BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Global Opinion Report No. 156

Week: January 23-29, 2011

Presentation: February 02, 2011

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Prelude

This week report consists of 29 surveys. Four of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 25 are national surveys from various countries.

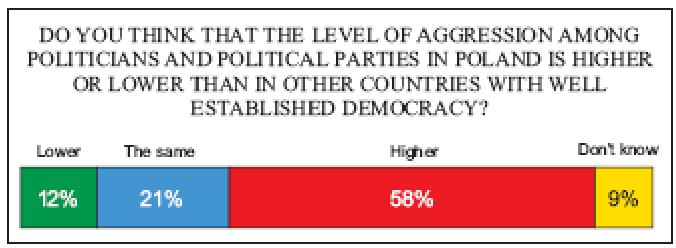
156-30 **Topic** of the week:

Political Aggression In Poland

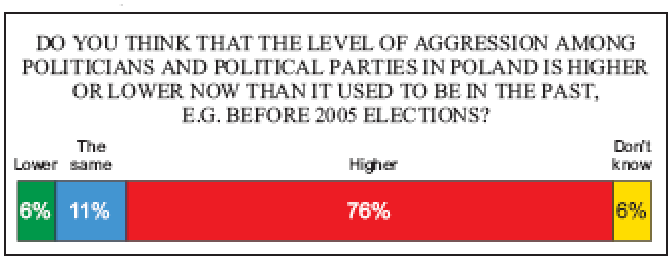
► This page is devoted to opinions of countries whose polling activity is generally not known very widely or where a recent topical issue requires special attention.

November 2010

For some time now, Polish political life has seen the growth of verbal aggression. The language used by politicians in public debates and discussions involving representatives of major political parties is becoming ever more offensive.

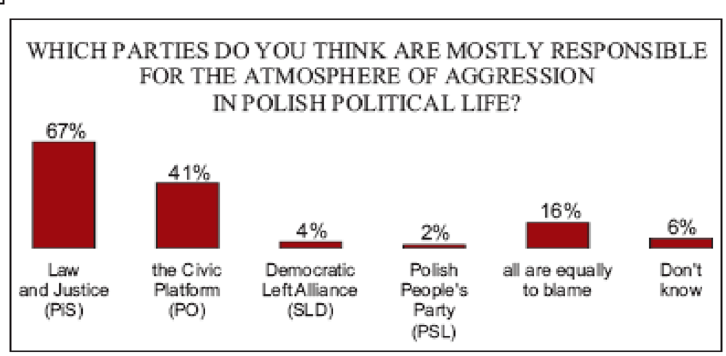


Recently in Poland, Marek Rosiak (Law and Justice party, PiS) was shot in his Parliamentary Office in Lodz, Poland. Mr Rosiak was an assistant of JanuszWojciechowski - a member of the European Parliament. Many people see this tragedy as the result of the growing aggression in politics.



Others however, downplay the incident, emphasizing the fact that the person who committed the crime was, most probably, mentally unstable. According to over half of respondents (**58%**), political aggression is more common in Poland than in other countries with well established democracy.

A vast majority of Poles notice the growth of aggression in political life that has taken place in recent years. As many as three quarters of respondents (**76%**) believe that it is higher now than in the past, for instance before 2005 elections.



The parties mostly responsible for the growing atmosphere of aggression are, according to the respondents, Law and Justice (PiS) and the Civic Platform (PO). However, the prevailing opinion is that Law and Justice is far more to blame. Only a small percentage of people claim that Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and Polish People's Party (PSL) create this atmosphere. One in six respondents blame all the parties equally.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: Political aggression in Poland, November 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2010, N=999. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland. **§**

SOURCE: http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/11_2010.pdf

156-31 Poland

POLAND:

Population: 38,463,689 (July 2010 est.)
GDP per Capita (PPP): $17,900 (2009 est.)

Poland is an ancient nation that was conceived near the middle of the 10th century. Its golden age occurred in the 16th century. During the following century, the strengthening of the gentry and internal disorders weakened the nation. In a series of agreements between 1772 and 1795, Russia, Prussia, and Austria partitioned Poland amongst themselves. Poland regained its independence in 1918 only to be overrun by Germany and the Soviet Union in World War II. It became a Soviet satellite state following the war, but its government was comparatively tolerant and progressive. Labor turmoil in 1980 led to the formation of the independent trade union "Solidarity" that over time became a political force and by 1990 had swept parliamentary elections and the presidency. A "shock therapy" program during the early 1990s enabled the country to transform its economy into one of the most robust in Central Europe, but Poland still faces the lingering challenges of high unemployment, underdeveloped and dilapidated infrastructure, and a poor rural underclass. Solidarity suffered a major defeat in the 2001 parliamentary elections when it failed to elect a single deputy to the lower house of Parliament, and the new leaders of the Solidarity Trade Union subsequently pledged to reduce the Trade Union's political role. Poland joined NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004. With its transformation to a democratic, market-oriented country largely completed, Poland is an increasingly active member of Euro-Atlantic organizations.

- https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/pl.html

SUMMARY OF POLLS

MIDDLE EAST

Majority of Palestinians Doubt Al-Jazeera Leaks

Over two-thirds of Palestinians living in the occupied territories doubted the accuracy of leaked PLO documents shortly after they were published by Al-Jazeera, the results of a recent poll said. (Near East Consulting)

January 29, 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Cambodians Feel The Country Is Going In The Right Direction

Majority of Cambodians believe that their country is going in the right direction. They held these feelings primarily due to developments in infrastructure in the country. (IRI)

January 20, 2011

Political Leaders in Philippines Enjoying Approval of their Citizens

The Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, conducted from November 27-30, 2010, found 69% satisfied and 13% dissatisfied with the performance of Vice-President Jejomar Binay, 55% satisfied and 21% dissatisfied with Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, 33% satisfied and 26% dissatisfied with Speaker Sonny Belmonte, and 26% satisfied and 33% dissatisfied with Chief Justice Renato Corona. (SWS)

January 27, 2011

EAST EUROPE

Political Aggression In Poland

A vast majority of Poles notice the growth of aggression in political life that has taken place in recent years. As many as three quarters of respondents (76%) believe that it is higher now than in the past, for instance before 2005 elections. (CBOS)

November 2010

Foreign Employees In Poland

A vast majority of respondents (81%) do not object to foreigners working in Poland. Among them half (50%) do not mind any type of job being taken by foreigners and about a third (31%) do not object only if some types of jobs are occupied by them. An opposite view is held by every seventh respondent (14%). (CBOS)

November 2010

WEST EUROPE

Athletics Now The Biggest Growth Sport In England

Athletics has emerged as the biggest growth sport from Active People Survey (ASP)3 to APS4, perhaps with London 2012 in mind, and there are now 1.9 million participants in England. (Ipsos Mori)

January 24, 2011

Labour Ahead By Eight Points As Half Of Britons Disapprove Of Cameron

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,010 British adults, 50 per cent of respondents disapprove of the way Cameron is handling his duties. Since a survey conducted in the first weeks of the new Government—in May 2010—the proportion of respondents who disapprove of the Prime Minister has doubled. (Angus Reid)

January 27, 2011

Economic Confidence Declines in Britain With The Decrease in Support for The Government

According to Ipsos Mori Political Monitor confidence in Britain’s economic prospects falls away, as support for the government decreases. However, Cameron remains liked and the public have not yet made up their minds about Ed Miliband. (Ipsos Mori)

January 27, 2011

Huge majority oppose England forest sell-off plans

YouGov poll finds 84 per cent of British public agree that woods and forests should be kept in public ownership for future generations. The vast majority of the public oppose the government's plan to sell off all or part of the publicly owned forests and woodland in England. (Yougov)

January 23, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

A Third Of Americans Would Give Obama A New Term In 2012

Despite a continuing call for political unity, Barack Obama remains a polarizing figure in United States politics, with a majority of Democrats believing that he should be re-elected as President in 2012, but just one-in-ten Republicans and one-in-four Independents sharing the same opinion, a new Vision Critical poll has found. (Angus Reid)

January 20, 2011

Ready For Contact With Cuba

Americans --- including many Republicans --- are ready to change public policy towards Cuba: the latest*Economist*/YouGov Poll finds a majority in favor of resuming diplomatic relations with Cuba --- relations that have been severed for decades. (Yougov)
January 26, 2011

Guantanamo: Keep It Open But Try The Prisoners

One area where public opinion has consistently differed with that of the Obama Administration is on what should be done with Guantanamo --- the U.S. military base in Cuba. The President promised to close the base; in the latest *Economist*/YouGov Poll, Americans want to keep it open, just as they did a year ago. (Yougov)
January 26, 2011

Americans Divided on Obama, Republican Spending Proposals

President Obama's proposal to freeze discretionary domestic spending for five years was one of the key elements of his State of the Union address. Americans are generally divided when asked whether they favor his proposal (39%) or the Republicans' plan (41%) to roll discretionary domestic spending back to 2008 levels. Democrats and Republicans generally line up behind their party's plan. Independents tilt toward the GOP proposal, though many do not have an opinion either way. (Gallup USA)
January 28, 2011

Unemployed Americans Face Challenging Job Search

Six in 10 unemployed Americans say the next job they get is not likely to be one they want; instead, they'll have to settle for one they don't really want. Four in 10 underemployed adults have similar expectations about a full-time job. (Gallup USA)
January 27, 2011

Americans Link Gun Laws, Mental Health to Mass Shootings

In perspective of Tucson shootings when Americans are asked what they think would work, they are most likely to make suggestions relating to guns, including stricter gun control laws, education about guns and violence, background checks for guns, and allowing more Americans to carry guns for protection. The second-most-frequently mentioned response involves improving the mental health system. (Gallup USA)
January 24, 2011

U.S. Satisfaction With Gov't, Morality, Economy Down Since '08

Americans' satisfaction with six of seven different economic, moral, or governmental aspects is down significantly compared with Gallup's prior measurement three years ago, as the economy was slowing down but before the financial crisis hit. (Gallup USA)
January 24, 2011

Post-State of Union Obama Approval Uptick Would Be Atypical

U.S. presidents rarely see a spike in public support after their delivery of State of the Union addresses. Since 1978, Gallup has measured only four instances when a president's approval rating increased by at least four percentage points after a State of the Union address, with Bill Clinton the president in three of these instances and George W. Bush in the other. (Gallup USA)
January 25, 2011

U.S. Economic Confidence at Three-Year High in January

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index improved to an average of -21 in Gallup Daily tracking so far in January, up from -28 in December. If these optimism levels continue

through the end of the month, January 2011 will have the most positive economic confidence score since Gallup began daily measurement in January 2008. (Gallup USA)
January 25, 2011

In U.S., One in Four Unemployed Adults in Financial Distress

About one in four unemployed adults in the United States today, 26%, reports they are either falling behind on their bills or facing more serious financial difficulties such as bankruptcy or foreclosure. This compares with 21% of underemployed Americans and 8% of adults who are neither unemployed nor underemployed. (Gallup USA)
January 25, 2011

Americans Oppose Cuts in Education, Social Security, Defense

Prior to the State of the Union address, a majority of Americans said they favor cutting U.S. foreign aid, but more than 6 in 10 opposed cuts to education, Social Security, and Medicare. Smaller majorities objected to cutting programs for the poor, national defense, homeland security, aid to farmers, and funding for the arts and sciences. (Gallup USA)
January 26, 2011

