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Prelude

This week report consists of 23 surveys. Three of these are multi-country while the rest of 20 are national surveys from various countries.

JAPAN

Japan

Population: 127,078,679 (July 2010 est.)

Ethnic Groups: Japanese 98.5%, Koreans 0.5%, Chinese 0.4%, other 0.6%

GDP per Capita: \$32,700 (2009 est.)

In 1603, after decades of civil warfare, the Tokugawa shogunate (a military-led, dynastic government) ushered in a long period of relative political stability and isolation from foreign influence. For more than two centuries this policy enabled Japan to enjoy a flowering of its indigenous culture. Japan opened its ports after signing the Treaty of Kanagawa with the US in 1854 and began to intensively modernize and industrialize. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Japan became a regional power that was able to defeat the forces of both China and Russia. It occupied Korea, Formosa (Taiwan), and southern Sakhalin Island. In 1931-32 Japan occupied Manchuria, and in 1937 it launched a full-scale invasion of China. Japan attacked US forces in 1941 - triggering America's entry into World War II - and soon occupied much of East and Southeast Asia. After its defeat in World War II, Japan recovered to become an economic power and an ally of the US. While the emperor retains his throne as a symbol of national unity, elected politicians hold actual decision-making power. Following three decades of unprecedented growth, Japan's economy experienced a major slowdown starting in the 1990s, but the country remains a major economic power. In January 2009, Japan assumed a nonpermanent seat on the UN Security Council for the 2009-10 term.

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



SUMMARY OF POLLS

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Philippines Have High Expectations Of President Noynoy Aquino

An SWS poll found 44% of Philippines expecting Pres. Noynoy Aquino to keep most/all of his promises in his July 26, 2010 State of the Nation Address (SONA), compared to only 19% who expected Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to keep most/all of her promises in her July 23, 2001 SONA, based on the September 2001 survey.

13 October 2010

Four in Ten Philippines Dissatisfied With Government Handling of Hostage Crisis

The Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, conducted from September 24-27, 2010, found a plurality of 41% dissatisfied with the National Administration's performance in resolving the August 23, 2010 hostage crisis that led to the death of eight tourists from Hongkong.

16 October 2010

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japanese Do Not Trust China

A recent Yomiuri Shimbun poll shows that public in Japan does not trust China and the majority is not happy with the Japan's government actions on dealing with the recent ship crisis with China. But a majority of almost fifty percent showed confidence in their government.

October 2010

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

2011 General Elections: Free and Fair?

In a recent NOI polls an overwhelming majority of Nigerians said that they believe the 2011 Presidential elections will be free and fair.

October 2010

WEST EUROPE

Britons Reject Joint Tory/Lib-Dem Campaign in Next General Election

A majority of Britons reject the notion of the two parties currently involved in the Coalition Government contesting the next General Election in unison, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found

October 15, 2010

Most Britons Want to Elect the Members of the House of Lords

Many people in Britain are voicing support for a process that would allow them to elect the members of the House of Lords, and very few endorse the status quo, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

October 11, 2010

Scottish Public Spending Poll II

An Ipsos MORI poll released today for BBC Scotland shows that Scots do not want to see cuts made to the NHS or increases in council tax when public spending cuts bite. Instead, they would prefer the Scottish Government to address the budget deficit by reforming universal services such as free bus travel and personal care for the elderly, as well as by freezing public sector pay and introducing charges for drivers on major roads.

October 13, 2010

EU Children Relatively Free But Want More Respect

A recent study published by Eurobarometer shows that children in EU countries have relative freedom and low pressure and they have opportunities to make fun. But still some complain to meet poor respect from elders and society in general.

October 2010

NORTH AMERICA

Obama Job Approval Up Again To 49%

Both President Barack Obama and Democratic Congressional candidates continue to consolidate support from party members, as Obama's job approval is back up to 49% and the party remains tied with Republicans on the question of which party's candidate voters plan to choose on Nov. 2.

October 11, 2010

Political Allegiance Shaped by Stance on Moral Issues in U.S.

Americans of all political stripes have a similar moral compass on issues such as contraception, divorce and infidelity, but some striking differences become evident when their party allegiance is assessed, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found

October 11, 2010

Obama Performing Well Relative to Congress' Low Ratings

Since he took office, President Barack Obama's job approval ratings have averaged 26 percentage points higher than Congress' approval ratings in surveys where both were measured at the same time. This is a greater presidential approval edge than what Gallup found for four of the previous five presidents, with the exception being the elder George Bush

October 15, 2010

Americans Disagree on How to Fix Entitlement Programs

More than three in four Americans believe the cost of the government's major entitlement programs, including Social Security and Medicare, will create major economic problems for the U.S. in the next 25 years if no changes are made to them. At the same time, Americans do not provide a mandate for raising taxes or cutting benefits to address the situation.

October 15, 2010

Americans Still Trust Own Judgment More Than Politicians'

Americans continue to have more trust in themselves to make judgments under the country's democratic system than they do in the men and women who are in political life, with 69% of Americans expressing "a great deal" or "a fair amount" of trust in the former, and 47% in the latter.

October 14, 2010

Americans' Views Vary on How Active Government Should Be

Americans are essentially equally divided in their views of the role of the federal government, with one-third tilting toward a preference for a government that actively takes steps to improve the lives of its citizens, one-third preferring a limited government that performs mostly basic functions, and the remainder in the middle.

October 12, 2010

Majorities in U.S. View Gov't as Too Intrusive and Powerful

Record- or near-record-high percentages of Americans are critical of the size and scope of government, as measured by four Gallup trend questions updated in September. This sentiment stretches to 59% of Americans now believing the federal government has too much power, up eight percentage points from a year ago.

October 13, 2010

Americans Choose Middle Over Extremes on Gov't Functions

Americans are more likely to choose middle-ground responses rather than extremes when asked about the degree of responsibility the federal government should take for a number of social and economic functions it could in theory perform. For only two functions -- protecting Americans from foreign threats and protecting consumers from unsafe products -- does a majority say the government should be totally responsible.

October 13, 2010

Americans' Image of "Federal Government" Mostly Negative

More than 7 in 10 Americans use a word or phrase that is clearly negative when providing a top-of-mind reaction to the federal government.

October 11, 2010

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Britons Call for Hunting Ban; Americans and Canadians Reject It

People in Britain are definitely more alarmed about animal cruelty than those in the United States and Canada, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found

October 13, 2010

Worldwide, Financial Comfort Grows More Important With Age

Worldwide, financial comfort becomes a better determinant of life evaluation with age. Among adults surveyed in 125 countries who say they are "living

comfortably" on their current incomes, those aged 55 and older rate their lives higher than those who are younger. However, among adults who are "finding it very difficult" to live on their current incomes, the opposite is true -- older respondents have lower life evaluation.

October 15, 2010

Entrepreneur Mindset More Common in U.S. Than in EU, China

Majorities in the U.S., the European Union, and China associate themselves with attitudes often ascribed to entrepreneurs. Americans, however, are more likely than those in the European Union and China to see themselves as risk takers, competitive, and confident they can accomplish difficult tasks.

October 12, 2010

CYBERWORLD

Gadget Ownership

A recent Pew Research Center report shows that more than 8 in 10 Americans own at least one type of modern communication device like Cell Phone, laptop, desktop, ipod, ebook reader, or any other.

October 14, 2010

Video Calling and Video Chat

Almost a fifth of American adults (19%) have tried video calling either online or via their cell phones. That figure comes from adding up the number of adults who said they either had made a video or teleconferencing call online (17% of adults have done that) or made video calls on their cell phones (6% of adults have done that).

October 13, 2010

Election Blogging

The top stories in the blogosphere are often an eclectic mix of topics from technology and pop culture to science and war. But last week, with the 2010 midterm elections looming, each of the top five subjects focused on the election or a closely related subject -- the economic issues helping define the campaign.

October 14, 2010

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Philippines Have High Expectations Of President Noynoy Aquino

to keep his promises, and to serve the poor

Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey:

13 October 2010

Social Weather Stations

The Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, conducted from September 24-27, 2010, found high expectations of Pres. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III to keep his promises and to serve the poor.

It found 44% expecting Pres. Noynoy Aquino to keep *most/all* of his promises in his July 26, 2010 State of the Nation Address (SONA), compared to only 19% who expected Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to keep *most/all* of her promises in her July 23, 2001 SONA, based on the September 2001 survey.

The September 2010 survey found 78% aware of Pres. Aquino's SONA, compared to 44% aware of Pres. Arroyo's SONA in 2001.

It also found 48% saying Pres. Aquino is serving the interest of the *poor*, compared to only 25% in 2001 and 19% in 2007 who said Pres. Arroyo was serving the *poor*.

Higher public attention to PNoy's SONA

The September 2010 survey found that 78% were aware of Pres. Noynoy Aquino's July 2010 SONA. This compares to September 2001 when 44% paid attention to Pres. Arroyo's July 2001 SONA [*Table 1*].

On Pres. Aquino's SONA, 56% watched it live on television, 15% heard about it on TV, 9% heard about it from other people, 8% listened to it live on radio, 5% heard about it on radio, 3% read about it on the newspapers, and a few (0.1%) learned about it on the internet.

On the other hand, in 2001, 25% watched Pres. Arroyo's SONA live on television, 12% heard about it on TV, 6% heard about it on radio, 5% listened to it live on radio, 4% read about it on the newspapers, and 2% heard about it from other people.

44% say Pres. Aquino can keep *most/all* of his promises

To the question, "*Sa inyong palagay, ilan sa mga pangako ni Pang. Noynoy Aquino ang posibleng matutupad?*" (*LAHAT O HALOS LAHAT SA MGA PANGAKO; KARAMIHAN SA MGA PANGAKO; MGA ILAN SA MGA PANGAKO; HALOS WALA O WALA SA MGA PANGAKO*) [*"In your opinion, how many of the promises of Pres. Noynoy Aquino can be fulfilled?"*], 9% said *all or nearly all*, 35% said *most*, 50% said *a few*, and 4% said *almost none* [*Chart 1*].

This compares to 2001 when 5% said *all or nearly all*, 14% *most*, 64% *a few*, and 16% *almost none* of Pres. Arroyo's promises in her SONA can be fulfilled.

Higher expectation of Pres. Aquino to serve the people equitably

To the question, "*Sa inyo pong palagay, si Pang. Noynoy Aquino po ba ay napagsisilbihan ang interes ng mga MAYAYAMAN, KALAGITNAANG ANTAS NG LIPUNAN, o ang mga MAHIHIRAP?*" (*MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED*) [*"Do you think Pres. Noynoy Aquino is serving the interests of the RICH, the MIDDLE CLASS, or the POOR?"*], 48% said Pres. Noynoy Aquino is serving the *poor*, 55% said the *middle class*, and 23% said the *rich* [*Chart 2*].

On the other hand, those who said Pres. Arroyo was serving the interest of the *poor* went from 25% in 2003 to 19% in 2007. It went from 33% to 31% for those who said she was serving the *middle class*, and from 65% to 59% for those who said she was serving the *rich*.

Survey Background

The September 2010 Social Weather Survey was conducted from September 24-27, 2010 using face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults in Metro Manila, the Balance of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao (sampling error margins of $\pm 3\%$ for national percentages, $\pm 6\%$ for area percentages).

The area estimates were weighted by National Statistics Office medium-population projections for 2010 to obtain the national estimates.

The Social Weather Surveys of 2001, 2003, and 2007 cited in this report were conducted from September 1-18, 2001, August 30-September 14, 2003, and September 2-5, 2007, respectively. All surveys had sample sizes of 1,200 adults, for error margins of $\pm 3\%$.

The Social Weather Survey items on the President's SONA, fulfillment of promises, and interest served are non-commissioned items, and were included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

SWS employs its own staff for questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork, data-processing, and analysis, and does not outsource any of its survey operations.

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Table

1

SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (SONA), SEP 2001 AND SEP 2010 (Multiple response)

	PRES. GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO Sep 2001	PRES. NOYNOY AQUINO Sep 2010
Have heard or read about it	44%	78%
<i>Watched it live on TV</i>	25	56
<i>Heard about it on TV</i>	12	15
<i>Heard from other people</i>	2	9
<i>Listened to it live on radio</i>	5	8
<i>Heard about it on radio</i>	6	5
<i>Read about it on the papers</i>	4	3
<i>Internet/Email</i>	0	0.1
Have not heard or read	56	22

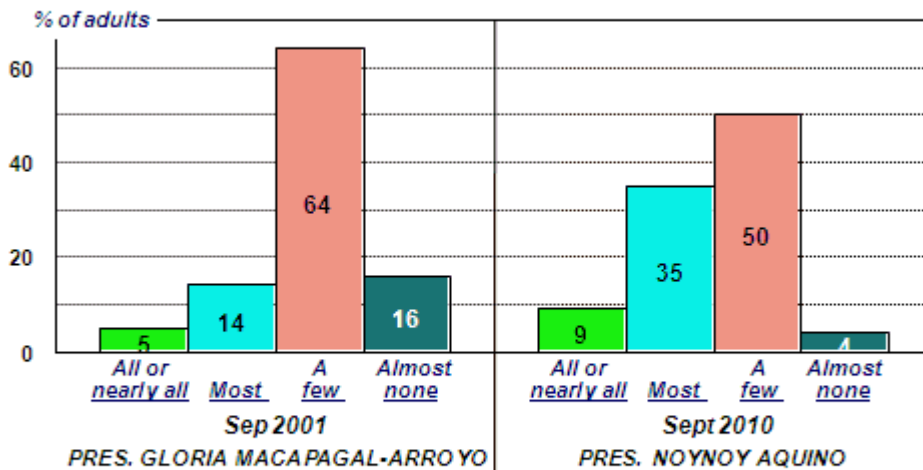
Q. May narinig o nabasa na po ba kayo tungkol sa State of the Nation Address (SONA) o talumpati ukol sa katayuan ng bansa nitong [July 23, 2001/July 26, 2010] ni [Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo/ Pangulong Benigno Simeon Aquino III]? KUNG OO: Ano po ang pinagkunan ninyo ng impormasyon tungkol dito? Ano pa po? (ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSE)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS *Silver Jubilee 1975-2010* Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
September 24-27, 2010 National Survey

Chart

1

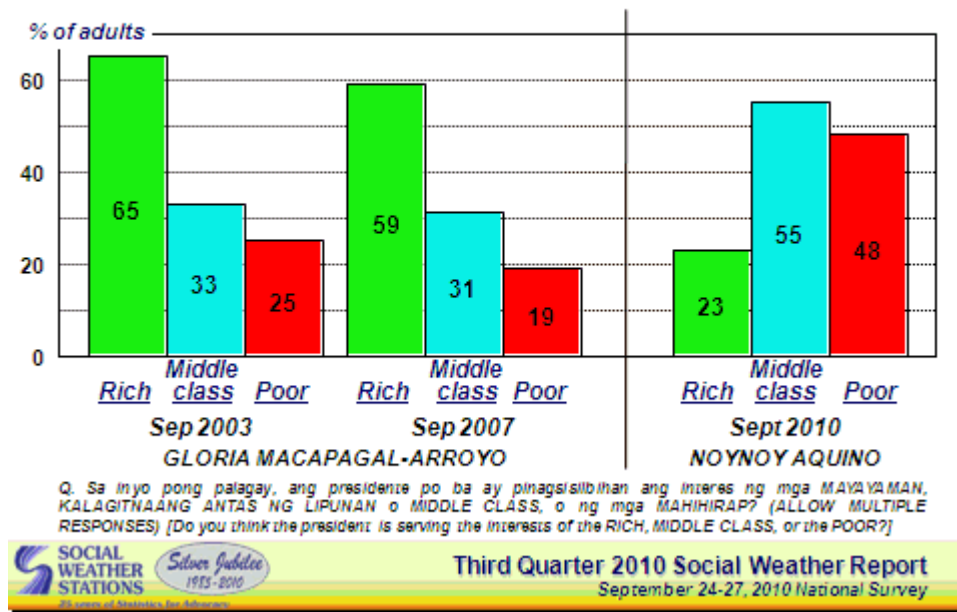
EXTENT OF PROMISES THAT THE PRESIDENT CAN FULFILL, SEP 2001 AND SEP 2010



Q. Sa inyong palagay, ilan sa mga pangako ni [Pres. Arroyo/Pres. Noynoy Aquino] ang posibleng matutupad? (SHOWCARD) [LAHAT O HALOS LAHAT SA MGA PANGAKO; KARAMIHAN SA MGA PANGAKO; MGA ILAN SA MGA PANGAKO; HALOS WALA O WALA SA MGA PANGAKO]

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS *Silver Jubilee 1975-2010* Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
September 24-27, 2010 National Survey

WHETHER THE PRESIDENT IS SERVING THE INTERESTS OF THE RICH, MIDDLE CLASS, OR THE POOR, SEP 2003, SEP 2007, AND SEP 2010 (Multiple response)



Four in Ten Philippines Dissatisfied With Government Handling of Hostage Crisis

16 October 2010

Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey:

41% dissatisfied with government handling of the August 23 hostage crisis; 82% said media coverage endangered the hostages

Social Weather Stations

The Third Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, conducted from September 24-27, 2010, found a plurality of 41% dissatisfied with the National Administration's performance in resolving the August 23, 2010 hostage crisis that led to the death of eight tourists from Hongkong.

