in Venezuela. 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.