In U.S., Adult Obesity Stabilizes in 2010, at 26.6%

More than 6 in 10 American adults (62.9%) were either overweight (36.3%) or obese (26.6%) in 2010, on par with 2009, but still slightly more than the 62.2% in 2008. The corollary of this is that the percentage of Americans of normal weight, now 35.4%, was also about the same last year as in 2009, but down slightly from 2008. (Gallup USA)
January 27, 2011

GOP Image Net-Positive for First Time Since 2005

Americans' opinions of the Republican Party have improved to the point where now more have a favorable than unfavorable opinion of the party. The last time more Americans viewed the GOP more positively than negatively was in 2005. (Gallup USA)
January 27, 2011

Despite Media Coverage, Few Interested in Hu's Visit

The public continued to show strong interest last week in news about the shooting rampage in Tucson, Ariz., though the story did not dominate media coverage as it had one week earlier. (Pew Research Center)
January 26, 2011

LATIN AMERICA

Brazilians Optimistic About Their Country and Personal Finances

A recent survey of Brazilians shows that Brazilians are optimistic about the economic future of their country and themselves. Majority of them believe their personal finances and employment conditions in the country will improve in the coming year. (Datafolha)
December 27, 2010

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Worldwide, Personal Wellbeing Related to Civic Engagement

Gallup surveys in 130 countries show people with higher personal wellbeing are more likely to say they give something -- time, money, or help to a stranger -- back to their communities. Civic Engagement Index scores, which measure people's likelihood to do all three, are twice as high among those who are "thriving" compared with those who are "suffering." (Gallup USA)
January 28, 2011

The Future of the Global Muslim Population

The world's Muslim population is expected to increase by about 35% in the next 20 years, rising from 1.6 billion in 2010 to 2.2 billion by 2030, according to new population projections by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life. (Pew Research Center)
January 27, 2011

Group Buying Trend Is Changing How Americans, Britons And Canadians Shop

Group buying is beginning to have an effect in the mindset of consumers across three countries, with people in the United States, Britain and Canada becoming more price sensitive after taking advantage of a group buying offer, a new Vision Critical poll has found. (Vision Critical/Angus Reid)
January 25, 2011

British Economic Optimism Is Among Lowest In The World

Britons are among the most negative about the economy in the world – ranking alongside Italy, France and Japan according to January's Economic Global Pulse from Ipsos' Global @advisor, online research conducted in 24 countries. (Ipsos Global)
January 25, 2011

CYBERWORLD

Twitter and Social Networking in the 2010 Midterm Elections

Some 21% of online adults used social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace in the months leading up to the November 2010 elections to connect with a campaign or the election itself, and 2% of online adults did so using Twitter. That works out to a total of 22% of adult internet users who engaged with the political campaign on Twitter or social networking sites. (Pew Research Center)
January 27, 2011

MIDDLE EAST

156-1 Majority of Palestinians Doubt Al-Jazeera Leaks

68% of Palestinians don't believe Al-Jazeera leaks[1]
Saturday, January 29, 2011
Near East Consulting

Poll: 68% of Palestinians don't believe Al-Jazeera leaks

Published 29/01/2011
http://www.maannews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=355302

RAMALLAH (Ma'an) -- Over two-thirds of Palestinians living in the occupied territories doubted the accuracy of leaked PLO documents shortly after they were published by Al-Jazeera, the results of a recent poll said.

[1] http://www.imra.org.il/story.php3?id=50841

The Qatar-based satellite network has published over 1,600 confidential documents relating to over a decade of negotiations with Israel.

According to the poll, conducted just after the series, 99 percent of Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem heard about the leaked documents, dubbed the Palestine Papers, but 68 percent did not believe them.

There was little variation across the territories, with 71 percent in the West Bank doubting the documents, compared to 64 percent in Gaza.

However, the majority of Hamas supporters polled believed the leaked papers were real, while most Fatah supporters said they were fabricated.

Both factions agreed the leak of the documents would serve Israeli interests, with 88 percent saying Israel would benefit most from their publication.

Only five percent said the Palestinian Authority would benefit from the leak.

The survey was conducted by Near East Consulting. A random sample of 897 Palestinians aged above 18 were polled. There was a margin of error of 3.4 percent.

The PA's response to the papers has focused on Al-Jazeera, and 64 percent of Palestinians said the channel's coverage of the issue was not neutral.

One-third of respondents said the network was objective, while 62 percent said it was sympathetic to Hamas. Only five percent said the station's sympathies were with the PA.

Some 59 percent of Palestinians considered the leaks to be a negotiations tactic.

Regarding the impact of the papers, 83 percent of those polled said they would lead to internal conflict.

The poll also revealed that Al-Jazeera was less trusted by Palestinians since leaking the documents.

In an October 2010 poll, 45 percent of respondents cited Al-Jazeera as their most trusted TV channel. The latest poll showed that figure dropped to 23 percent.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

156-2 Cambodians Feel The Country Is Going In The Right Direction

IRI Releases Latest Survey of Cambodian Public Opinion[2]
January 20, 2011

Phnom Penh, Cambodia – IRI today released a survey of Cambodian public opinion. The poll, conducted July 12 – August 6, 2010, covers general attitudes toward the direction of the country, top issues facing the country, corruption, ownership of farmland, access to education and understanding of the voting process.

The poll reveals strong approval of the direction in which the country is going. Seventy-six percent of Cambodians think their country is moving in the right direction, only six points down from a peak in 2008. The top reasons cited for right direction were the building of infrastructure, primarily roads and schools. The top reason cited for wrong direction was corruption.

The top issues facing Cambodians are health, jobs and natural disasters, with younger Cambodians putting jobs first.

Of rural Cambodians, 85 percent own land, but only 17 percent of those report sufficient irrigation. Over the past three years, five percent of Cambodians report having some of their land taken away from them.

The randomly selected general sample consists of 2,000 adults, representative of the Cambodian population 18 or older by gender. The general sample was drawn from all 24 provinces and municipalities. The margin of error for the national sample will not exceed plus or minus 2.2 percent in 19 out of 20 cases. There was 95 percent response rate.

IRI has conducted surveys in Cambodia since 2007. This poll is part of IRI's political party development program in Cambodia, and was designed to both gauge public opinion and assist IRI's political party partners with building platforms based on the issues most important to the Cambodian people. The poll was funded by the United States Agency for International Development and fielded by The Center for Advanced Studies under the supervision of IRI.

A nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, IRI advances freedom and democracy worldwide by developing political parties, civic institutions, open elections, good governance, and the rule of law.

156-3 Political Leaders in Philippines Enjoying Approval of their Citizens

First reported in BusinessWorld, January 25, 2011.[3]
Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey:
Vice-Pres. Binay +57, Senate Pres. Enrile +34, Speaker Belmonte +7, Chief Justice Corona -7; Ratings of the Senate, House, Supreme Court, and Cabinet steady
27 January 2011
Social Weather Stations

[2] http://www.iri.org/news-events-press-center/news/iri-releases-latest-survey-cambodian-public-opinion-0
[3] http://www.sws.org.ph/

The Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, conducted from November 27-30, 2010, found 69% satisfied and 13% dissatisfied with the performance of Vice-President Jejomar Binay, 55% satisfied and 21% dissatisfied with Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, 33% satisfied and 26% dissatisfied with Speaker Sonny Belmonte, and 26% satisfied and 33% dissatisfied with Chief Justice Renato Corona [*Table 1*].

Vice-President Binay's latest net satisfaction rating of *very good* +57 (% satisfied minus % dissatisfied) is similar to +58 in September 2010 [*Chart 1*, *Table 2*].

Senate President Enrile's net satisfaction rating has been at *good* levels over the past three quarters, at +41 in June, +39 in September, and +34 in November 2010. It used to be at *neutral* to *moderate* levels from December 2008 to March 2010 [*Chart 2*, *Table 3*].

Speaker Belmonte's net satisfaction rating has been *neutral* over the past two quarters, at +9 in September 2010 and +7 in November 2010 [*Chart 3*, *Table 4*].

Chief Justice Corona's net satisfaction rating stayed *neutral* from -5 in the previous quarter to -7 now. It was a *poor* -18 in June 2010 [*Chart 4*, *Table 5*].

Net satisfaction ratings of top government institutions stable

The November 2010 survey found 65% satisfied and 14% dissatisfied with the performance of the Senate, or a record-high *very good* net +51, 3 points up from a *good* +48 in September 2010 [*Table 6*, *Chart 5 and Table 7*].

There were 51% satisfied and 18% dissatisfied with the House of Representatives, for a record-high *good* net satisfaction rating of +33, 3 points up from a *good* +30 in the previous quarter.

The survey found 55% satisfied and 19% dissatisfied with the performance of the Supreme Court, or a *good* +36, 3 points up from a *good* +33 in the previous quarter [*Chart 6*, *Table 8*].

It found 41% satisfied and 21% dissatisfied with the Cabinet as a whole, or a *moderate* +20, similar to +22 in the previous quarter. The net satisfaction rating of the Cabinet used to be *neutral* or *poor* from August 2005 to March 2010.

Survey Background

The November 2010 Social Weather Survey was conducted from November 27-30, 2010 using face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults in Metro Manila, the Balance of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao (sampling error margins of ±3% for national percentages, ±6% for area percentages).

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

The quarterly Social Weather Surveys on public satisfaction with the Vice-President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the top government institutions are not commissioned, but are done on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

[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"]

#

Table 1

PUBLIC SATISFACTION WITH THE VICE-PRESIDENT, SENATE PRESIDENT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, JUN TO NOV 2010

	Satisfied			Dissatisfied			Net *		
	Jun 25-28, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10	Jun 25-28, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10	Jun 25-28, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10
Jejomar Binay *Vice-President*	--	70%	69%	--	12%	13%	--	+58	+57
Juan Ponce Enrile *Senate President*	60%	57	55	18%	18	21	+41	+39	+34
Sonny Belmonte *House Speaker*	--	34	33	--	25	26	--	+9	+7
Renato Corona *Chief Justice*	22	26	26	40	32	33	-18	-5	-7

*Net figures (% Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied) are correctly rounded.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985 2010

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
November 27-30, 2010 National Survey