The survey also found that 71% *somewhat closely or very closely* followed the news on the hostage crisis, and that 82% said the news coverage of television and radio stations during the hostage-taking brought *great danger or very great danger* to the hostages.

The National Administration scored neutral -5 on the hostage-taking issue

The September 2010 survey found 36% satisfied, 21% undecided, and 41% dissatisfied with the present National Administration specifically on the issue of "Resolving the

hostage-taking of Senior Inspector Rolando Mendoza", for a *neutral* net satisfaction rating of -5 (% satisfied minus % dissatisfied) [Chart 1].

The National Administration had a *poor* net satisfaction rating of -21 in the Visayas (32% satisfied, 53% dissatisfied) and a *poor* net -20 rating in Metro Manila (34% satisfied, 54% dissatisfied) on resolving the hostage-taking crisis.

It scored a *neutral* -4 in Balance Luzon (35% satisfied, 39% dissatisfied), and a *moderate* +13 in Mindanao (42% satisfied, 29% dissatisfied).

71% closely followed the news on the hostage-taking crisis

About seven out of ten (71%) adults had been following somewhat closely or very closely the news about "The hostage taking by Senior Inspector Rolando Mendoza of tourists from Hongkong that led to the death of eight of his hostages" [Chart 2].

The news about the hostage-taking was followed *somewhat/very closely* by 82% in Metro Manila, 75% in Balance Luzon, 65% in the Visayas, and 62% in Mindanao.

82% say media coverage brought great danger to the hostages

To the question, "*Sa pangkalahatan, ang mga ginawa po bang pagbabalita ng mga istasyon ng telebisyon at radyo noong araw ng pangho-hostage ni Senior Supt. Rolando Mendoza ay nagdulot ng ... (NAPAKALAKING PANGANIB, MALAKING PANGANIB, KAUNTING PANGANIB LANG, o WALANG PANGANIB) para sa mga taong na-hostage? ["In general, did the news coverage of television and radio stations during the hostage taking of Senior Supt. Rolando Mendoza bring (VERY GREAT DANGER, GREAT DANGER, ONLY A SLIGHT DANGER, or NO DANGER) to the hostages?"]*, 46% said very great danger, 36% said great danger, 13% said only a slight danger, and 4% said no danger [Chart 3].

In all areas, at least four out of five said that news coverage of television and radio stations during the hostage-taking by Senior Supt. Rolando Mendoza brought great danger/very great danger to the hostages: 84% in Metro Manila, 83% in Balance Luzon, 82% in Mindanao, and 81% in the Visayas.

Relation to satisfaction with Pres. Noynoy Aquino

Public satisfaction with President Noynoy Aquino was higher among those who were satisfied with the National Administration on its handling of the hostage-taking crisis.

Pres. Aquino's net satisfaction rating was an *excellent* +74 (81% satisfied, 7% dissatisfied) among those satisfied with the National Administration on its handling of the crisis, a *very good* +61 (69% satisfied, 8% dissatisfied) among those undecided, and a *good* +49 (64% satisfied, 16% dissatisfied, correctly rounded) among those dissatisfied [Chart 4].

The President's very good overall net satisfaction rating of +60 was reported earlier by BusinessWorld on October 6, 2010, and is posted at www.sws.org.ph.

Survey Background

The September 2010 Social Weather Survey was conducted from September 24-27, 2010 using face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults in Metro Manila, the Balance of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao (sampling error margins of $\pm 3\%$ for national percentages, $\pm 6\%$ for area percentages).

The area estimates were weighted by National Statistics Office medium-population projections for 2010 to obtain the national estimates.

The Social Weather Survey items on the August 23, 2010 hostage-taking crisis are non-commissioned, and were included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to BusinessWorld.

SWS employs its own staff for questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork, data-processing, and analysis, and does not outsource any of its survey operations.

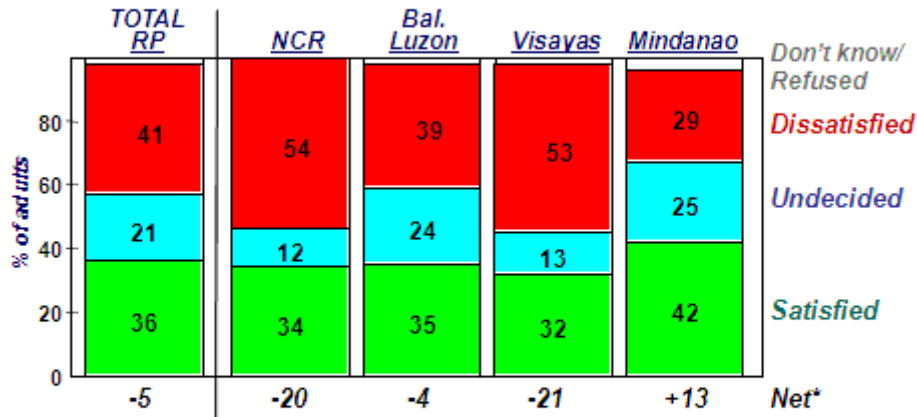
[SWS terminology for Net Satisfaction Ratings: +70 and above, "excellent"; +50 to +69, "very good"; +30 to +49, "good"; +10 to +29, "moderate", +9 to -9, "neutral"; -10 to -29, "poor"; -30 to -49, "bad"; -50 to -69, "very bad"; -70 and below, "execrable". A single-digit net satisfaction is considered not significantly different from zero.]

#

Chart

1

**SATISFACTION WITH THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
ON RESOLVING THE AUGUST 23 HOSTAGE CRISIS,
BY AREA, SEP 2010**

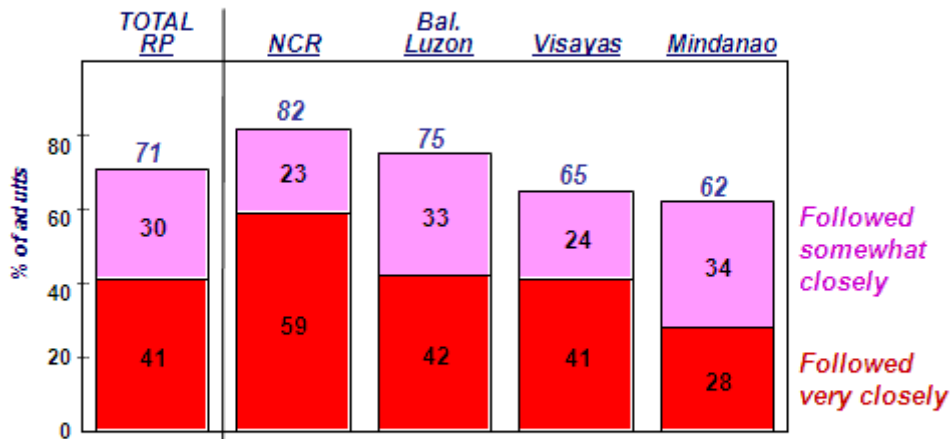


* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded. Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.
Q68. Gaano po kayo nasisiyahan o hindi nasisiyahan sa pamamalakad ng kasalukuyang Administrasyong Nasyonal tungkol sa (Pagresolbo sa pangho-hostage ni Senior Inspector Rolando Mendoza)? Masasabi ba ninyong kayo ay Lubos na nasisiyahan, Medyo nasisiyahan, Hindi tyak kung nasisiyahan o hindi, Medyo hindi nasisiyahan, o Lubos na hindi nasisiyahan?

Chart

2

**FOLLOWING NEWS ON THE HOSTAGE TAKING BY ROLANDO MENDOZA OF TOURISTS FROM HONGKONG, BY AREA, SEP 2010
(% who followed Very Closely/Somewhat Closely)**

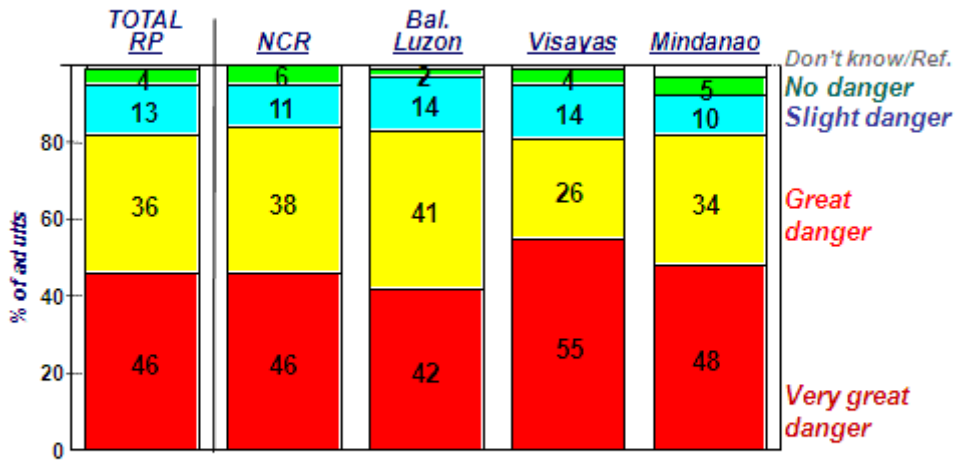


Q8. Narito po ang ilang pangyayari na inilar sa midya sa nakaraang tatlong buwan. Sa bawat isa, paksabi lamang po kung ang mga ulat dito ay iniyong Simundan nang mabuu, Medyo simundan, Simundan nang kaunti lamang, Hindi simundan, o Ngayon lang kayo may narinig tungkol dito? [ANG NAGANAP NA PANGHO-HOSTAGE NI SENIOR INSPECTOR ROLANDO MENDOZA NG MGA TURISTANG TAGA-HONGKONG NA NAUWI SA PAKKAMATAY NG WALO SA MGA BIHAG NITO]

Chart

3

DANGER CAUSED BY MEDIA COVERAGE TO THE HOSTAGES DURING THE AUGUST 23 CRISIS, BY AREA, SEP 2010

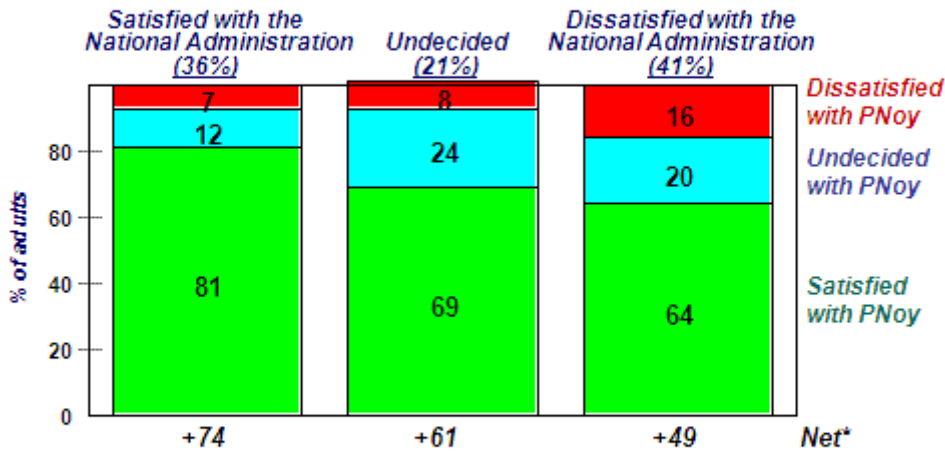


Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.
 Q78. Sa pangkalahatan, ang mga ginawa po bang pagbabalita ng mga istasyon ng telebisyon at radyo noong araw ng pangho-hostage ni Senior Supt. Rolando Mendoza ay nagdulot ng... (SHOWCARD) para sa mga taong na-hostage? [NAPAKALAKING PANGANIB, MALAKING PANGANIB, KAUNTING PANGANIB LANG, WALANG PANGANIB]

Chart

4

SATISFACTION WITH PRES. NOYNOY AQUINO, BY SATISFACTION WITH THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION ON RESOLVING THE AUGUST 23 HOSTAGE CRISIS, SEP 2010



* Netratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japanese Do Not Trust China

A recent Yomiuri Shimbun poll shows that public in Japan does not trust China and the majority is not happy with the Japan's government actions on dealing with the recent ship crisis with China. But a majority of almost fifty percent showed confidence in their government.

October 2010

Dates Conducted

October 1-3, 2010

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Yomiuri Shimbun

Methodology

Nationwide telephone survey using the RDD (random digit dialing) method.

Numbers selected for dialing: 4500

Households confirmed with an eligible voter: 1731

Random selection of one eligible voter per household.

Valid responses: 1104 (with 64% response rate)

Key Issues

- Support for the Kan cabinet
- China fishing vessel collision incident

Disclaimer

The Mansfield Foundation is responsible for the translation of this Yomiuri Shimbun poll, subject to the Mansfield Foundation [Terms of Use](#)

*All numbers are percentages

Q1. Do your support or not support the Kan cabinet?

Support	53
Do not support	37
Other	6
No answer	4

SQ1. [Those who answered “Support” to Q1 only] Please select one reason from the following six answers for why you support the Kan cabinet:

Have expectations for their policies	13
Their aim to have political leadership lead decision-making	17
The prime minister has leadership qualities	3
Can trust the prime minister	16
Members of the cabinet are good	10
It is not an LDP administration	33
Other	5
No answer	4

SQ2. [Those who answered “Do not support” to Q1 only] Please select one reason from the following six answers for why you do not support the Kan cabinet:

Cannot have expectations for their policies	24
Cannot have expectations for their aim to have political leadership lead decision-making	15
The prime minister does not have leadership qualities	35
Cannot trust the prime minister	11
Members of the cabinet are not good	4
It is not an LDP administration	6

Other	1
No answer	5

Q2. Which political party do you currently support? Please select one:

Democratic Party of Japan	36
Liberal Democratic Party	16
New Komeito	2
Japan Communist Party	2
Social Democratic Party	1
Your Party	5
The People's New Party	0
Sunrise Party of Japan	0
The New Party of Japan	--
New Renaissance Party	--
Other party	--
Do not support any party	36
No answer	1

Q3. From following list, please select one issue, if any, that you would like the Kan cabinet to prioritize:

Economic conditions and job security	34
Social security reform, including pensions and healthcare	27
Support for child care and countermeasures for declining birthrates	8
Tax reform such as the issue of the consumption tax	10
Diplomacy, national defense and security	14
The problem of money in politics	7
Other	0
Nothing in particular	1
No answer	1

Q6. In regards to the collision of a Chinese fishing vessel in Japanese territorial waters at the Senkaku Islands , prosecutors have decided to release and not press charges against the captain without “planning ahead and taking into consideration the future of Japan-China relations.” Do you think this decision was appropriate or not appropriate?

Appropriate	19
Not appropriate	72
No answer	9

SQ1. [Those who answered “Appropriate” to Q1 only] Please select one reason from the following four answers for why you think the decision was appropriate:

Should avoid the deterioration of Japan-China relations	45
---------------------------------------------------------	----

Because there will be an impact on the economy	23
Because Japanese employees have been detained in China	17
Because it is not necessary to prosecute	10
Other	1
No answer	4

SQ2. [Those who answered “Not appropriate” to Q1 only] Please select one reason from the following four answers for why you think the decision was not appropriate:

Because it provides the impression that Japan will back down if pressure is applied	41
Will strengthen China’s sovereignty claims to the islands	14
Prosecutors should not take into consideration diplomatic relations	12
Because the malicious incident took place within territorial waters	30
Other	0
No answer	2

Q7. In regards to the decision to release the Chinese captain, Prime Minister Kan has stated that “this was a decision made by the prosecution” and there was no political involvement. Do you accept or not accept this explanation?

Accept	11
Do not accept	83

No answer	7
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Q8. In response to the incident, China has taken measures such as postponing scheduled talks with the Japanese government and suspended a portion of civilian exchanges, which have had an impact on the economy. Do you think China's series of measures went too far or not?

Went too far	89
Did not go too far	7
No answer	4

Q9. Following the release of the Chinese captain, China has requested an apology and compensation from the Japanese. Do you accept or not accept these requests?

Accept	3
Do not accept	94
No answer	3

Q10. Do you think the Japanese government should lay precise claim to the international community that the Senkaku Islands are Japanese territory or is it not necessary to do so?

Should lay precise claim	90
Not necessary to lay precise claim	5
No answer	5

Q11. To address issues surrounding the Senkaku Islands in the future, do you think Japan should deepen its alliance with the U.S. or is it not necessary to deepen its alliance?