Chart 1

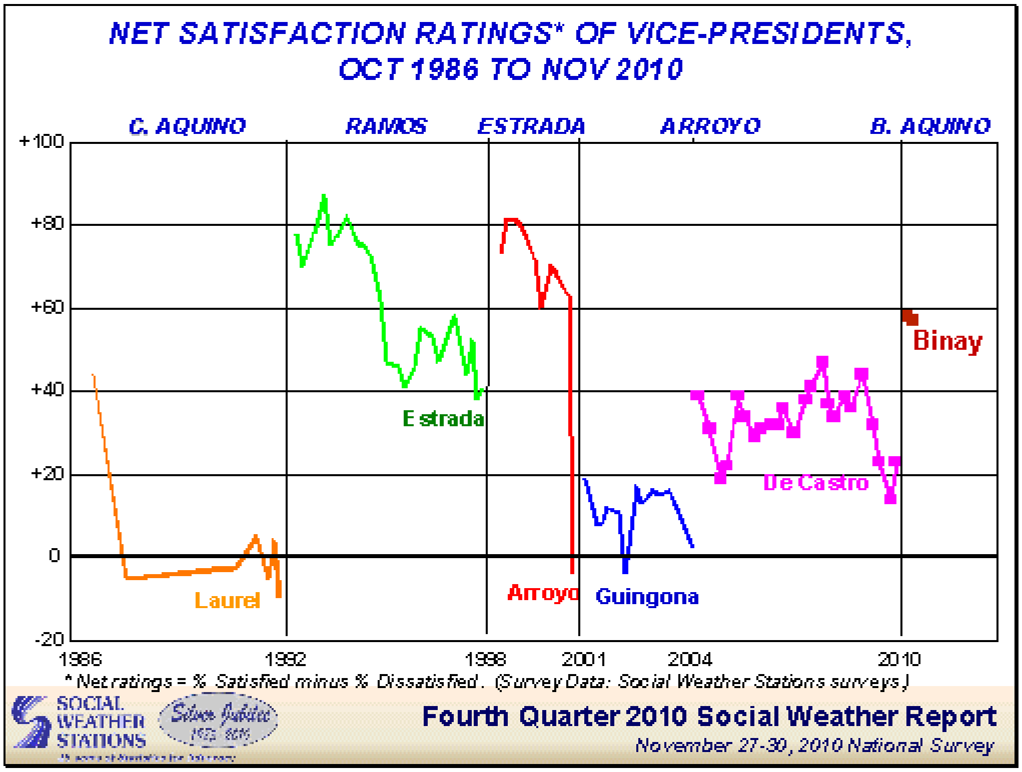


Table 2

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, OCT 1986 TO NOV 2010

	NET*		NET*		NET*		NET*
LAUREL		*ESTRADA (cont.)*		*GUINGONA*		*DE CASTRO (cont.)*	
OCT 86	+44	DEC 95	+41	MAR 01	+19	SEP 06	+32
OCT 87	-5	APR 96	+46	JUL 01	+8	NOV 06	+32
APR 90	-3	JUN 96	+55	SEP 01	+8	FEB 07	+36
NOV 90	-3	SEP 96	+53	NOV 01	+12	JUN 07	+30
JUL 91	+5	DEC 96	+47	MAR 02	+11	SEP 07	+38
NOV 91	-5	APR 97	+54	MAY 02	-4	DEC 07	+41
FEB 92	+4	JUN 97	+58	SEP 02	+17	MAR 08	+47
APR 92	-10	SEP 97	+44	NOV 02	+13	JUN 08	+37
ESTRADA		DEC 97	+52	MAR 03	+16	SEP 08	+34
SEP 92	+78	FEB 98	+38	JUN 03	+15	DEC 08	+39
DEC 92	+70	MAR 98	+41	SEP 03	+16	FEB 09	+36
APR 93	+78	*ARROYO*		NOV 03	+13	JUN 09	+44
JUL 93	+87	SEP 98	+73	JUN 04	+2	SEP 09	+32
SEP 93	+75	NOV 98	+81	AUG 04	+39	DEC 09	+23
DEC 93	+77	MAR 99	+81	DEC 04	+31	MAR 10	+14
APR 94	+82	JUN 99	+79	MAR 05	+19	JUN 10	+23
AUG 94	+75	OCT 99	+72	*DE CASTRO*		*BINAY*	
SEP 94	+75	DEC 99	+60	MAY 05	+22	SEP 10	+58
NOV 94	+73	MAR 00	+70	SEP 05	+39	**NOV 10**	**+57**
MAR 95	+62	APR 00	+68	DEC 05	+34		
JUN 95	+47	SEP 00	+63	MAR 06	+29		
OCT 95	+46	DEC 00	-4	JUN 06	+31		

* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report

November 27-30, 2010 National Survey

Chart 2

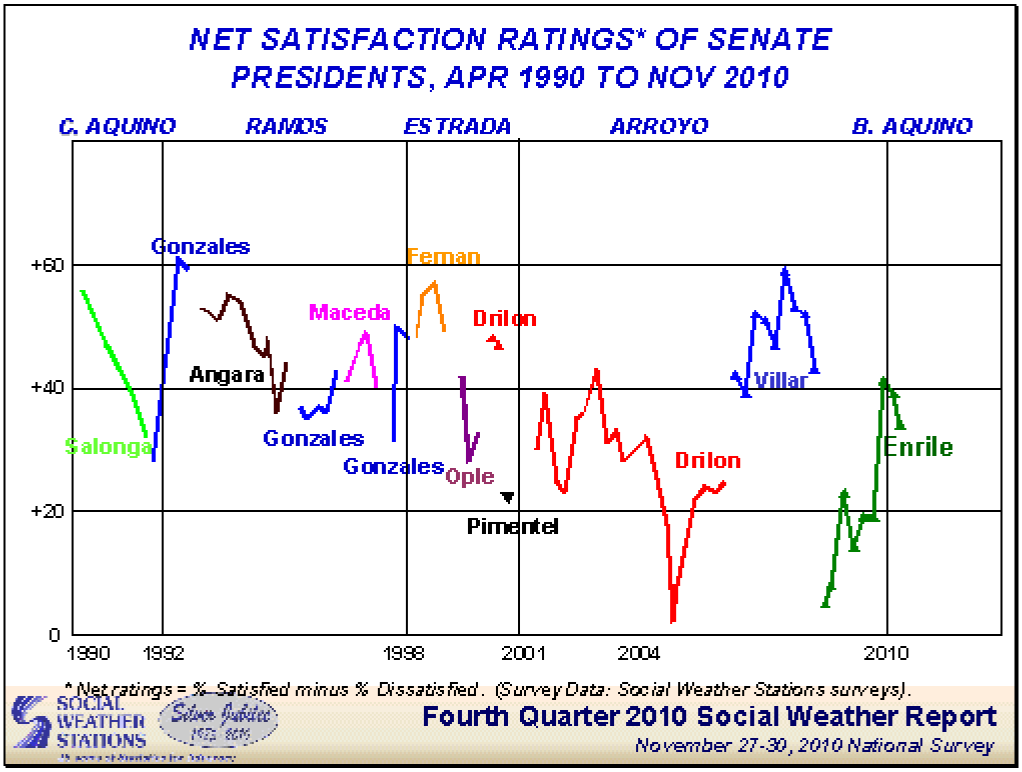


Table 3

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SENATE PRESIDENTS, APR 1990 TO NOV 2010

	NET*		NET*		NET*		NET*
SALONGA		MACEDA		DRILON (cont.)		VILLAR (cont.)	
APR 90	+56	DEC 96	+41	NOV 01	+39	SEP 07	+47
NOV 90	+47	APR 97	+47	APR 02	+25	DEC 07	+59
JUL 91	+39	JUN 97	+49	MAY 02	+23	MAR 08	+53
NOV 91	+32	SEP 97	+40	SEP 02	+35	JUN 08	+52
GONZALES		GONZALES		NOV 92	+36	SEP 08	+43
JAN 92	+28	FEB 98	+31	MAR 93	+43	ENRILE	
SEP 92	+61	MAR 98	+50	JUN 93	+31	DEC 08	+5
DEC 92	+59	JUL 98	+48	SEP 93	+33	FEB 09	+8
ANGARA		FERNAN		NOV 93	+28	JUN 09	+23
APR 93	+53	SEP 98	+48	JUN 04	+32	SEP 09	+14
JUL 93	+52	NOV 98	+55	AUG 04	+28	DEC 09	+19
SEP 93	+51	MAR 99	+57	DEC 04	+18	MAR 10	+19
DEC 93	+55	JUN 99	+49	FEB 05	+2	JUN 10	+41
APR 94	+54	OPLE		MAR 05	+8	SEP 10	+39
AUG 94	+47	OCT 99	+42	SEP 05	+22	**NOV 10**	**+34**
NOV 94	+45	DEC 99	+28	DEC 05	+24		
DEC 94	+48	MAR 00	+33	MAR 05	+23		
MAR 95	+36	DRILON		JUN 06	+25		
JUN 95	+44	JUL 00	+48	VILLAR			
GONZALES		SEP 00	+47	SEP 06	+42		
OCT 95	+37	PIMENTEL		DEC 06	+39		
DEC 95	+35	DEC 00	+22	MAR 07	+52		
APR 96	+37	DRILON		JUN 07	+51		
JUN 96	+36	SEP 01	+30				
SEP 96	+43						

* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report

November 27-30, 2010 National Survey

Chart **3**

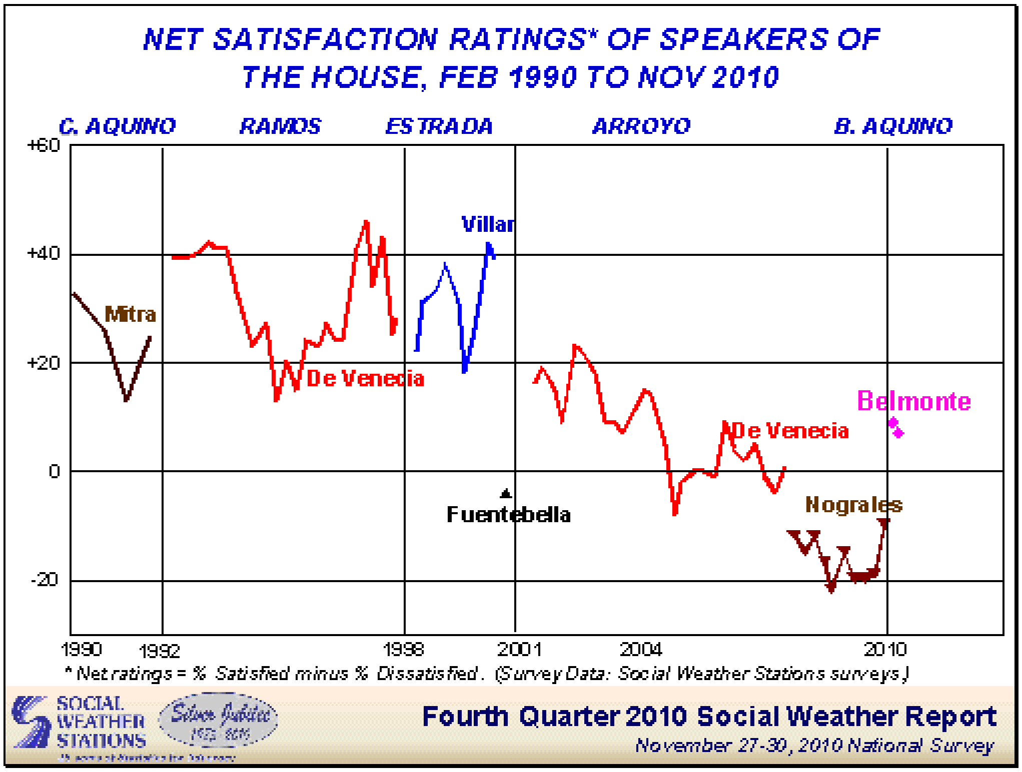


Table **4**

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE, FEB 1990 TO NOV 2010

	NET*		NET*		NET*		NET*
MITRA		*DE VENECIA (cont.)*		*DE VENECIA (cont.)*		*NOGRALES*	
FEB 90	+33	NOV 96	+24	MAY 02	+9	MAR 08	-12
NOV 90	+26	MAR 97	+41	SEP 02	+23	JUN 08	-15
JUN 91	+13	JUN 97	+46	NOV 02	+22	SEP 08	-12
OCT 91	+20	AUG 97	+34	MAR 03	+18	DEC 08	-17
JAN 92	+25	NOV 97	+43	JUN 03	+9	FEB 09	-22
DE VENECIA		FEB 98	+25	SEP 03	+9	JUN 09	-15
AUG 92	+39	MAR 98	+28	NOV 03	+7	SEP 09	-20
NOV 92	+39	*VILLAR*		JUN 04	+15	DEC 09	-20
MAR 93	+40	SEP 98	+22	AUG 04	+14	MAR 10	-19
JUL 93	+42	NOV 98	+31	DEC 04	+5	JUN 10	-10
SEP 93	+41	MAR 99	+33	MAR 05	-8	*BELMONTE*	
DEC 93	+41	JUN 99	+38	MAY 05	-2	SEP 10	+9
MAR 94	+33	OCT 99	+31	SEP 05	0	***NOV 10***	**+7**
AUG 94	+23	DEC 99	+18	DEC 05	0		
NOV 94	+26	MAR 00	+26	MAR 06	-1		
DEC 94	+27	JUL 00	+42	JUN 06	+9		
MAR 95	+13	SEP 00	+39	SEP 06	+4		
JUN 95	+20	*FUENTEBELLA*		DEC 06	+2		
SEP 95	+15	DEC 00	-4	MAR 07	+5		
DEC 95	+24	*DE VENECIA*		JUN 07	-1		
APR 96	+23	SEP 01	+16	SEP 07	-4		
JUN 96	+27	NOV 01	+19	DEC 07	+1		
SEP 96	+24	MAR 02	+15				

* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

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Chart 4

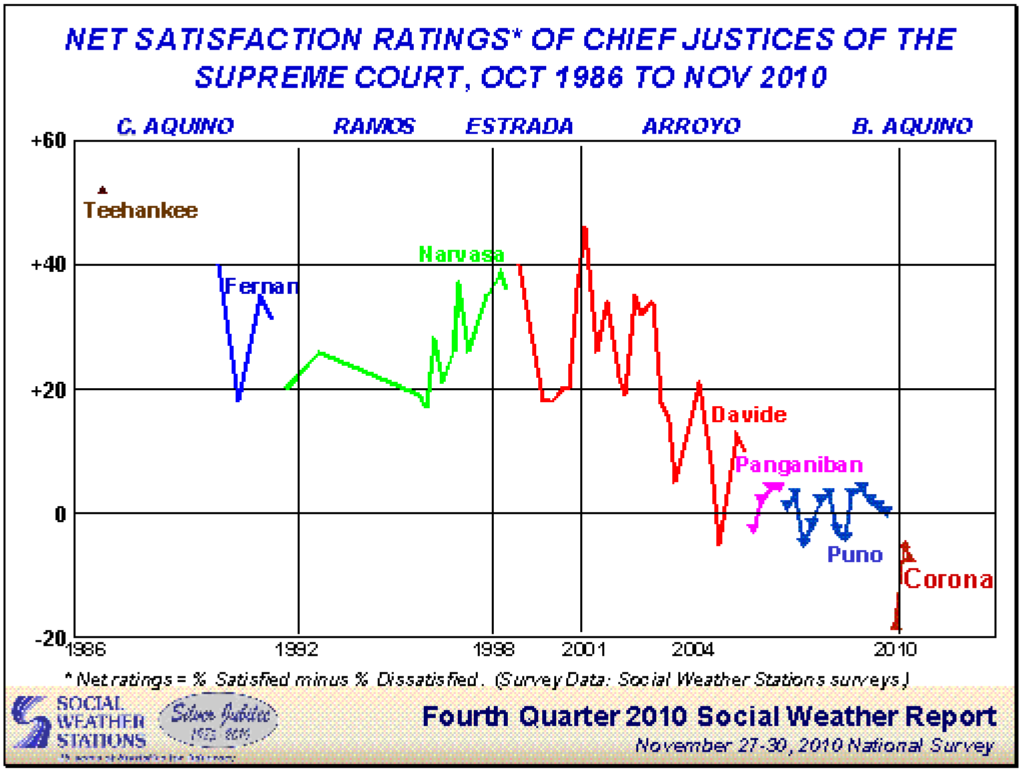

Table 5

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT, OCT 1986 TO NOV 2010

	NET*		NET*		NET*
TEEHANKEE		*DAVIDE*		*PANGANIBAN*	
OCT 86	+52	DEC 99	+18	MAR 06	- 3
FERNAN		MAR 00	+18	JUN 06	+ 2
APR 90	+40	JUL 00	+20	SEP 06	+ 4
NOV 90	+18	SEP 00	+20	DEC 06	+ 4
JUL 91	+35	DEC 00	+36	*PUNO*	
NOV 91	+31	MAR 01	+46	MAR 07	+ 1
NARVASA		JUL 01	+26	JUN 07	+ 3
APR 92	+20	SEP 01	+31	SEP 07	- 5
APR 93	+26	NOV 01	+34	DEC 07	- 2
APR 96	+19	MAR 02	+22	MAR 08	+ 2
JUN 96	+17	MAY 02	+19	JUN 08	+3
SEP 96	+28	SEP 02	+35	SEP 08	- 3
DEC 96	+21	NOV 02	+32	*DEC 08*	- 4
APR 97	+26	MAR 03	+34	FEB 09	+3
JUN 97	+37	JUN 03	+18	JUN 09	+4
SEP 97	+26	SEP 03	+15	SEP 09	+2
DEC 97	+30	NOV 03	+ 5	DEC 09	+1
APR 98	+35	JUN 04	+18	MAR 10	0
SEP 98	+39	AUG 04	+21	*CORONA*	
NOV 98	+36	DEC 04	+ 8	JUN 10	-18
MAR 99	+40	MAY 05	- 5	SEP 10	-5
		MAY 05	+ 1	***NOV 10***	***-7***
		SEP 05	+13		
		DEC 05	+10		

* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

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Table 6

PUBLIC SATISFACTION WITH TOP GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, MAR TO NOV 2010

	Satisfied			Dissatisfied			Net *		
	Mar 19-22, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10	Mar 19-22, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10	Mar 19-22, 10	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10
Senate	50%	62%	65%	25%	14%	14%	+25	+48	+51
House of Rep.	37	49	51	30	19	18	+7	+30	+33
Supreme Court	41	51	55	32	18	19	+9	+33	+36
Cabinet	31	42	41	38	20	21	-7	+22	+20

* % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded. Ignores Don't Know and Refused to Answer responses.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985 2010

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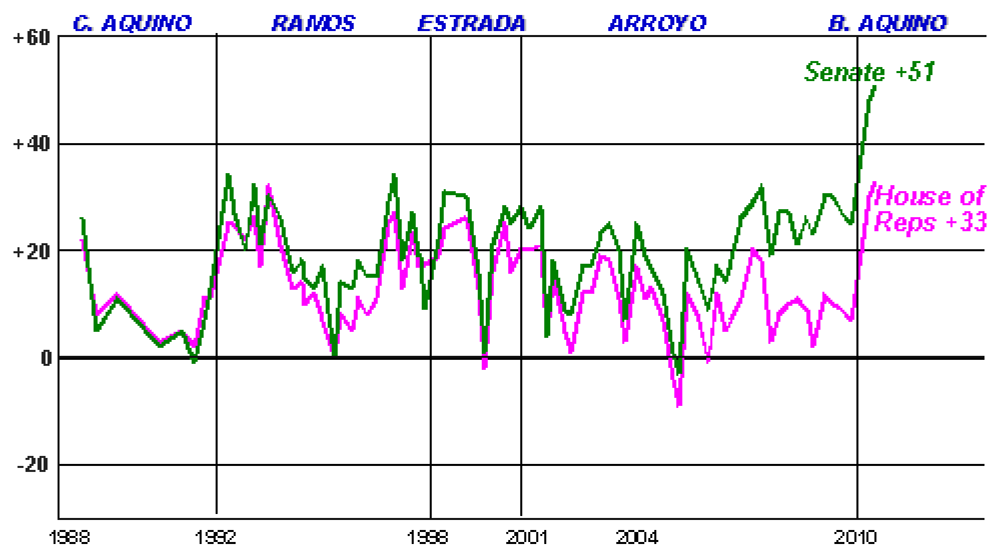
Chart 5

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEP 1988 – NOV 2010



* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.)

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985 2010

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Table 7

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEP 1988 – NOV 2010

	Senate	House of Rep.
C. AQUINO		
SEP 88	+26	+22
FEB 89	+5	+8
SEP 89	+11	+12
NOV 90	+2	+3
JUL 91	+5	+5
NOV 91	-1	+2
FEB 92	+7	+11
APR 92	+13	+11
RAMOS		
OCT 92	+34	+25
DEC 92	+27	+25
APR 93	+20	+22
JUL 93	+32	+26
SEP 93	+21	+17
DEC 93	+30	+32
APR 94	+26	+21
AUG 94	+16	+13
NOV 94	+18	+14
DEC 94	+15	+10
MAR 95	+13	+12
JUN 95	+17	+7
OCT 95	0	0
DEC 95	+14	+8
RAMOS (cont.)		
APR 96	+13	+5
JUN 96	+18	+11
SEP 96	+15	+8
DEC 96	+15	+11
APR 97	+29	+25
JUN 97	+34	+27
SEP 97	+18	+13
DEC 97	+27	+23
FEB 98	+19	+17
MAR 98	+19	+17
APR 98	+9	
ESTRADA		
SEP 98	+22	+19
NOV 98	+31	+24
JUN 99	+30	+26
OCT 99	+16	+13
DEC 99	+1	-2
MAR 00	+21	+16
JUL 00	+28	+25
SEP 00	+25	+16
DEC 00	+28	+20
ARROYO		
MAR 01	+24	+20
JUL 01	+28	+21
SEP 01	+4	+4
NOV 01	+18	+15
MAR 02	+9	+5
MAY 02	+8	+1
SEP 02	+17	+12
DEC 02	+17	+12
MAR 03	+23	+19
JUN 03	+25	+18
SEP 03	+20	+11
NOV 03	+7	+3
MAR 04	+25	+17
JUN 04	+19	+11
AUG 04	+17	+13
DEC 04	+12	+7
MAR 05	+1	-4
MAY 05	-3	-9
AUG 05	+20	+12
DEC 05	+14	+7
MAR 06	+9	-1
JUN 06	+17	+12
ARROYO (cont.)		
SEP 06	+14	+5
NOV 06	+18	+7
FEB 07	+26	+11
JUN 07	+29	+20
SEP 07	+32	+18
DEC 07	+19	+3
MAR 08	+27	+8
JUN 08	+27	+10
SEP 08	+21	+11
DEC 08	+26	+9
FEB 09	+23	+2
JUN 09	+30	+12
SEP 09	+30	+10
DEC 09	+27	+9
MAR 10	+25	+7
B. AQUINO		
SEP 10	+48	+30
NOV 10	**+51**	**+33**