Should deepen its alliance with the U.S.	71
Not necessary to deepen its alliance with the U.S.	19

No answer	10
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Q12. Do you trust or not trust China? Please choose one from the following four answers:

Greatly trustChina	1
Somewhat trustChina	12
Somewhat do not trustChina	49
Do not trustChina	35
No answer	2

Q13. Do you feel anxious or not anxious about the DPJ administration's foreign and security policies? Please choose one from the following four answers:

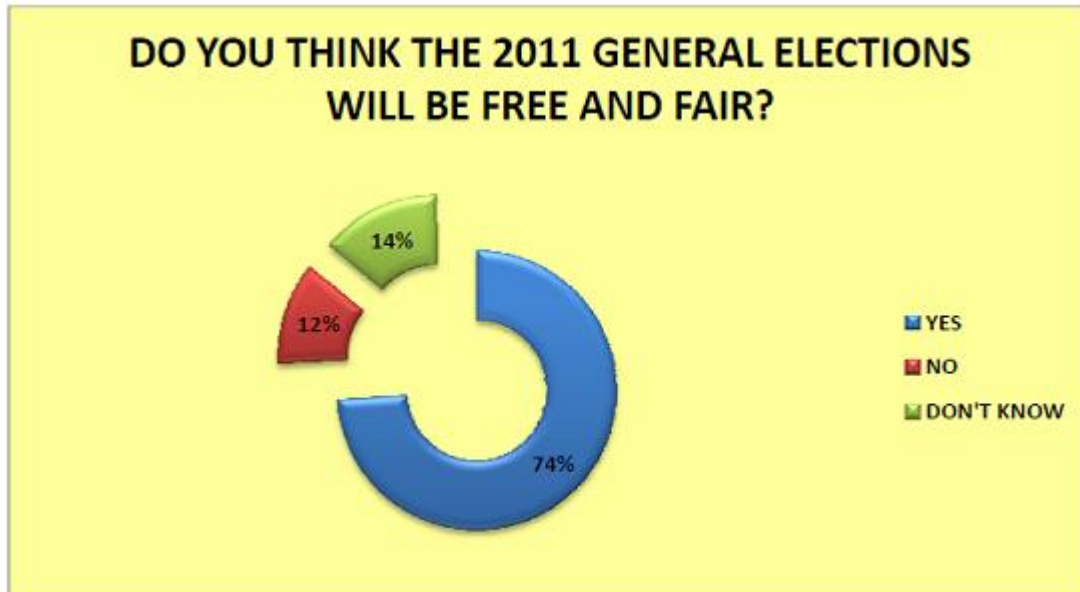
Greatly feel anxious	39
Somewhat feel anxious	45
Somewhat do not feel anxious	11
Do not feel anxious	3
No answer	3

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

2011 General Elections: Free and Fair?

In the countdown to 2011 general elections, both President Goodluck Jonathan and the INEC chairman – Professor Attahiru Jega have assured Nigerians that the polls will be credible and that the people's vote will count. In continuation of its electoral surveys, NOI Polls asked Nigerians what they think about some of the candidates' bids to for the presidency.

Respondents were asked the question ‘Do you think that the 2011 general elections will be free and fair?’. 74% replied in the affirmative, 12% said ‘NO’ and 14% answered ‘Don’t Know’.

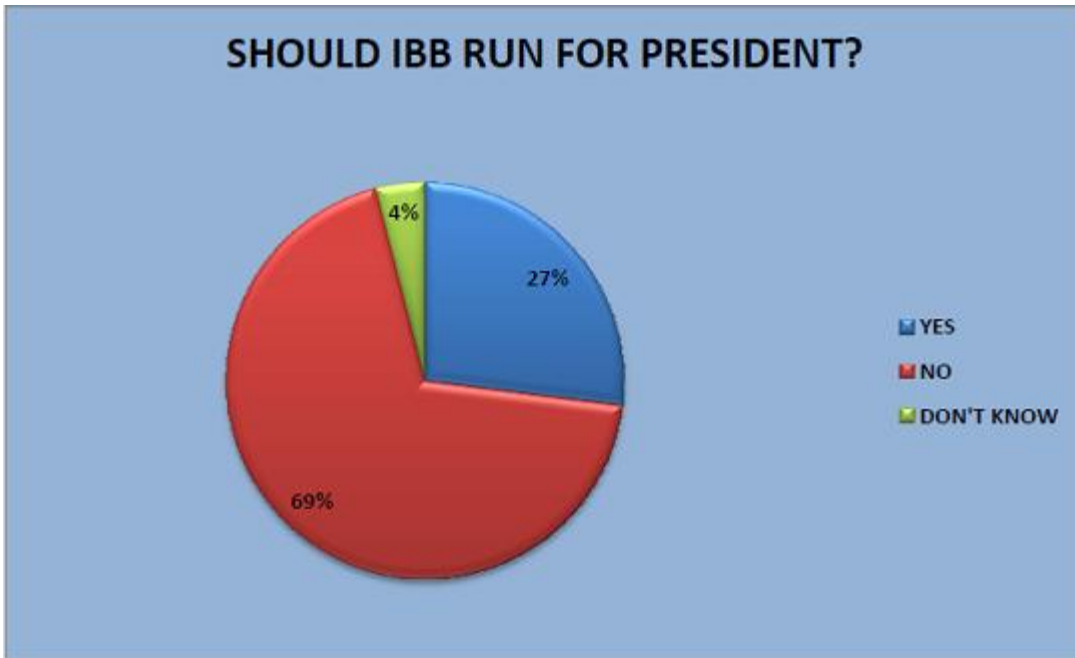


Nigerians’ Views on Selected 2011 Presidential Aspirants

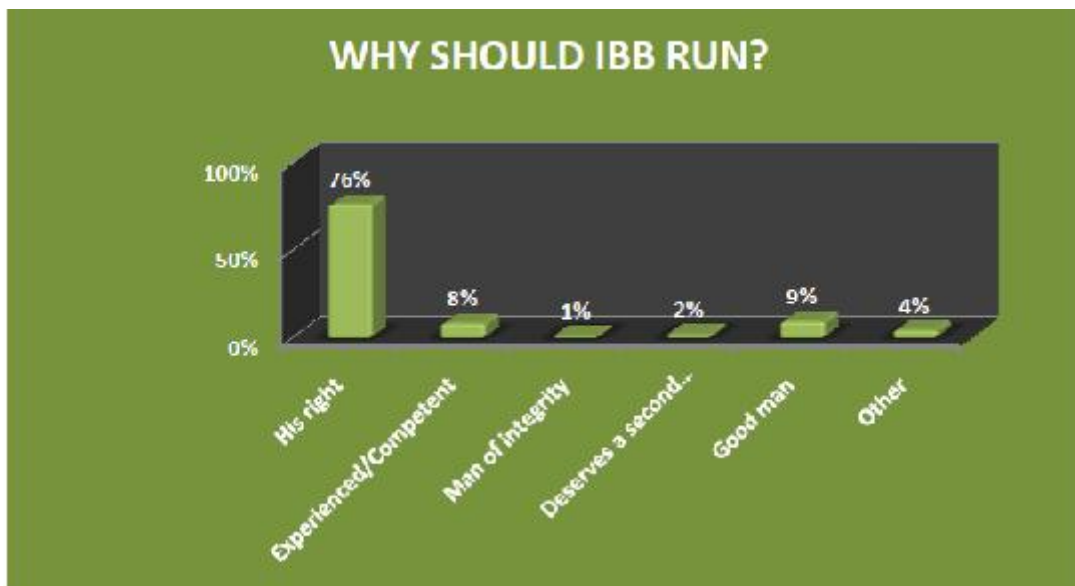
In the run up to the 2011 presidential elections, several prominent Nigerians have formally declared their intention to run for the highest office in the land. In continuation of its electoral surveys, NOI Polls asked Nigerians what they think about some of the candidates’ bids to for the presidency.

Ibrahim Babangida

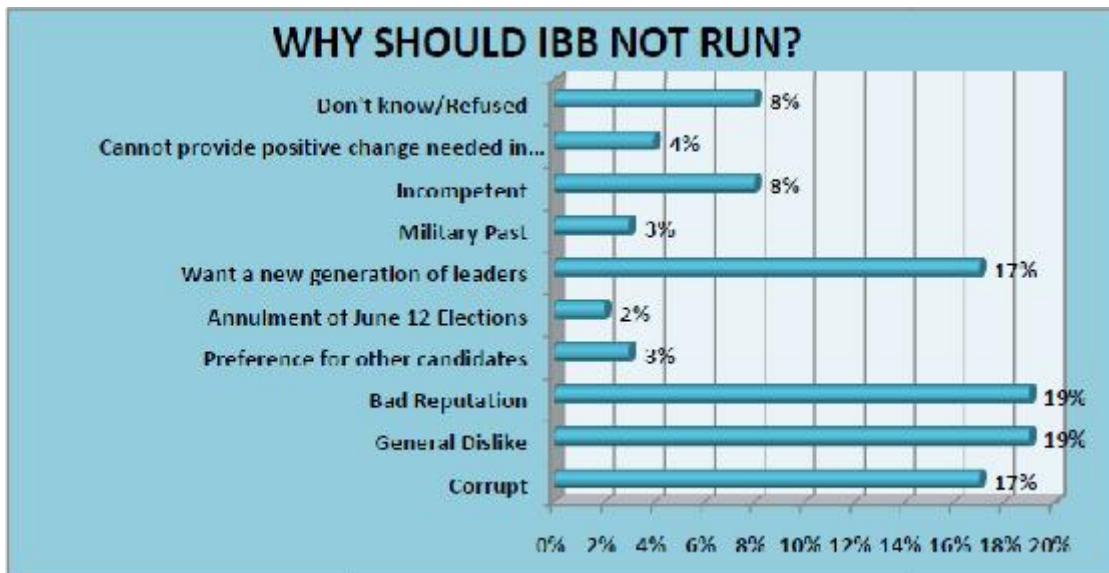
While nearly all of those quizzed (97%) are aware that Ibrahim Babangida has declared his intention to run for the 2011 presidential elections, only 27% think he should run for office.



When asked why they think he should run for office, 76% of those who think he should run said that it is within his rights as a Nigerian, 9% said that he is a good man and 8% said that they believe he is competent enough to be president.

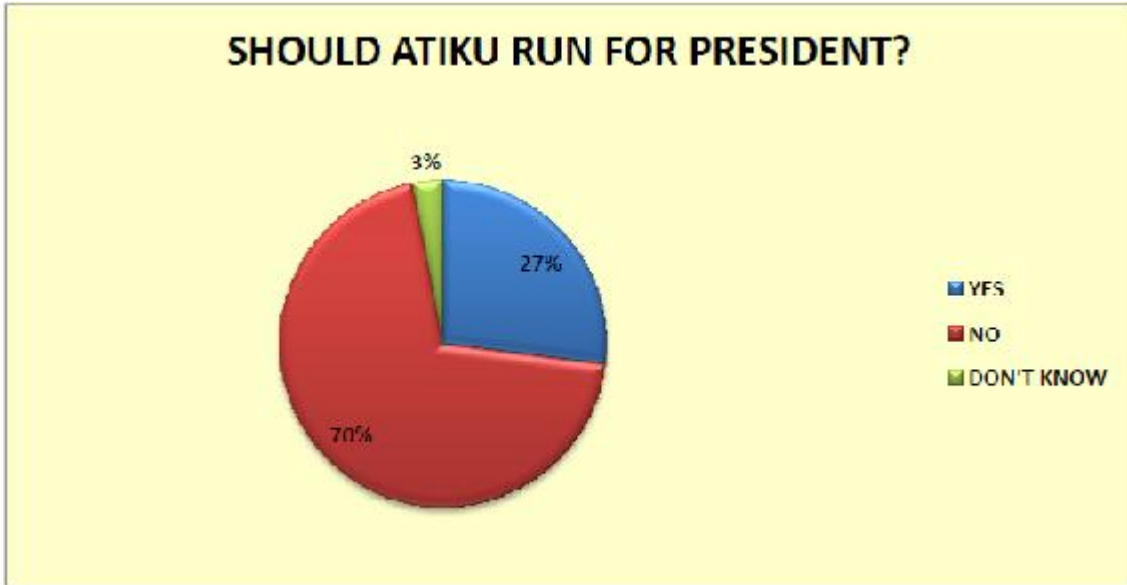


Of the 69% who think he should not run, 19% cited his reputation as being poor, 19% said that they dislike him, 17% said that he is corrupt and another 17% said that they want a new generation of leaders.

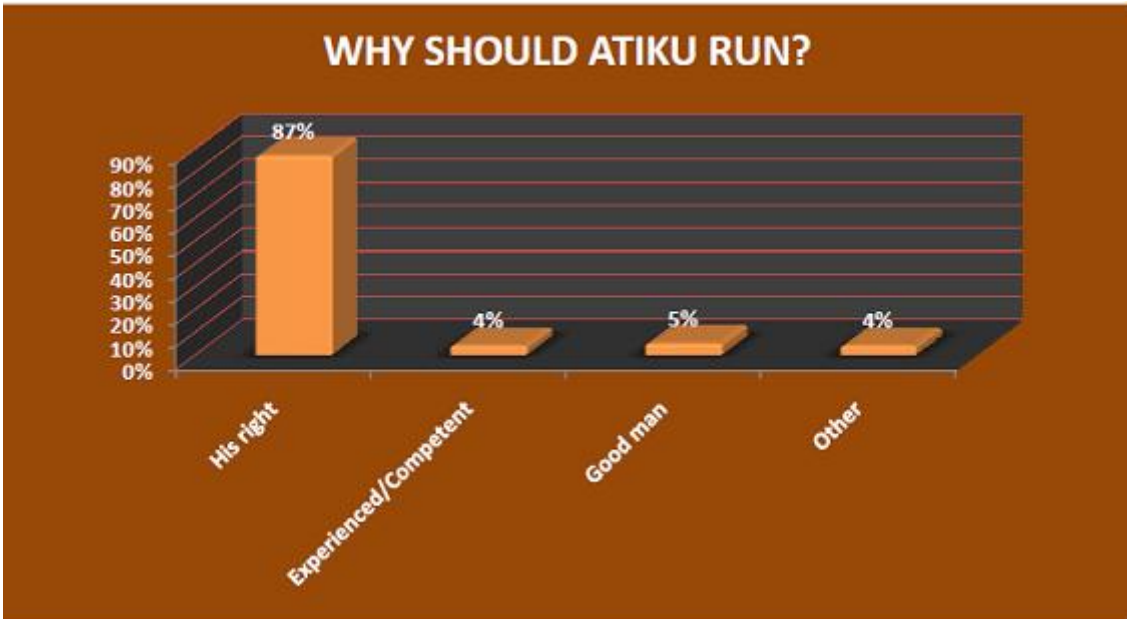


Atiku Abubakar

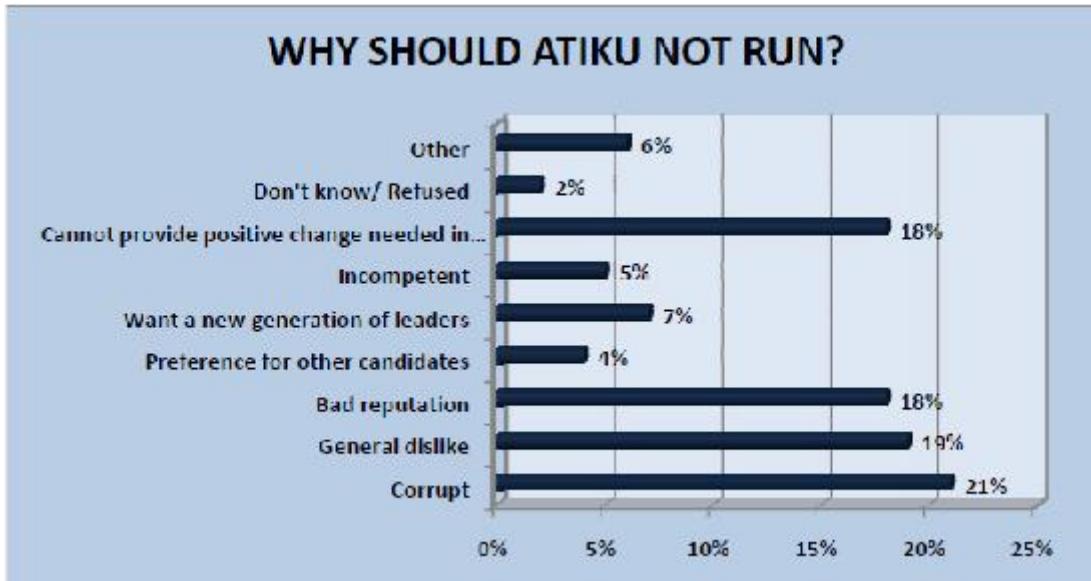
Awareness of Atiku Abubakar's presidential aspirations is also high at 90%, however only 27% of respondents think that he should run while 70% believe he shouldn't run for president.



The highest proportion of those who believe that he should run (87%) say that it his right to do so.

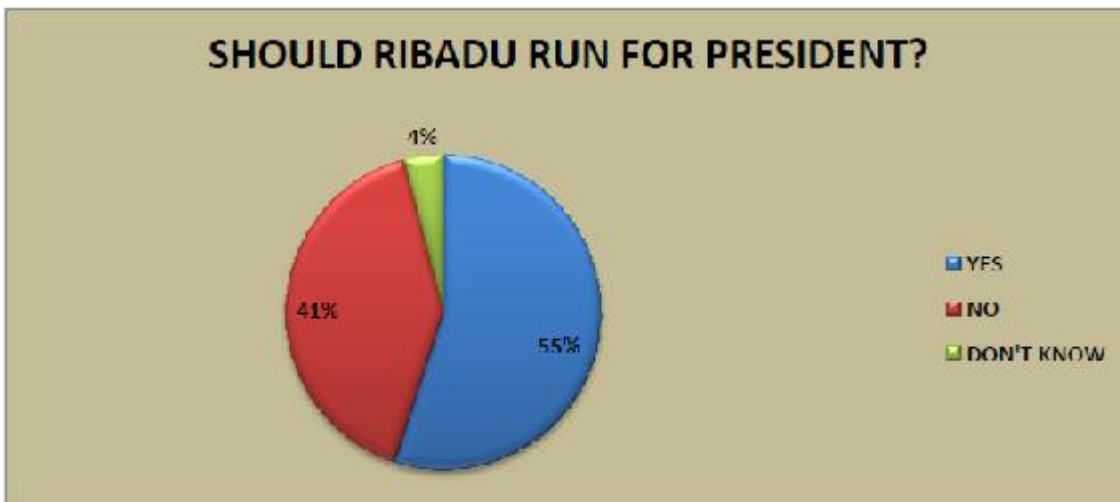


On the other hand, the highest proportion (21%) of those who think Atiku should not run maintain this stance based on their view that he is corrupt. 19% do not like him, 18% think he has a bad reputation while another 18% think he cannot provide the positive changes needed in Nigeria.

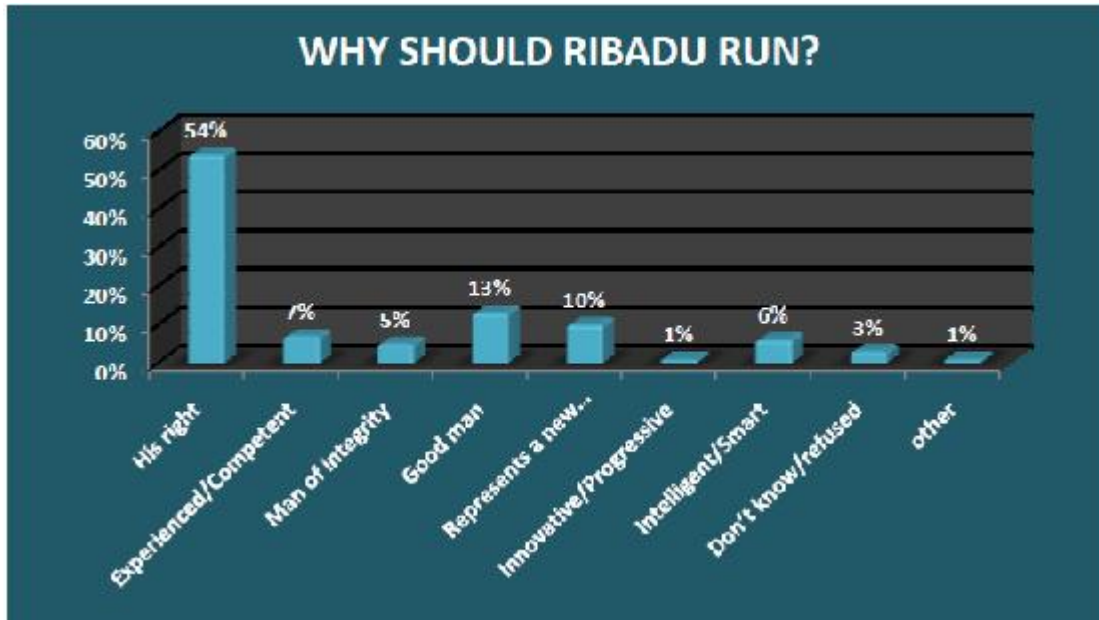


Nuhu Ribadu

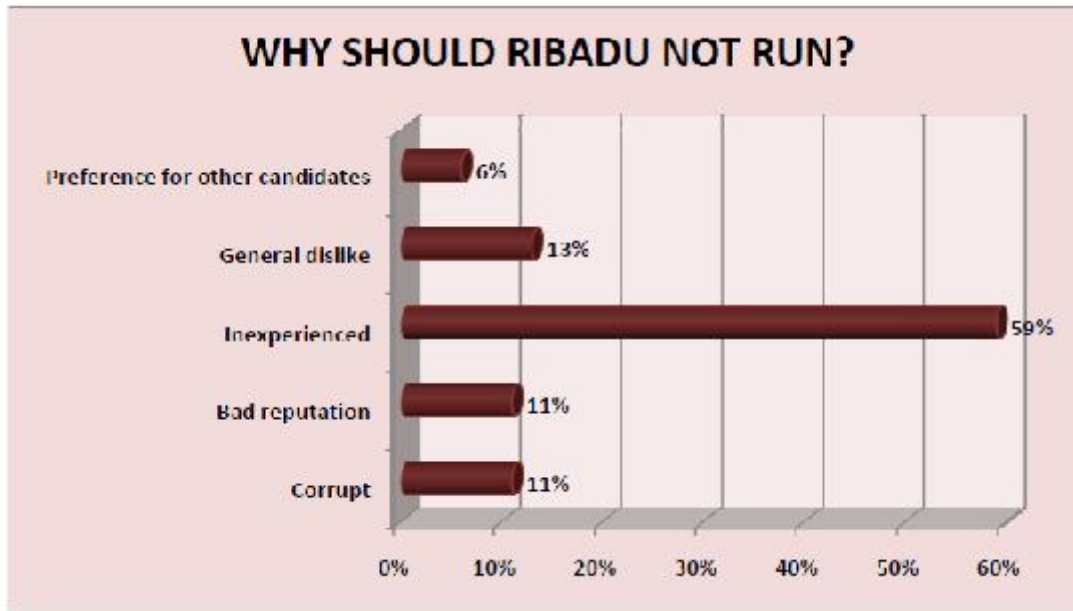
86% of respondents are aware of Ribadu’s intention to run for the 2011 presidential elections. Just over half of Nigerians (55%) think that he should run, while 41% think he shouldn’t run.



54% of those who think Ribadu should run for president say it is his right while 13% justify his candidacy citing that he is a good man. 10% of those supporting Ribadu's decision to run do so as a result of their view that he represents a new generation of Nigerian leaders.



The majority of those who think that Ribadu should not run (59%) cite his inexperience as their reason, while 13% generally dislike him.



Survey Results

This survey shows that Nigerians' awareness of the presidential candidates in the forthcoming elections is generally high. The poll also highlights the opinions held by Nigerians about different candidates. Finally, the poll underscores the fact that Nigerians are generally optimistic about the 2011 general elections.

Survey Methods

Respondents for the snap poll were randomly selected from a database of phone owning Nigerians aged 15 and above, compiled by NOI Polls. 1,008 people took part in the telephone interviews from the 20th to 23rd of September, 2010. For a sample of this size, we can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 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.

WEST EUROPE

Britons Reject Joint Tory/Lib-Dem Campaign in Next General Election

A majority of Britons reject the notion of the two parties currently involved in the Coalition Government contesting the next General Election in unison, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

Two-in-five "frequent" Liberal Democrat voters feel the party has been successful in implementing its policies as part of the Coalition Government.

A majority of Britons reject the notion of the two parties currently involved in the Coalition Government contesting the next General Election in unison, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,005 British adults, 56 per cent of respondents say it would be a bad idea for the Liberal Democrats to campaign alongside the Conservative Party in the next General Election—including three-in-five respondents (60%) who frequently vote for the Lib-Dems.

When asked about the impact that the Lib-Dems have had in the current Coalition Government, one-in-four respondents (26%) believe the party has been successful in implementing its policies. Almost half of Britons believe the Lib-Dems have either been unsuccessful (25%) or have had no effect on the coalition government (49%).

Liberal Democrats					
Do you think it would be a good idea for the Liberal Democrats to campaign alongside the Conservative Party in the next General Election?					
Vote for Lib-Dems in General Elections					
	Total	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Yes, it would be a good idea	21%	27%	28%	25%	16%
No, it would not be a good idea	56%	60%	52%	53%	57%
Not sure	23%	13%	20%	22%	27%

It is important to note that almost half of respondents who rarely (47%) or never (47%) vote for the Lib-Dems in General Elections are more likely to feel that the party has been successful in the Coalition Government, compared to two-in-five frequent Lib-Dem voters (39%) and about a quarter of occasional Lib-Dem voters (27%).

Methodology: From September 30 to October 1, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,004 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Most Britons Want to Elect the Members of the House of Lords

(10/11/10) -

Many people in Britain are voicing support for a process that would allow them to elect the members of the House of Lords, and very few endorse the status quo, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

Two-thirds of respondents support holding a referendum to decide the future of the upper house of Parliament.

Many people in Britain are voicing support for a process that would allow them to elect the members of the House of Lords, and very few endorse the status quo, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,004 adults, three-in-ten respondents (30%) believe the UK does not need a House of Lords, and want all legislation to be reviewed and authorized by the House of Commons.

Two-in-five Britons (40%) think the UK needs a House of Lords, but want the people to be allowed to take part in the process to choose lords.

Only nine per cent of respondents think the current guidelines that call for appointed lords should not be modified.

House of Lords				
As you may know, several proposals have been made to reform the House of Lords. Do you support or oppose each of these ideas? - <i>Allowing the people to directly elect their lords</i>				
	Great Britain	Age 18-34	Age 35-54	Age 55+
Support	58%	55%	59%	59%
Oppose	15%	12%	12%	20%
Not sure	28%	33%	29%	21%

Two-thirds of respondents (66%) support holding a nationwide referendum to decide the future of the House of Lords. A clear majority of Britons (58%) supports the notion of allowing the people to directly elect their lords. Conversely, only three-in-ten (30%) are in favour of abolishing the House of Lords altogether.

Overall, two-in-five Britons (39%) expect the people to be able to directly elect the members of the House of Lords in the next two to five years, while one-in-four (26%) believe this idea will never materialize.

House of Lords				
As you may know, several proposals have been made to reform the House of Lords. Do you support or oppose each of these ideas? - <i>Abolishing the House of Lords altogether</i>				
	Great Britain	Age 18-34	Age 35-54	Age 55+
Support	30%	26%	32%	30%
Oppose	39%	26%	37%	52%
Not sure	31%	48%	32%	18%

Analysis

In recent days, both Liberal Democrat leader and Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg and Labour leader Ed Miliband have voiced their support towards having an elected House of

Lords. Britons are largely supportive of this notion, and certainly prefer it to both the abolishment of the upper house or the current state of affairs.

It is important to note that the idea of abolishing the upper house is rejected by a majority of respondents aged 55 and over (52%). However, this same group is very supportive of the idea of holding a nationwide referendum to decide the future of the House of Lords (73%).

Methodology: From September 30 to October 1, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,004 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Scottish Public Spending Poll II

Scots are prepared to see some spending reductions but do not want NHS budgets cut

Published: 13 October 2010

Fieldwork: 17 - 22 September 2010

Theme: Scotland

Source: Ipsos MORI / BBC Scotland

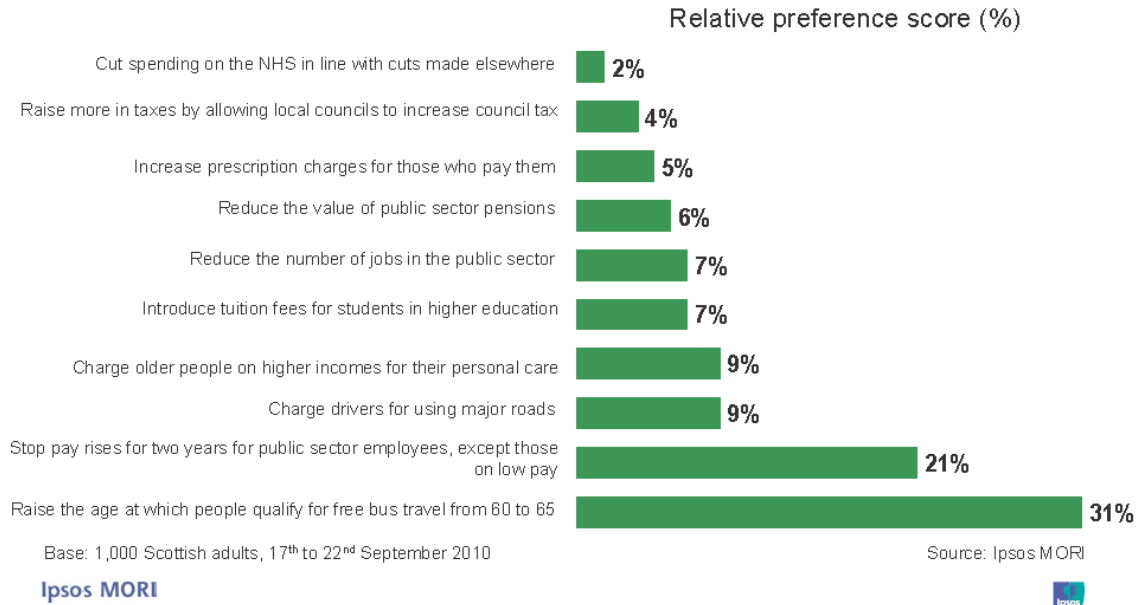
Keywords: Economic optimism, Public Sector Cuts, Scotland

An Ipsos MORI poll released today for BBC Scotland shows that Scots do not want to see cuts made to the NHS or increases in council tax when public spending cuts bite. Instead, they would prefer the Scottish Government to address the budget deficit by reforming universal services such as free bus travel and personal care for the elderly, as well as by freezing public sector pay and introducing charges for drivers on major roads.

The extent of the budget cuts to hit Scotland will be outlined next week after the Chancellor, George Osborne, announces the findings from the Comprehensive Spending Review. The poll sought to establish the Scottish public's preferences for the likely options facing the Scottish Government, outlined in the recent Independent Budget Review (IBR).

In the analysis of the results, each option was given a relative preference score based on the choices made by respondents. From this, the option to cut NHS spending in line with cuts made elsewhere received only 2% of the overall share of preference, while the option to allow local councils to increase the council tax received only 4%.

Q The Scottish Government will have to face difficult financial choices in the next few months. It will either have to spend less or raise more money through taxes and charges. For each of the following pairs of choices, I would like you to choose your preferred option.



The most popular option is to raise the age at which people qualify for free bus travel from 60 to 65, which has almost a third of the share of preference (31%). It is ten percentage points ahead of the second most preferred option, to freeze public sector pay (21%), and three times more acceptable than the options to charge drivers for using major roads (9%) and to charge older people on higher incomes for their personal care (9%).

Mark Diffley, Research Director at Ipsos MORI Scotland said:

“This survey presents a clear indication of where public priorities lie, which measures may be acceptable to many and those which the public want to resist at all costs. The overwhelming public desire to avoid cutting NHS budgets is in line with surveys across the UK which consistently show strong support for the NHS remaining unscathed from cuts. Reducing the reach of free bus travel and freezing pay in the public sector will clearly carry more public support. Of course, the Scottish Government also needs to factor in how much money will be saved by implementing any of these measures.”

Technical Note

The survey, conducted by telephone among 1,000 adults across Scotland from 17-22 September 2010, was commissioned by **BBC Scotland** to coincide with a series of programmes being aired in the lead up to the publication of the spending review.

In order to gain accurate measures of public perceptions, Ipsos MORI employed a ‘paired choice’ approach. This means that each of the 10 options put forward in the IBR was paired off against one another, giving 45 pairs in total. These pairs of options were then split into five groups of 9 pairs, with each pair being presented to 200 respondents. In turn, this meant that each option was presented 1,800 times in total.

EU Children Relatively Free But Want More Respect

October 2010

In February 2010 TNS Qual+ conducted a Qualitative Eurobarometer study on behalf of the European Commission's Directorate General for Justice amongst young people in all 27 Member States of the EU. The study consisted of 170 focus groups and looked at the topic of children's rights. The respondents, all aged between 15 and 17, from different socio-economical and ethnic backgrounds - including Roma, Sinti, Traveller children, and children with special needs - discussed the issues they see as most important in terms of their rights and the rights of children in general and the various obstacles children face in exercising these rights. The discussion then went on to explore the solutions they felt would help overcome these obstacles and the respondents' explicit suggestions for what the 'adult world' could do to better protect and defend the rights of children.