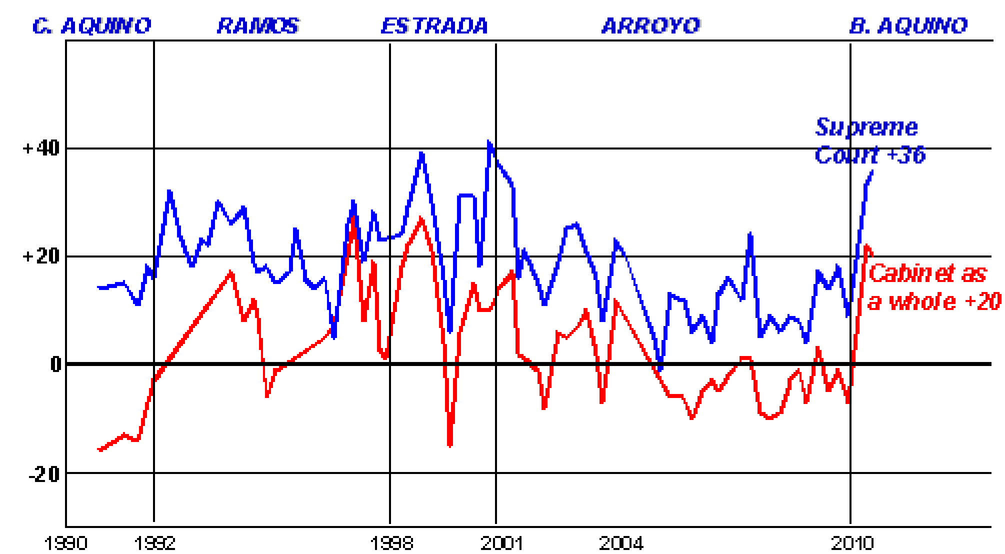
* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied.
Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
November 27-30, 2010 National Survey

Chart 6

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE CABINET AS A WHOLE, NOV 1990 – NOV 2010



* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. (Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys).

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

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Table 8

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE CABINET AS A WHOLE, NOV 1990 – NOV 2010

	Supreme Court	Cabinet
C. AQUINO		
NOV 90	+14	-16
JUL 91	+15	-13
NOV 91	+11	-14
FEB 92	+18	- 7
APR 92	+16	- 3
RAMOS		
AUG 92	+32	
DEC 92	+24	
APR 93	+18	
JUL 93	+23	
SEP 93	+22	
DEC 93	+30	
APR 94	+26	+17
AUG 94	+29	+ 8
NOV 94	+19	+12
DEC 94	+17	+ 9
MAR 95	+18	- 6
JUN 95	+15	- 1
OCT 95	+17	
DEC 95	+25	
MAR 96	+16	
JUN 96	+14	
RAMOS (cont.)		
SEP 96	+16	+ 5
DEC 96	+ 5	+ 7
APR 97	+26	+20
JUN 97	+30	+27
SEP 97	+19	+ 8
DEC 97	+28	+19
FEB 98	+23	+ 3
APR 98		+ 1
ESTRADA		
SEP 98	+24	+18
NOV 98	+29	+22
MAR 99	+39	+27
JUN 99	+30	+21
OCT 99	+16	+ 4
DEC 99	+ 6	-15
MAR 00	+31	+ 6
JUL 00	+31	+15
SEP 00	+18	+10
DEC 00	+41	+10
ARROYO		
MAR 01	+37	+14
JUL 01	+33	+17
SEP 01	+16	+ 2
NOV 01	+21	+ 1
MAR 02	+15	- 1
MAY 02	+11	- 8
SEP 02	+19	+ 6
DEC 02	+25	+ 5
MAR 03	+26	+ 7
JUN 03	+21	+10
SEP 03	+16	+ 2
NOV 03	+ 8	- 7
MAR 04	+23	+12
JUN 04	+20	
AUG 04	+17	
MAR 05	+ 5	
MAY 05	- 1	
AUG 05	+13	- 6
DEC 05	+12	- 6
MAR 06	+ 6	-10
ARROYO (cont.)		
JUN 06	+ 9	- 5
SEP 06	+ 4	- 3
NOV 06	+13	- 5
FEB 07	+16	- 2
JUN 07	+12	+ 1
SEP 07	+24	+ 1
DEC 07	+ 5	- 9
MAR 08	+ 9	-10
JUN 08	+6	- 9
SEP 08	+9	- 3
DEC 08	+8	-1
FEB 09	+4	-7
JUN 09	+17	+3
SEP 09	+14	-5
DEC 09	+18	- 1
MAR 10	+ 9	- 7
B. AQUINO		
SEP 10	+33	+22
NOV 10	+36	+20

* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied. Survey Data: Social Weather Stations surveys.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

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November 27-30, 2010 National Survey

EAST EUROPE

156-4 Political Aggression In Poland[4]

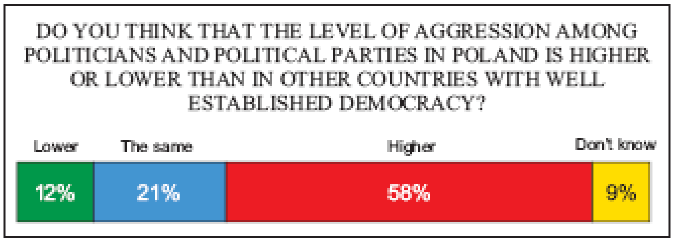
November 2010

For some time now, Polish political life has seen the growth of verbal aggression. The language used by politicians in public debates and discussions involving representatives of major political parties is becoming ever more offensive.

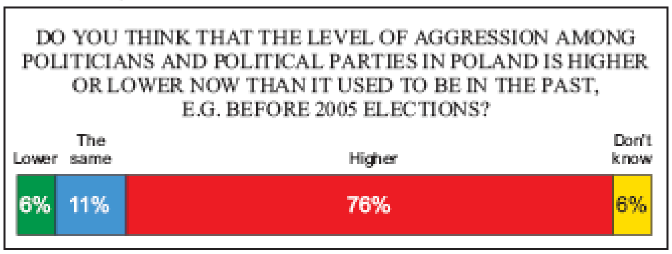
Recently in Poland, Marek Rosiak (Law and Justice party, PiS) was shot in his Parliamentary Office in Lodz, Poland. Mr Rosiak was an assistant of JanuszWojciechowski - a member of the European Parliament. Many people see this tragedy as the result of the growing aggression in politics.

Others however, downplay the incident, emphasizing the fact that the person who committed the crime was, most probably, mentally unstable. According to over half of respondents (58%), political aggression is more common in Poland than in other countries with well established democracy.

[4] http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/11_2010.pdf



A vast majority of Poles notice the growth of aggression in political life that has taken place in recent years. As many as three quarters of respondents (76%) believe that it is higher now than in the past, for instance before 2005 elections.



The pa r t i e s mostly responsible for the growing atmosphere of aggression are, according to the respondents, Law and Justice (PiS) and the Civic Platform (PO). However, the prevailing opinion is that Law and Justice is far more to blame. Only a small percentage of people claim that Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and Polish People's Party (PSL) create this atmosphere. One in six respondents blame all the parties equally.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: Political aggression in Poland, November 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2010, N=999. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

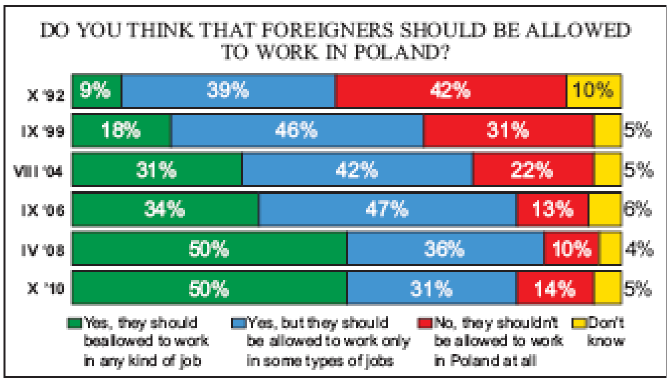
156-5 Foreign Employees In Poland[5]

According to the data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, 29,340 work permits for foreigners were issued in 2009. However, the real number of foreigners working in Poland is much higher as some people are allowed to work temporarily without such permits and others might work illegally. The statistics from the Ministry say that the majority of foreign workers come from the former USSR republics, mainly Ukraine, and Far Eastern countries, prevailingly China.

Slightly over a quarter of the surveyed people (26%) personally know a foreigner living in Poland. Only a few Poles (3%) say they paid for the help of a foreigner in performing housework, refurbishing, babysitting, construction or field work in agriculture. Inhabitants of the largest cities were more likely to use this type of help -7% paid for the work of a foreigner. About one in seven (14%) declare they know people employing foreigners.

[5] http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/11_2010.pdf

A vast majority of respondents (81%) do not object to foreigners working in Poland. Among them half (50%) do not mind any type of job being taken by foreigners and about a third (31%) do not object only if some types of jobs are occupied by them. An opposite view is held by every seventh respondent (14%). This group has increased by 4 percentage points since 2008 (when the last survey was conducted), but generally speaking, no major changes in the attitude towards employing foreigners have occurred since that time. The shift in attitude is visible when compared to earlier research. Poles used to be either generally more unwilling towards employing foreign workers (1992) or accepted employing them only in some types of jobs more widely.



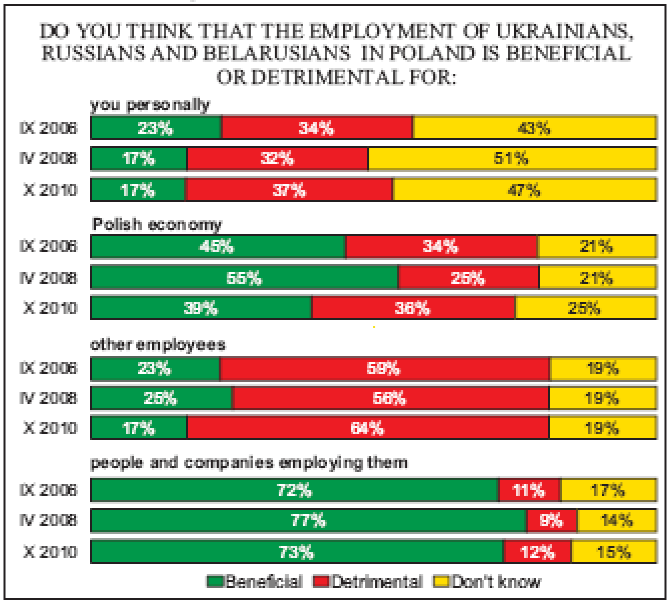
A considerable number of foreign workers come from the former USSR republics, mainly Ukraine. The employment of workers from neighbouring countries to the east of Poland was made easier some time ago. An entrepreneur or an individual who wants to employ a foreigner needs to register the declaration of his/her willingness at District Employment Agency. Such declaration allows a person to work for six months within a year. In 2009, there were 189,000 declarations submitted. The simplified procedure expires at the end of 2010. However, to meet the expectations of employers, the Government plans to prolong existing regulations.

Nearly every second respondent (47%) cannot decide whether he/she considers the work of Ukrainians, Russians and Belarusians in Poland beneficial for him/her personally. Among those who gave a definite answer, more than twice as many people said it has a detrimental effect rather than beneficial (37% and 17% respectively). When asked about the influence of employing Ukrainians, Russians and Belarusians on the situation of other workers, the percentage of negative views was even greater.Almost two thirds of respondents (64%) are convinced that employing them is detrimental for the remainder of and only every fifth (17%) holds an opposite view. Opinions about the effect of employing Ukrainians, Russians and Belarusians on Polish economy are divided. Slightly more people believe that the impact is positive (39%) rather than negative (36%). What is, however, seen in a prevailingly positive light (73%), is the influence foreigners from these countries have on the situation of people and companies employing them.