1.1 Being a child in Europe today

As young people in the European Union today, the respondents talk in **positive terms** and in almost equal measure about:

- Their relative freedom from responsibility and pressure
- Their ability to have fun
- The support they receive
- Their opportunities
- The positive role technology plays in their lives

The areas of their lives which they feel are **less good** include:

- Adults not having enough confidence in them
- Pressure to succeed
- Bullying both physical and, sometimes, mental
- Restrictions on the decisions they can make about their own lives,
- The risk of addiction and mental and physical threats to well-being
- The rush to grow up
- Having insufficient activities to occupy their leisure time

Young people see their parents, family, friends and sports/ activity coaches as largely positive influences on their lives. They are more ambivalent about teachers and 'the law' including the police and see the media exerting influence both in very good and in negative ways.

1.2 Defining children's rights

Few young people think much, if at all, about human rights and do not automatically associate them with their own situation and the situations of those they know. They think even less about children's specific rights although they believe that most human rights also apply to children. However, it is felt that children should have a particular '**right to education**'.

Beyond education, the right which is felt to be most important for children is the '**right to be a child**'; to have freedom from responsibility and the opportunity to play, grow and develop. Other key freedoms identified by our respondents include freedom of speech,

access to shelter and food, to healthcare, the right to a family life and to respect and not to be bullied.

The **‘right to participate’** was something which many children referred to, some wanting to be active participants in decision-making processes which affected them directly, from educational choices to the right to vote. This desire was repeatedly expressed in relation to areas of their lives where there are expectations being set and things are being demanded of them in terms of achievement and attainment (school, further education or jobs). It is also expressed in the context of families undergoing the fractures of separation and divorce; the children want to be active participants in the decisions being made about them and to feel that their opinions are being respected.

1.3 Protecting children’s rights

Within the research clear distinctions were made between the majority of children who took part in the study and who are not deemed to be at serious risk of their rights being infringed and various specific groups of children who respondents consider to be more ‘vulnerable’. Amongst the groups of children deemed to be particularly vulnerable are: those vulnerable to violence or abuse; victims of bullying; those who are very poor; children in institutions; homeless children; children with special needs; those from minority ethnic groups, such as the Roma, Sinti or Traveller children.

When considering what could be done to better ensure and protect children’s rights the respondents considered both their own situations and those of the different groups of vulnerable children.

Young European citizens believe that most of the responsibility for ensuring children’s rights lies with parents and teachers in relation to them as individuals and ‘the State’² in relation to children in general and the vulnerable and disadvantaged in particular.

The participants would like adults who are close to children to listen to them more carefully and look out for warning signs of threats to their rights. They would also like more to be done via technology and the internet to engage children in the issues and inform them about the dangers.

More specifically, there are a number of ways in which children would like to see the ‘adult world’ better ensure and protect the rights of children:

- **They want adults to have more trust in children and involve them more in decisions**

They would like parents to involve children more in the decisions and issues which affect them closely such as educational choices, where to live on parental separation and trusting them with more information on the risks associated with drugs and alcohol.

In order to ensure their rights at school, they would like teachers to be better trained in listening more to children, looking out for signs of rights infringements and taking them more seriously when they report instances of bullying in particular.

When looking to policy makers, they would like to see increased efforts in improving the general public's opinion of young people, positive investment in children's recreation and future work opportunities and increased enforcement of existing laws.

They want the State (at the local, regional and national level) to encourage more forums so that the children's voices can be heard, whether that is by lowering the voting age, providing children's ombudspersons or champions³ or other forms of political empowerment. They want children to be asked their views and to see that these opinions count.

They would like greater promotion of positive attitudes to the needs of children from minority groups and more educational and other opportunities to encourage such children to integrate fully into mainstream culture and society.

- **They want adults to respect children's freedom to be children**

They would like the 'adult world' to finance more play areas and centres where children in general, and in particular the vulnerable, may go for sport, play or shelter.

They would like to ensure that children are not too pressured to perform at school and take extra curricular classes at the expense of genuinely 'free' time.

- **They want more communication about children's rights**

Within the family and school contexts they want children to have the confidence to speak out if they feel their rights are being infringed; encouraging dialogue is important. Children need to be secure that they are acting legitimately by voicing concerns.

They want more information such as talks about children's rights in schools and information on places they can go for help. Both these should also be delivered using the interactive technologies with which they are familiar, for example, a children's website about bullying. They are aware of cyber bullying and, to some extent the caution needed in using the internet/ social media.

They would welcome more promotion of existing children's Help Lines or ombudspersons. They would welcome information campaigns for parents on the damage alcohol or drug influenced neglectful behaviour can cause.

- **They want more support where it is needed**

They feel that the situations of most vulnerable children should be better monitored (whether at home, at school or elsewhere) with strong social service support where needed. They are looking for more psychological support for children in need at school and, in particular, for support groups and therapy for victims of bullying.

Parents need to be made more aware of the importance of spending time with their children.

Objectives and Methodology

2.1 Background and objectives

This Qualitative Eurobarometer study into the Rights of the Child was commissioned by the Directorate General for Justice of the European Commission. The overall objectives of the study were:

- To understand which issues children find most important in terms of their rights
- To understand the obstacles children face in exercising their rights
- To have the view of children as to possible solutions to overcome these problems

The findings will assist the reflection and consultation processes on key areas for action to be included in the future development of the EU strategy on the rights of the child.

This qualitative study follows two quantitative Eurobarometer surveys conducted in the previous two years aimed at finding the level of children's awareness of their rights and understanding what critical issues they face in terms of their rights.

2.2 Research design

Across the EU, 170 discussion groups were organised with the participation of 1,445 children. Within each Member State, the sample was broadly representative of boys and girls aged 15 to 17, from urban and provincial areas, lower and higher economic groups and from a mix of ethnic backgrounds. Our respondents also included 51 children with some form of physical special needs.

Fieldwork was conducted in February and March 2010 and consisted of six focus groups in 23 Member States and eight groups in the remaining four (Romania, Hungary, Spain and UK), including two with children from the Roma, Sinti or Traveller communities⁵; one group of girls and one of boys in each.

DG Justice provided a detailed background briefing for moderators and agreed the topic guide (included as an annex to this report). The identity of the project sponsor was not revealed to participants until the end of the focus groups.

The reader should note that, although respondents were encouraged during the discussions to consider the needs of children from younger age groups, the findings of the study are strongly reflective of the views and opinions of the age group amongst which the research was conducted.

The focus groups were two hours long and conducted between 1st and 12th March 2010. Verbatim quotations from respondents are used extensively in this report since they provide an opportunity for respondents to 'speak for themselves' and allow the reader to gain a better understanding of the perspective from which children view the issues under discussion. In all cases the nationality and gender of the respondent are given but the selected quotes are representative of similar sentiments expressed by respondents from

other Member States and this attribution should not be seen as implying any specific link to the country in question.

NORTH AMERICA

Obama Job Approval Up Again To 49% & Generic Congressional Ballot Remains Tied, Now at 45%-45%

(10/11/2010)

Poll Shows Fewer Undecided Voters

UTICA, New York--Both President Barack Obama and Democratic Congressional candidates continue to consolidate support from party members, as Obama's job approval is back up to 49% and the party remains tied with Republicans on the question of which party's candidate voters plan to choose on Nov. 2.

This latest Zogby Interactive survey conducted from Oct. 8-11, 2010 also found the percentage of undecided voters dropped from 11% to 6% since the last poll on Oct. 4.

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

	Oct 11	Oct 4	Sep 27	Sep 20	Sep 14	Aug 30	Aug 23	Aug 12	Aug 4	Jul 26	Jul 19
Democrat	45%	43%	41%	44%	41%	41%	41%	41%	38%	40%	41%
Republican	45%	43%	46%	43%	47%	43%	43%	42%	46%	43%	43%
Neither	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Not sure	6%	11%	10%	10%	10%	12%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%

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

While about nine in 10 Republicans and Democrats say they will vote for their party's candidate, Democrats show signs of improvement with their base, especially among the "First Global" generation born since 1979, whose support jumped from 37% to 60% since last week's poll. Democrats also improved over our last poll in households earning less than \$100,000 annually, but fell further behind the Republicans among those making more than \$100,000.

Among independents, Republicans lead, 46%-34%, a difference that hasn't changed much from a week earlier. The percentage of undecided independents fell nine points, from 23% to 14%. Democrats continue to do well with political moderates, and lead the Republicans among them, 54%-30%.

Obama Job Performance	Oct 11	Oct 4	Sept 27	Sept 20	Sept 14	Aug 30	Aug 23	Aug 12	Aug 4	Jul 26	July 19	June 28	June 7	May 10	Apr 19

Approve	49%	46%	45%	49%	46%	44%	46%	43%	43%	46%	45%	46%	47%	47%	49%
Disapprove	51%	53%	54%	51%	54%	56%	53%	56%	57%	53%	54%	53%	53%	53%	51%
Not sure	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%

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

President Obama's approval gained four points among Democrats (now 88%) and five among independents (now 45%). As in the Congressional generic ballot, Obama's standing with First Globals" and households earning less than \$100,000 improved, but fell in higher income households. His job approval with moderates also improved to a robust 63%

In other findings:

- 35% of likely voters say the nation is headed in the right direction, and 56% say it is headed in the wrong direction, which is no change from a week earlier.
- The job approval of Congress is 23%. Approval of Congressional Democrats' performance is 37%, and approval of Congressional Republicans is 26%.

Pollster John Zogby: "The Democratic campaign, led by President Obama, to energize the party base is showing some results. A growing majority of young voters now favor the Democrats. The GOP has not yet sealed the deal with voters. We still don't know who will vote, and many independent voters hate both parties. Obama's approval rating of 49% is higher than that of both Reagan and Clinton at the same point in their first terms. So he has some good will among independents, and may try to use it as the race heads to the finish line."

The interactive poll consisted of 2,071 likely voters and has a margin of error of +/- 2.2%. A sampling of Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population.

Political Allegiance Shaped by Stance on Moral Issues in U.S.

(10/11/10) -

Americans of all political stripes have a similar moral compass on issues such as contraception, divorce and infidelity, but some striking differences become evident when their party allegiance is assessed, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

Republicans are not as flexible on sex and life matters, while Democrats are less tolerant on the treatment of animals.

Americans of all political stripes have a similar moral compass on issues such as contraception, divorce and infidelity, but some striking differences become evident when their party allegiance is assessed, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 1,010 American adults, four-in-five respondents (80%) personally believe that contraception is morally acceptable.

At least half of respondents across the country feel the same way about gambling (68%), divorce (64%), sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman (64%), the death penalty (63%), medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos (55%) and having a baby outside of marriage (52%).

More than a third of respondents think six other issues are morally acceptable: buying and wearing clothing made of animal fur (43%), sexual relations between two people of the same sex (40%), abortion (37%), doctor-assisted suicide (36%), medical testing on animals (34%) and pornography (33%).

Only a quarter of respondents believe prostitution (25%) and cloning animals (24%) are morally acceptable. Less than one-in-five feel the same way about using illegal drugs (18%), suicide (14%), polygamy (12%), cloning humans (11%), married men and/or women having an affair (8%) and pedophilia

Moral Issues			
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			
	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Contraception	82%	76%	82%
Gambling	72%	64%	71%
Divorce	69%	53%	71%
Sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman	68%	53%	73%
The death penalty	57%	72%	63%
Medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos	63%	46%	57%
Having a baby outside of marriage	60%	38%	55%
Buying and wearing clothing made of animal fur	35%	59%	44%
Sexual relations between two people of the same sex	48%	22%	47%
Abortion	46%	27%	39%
Doctor-assisted suicide	38%	32%	42%
Medical testing on animals	33%	40%	37%
Pornography	34%	22%	41%
Prostitution	28%	16%	32%
Cloning animals	25%	20%	30%
Using illegal drugs	23%	9%	20%
Suicide	15%	14%	14%
Polygamy, when one husband has more than one wife at the same time	11%	8%	16%
Cloning humans	13%	8%	12%
Married men and/or women having an affair	9%	4%	12%
Pedophilia	5%	3%	4%

(4%).

Political Allegiance

Republicans are clearly not in agreement with Democrats and Independents on seven of the issues that were included in the survey, including medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos (46%), having a baby outside of marriage (38%), abortion (27%), sexual relations between two people of the same sex (22%), pornography (22%), prostitution (16%) and illegal drugs (9%).

Democrats are more likely than the other two groups to find each issue as “morally acceptable” with the exception of three: the death penalty (57%), buying and wearing clothing made of animal fur (35%) and medical testing on animals (33%).

Independents are more likely to find sexual relations between an unmarried man and woman (73%) doctor-assisted suicide (42%), cloning animals (30%) and polygamy (16%) as “morally acceptable.”

Analysis

Republicans are evidently less accepting than other Americans when it comes to specific issues related to sex (same-sex relations, pornography and prostitution), and life (abortion, embryonic stem cell research). Democrats are at the other side of the spectrum on the treatment of animals (fur and medical testing) and are less likely to endorse the death penalty.

Independents are slightly closer to the Republicans on some moral issues (such as the death penalty and animal fur) and tend to side with the Democrats on others (such as prostitution and embryonic stem cell research).

Methodology: From September 30 to October 1, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,010 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

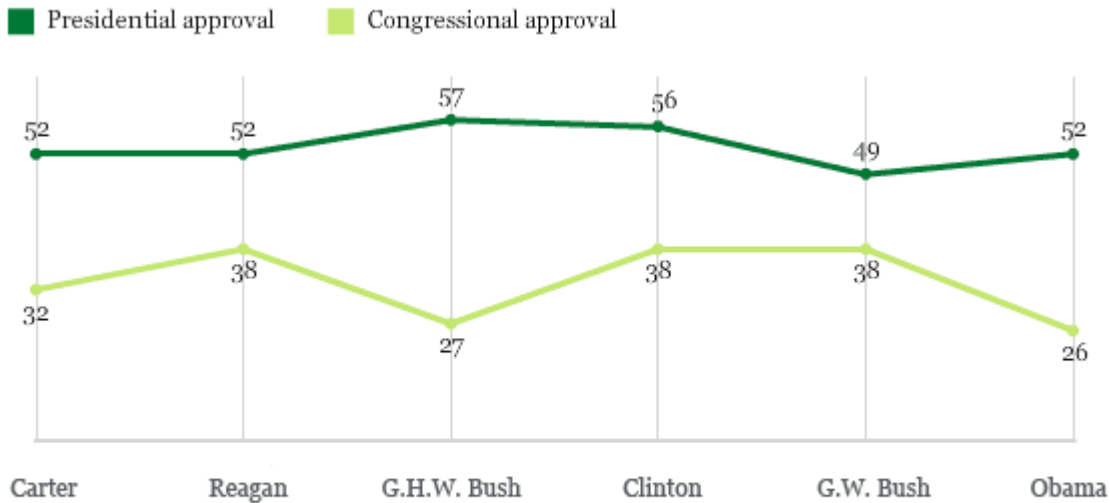
Obama Performing Well Relative to Congress' Low Ratings

Obama's 26-point average lead in approval is high versus past presidents' margins

October 15, 2010

Since he took office, President Barack Obama's job approval ratings have averaged 26 percentage points higher than Congress' approval ratings in surveys where both were measured at the same time. This is a greater presidential approval edge than what Gallup found for four of the previous five presidents, with the exception being the elder George Bush.

Presidential vs. Congressional Job Approval, Term Averages ^



^ Average ratings for selected surveys when both approval ratings were measured at the same time

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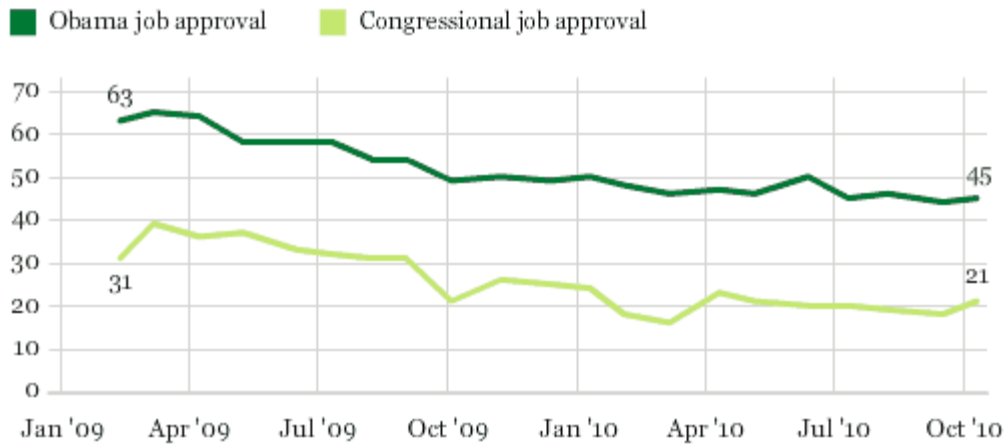
More specifically, across 21 polls conducted since Obama took office in which Gallup measured both presidential and congressional job approval, 52% of Americans approved of Obama and 26% approved of Congress -- a 26-point gap. George W. Bush's average lead in approval over Congress during his eight years in office was 11 points, 49% to 38%. Bill Clinton had an average 18-point edge and Ronald Reagan a 14-point edge. By contrast, the elder George Bush's average approval rating was 30 points higher than Congress' approval rating in seven contemporaneous readings of the two measures conducted between 1990 and 1992.

It should be noted that congressional approval was measured fairly infrequently prior to 1993, and thus, the average ratings calculated for presidents Carter, Reagan, and George H.W. Bush are based on relatively few cases. However, Gallup initiated more frequent updates of the measure in 1993 and implemented monthly updates in 2001 -- thus providing robust comparative statistics for the Clinton, G.W. Bush, and Obama presidencies.

A Steady Picture From 2009-2010

Obama's average 26-point approval lead over Congress is typical of the size of the individual Obama-congressional approval gaps measured during the past two years. Most recently, Obama had a 45% job approval rating in Gallup's early October Crime poll, compared with Congress' 21% approval rating -- a 24-point gap.

Barack Obama's vs. Congress' Job Approval, February 2009-October 2010



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Bottom Line

Today and throughout his time in office, President Obama has received a substantially higher approval rating from the American people than has Congress. The average 26-point gap between the two thus far into Obama's term is substantially higher than Gallup has found during most recent administrations. Obama's approval ratings have also been running substantially higher than Americans' satisfaction with the direction of the country. Currently 21% of Americans are satisfied, identical to congressional approval.

Given all this, it appears that Obama is performing above par relative to the broader negative political climate, although the reason is not clear. His approval rating has been below 50% for most of this year -- not good for his party heading into midterm elections - - but given that Congress' ratings are hovering around 20%, it could be much worse.

Some Democratic candidates have avoided associating their campaigns with President Obama and even shunned presidential visits to their districts. But Americans' anger seems directed more at Congress than at Obama, and given Obama's continued high approval from members of his own party, it is likely that he could, at the very least, be effective at motivating the Democratic base to turn out.

Survey Methods

The latest results are from a Gallup poll based on telephone interviews conducted Oct. 7-10, 2010, with a random sample of 1,025 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

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

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

Presidential vs. Congressional Job Approval, Term Averages ^

	Presidential approval	Congressional approval	Difference
	%	%	Pct. pts.
Carter	52	32	20
Reagan	52	38	14
G.H.W. Bush	57	27	30
Clinton	56	38	18
G.W. Bush	49	38	11
Obama	52	26	26

^ Average ratings for surveys when both approval ratings measured at the same time
Obama approval measured through October 2010

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Americans Disagree on How to Fix Entitlement Programs

Do not provide a mandate for raising taxes or cutting benefits to address economic problems

October 15, 2010

More than three in four Americans believe the cost of the government's major entitlement programs, including Social Security and Medicare, will create major economic problems for the U.S. in the next 25 years if no changes are made to them. At the same time, Americans do not provide a mandate for raising taxes or cutting benefits to address the situation.

Views on "the major entitlement programs the government is committed to, including Social Security and Medicare"

	Yes	No
	%	%
Cost of programs will create major economic problems	77	18
Government should raise taxes to address	42	56
Government should cut benefits to address	31	66

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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While fewer than half of Americans say they favor raising taxes or cutting benefits to address the economic problems they foresee from the government's major entitlement programs, 62% do support one approach or the other. Specifically, 12% favor both options, 30% favor a tax increase but not benefit cuts, and 20% favor benefit cuts but not a tax increase. Still, the data show that there is little consensus on how to address a problem most Americans see looming, and more than one-third of Americans (35%) oppose both options.

Social Security alone, the federal government's largest single program, is expected to pay \$703 billion in benefits this year to nearly 53 million Americans. The Social Security Administration says costs will exceed revenues in 2010 and 2011, and every year beginning in 2015 -- so much so that it will become unable to pay full benefits in 2037. Social Security and Medicare outlays are each up about 5% this year, according to the Congressional Budget Office. The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index also suggests a growing crunch on resources, having found more Americans on Medicare and Medicaid in September than in any month since it began tracking insurance coverage in January 2008.

While large majorities of Americans in every subgroup say the cost of the government's major entitlement programs will cause major problems, those under 50 and Republicans express the most widespread concern. Democrats are most likely to favor raising taxes and Republicans most likely to favor a cut in benefits.

Views on "the major entitlement programs the government is committed to, including Social Security and Medicare"

By age and party

	Cost of programs will create major economic problems	Government should raise taxes to address	Government should cut benefits to address
	%	%	%
18- to 29-year-olds	83	52	27
30- to 49-year-olds	82	38	34
50- to 64-year-olds	76	38	33
65-year-olds and older	66	46	32
Republicans	86	29	41
Independents	77	40	32
Democrats	69	60	22

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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Increasing Social Security taxes and reducing initial benefits are two of five approaches the CBO has identified to manage the shortfall in that program. Increasing benefits for low earners, increasing the full retirement age, and reducing cost-of-living adjustments applied to continuing benefits are the others.

A Gallup poll conducted in July asked about potential options to address Social Security's balance sheet, and found only minority support for increasing the retirement age, or for increasing Social Security taxes or reducing benefits unless those changes were limited to the wealthy. Gallup has not asked about cost-of-living adjustments, which the government Friday announced would not be made for a second straight year due to low inflation, as measured by the U.S. Consumer Price Index, stemming from the weak economic climate.

Implications

While few Americans name Social Security specifically as one of the most important problems facing the country today, the vast majority of Americans agree that the government's major entitlement programs are likely to cause major economic problems in the next 25 years. Americans' views on the topic are particularly noteworthy in a climate in which there is little consensus about what the government should be fully responsible for -- including providing a minimum living standard for all -- and a high level of concern about government debt.

Americans under 50 are most likely to foresee major economic problems for these programs, but even they do not express a strong mandate to raise taxes or cut benefits as a solution. Nonetheless, the need for action is clear, considering that more nonretirees in 2010 than in 2007 said they expect to rely on Social Security as a major source of income in retirement, and at the same time 60% already do not expect Social Security to be able to pay them a benefit once they retire. Legislators should note that while the issue is a widespread source of concern and draws clear political battle lines, Americans aren't clamoring for the main options on the table.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

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

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

Americans Still Trust Own Judgment More Than Politicians'

Both trust levels continue to drift downward

October 14, 2010

Americans continue to have more trust in themselves to make judgments under the country's democratic system than they do in the men and women who are in political life, with 69% of Americans expressing "a great deal" or "a fair amount" of trust in the former, and 47% in the latter.

How much trust and confidence do you have in general in men and women in political life in this country who either hold or are running for public office -- ?

More generally, how much trust and confidence do you have in the American people as a whole when it comes to making judgments under our democratic system about the issues facing our country -- ?

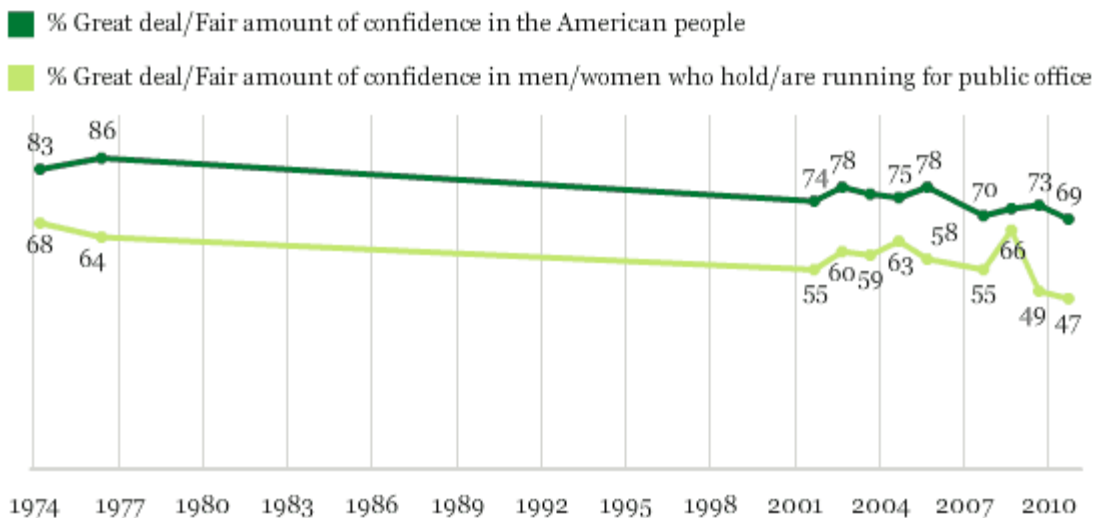
	% A great deal	% A fair amount	% Not very much	% None at all
Trust and confidence in the American people	21	48	26	4
Trust and confidence in men and women who hold or are running for public office	4	43	44	7

Sept. 13-16, 2010

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This year's readings on both measures are the lowest in Gallup's history of asking these questions, and reflect a continuing general downward drift in trust over the last three decades.

Americans' Trust in Themselves and Politicians



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When Gallup first asked both questions in April 1974, Congress was embroiled in the Watergate investigation that culminated in President Richard Nixon's resignation a few months later. Public sentiment about the men and women in political life and Americans' own judgment was significantly higher than it is today, at 68% and 83%, respectively. Trust in politicians is now 21 percentage points lower than it was then, and Americans' trust in themselves is 14 points lower.

Implications

These two questions speak to issues at the heart of the system of representative democracy in this country. The people of the United States are in ultimate charge of the political system, but they exercise that control indirectly for the most part, through electing their congressional representatives and the president. Despite this system of representation, Americans have consistently over the last 36 years expressed more trust in themselves to make judgments "under our democratic system about the issues facing our country" than they do in the men and women in political life who represent them.

Gallup's question does not define "men and women in political life" in any detail, so respondents may have answered it with state- and local-level politicians, as well as national politicians, in mind. Gallup data show that Americans are generally more positive about the political system at state and local levels than nationally. The question results may thus reflect a higher trust level than would be the case if the question had specified "national" politicians.

The question also includes a reference to men and women who are "running for" political office, which, in the current political election environment -- with its ubiquitous negative ads and personal attacks -- may have affected respondents' answers. And it would perhaps not be surprising to find Americans expressing more trust in themselves than in other people, regardless of who these others might be.

Still, the responses to these two questions suggest that, as far as the average American is concerned, politicians would do well to heed the sentiments of the average citizens they represent -- since Americans appear to trust their own judgment more than they do the judgment of their elected representatives.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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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figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in continental U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

Americans' Views Vary on How Active Government Should Be

Party and ideological groups also show range of opinions about government

October 12, 2010

Americans are essentially equally divided in their views of the role of the federal government, with one-third tilting toward a preference for a government that actively takes steps to improve the lives of its citizens, one-third preferring a limited government that performs mostly basic functions, and the remainder in the middle.

Next, I'd like you to think more broadly about the purposes of government. Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means you think the government should do only those things necessary to provide the most basic government functions, and 5 means you think the government should take active steps in every area it can to try and improve the lives of its citizens? You may use any number from 1 to 5.

	1/Provide most basic functions	2	3	4	5/Take active steps in every area it can	Mean rating
Sep 2010	18%	15%	33%	15%	19%	3.0

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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These results are based on a Sept. 13-16 *USA Today*/Gallup poll designed to help better understand what Americans want the federal government to do at a time of record- or near-record low levels of trust in the nation's political institutions and in the government's ability to deal with the problems facing the country.

The basic conclusion from the five-point scale question is that Americans are hardly unified in their views of what role they want the government to take, but rather array themselves about equally along a continuum ranging from very limited to very active government.

Thus, although Americans have generally negative top-of-mind reactions to the federal government as a brand or concept, the minority want government to limit itself to performing only a few basic functions.

Even among specific ideological and political groups the picture is hardly one of consensus and unity. Though conservatives tend to prefer limited government and liberals tend to prefer active government, among each group, slightly above 50% hold those views. In fact, about one in five conservatives indicate they want a fairly active government, and about one in eight liberals indicate they want a more limited one.

The plurality of moderates places themselves at the midpoint of the scale, with more tending toward active government than limited government.

Preference for Government Activity, by Self-Identified Political Ideology

	1/Provide most basic functions	2	3	4	5/Take active steps in every area it can	Mean rating
Liberals	6%	6%	29%	33%	26%	3.7
Moderates	9%	13%	44%	14%	20%	3.2
Conservatives	31%	22%	25%	7%	14%	2.5

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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The results are largely similar by political party, though independents tend more toward preferring limited rather than active government.

Preference for Government Activity, by Political Party Affiliation

	1/Provide most basic functions	2	3	4	5/Take active steps in every area it can	Mean rating
Democrats	5%	5%	35%	27%	29%	3.7
Independents	20%	15%	36%	12%	16%	2.9
Republicans	28%	26%	26%	7%	13%	2.5

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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Bottom Line

While Americans have expressed concerns with the Obama administration's reliance on government to address the problems facing the country, they may be equally uncomfortable with the reaction against government that has emerged in the last two

years, as embodied by the Tea Party movement. Rather, opinions are more nuanced. Americans don't necessarily hold a moderate view of how active government should be -- one-third pick the midpoint of a five-point scale -- but rather array themselves about equally along the continuum.

Thus, the answer of how active government should be may not be one that can be answered on a general, philosophical level, but may be decided on more of a case-by-case basis. Gallup will further explore the complex picture of what Americans want their government to do this week on Gallup.com.

Gallup and USA Today will explore Americans' views of the role of the federal government further in a summit to be held at Gallup world headquarters in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 13, 2010. The event will offer polling and political experts' takes on what's behind the negative image of the federal government, and analysis of what the American people want -- and don't want -- their government to do for them. [Learn more or register.](#)

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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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Majorities in U.S. View Gov't as Too Intrusive and Powerful

Independents largely side with Republicans in denouncing big government

October 13, 2010

Record- or near-record-high percentages of Americans are critical of the size and scope of government, as measured by four Gallup trend questions updated in September. This sentiment stretches to 59% of Americans now believing the federal government has too much power, up eight percentage points from a year ago.

Americans' Perceptions of Federal Government's Power

Do you think the federal government today -- [has too much power, has about the right amount of power, or has too little power]?



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Nearly as many Americans also give the antigovernment response to a question asking whether government should do more to solve the country's problems or whether it is doing too many things that should be left to businesses and individuals. Today's 58% saying it is doing too much is just slightly below the 59% to 60% levels recorded in the mid- to late '90s.

Perceptions of Government's Role in Solving Nation's Problems

Some people think the government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses. Others think that government should do more to solve our country's problems. Which comes closer to your own view?



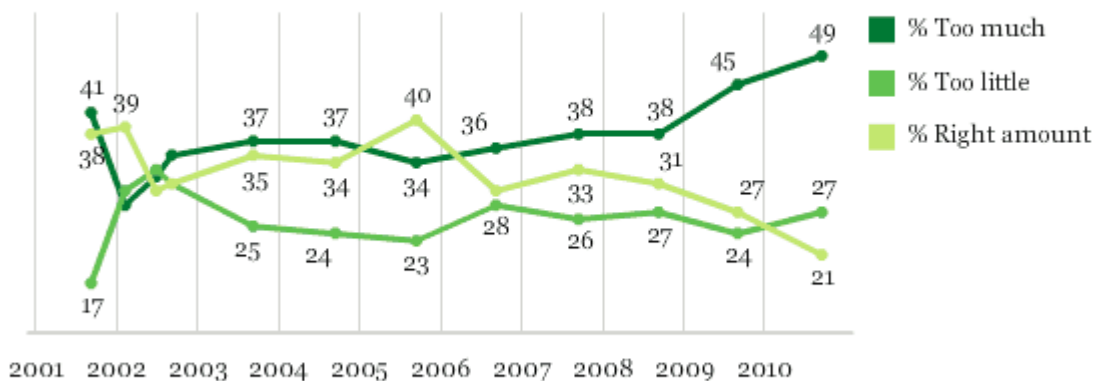
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The latest results are based on Gallup's annual Governance survey, cosponsored this year by *USA Today*, and conducted Sept. 13-16.

Americans are about evenly split over whether the government is overreaching with its regulation of business and industry versus doing too little or the right amount in this area. However, the 49% now saying there is too much government regulation is the highest seen in the past decade.

Views on Government Regulation

In general, do you think there is too much, too little, or about the right amount of government regulation of business and industry?