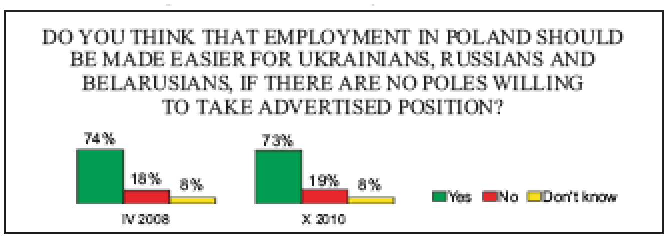
The last survey on this subject was conducted in April 2008 and in the time dividing that research from 2010 survey the world experienced economic crisis.

Even though in Poland the crisis was relatively mild, still it must have influenced to some degree the way Poles assess the job market and stability of employment. This in turn translates, to some extent, into the way Poles perceive the employment of foreigners. Since 2008, the benefits of employing workers from Ukraine, Russia and Belarus are noticed definitely less frequently - particularly with regard to the situation of other workers and the effect on the Polish economy.

Moreover, negative attitude to immigration has increased.



Nearly three quarters of respondents (73%) think that access to employment in Poland should be made easier for Ukrainians, Russians and Belarusians, if there are no Poles willing to take advertised position. Opinions have not changed in the last two years.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: Foreign Employees in Poland, November 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2010, N=1035. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

WEST EUROPE

156-6 Sport England: Athletics now the biggest growth sport[6]

24 January 2011

[6] http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/blogs/mediactlightbites/625/Sport-England-Athletics-now-the-biggest-growth-sport.aspx

Active People Survey 4 (APS4) came to a close in the middle of October 2010, rounding off another 12 months of fieldwork to add to Active People Survey 3 (2008/9), APS2 (2007/8) and APS1 (2005/6).

Now with four years worth of Survey data, it's possible to pick out some emerging trends in the participation rates amongst the most popular sports:

The results for each of the Active People Surveys undertaken have always placed the same five sports, in the same order as most popular in terms of the number of people participating. APS4 has finally bucked this trend, and while the top five remains unchanged, there has been a change to the order. **Athletics** has emerged as the biggest growth sport from ASP3 to APS4, perhaps with London 2012 in mind, and there are now 1.9 million participants in England. The trend over the surveys has been one of increase – 127,600 from APS2 to APS3 and a similar number, 135,800, between APS3 and APS4. In the space of just two years, over a quarter of million people (263,400) have become **Athletics** participants and in excess of 500,000 since APS1.

The number of **Cycling** participants grew at a similar rate between APS2 and APS3 (112,900) however this has not been sustained into APS4 and the participation has fallen by 13,700 in the latest year's survey. While this is still an increase of nearly 100,000 since the APS2 baseline and 231,500 on APS1, it's not enough to see **Athletics** leapfrog it into third place.

Swimming continues to be the sport with most participants for a fourth survey in a row, however the trend is one of decline. Nearly 82,000 fewer people participated in **swimming** from APS2 to APS3 and while there is still a decline in the APS4 results, it is of only 6,100. So while there is still decline, the speed of it is slowing, this may be as a result of various free-swimming initiatives over the course of the last 12 months or so.

The other two sports in the top five, **Football** and **Golf**, both showed increases from APS1 to APS2, but since have trended a decline. The APS4 data sees them both register a statistical decline from APS2, and in the case of **Golf** in APS3 verses APS4 as well.

Top 5 Sports: For the first time, there's been a change in the top 5 sports ranking, with **Athletics**overtaking **Cycling** to become the third most popular activity in the UK (results based on KPI1).

Activity	**APS1 (2005/6)**		**APS2 (2007/8)**		**APS3 (2008/9)**		**APS4 (2009/10)**		**+/- participants APS4 vs APS2**
	Number	**%**	**Number**	**%**	**Number**	**%**	**Number**	**%**	
Swimming	3,273,800	8.04	3,244,300	7.83	3,162,400	7.57	3,156,300	7.50	-88,000
Football	2,021,700	4.97	2,144,700	5.18	2,122,700	5.08	2,090,000	4.96	-54,700
Athletics	1,353,800	3.33	1,612,100	3.89	1,739,700	4.16	1,875,500	4.45	263,400
Cycling	1,634,800	4.02	1,767,100	4.26	1,880,000	4.50	1,866,300	4.43	99,200
Golf	889,100	2.18	948,300	2.29	897,600	2.15	860,900	2.04	-87,400

156-7 Labour Ahead By Eight Points As Half Of Britons Disapprove Of Cameron[7]

JAN 27, 2011

Ed Miliband and Nick Clegg make slight gains on approval.

For the first time since the start of the Coalition Government, half of people in Britain provide a negative assessment of Prime Minister David Cameron's performance, a new Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,010 British adults, 50 per cent of respondents disapprove of the way Cameron is handling his duties. Since a survey conducted in the first weeks of the new Government—in May 2010—the proportion of respondents who disapprove of the Prime Minister has doubled.

British Political Scene

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

	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2010	Nov. 2010	Oct. 2010	Sept. 2010	Jul. 2010	Jun. 2010	May 2010
Approve	41%	42%	44%	49%	49%	53%	54%	54%
Disapprove	50%	49%	47%	42%	38%	35%	32%	25%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%	9%	13%	12%	15%	22%

A third of respondents (33%) approve of the way Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg is doing his job, and a comparable proportion (34%) hold a favourable view of Ed Miliband's performance as Leader of the Opposition. This is the best showing for Miliband since November, and the first sign of improvement for Clegg's numbers since October.

Voting Intention

Across Britain, 41 per cent of decided voters and leaners (+1 since early January) say they would support the Labour candidate in their constituency in the next General Election. The Conservative Party is second with 33 per cent (-2), and their coalition partners—the Liberal Democrats—are a distant third with 12 per cent (=).

The United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) is next with six per cent, followed by the Scottish National Party (SNP) with three per cent, the Green Party also with three per cent, and the British National Party (BNP) with two per cent.

Labour is now four points ahead of the Tories in London (43% to 39%) and has extended its advantage in Midlands and Wales to 14 points, and in the North to 24 points. The Tories maintain the upper hand in the South of England (43% to 32%). In Scotland, Labour is now ahead of the SNP by 13 points (43% to 30%).

[7] http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5535/labour-ahead-by-eight-points-as-half-of-britons-disapprove-of-cameron/

Analysis

The Tories, who had been stuck at 35 per cent for three months, have now dropped two points. UKIP and Labour appear to be the main beneficiaries of the Conservative slump. The Liberal Democrats did not make any gains, but remain clear of their December single-digit showing.

The level of disenchantment with David Cameron has reached 50 per cent. Conversely, Ed Miliband was able to make some gains on approval, and Nick Clegg also improved on his standing in 2011.

Methodology: From January 25 to January 26, 2011, Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 2,010 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.

156-8 Economic Confidence Declines in Britain With The Decrease in Support for The Government

Ipsos MORI January 2011 Political Monitor
Published:27 January 2011
Fieldwork:21 - 24 January 2011
Theme: Politicians & Parties
Sub-Theme: Political Monitor

Confidence in Britain's economic prospects falls away, as support for the government decreases. However, Cameron remains liked and the public have not yet made up their minds about Ed Miliband.[8]

CON 33(-5); LAB 43(+4); LIB DEM 13(+2)

The first Reuters/ Ipsos MORI Political Monitor of 2011 shows the lowest level of economic optimism that Ipsos MORI has recorded in almost two years.

With the latest GDP figures showing a decline in economic growth between October and December of last year (reversing the trend of the previous months), **more than half (53%) of the public think the economy will get worse over the next 12 months**, compared to a quarter (24%) who think it will get better. These represent the most pessimistic figures since March 2009, when the UK was at the beginning of he recent recession.

However, confidence in the government's long term economic policies remains slightly more positive, though this has declined slightly since October; 49% agree that **they will improve the state of the economy**, compared to 43% who disagree.

[8] http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/poll.aspx?oItemId=2718

Slightly more people think that the government should increase taxes on banks, even if it makes the British banking sector much less competitive (50%) than think it should not do so because the banks are important to Britain's economic recovery; (42%).

Confidence in the government's ability to improve the state of public services has also decreased significantly since last year. Three in five people now disagree that, in the long term, the government's policies will improve the state of our public services (59%) compared to 32% who agree. This continues the trend of falling confidence seen since July last year.

The gloomy economic situation appears to be having an effect on support for the government. Voting intentions this month are….**CON 33(-5); LAB 43(+4); LIB DEM 13(+2).**

Looking at the results across demographic groups, those who have swung away from the Conservative party since December include **men, those in social grade DE and voters in the Midlands**.

Satisfaction with the government and its leaders has declined significantly since December. Net satisfaction with the way that David Cameron is doing his job as Prime Minister has fallen 18 points since last year to -14 (38% are satisfied, 52% dissatisfied). These are **Cameron's lowest ratings since September 2007**. Satisfaction with the government has fallen amongst Conservative and Liberal Democrat voters.

Nick Clegg's ratings as Deputy Prime Minister have fallen by 11 points amongst the general public to -23, and he is **the least popular leader of the Liberal Democrats since Paddy Ashdown in July 1989**, after having seen his popularity peak in April 2010 (net satisfaction score of +53).

Ed Miliband's ratings remain unchanged from the end of last year, with a quarter of the public yet to make up their minds about the Labour leader (26%).

This month we also asked whether people 'like' the leaders and their parties. **Cameron is the most 'liked' leader**, by 47% of the public, compared with Clegg (40%) and Miliband (36%).

However, in terms of parties, the story is reversed; **the Labour party is the most liked,** at 45%, with 40% liking the Liberal Democrats, and 37% liking the Conservative party. Put simply, Cameron is more popular than his party, and the opposite is true for Ed Miliband.

Technical note
Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1,162 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone 21st- 24th January 2011. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

156-9 Huge Majority Oppose England Forest Sell-Off Plans, Poll Finds[9]

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9 http://www.theecologist.org/News/news_round_up/741523/huge_majority_oppose_england_forest_selloff_plans_poll_finds.html

Damian Carrington, guardian head of environment

23rd January, 2011

YouGov poll finds 84 per cent of British public agree that woods and forests should be kept in public ownership for future generations

The vast majority of the public oppose the government's plan to sell off all or part of the publicly owned forests and woodland in England.

A YouGov poll found that 84 per cent of people agreed the woods and forests should be kept in public ownership for future generations, while only 2 per cent disagreed.

The plan has already prompted a mass demonstration in the ancient Forest of Dean, and an online petition organised by the campaign group 38 Degrees has attracted more than 164,000 names so far.

'Most British people want our woodlands protected for future generations and for wildlife. Yet right now the government is pushing through plans to privatise them,' said David Babbs, executive director of 38 Degrees, whose members paid for the poll. 'The government consultation looks like it will ask the wrong question. They are asking us how the forests should be privatised. But most of us don't want our forests privatised at all.'