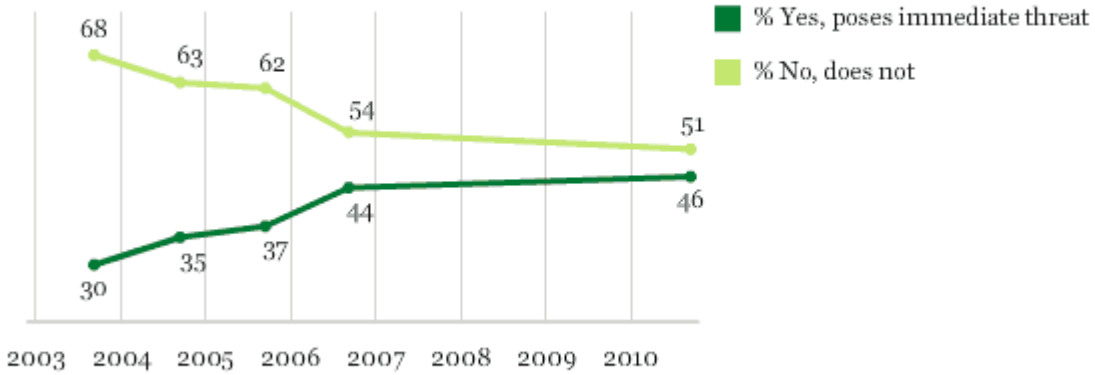
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Americans continue to disagree rather than agree that the federal government poses an immediate threat to the rights and freedoms of ordinary citizens. However, the current

51% to 46% split on this question represents the narrowest margin since Gallup first asked it in 2003.

Perceived Government Threat to Individuals

Do you think the federal government poses an immediate threat to the rights and freedoms of ordinary citizens, or not?



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Independents Join Republicans in Rebuking Government

Solid majorities of Republicans are critical of government on all four government role questions reviewed here, while equally large majorities of Democrats defend the government's size and influence.

Consistent with independents' ongoing preference for Republican congressional candidates this year, majorities of independents side with Republicans in saying the government has too much power, is doing too many things, and is going too far with regulation of the private sector. Independents are divided at 49% to 49% over whether the government represents an immediate threat to citizens' liberty.

Perceptions of Government Size and Scope, by Party ID

	Republican	Independent	Democrat
	%	%	%
Federal government has too much power	79	65	27
Government doing too much	77	60	33
Too much government regulation of business and industry	69	53	21
Federal government poses immediate threat to individuals' liberty	66	49	21

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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Bottom Line

An expanded proportion of Americans in 2010 believe the government has overstepped its bounds -- growing too intrusive and too powerful. Also, nearly half now consider the government a threat to individual liberty. However, the boundaries Americans want government to operate within are well described in the 2010 *USA Today*/Gallup Governance survey, and they turn out to be fairly moderate. On a 5-point scale ranging from extreme activism on the part of government to extreme minimalism, Americans are evenly distributed around the midpoint, with relatively few picking either extreme. Thus emerges a picture of a populace that wants a certain amount of government involvement in promoting the wellbeing of Americans -- certainly not too much, but also not too little.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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Americans Choose Middle Over Extremes on Gov't Functions

Views lean toward "more responsibility" rather than less for 7 of 11 functions tested

October 13, 2010

Americans are more likely to choose middle-ground responses rather than extremes when asked about the degree of responsibility the federal government should take for a number of social and economic functions it could in theory perform. For only two functions --

protecting Americans from foreign threats and protecting consumers from unsafe products -- does a majority say the government should be totally responsible.

On a 1-to-5 scale, please say how much responsibility you think the government should have for each -- with 1 meaning the government should have no responsibility at all and 5 meaning the government should have total responsibility in this area. How about _____?

1 and 5 responses

Ranked by "more responsibility"

	% Total responsibility (5)	% No responsibility (1)
Protecting Americans from foreign threats	83	2
Protecting consumers against unsafe products	51	3
Preventing discrimination	47	8
Protecting the environment from human actions that can harm it	42	5
Developing and maintaining the nation's transportation systems	36	6
Making sure that all Americans have adequate healthcare	42	20
Making sure that all those who want jobs have them	35	14
Providing a minimum standard of living for all	30	18
Upholding moral standards among its citizens	25	24
Reducing income differences between the rich and the poor	23	33
Protecting major U.S. corporations that are in danger of going out of business	13	36

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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These results are based on Gallup's annual Governance survey, cosponsored this year by *USA Today* and conducted Sept. 13-16. Americans were asked to rate each of 11 government functions on a 5-point scale, anchored at one end by the view that the federal government should have no responsibility for a given function, and on the other end by the view that the government should have total responsibility for the function.

Americans tend to use the middle 2, 3, and 4 points on the 5-point scale in their answers, avoiding the two extreme end points. This suggests that Americans are not monolithically set in stone in their views of the role of their federal government, but instead recognize that the government has some responsibility, even if limited, in most areas of society.

Overall, a majority of Americans give a 4 or a 5 rating for 7 out of the 11 functions tested, meaning that their views for each of these range toward the "more responsibility" end of the scale rather than the "less responsibility" end. These seven functions include foreign threats, protection against unsafe products, preventing discrimination, protecting the environment, developing and maintaining the nation's transportation system, making sure Americans have healthcare, and making sure all who want jobs have them.

On a 1-to-5 scale, please say how much responsibility you think the government should have for each -- with 1 meaning the government should have no responsibility at all and 5 meaning the government should have total responsibility in this area. How about _____?

Complete results

Ranked by "more responsibility"

	% 4 and 5 (more responsibility)	% 3	% 1 and 2 (less responsibility)
Protecting Americans from foreign threats	93	4	2
Protecting consumers against unsafe products	76	15	9
Preventing discrimination	66	19	14
Protecting the environment from human actions that can harm it	65	20	15
Developing and maintaining the nation's transportation systems	65	22	12
Making sure that all Americans have adequate healthcare	57	14	29
Making sure that all those who want jobs have them	51	21	27
Providing a minimum standard of living for all	45	21	33
Upholding moral standards among its citizens	39	23	37
Reducing income differences between the rich and the poor	34	20	44
Protecting major U.S. corporations that are in danger of going out of business	19	24	56

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

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The only function on which a majority of Americans give a 1 or a 2 rating is "protecting major U.S. corporations that are in danger of going out of business."

Democrats More Likely to Say Government Should Be Responsible

Today's political environment is highly partisan, making it less than surprising to find sharp partisan differences in views on the responsibility that the federal government should have for the 11 functions tested in this research.

On a 1-to-5 scale, please say how much responsibility you think the government should have for each -- with 1 meaning the government should have no responsibility at all and 5 meaning the government should have total responsibility in this area. How about _____?

Results by political party

Ranked by "more responsibility"

	% Republicans/ leaners	% Democrats/ leaners	Republican minus Democrat
Protecting Americans from foreign threats	96	92	4
Protecting consumers against unsafe products	66	87	-21
Preventing discrimination	54	82	-28
Protecting the environment from human actions that can harm it	48	84	-36
Developing and maintaining the nation's transportation systems	52	81	-29
Making sure that all Americans have adequate healthcare	32	84	-52
Making sure that all those who want jobs have them	37	67	-30
Providing a minimum standard of living for all	26	66	-40
Upholding moral standards among its citizens	39	40	-1
Reducing income differences between the rich and the poor	22	48	-26
Protecting major U.S. corporations that are in danger of going out of business	13	28	-15

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-16, 2010

GALLUP®

Democrats are more likely than Republicans to give a 4 or a 5 rating (that is, responses on the "more responsibility" end of the scale) to all of the functions except one -- protecting Americans from foreign threats. The gap between Democrats and Republicans on one additional function -- upholding moral standards -- is one percentage point.

The partisan gap is largest on the healthcare dimension, with 84% of Democrats placing themselves on the "more responsibility" end of the scale, compared with 32% of Republicans. Other functions with a 30 point or higher partisan gap include: providing a minimal standard of living for all, protecting the environment from human actions, and making sure that all who want jobs have them.

These data underscore the general conclusion that Democrats are significantly more inclined to see government as being responsible for addressing or ameliorating society's problems than are Republicans. Views of the government's role in protecting the country from foreign threats and upholding moral standards provide the lone exceptions.

Implications

Americans today see the federal government neither as an entity that should be totally responsible for protecting and providing for its citizens, nor as an entity that should have no responsibility for these functions. Instead, the public tends to operate in a "middle zone," believing that while government should have at least some responsibility for many functions, it is not to be totally responsible.

Much of the current debate on the role of government has been focused on the actions of conservatives and Tea Partiers who argue for a much more limited government, and also on the actions of President Obama and Democratic leaders who argue that government has a major responsibility for helping solve society's problems. These data suggest that the American public, taken as a whole, operates somewhere in the middle between these two extreme perspectives.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-16, 2010, with a random sample of 1,019 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, education, region, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in continental

The generally negative top-of-mind images of the federal government are consistent with the poor ratings the government receives in Gallup's annual update on the images of business and industry sectors. In the most recent update, from August, 58% rated the federal government negatively and 26% positively.

Gallup and USA Today will explore Americans' views of the role of the federal government further in a summit to be held at Gallup world headquarters in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 13, 2010. The event will offer polling and political experts' takes on what's behind the negative image of the federal government, and analysis of what the American people want -- and don't want -- their government to do for them. Learn more or register.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 20-21, 2010, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 981 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

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

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

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Britons Call for Hunting Ban; Americans and Canadians Reject It

(10/13/10) -

People in Britain are definitely more alarmed about animal cruelty than those in the United States and Canada, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

A majority of respondents in the three countries believe killing animals for their fur is cruel.

People in Britain are definitely more alarmed about animal cruelty than those in the United States and Canada, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of representative national samples also found that respondents in the three countries overwhelmingly brand the actions of Mary Bale—who was caught tossing a cat into a garbage can in a video that went viral—as cruelty to animals.

Minimizing Pain and Suffering

At least three-in-five respondents in the three countries (CAN 66%, BRI 63%, USA 62%) agree with the statement: “There is nothing wrong with humans using animals for food, clothing, entertainment, and research, as long as unnecessary pain and suffering are minimized.”

What is Cruel?

When asked whether five specific actions amount to cruelty to animals, respondents in Britain are at odds with their American and Canadian counterparts. Four-in-five Britons (79%) believe killing animals for their fur amounts to cruelty to animals, compared to 64 per cent of Americans and 55 per cent of Canadians.

Britons are also more likely to describe using animals for entertainment as a cruel practice (35%) than those in Canada (29%) and the U.S. (25%), and to feel the same way about hunting animals for sport (BRI 81%, CAN 62%, USA 56%).

Respondents in the three countries were almost unanimous on the issue of dog fighting and cockfighting being a cruel practice (BRI 96%, CAN 94%, USA 91%), and less than one-in-five (USA 16%, BRI 14%, CAN 12%) believe eating animals amounts to animal cruelty.

Protecting Animals




When asked about the protection of specific animals, about a third of Canadians said their various levels of government are doing “too little” to protect wild animals (37%), animals bred or raised for their fur (35%), and laboratory animals (34%). The level of criticism for governments is slightly higher in the United States, and increases even more in Britain, where more than half of respondents (53%) say the various levels of government are doing “too little” to protect animals bred or raised for their fur.

Bans

Britons are also in a class of their own when presented with several proposed bans. Two-thirds of respondents in Britain (66%) would ban all types of hunting, compared to 35 per cent of Canadians and 25 per cent of Americans. Seven-in-ten Britons (71%) call for a ban on fur farming, compared to 50 per cent of Americans and 47 per cent of Canadians.

More than half of Britons (53%) would ban circuses that feature animals, a proposal that is not popular in Canada (37%) or the U.S. (23%). Respondents in Britain are also more likely to call for a ban on all types of product research on animals (51%) and all types of

medical research on animals (40%). The notion of freeing all animals currently in captivity at zoos is only supported by about one-in-five respondents in the three countries.

Animals			
Overall, do you support or oppose each one of the following ideas? – “Support” listed			
	CANADA 	UNITED STATES 	GREAT BRITAIN 
Banning all types of hunting	35%	25%	66%
Banning all types of medical research on animals	31%	29%	40%
Banning all types of product research on animals	41%	36%	51%
Banning fur farming (breeding or raising certain types of animals for their fur)	47%	50%	71%
Banning all circuses that feature animals	37%	23%	53%
Freeing all animals currently in captivity at zoos	20%	17%	22%

The Mary Bale Video

Earlier this year, Mary Bale—a resident of Coventry, England—was caught on a closed circuit camera petting a cat before picking it up, tossing it into a garbage can and closing the lid. Bale was eventually charged with animal cruelty offences and will appear before Coventry Magistrates Court later this month.

After seeing the closed circuit footage, an overwhelming majority of respondents in the three countries (BRI 87%, CAN 86%, USA 77%) believe Bale’s actions amount to cruelty to animals. While more than half of respondents in the three countries believe a fine would be the appropriate punishment for the action depicted on the video (BRI 57%, CAN 56%, USA 52%), about three-in-ten respondents think prison time would be adequate (BRI 29%, CAN 29%, USA 28%).

Methodology: From September 8 to September 15, 2010 Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,006 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,024 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,013 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1 per cent for Canada and the United States, and 2.2% for Great Britain. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada, the US and Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Worldwide, Financial Comfort Grows More Important With Age

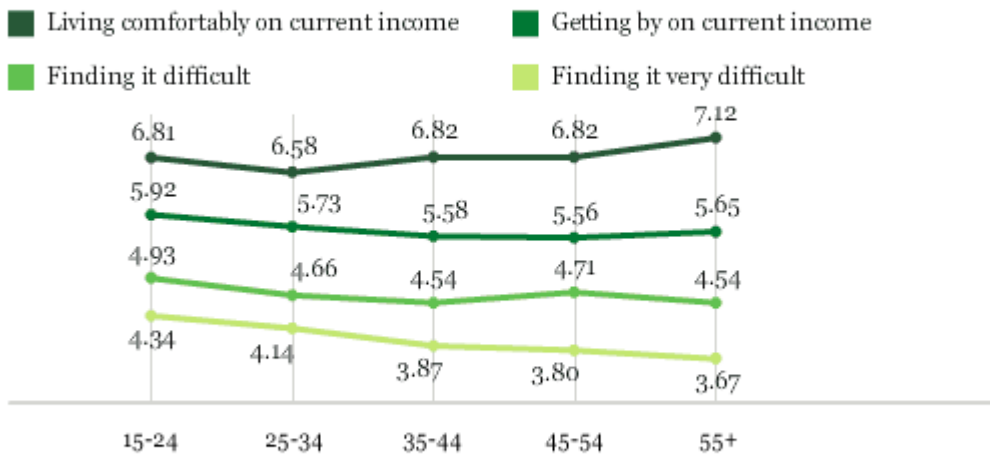
Among those "living comfortably," older adults rate their lives better than younger adults

October 15, 2010

Worldwide, financial comfort becomes a better determinant of life evaluation with age. Among adults surveyed in 125 countries who say they are "living comfortably" on their current incomes, those aged 55 and older rate their lives higher than those who are younger. However, among adults who are "finding it very difficult" to live on their current incomes, the opposite is true -- older respondents have lower life evaluation.

Average Current Life Ratings, by Age Group and Financial Comfort Level

On a scale of 0-10, how would you rate your life today, where 10 is the best possible life for you and 0 is the worst possible life?



Using the most recent data collected in 125 countries from 2009 or 2010.

GALLUP®

These findings reflect data collected across all global regions in 2009 and 2010, with results weighted according to key demographics and the population size of each country. All respondents were asked to rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale. The results offer evidence that the importance of financial comfort in relation to overall life evaluation increases as people grow older.

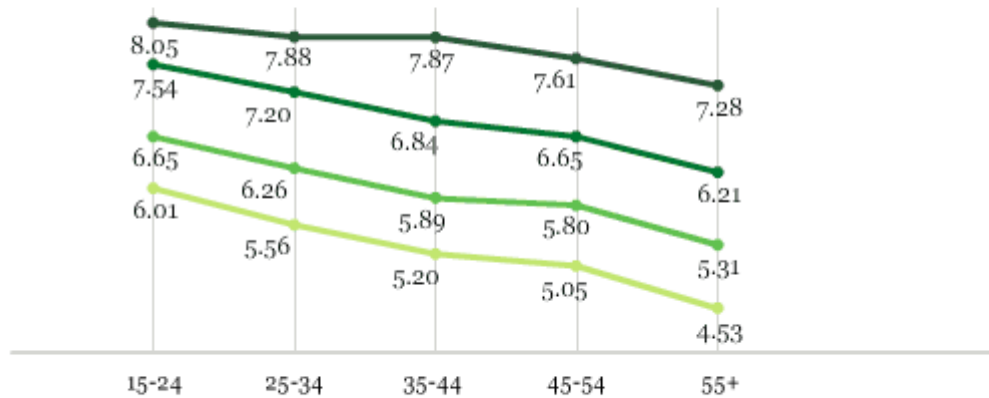
Future Outlook Also Depends on Financial Comfort

Unlike present life ratings, older respondents at all financial comfort levels are more negative about their lives five years in the future than are younger respondents. However, underscoring the increasing importance of "living comfortably" over one's life, expectations about the future deteriorate twice as rapidly among adults who are "finding it very difficult" as do ratings among those who are financially comfortable.

Average Future Life Ratings, by Age Group and Financial Comfort Level

Just your best guess, on which step do you think you will stand in the future, say about five years from now?

- Living comfortably on current income
- Getting by on current income
- Finding it difficult
- Finding it very difficult



Using the most recent data collected in 125 countries from 2009 or 2010.

GALLUP®

Bottom Line

Aging and financial comfort clearly influence current life evaluation and optimism about the future. As health declines and other needs of aging arise, the ability to meet these growing financial demands becomes increasingly important. Unfortunately for many, their present income is simply not enough to sustain their life evaluation and optimism about the future as they grow older. On the flip side, those older adults who are able to live comfortably on their incomes are even more likely to rate their current lives well than their younger counterparts who say they same. The upshot for life evaluation worldwide is that financial comfort becomes more important with age.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults in 120 countries, 2,000 adults in Russia, 6,000 adults in India, 4,150 adults in China, and 750 adults in New Zealand and Hong Kong, aged 15 and older, conducted in 2009 and 2010. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error in 2009 ranged from a low of ± 1.7 percentage points in India to a high of ± 5.7 percentage points in Slovenia. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Entrepreneur Mindset More Common in U.S. Than in EU, China

U.S. respondents more likely to prefer competition and taking risks than Europeans and Chinese

October 12, 2010

Majorities in the U.S., the European Union, and China associate themselves with attitudes often ascribed to entrepreneurs. Americans, however, are more likely than those in the European Union and China to see themselves as risk takers, competitive, and confident they can accomplish difficult tasks.

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements?

% Strongly agree + agree

	U.S.	EU	China
In general, I am willing to take risks	82%	65%	65%
I like situations in which I compete with others	77%	55%	69%
Generally, when facing difficult tasks, I am certain that I will accomplish them	96%	81%	91%

Flash Eurobarometer
December 2009

GALLUP®

These findings are from a Flash Eurobarometer study in December 2009 that investigated attitudes toward entrepreneurship and entrepreneurs in the 27 European Union member states, the U.S., 50 Chinese cities, and a handful of other countries.

More than 8 in 10 Americans agree they are generally willing to take risks, compared with nearly 2 in 3 respondents in China and the European Union as a whole. Within Europe, however, opinions vary: Romanian, Cypriot, and Irish views align closest with those of Americans, with 73% each saying they are generally risk takers. Lithuanians and Hungarians are least likely to share this attitude; 46% and 43%, respectively, see themselves this way.

Respondents in the U.S. are also more likely than others to agree they like situations in which they compete with others. More than three-quarters of Americans agree (77%), in contrast with about a half of EU citizens (55%). Views in Ireland, China, Malta, and Luxembourg, where roughly 7 in 10 in each country agree, are closest to those in the U.S. Czechs and Hungarians are the least likely to say they like competitive situations; fewer than 4 in 10 in both countries see themselves this way.

Americans are almost universally confident that they can accomplish difficult tasks when faced with them. Ninety-six percent of Americans versus 81% of EU citizens agree. Danes and Chinese respondents are most like Americans in their responses.

Bottom Line

As a large, wealthy, and functional single market, the U.S. offers great advantages to entrepreneurs starting businesses there. It has long been a generally accepted notion that the U.S.'s competitive advantage in business is also, in some ways, related to a different cultural climate. Individuals living in the U.S. seem to have a more pervasive "entrepreneurial attitude" than people living in many European countries. Flash Eurobarometer surveys confirm that differences exist between Americans and Europeans in terms of certain beliefs and attitudes associated with entrepreneurship.

In terms of individual attitudes related to entrepreneurship, the U.S. seems to have a cultural advantage over the European Union. Americans think of themselves as risk takers, competitive, and able to accomplish difficult tasks. Further research is needed to understand how such attitudes are related to actual entrepreneurial activity, and how important attitudes are relative to other factors such as the desire to be self-employed, and practical considerations such as available capital and training, among other things.

Survey Methods

European Union results are based on interviews conducted Dec. 11-15, 2009, predominantly via telephone, but with some face-to-face interviews as a result of the low fixed-line telephone coverage in certain eastern European countries. Approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, were interviewed in Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. For results based on these samples, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points. Approximately 500 adults, aged 15 and older, were interviewed in Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Sweden. For results based on these samples, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

U.S. results are based on telephone interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted Dec. 11-23, 2009. For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

In China, interviews were conducted with 1,000 randomly selected individuals, aged 15 and older, Dec. 22, 2009, to Jan. 16, 2010, in 50 cities. For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

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

CYBERWORLD

Gadget Ownership

October 14, 2010

In recent years the digital world has expanded far beyond the desktop, and consumers can now choose from an array of devices capable of satisfying their need for "anytime, anywhere" access to news, information, friends and entertainment. This report examines the latest research from the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project regarding seven key appliances of the information age:

Cell phones -- 85% of Americans now own a cell phone. Cell phone ownership rates among young adults illustrate the extent to which mobile phones have become a necessity of modern communications: fully 96% of 18-to-29 year olds own a cell phone of some kind.

Desktop and laptop computers -- Three-quarters (76%) of Americans own either a desktop or laptop computer. Since 2006, laptop ownership has grown dramatically (from 30% to 52%) while desktop ownership has declined slightly.

mp3 players -- Just under half of American adults (47%) own an mp3 player such as an iPod -- a nearly five-fold increase from the 11% who owned this type of device in early 2005.

Game consoles -- Console gaming devices like the Xbox and PlayStation are nearly as common as mp3 players, as 42% of Americans own a home gaming device. Parents (64%) are nearly twice as likely as non-parents (33%) to own a game console.

Tablet computers and e-book readers -- Compared with the other devices on this list, e-book readers (such as the Kindle) and tablet computers (such as the iPad) are relatively new arrivals to the consumer technology scene and are owned by a relatively modest number of Americans. However, these devices are proving popular with traditional early adopter groups such as the affluent and highly educated -- ownership rates for tablets and e-book readers among college graduates and those earning \$75,000 or more per year are roughly double the national average.

These findings are based on a survey of 3,001 American adults (ages 18 and older) conducted between Aug. 9 and Sept. 13, 2010. The margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish, and the survey included 1,000 cell phone interviews.

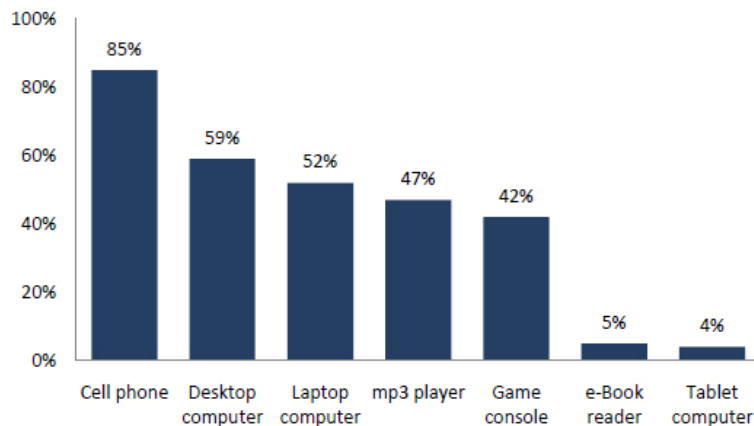
Americans and Their Technology Devices

When it comes to personal communication devices, the cell phone remains the "gadget of choice" among Americans in 2010 -- fully 85% of all adults (and three-quarters of teens)

now own a mobile phone. Computers are the second-most commonly owned piece of personal technology, as six-in-ten Americans own a desktop computer and half own a laptop. Just under half of all adults own an mp3 player (47%) or console gaming device (42%), while e-book readers and tablet computers are each owned currently by around one-in-twenty adults.

Gadget Ownership, 2010

% of American adults who own each device



Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, August 9-September 13, 2010 Tracking Survey. N=3,001 adults 18 and older, including 1,000 reached via cell phone. Interviews were conducted in English (n=2,804) and Spanish (n=197).

Eight-in-ten American adults (78%) own two or more of these devices, and the median adult owns three of the seven gadgets we asked about in our survey. Among other factors, device ownership is highly correlated with age. For example, the typical adult younger than age 45 owns four devices, while the typical adult between the ages of 55 and 64 owns two and the typical senior (age 65 or older) owns just one. Those with high levels of income and education are also more likely to own a relatively large number of devices compared with those with lower income and education levels.

Video Calling and Video Chat

October 13, 2010

Almost a fifth of American adults (19%) have tried video calling either online or via their cell phones. That figure comes from adding up the number of adults who said they either had made a video or teleconferencing call online (17% of adults have done that) or made video calls on their cell phones (6% of adults have done that). In many cases people have placed video calls on both the internet and their cell phone. Those who answered yes to both questions were only counted once in the overall tally of video callers.

These figures translate into 23% of internet users and 7% of cell phone owners who have participated in video calls, chats, or teleconferences.

These figures were gathered in a survey of 3,001 American adults (ages 18 and older) between Aug. 9 and Sept. 13, 2010. The margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points.

This is the first survey of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project that has covered both online and cell-phone video calls, so there are no prior comparable data to show how much the activity is increasing. In the internet realm, video calling has risen modestly from 20% of internet users in April 2009 to 23% of internet users in the summer 2010 survey. On any given day, 4% of internet users are participating in video calls, video chat or teleconferencing, up from 2% in April 2009.

Some of the key findings in the most recent survey related to online video calls, which are conducted by 23% of the adults who are internet users.

- Video calling online is especially appealing to upscale users. A third of internet users (34%) living in households earning \$75,000 or more have participated in such calls or chats, compared with 18% of those earning less than \$75,000.
- Younger internet users are considerably more likely to conduct video calls. Some 29% of the internet users ages 18-29 have participated in video calls or chats or teleconferences, compared with 15% of internet users ages 65 or older.
- Online men are more likely than online women to participate in online video calls (26% vs. 20%).
- Urban internet users (27%) and suburban users (23%) are significantly more likely than rural users (12%) to have participated in video calls, chats or teleconferences.
- On a typical day, 4% of internet users participate in video calls, chats or teleconferences. That is a uptick from the Pew Internet Project's April 2009 survey, when 2% of internet users reported participating in online video exchanges.

Some of the key findings in the most recent survey related to video calls on cell phones, which are conducted by 7% of the adults who cell phone owners.

- Cell-owning blacks are more likely than whites to participate in video calls, chats or teleconferences (10% vs. 5%).
- Those in upper-income households are more likely than others to participate in video calls (10% of cell owners in households earning over \$75,000 participate in such calls, compared with 6% who live in households earning less than \$75,000).
- Cell owners younger than age 50 are more likely than those older than age 50 to have participated in such video calls (8% vs. 4%).

Background

Video calling has become increasingly available as camcorders have spread through the online environment, cameras have been built into smart phones, and as video-chat services like Skype, Google Talk and Apple iChat have become a feature of the online

and smart-phone environment. Teleconferencing is also becoming more embedded in the business environment.

This summer, in a nationally-representative telephone survey using landlines and cell phones, the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Project asked for the first time about the prevalence of video calling both online and on cell phones.

The survey of 3,001 adults found that 74% of American adults are internet users and, among those internet users, 23% have participated in video calls, chats or teleconferences. The survey also found that 85% of American adults have cell phones and, among those cell owners, 7% have used their phones for video calls, chats, or teleconferences. Overall, that means that 18% of Americans have either used the internet or their cell phone to participate in video calls -- and in many cases, people have used both technologies for video chats.

Internet-based Video Calls, Chats, Teleconferences

In April 2009, the Pew Internet Project asked internet users about video calls and found at the time that 20% of them had participated in such calls. So, there has been a slight uptick in the number of Americans who use the internet for video calling -- from 20% in April 2009 to 23% in the summer 2010 survey. The Pew Internet Project's survey also asked people if they had participated in such calls "yesterday" and the surveys show that the percentage of video callers online on any given day rose from 2% in April 2009 to 4% in the summer of 2010.

The following table gives a breakdown of the demographic differences among internet users when it comes to video calling, chatting or teleconferencing.

Online video calls, chats, and teleconferences

74% of American adults use the internet. This table shows the percentage of internet users in each group who have participated in video calls, chats, or teleconferences on their cell phone.

Total internet users	23%
Gender	
Male	26
Female	20
Race	
White	21
Black	21
Hispanic	28
Age (at time of survey)	
18-29	29
30-49	25
50-64	16
65+	15
Education	
Some high school	12
High school graduate	16
Some college	24
College graduate or more	30
Household income	
< \$30,000	15
\$30,000 - \$49,999	18
\$50,000 - \$74,999	23
\$75,000+	34
Language	
English	23
Spanish	28
Community type	
Rural	12
Suburban	23
Urban	27
Home connection	
Broadband	26
No Broadband	8

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, August 9 – September 13, 2010 Tracking Survey. N=3,001 adults 18 and older and margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points; n= 2,065 based on internet users and margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points.

Cell Phone Use for Video Calls, Chats, Teleconferences

For the first time, Pew Internet Project asked cell phone owners about video calls, chats and teleconferences and found that 7% of cell owners have taken advantage of that feature. Video activities are far less common than other cell features. For instance, in the same survey, Pew Internet found that 74% of cell owners use text messaging features, 39% use their phones to access the internet, 34% use them for email and 30% use them for instant messaging.

The following table gives a breakdown of the demographic differences among cell owners when it comes to video calling, chatting or teleconferencing.

Cell phone video calls, chats, and teleconferences

85% of American adults own cell phones. This table shows the percentage of cell phone owners in each group who have participated in video calls, chats, or teleconferences on their cell phone.

Total cell phone owners	7%
Gender	
Male	8
Female	6
Race	
White	5
Black	10
Hispanic	9
Age (at time of survey)	
18-29	9
30-49	8
50-64	4
65+	3
Education	
Some high school	2
High school graduate	4
Some college	6
College graduate or more	11
Household income	
< \$30,000	4
\$30,000 - \$49,999	7
\$50,000 - \$74,999	9
\$75,000+	10
Language	
English	7
Spanish	5
Community type	
Rural	4
Suburban	7
Urban	8
Home connection	
Broadband	8
No Broadband	2

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, August 9 – September 13, 2010 Tracking Survey. N=3,001 adults 18 and older and margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points; n=2,485 based on cell phone users and margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points.

Election Blogging

October 14, 2010

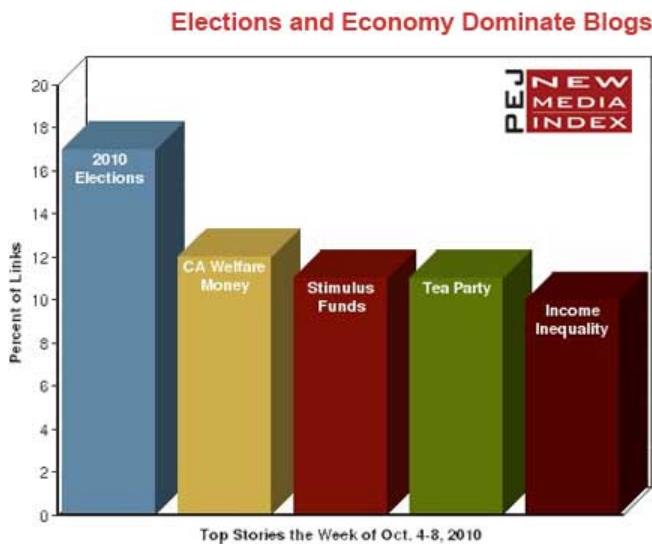
The top stories in the blogosphere are often an eclectic mix of topics from technology and pop culture to science and war. But last week, with the 2010 midterm elections looming, each of the top five subjects focused on the election or a closely related subject -- the economic issues helping define the campaign.

For the week of Oct. 4-8, two of the top five stories on blogs were connected directly to the election according to the New Media Index from the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.

Last week, 17% of the links in blogs highlighted two stories about the 2010 campaign. One was an Oct. 4 *Washington Post* piece about interest groups spending far more in this election cycle than in the 2008 campaign. The other was an Oct. 5 *Washington Post* story about how the political landscape remains strongly tilted toward Republicans.

Another 11% of the links concerned a major force in the 2010 political landscape -- the Tea Party movement. The debate was generated by Sen. Sherrod Brown's (D-OH) op-ed in the Oct. 3 *USA Today* arguing that Tea Party populism is driven by anger at the government and divides the country, and is therefore not real populism, which fights for all Americans.

Together, these election-related stories accounted for 28% of the linked-to news story on blogs.



Three other subjects that engaged bloggers last week focused on economics with a political twist.

The No. 2 topic, with 12% of links, was triggered by a *Los Angeles Times* story about how more than \$69 million in California welfare money was spent outside the state in recent years, including in Las Vegas, Hawaii and on cruise ships. That was followed closely (11%) by the revelations in an Oct. 6 *USA Today* article that \$162 million in stimulus spending was not disclosed by the government.

The fifth-biggest subject last week was an Oct. 6 *Washington Post* column by Steven Pearlstein in which he argued that Republicans had chosen to ignore the idea that income inequality exists in the country in their "Pledge to America."

Bloggers on both the left and right weighed in on these subjects, with many critical of the opposing party. Liberals drove the conversation about interest group spending while conservatives were a stronger voice in the discussion of welfare abuse and unreported stimulus spending. Both sides entered the fray over Brown's criticism of the tea parties.