Caroline Spelman, the secretary of state for the environment, food and rural affairs, will be given the powers to sell land currently run by the Forestry Commission under the Public Bodies bill. In November, her minister, Jim Paice, told a House of Lords select committee: 'We wish to proceed with very substantial disposal of public forest estate, which could go to the extent of all of it.'

Responding to the poll, a Defra spokesman said: 'The interest this [issue] has generated clearly shows that the public care about the country's forests. We do too and that is why protection will be in place. We urge anyone with an interest in this issue to wait for the consultation to be published and see our plans in full and not base views on speculation about privatisation.'

Opponents of the sale of public forests and woods argue that public access has not been preserved following earlier small sales by the Forestry Commission, such as at Pennygrove Wood in east Sussex where 'private property' signs were erected, and that wildlife would not be protected. Others argue that privatisation of English woodland could cost the government millions of pounds in lost tax revenues and cancel out most of the money raised from its sale, as private owners enjoy exemption from capital gains tax, income tax and inheritance tax.

Mary Creagh, Labour's shadow minister for environment, said: 'The Tory-led government plan to sell off England's forests is an act of environmental vandalism. The public bodies bill, if it is passed, will be a loggers' charter. Private companies will cherry-pick sites for commercial development, and voluntary groups will be left to look after ancient woodlands without a budget. The true value of England's forests will never be reflected in the price the Tory-led government gets from selling them.'

Union representatives are also concerned about the loss of 850 jobs in England and the research on climate change and tree diseases carried out by the Forestry Commission. Lorraine Adams, a Forestry Commission scientist and branch president for the union Prospect, said only public ownership would preserve the added value – beyond timber – of forests as havens for wildlife and recreation. She said current rules only preserved access on foot, not for bicycles, horses, cars or visitors with disabilities.

The YouGov poll surveyed 2,253 adults between 13-17 January 2011 and is representative of all UK adults. A second question asked: 'To what extent do you support or oppose the government's plans to sell publicly owned woodlands and forests in England?' Three-quarters of respondents opposed the sale, while 6 per cent supported it. The Forestry Commission owns 199,000 ha of woodland in England.

North America

156-10 A Third Of Americans Would Give Obama A New Term In 2012[10]

JAN 20, 2011

Despite a continuing call for political unity, Barack Obama remains a polarizing figure in United States politics, with a majority of Democrats believing that he should be re-elected as President in 2012, but just one-in-ten Republicans and one-in-four Independents sharing the same opinion, a new Vision Critical poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,006 American adults, more than a third of respondents (36%) say Obama has performed worse than they expected after almost two years in office, while 45 per cent believe he has performed about the same as they expected. Only 13 per cent of respondents think the President has performed better than they expected.

Two-in-five respondents (40%) think Obama has accomplished little in his first two years as President, while 29 per cent think it is too early to judge his accomplishments. One-in-five Americans (21%) think Obama has accomplished much over the past two years.

Two Years of Obama

At this point, do you think Barack Obama deserves to be re-elected as President in 2012?

	United States	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Yes, he deserves to be re-elected	33%	60%	10%	25%
No, he does not deserve to be re-elected	44%	19%	79%	49%
Not sure	23%	21%	11%	25%

At this point, a third of Americans (33%) believe Obama deserves to be re-elected as President in 2012, while 44 per cent disagree. Compared to an Angus Reid / Vision Critical survey conducted in January 2010, Obama has gained three points on the re-election question (from 30% to 33%),

[10] http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5487/a-third-of-americans-would-give-obama-a-new-term-in-2012/

but the proportion of people who believe he does not deserve a new term has increased by five points (from 39% to 44%).

Half of Americans (51%) agree with Obama's recent statement, where he defended doing or trying to do what he promised during the 2008 campaign. More than a third of respondents (37%) disagree with the President.

Three-in-five respondents (59%) think Obama was right to compromise with the Republicans and extend the tax cuts for all Americans that began under President Bush, while allowing for the continuation of government compensation for unemployed Americans and tax credits to help businesses.

Analysis

After two years at the White House, and a mid-term election that saw the Republicans take control of the House of Representatives, partisanship continues to play a role in the way Americans perceive the President.

Republicans only praise Obama for compromising—and allowing the Bush tax cuts to continue—but are consistently critical of other facets of his tenure, particularly in regard to his performance and accomplishments.

Despite the fact that many Democrats are voicing satisfaction with the President, there are signs that the level of support among the party faithful is starting to erode. About one-in-five Democrats are disappointed with Obama's performance (20%), feel he has accomplished too little in the past two years (23%), and think he does not deserve to be re-elected in 2012 (19%).

Among Independents, a key group in Obama's 2008 victory over Republican John McCain, the numbers for the President show a need to strengthen the base of support for another term. Almost half of Independents (49%) think Obama has not done enough to earn a new term at the White House, and two-in-five feel he has accomplished little (42%) and has been a worse head of state than they originally anticipated (41%). It will be important to track the perceptions of this group throughout the next 12 months, to review whether any one of the prospective Republican contenders can capitalize on Obama's apparent weakness.

Methodology: From January 14 to January 16, 2010, Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 1,006 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.

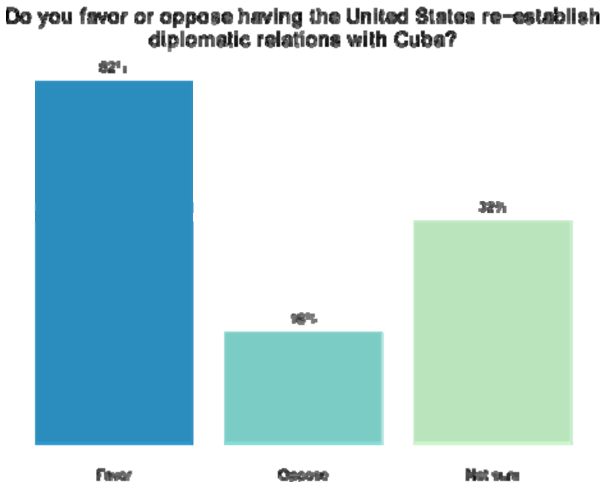
156-11 Ready For Contact With Cuba[11]

Wed January 26, 9:08 a.m. PST by YouGov Staff in *Economist Poll*

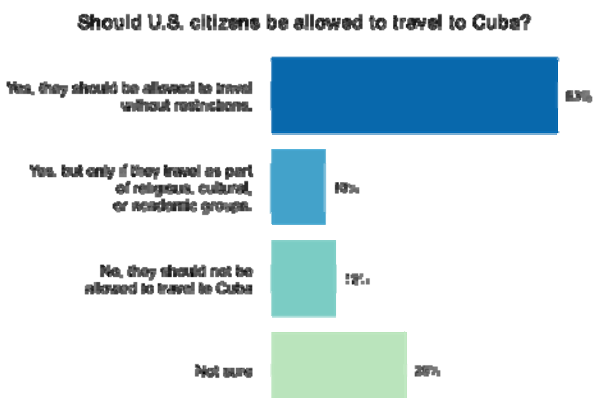
[11] http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/01/26/ready-contact-cuba/

Americans --- including many Republicans --- are ready to change public policy towards Cuba: the latest*Economist*/YouGov Poll finds a majority in favor of resuming diplomatic relations with Cuba --- relations that have been severed for decades.

52% of Americans would resume diplomatic relations with Cuba today, and just 16% oppose relations now. Majorities of Democrats (64%), independents (57%) and Hispanics (55%) support diplomatic relations with Cuba. Republicans who have an opinion about this, though more divided, narrowly support resuming diplomatic relations (37% of them favor it; 34% oppose it).



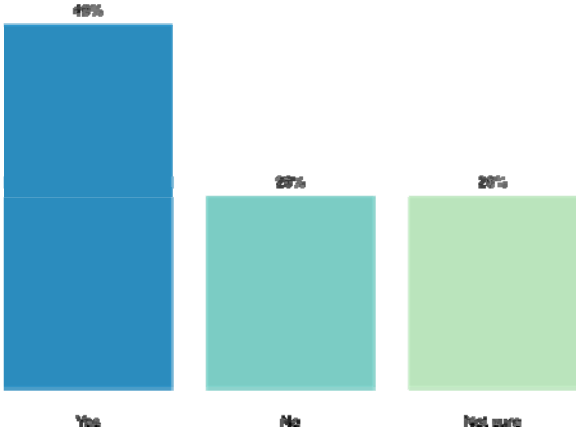
Americans are open to more informal contact between the two countries as well. 53% support allowing U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba (and an additional 10% would be willing to let Americans travel there if they were part of a cultural, religious or academic group. Only 12% would forbid travel to Cuba completely.



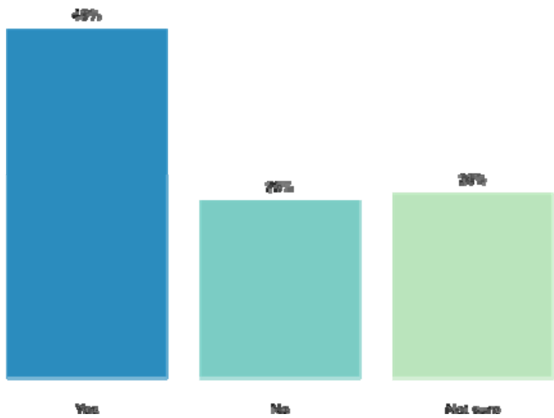
A plurality of Republicans (41%) support travel to Cuba (that figure rises to 56% when those who would support group-sponsored travel are included).

The public also supports trade with Cuba --- with money flowing in both directions. By 49% to 25%, they favor lifting the embargo with Cuba and letting Americans buy Cuban goods. By a similar margin (49% to 25%) they favor allowing Americans to send money directly to Cuban citizens --- as long as those Cubans are not members of the Cuban government or the Communist Party.

Currently, there is an embargo on U.S. trade with Cuba. Should Americans be allowed to buy products from Cuba?

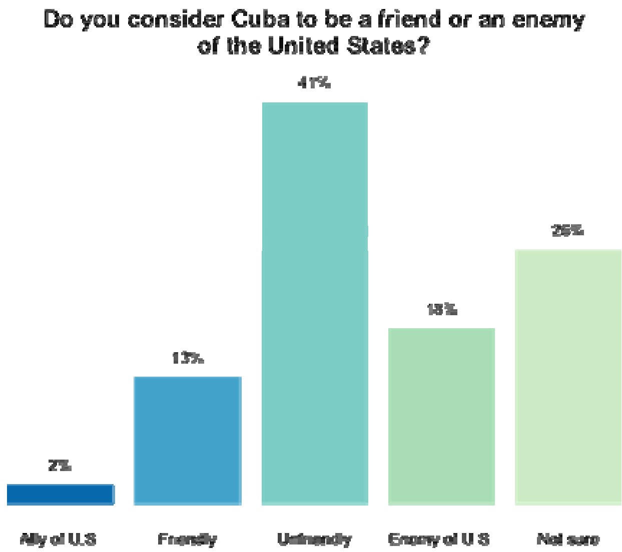


Should Americans be allowed to send money to Cuban citizens who are not members of the Castro government or the Communist Party?



On these questions, Republicans are conflicted: 38% favor lifting the embargo, 38% do not. 38% of Republicans would favor allowing Americans to send money directly to Cuban citizens, 37% oppose that.

Public openness to increased contact with Cuba does not mean that Americans think Cuba is a friend of the United States. In fact, 59% see the country as either unfriendly towards the United States --- or as an enemy.

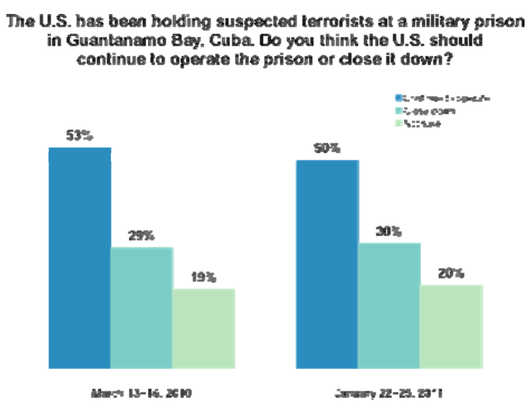


However, Americans feel differently about the people of Cuba. By a margin of 43% to 31%, Americans believe the PEOPLE of Cuba have favorable opinions about the United States.

156-12 **Guantanamo: Keep It Open But Try The Prisoners**[12]

Wed January 26, 9:25 a.m. PST **by** **YouGov Staff** **in** ***Economist Poll***

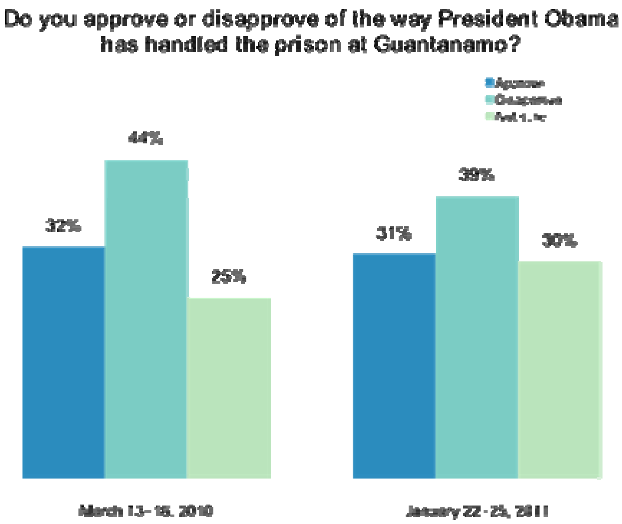
One area where public opinion has consistently differed with that of the Obama Administration is on what should be done with Guantanamo --- the U.S. military base in Cuba. The President promised to close the base; in the latest *Economist*/YouGov Poll, Americans want to keep it open, just as they did a year ago.



Some groups do agree with the President and would like to close down Guantanamo: pluralities of Democrats and those under 30 years old favor closing the base.

[12] http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/01/26/guantanamo-keep-it-open-try-prisoners/

When it comes to assessing the President's handling of the issue, Americans are negative: 31% approve of his management of this issue, but 39% do not. A year ago, opinion was just about as negative.



But while Americans disagree with the President when it comes to keeping Guantanamo open, they partly agree with him when it comes to handling the prisoners there. By 64% to 18%, they would try the suspects now in the prison, and by 65% to 14% would release them if they are found innocent.

However, they do not want to have the Guantanamo prisoners tried in civilian courts. By more than two to one, they would leave that task to military tribunals.

156-13 **Americans Divided on Obama, Republican Spending Proposals**[13]

Obama's State of the Union speech rated positively

January 28, 2011

President Obama's proposal to freeze discretionary domestic spending for five years was one of the key elements of his State of the Union address. Americans are generally divided when asked whether they favor his proposal (39%) or the Republicans' plan (41%) to roll discretionary domestic spending back to 2008 levels. Democrats and Republicans generally line up behind their party's plan. Independents tilt toward the GOP proposal, though many do not have an opinion either way.

[13] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145826/Americans-Divided-Obama-Republican-Spending-Proposals.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Which proposal for government spending do you favor more -- [ROTATED: President Obama's proposal to freeze discretionary domestic spending for the next five years (or) congressional Republicans' proposal to cut discretionary domestic spending back to 2008 levels]?

	Obama's five-year freeze	Republicans' 2008 rollbacks	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
All Americans	39%	41%	7%	13%
Democrats	71%	12%	4%	12%
Independents	30%	44%	9%	17%
Republicans	14%	74%	6%	6%

(vol.) = Volunteered response
USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 26, 2011

GALLUP

These results are based on a Jan. 26 *USA Today/*Gallup poll conducted the day after Obama's State of the Union address on Tuesday.

Overall, 34% of Americans say they watched the speech, and another 28% saw, heard, or read news coverage of it.

The poll finds that 65% of those who watched or saw coverage of the speech rate it positively, including 25% who say they have a very positive opinion of it. Those who watched the speech are more positive about it than are those who only saw news coverage of it.

Based on what you saw or read, what was your overall reaction to Obama's speech last night -- [ROTATED: very positive, somewhat positive, somewhat negative (or) very negative]?

Based on those who watched speech or saw, heard, or read news coverage of it

	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative	Very negative
Watched speech/Saw news coverage of it	25%	40%	15%	13%
Watched speech	36%	34%	11%	13%
Saw news coverage of speech	11%	48%	21%	13%

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 26, 2011

GALLUP

That more positive response to the speech among those who watched is due in large part to the composition of the viewing audience for it. As is typical of most presidential speeches, the viewing audience for Obama's speech was more friendly than not -- 41% of those who watched the speech are Democrats, 33% independents, and 23% Republicans.

The speech afforded the president a prime opportunity to tell Americans how he plans to lead the country in the wake of the midterm elections, which returned the Republicans to majority status in the House.

However, Americans in general do not expect Obama to make significant changes in the types of policies he will pursue in the next year. Thirty-four percent say the speech was a signal that Obama will change course, but 47% disagree. About one in five have no opinion.

Those who watched the speech are more likely to believe it is a sign of a new Obama policy course, though even this group is divided in its views.

Based on what you know about it, do you think President Obama's speech last night signaled a major change in the types of policies he will pursue in the next year, or not?

	Yes, did	No, did not	No opinion
All Americans	34%	47%	19%
Watched speech	49%	48%	4%
Saw news coverage of speech	39%	52%	9%
Did neither	18%	43%	40%

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 26, 2011

GALLUP

In addition to Obama's new proposals, this State of the Union address was also notable for the decision of some Democrats and Republicans to sit with members of the opposition party in the House chamber as they watched the speech -- a departure from the usual tradition of the parties sitting separately. Americans are divided as to whether this is a sign that the parties will be more likely to work together, with 44% believing it is and 50% saying it is not.

Democrats are more optimistic than Republicans or independents that the gesture is a meaningful sign of increased bipartisanship in the future.

As you may know, during the president's speech many Republican and Democratic members of Congress sat with members of the opposition party. Do you think this is or is not a sign that the two parties will be more willing to work with each other this year?

	Yes, is a sign	No, is not	No opinion
All Americans	44%	50%	6%
Democrats	54%	41%	6%
Independents	43%	50%	7%
Republicans	31%	65%	4%

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 26, 2011

GALLUP

Implications

Americans reacted positively to Obama's State of the Union address but are less convinced that he will change the types of policies he will pursue. They also are not convinced that his plan to control government spending -- one of the key elements of his speech -- is better than the plan laid out by congressional Republicans.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 26, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,004 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 2010 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.

156-14 Unemployed Americans Face Challenging Job Search[14]

Four in 10 unemployed Americans expect to have a job in the next four weeks

January 27, 2011

Six in 10 unemployed Americans say the next job they get is not likely to be one they want; instead, they'll have to settle for one they don't really want. Four in 10 underemployed adults have similar expectations about a full-time job.

(Asked of unemployed respondents) Do you think the next job you get will be one you want, or do you think you will have to settle for a job you don't really want?

(Asked of underemployed respondents) Do you think the next full-time job you get will be one you want, or do you think you will have to settle for a full-time job you don't really want?

	Job you want	Will have to settle for job you don't really want	No opinion
	%	%	%
Unemployed	35	60	5
Underemployed	44	42	15

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

These results are based on a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking between Dec. 21, 2010, and Jan. 9, 2011. The *USA Today*/Gallup survey defines unemployed Americans as adults aged 18 and older who are currently out of work but say they are able to work and are actively looking. The unemployed group also includes out-of-work adults who are not currently looking for a job, but who plan to look in the future. The latter constitute so-called discouraged workers, who are commonly considered out of the workforce and therefore are not included in standard government or Gallup unemployment figures. Underemployed Americans are those working part time, but who would like to work full time.

Unemployed, Underemployed Relate a Discouraging Job Search Process

[14] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145817/Unemployed-Americans-Face-Challenging-Job-Search.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

Despite today's nearly double-digit unemployment rate, 4 in 10 unemployed Americans expect to get a job in the next four weeks and one in three underemployed have the same expectations with respect to obtaining a full-time job.

(Asked of unemployed respondents) Do you think that in the next four weeks you will have a job?

(Asked of underemployed respondents) Do you think that in the next four weeks you will have a job that requires you to work 30 hours or more per week, or not?

	Yes, will	No, will not	No opinion
	%	%	%
Unemployed	41	49	10
Underemployed	34	63	4

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

On average, unemployed workers report that they have spent 27 weeks actively looking for a job. Further, they say they have applied on average for 45 different jobs, while the underemployed, on average, report applying for 19 different full-time jobs.

How many weeks have you been actively looking for employment?

	5 weeks or less	6-10 weeks	11-26 weeks	27-52 weeks	More than 52 weeks	No opinion	Mean
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Unemployed	26	21	20	14	16	4	27 weeks

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

(Asked of unemployed respondents) Since the time you lost your most recent job, how many different jobs would you say you have applied for?

(Asked of underemployed respondents) Since the time you lost your most recent full-time job, how many different full-time jobs would you say you have applied for?

	None	1-5	6-10	11-50	More than 50	No opinion	Mean
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Unemployed	12	28	18	23	16	4	45 jobs
Underemployed	34	25	10	16	6	9	19 jobs

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

Unemployed Americans, despite applying for far more jobs than the underemployed, report getting on average a similar number of job interviews. The unemployed have had on average five interviews with a specific employer about a specific job, and the underemployed report an average of four interviews about a specific full-time job.

(Asked of unemployed respondents) Now, I'd like to ask you about any interviews you have done with a specific employer about a specific job. How many of those interviews have you done since you lost your most recent job? Please include any job interviews done in person, on the phone, or online.

(Asked of underemployed respondents) Now, I'd like to ask you about any interviews you have done with a specific employer about a specific full-time job. How many of those interviews have you done since you lost your most recent full-time job? Please include any job interviews done in person, on the phone, or online.

	None	1-5	6-10	11-50	More than 50	No opinion	Mean
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Unemployed	37	42	10	8	1	2	5 interviews
Underemployed	40	41	7	6	1	5	4 interviews

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

Most Unemployed, Underemployed Willing to Take Same Pay or Pay Cut

Frequently, people forced to seek a different job lose some of the pay associated with the experience and skills they used in their prior job. The large majorities of the currently unemployed (73%) and underemployed (62%) made less than $60,000 a year before taxes in their previous job. Slightly more are willing to accept less than $60,000 a year in order to get a new job.

(Asked of unemployed respondents) In your previous job, what was your total MONTHLY pay before taxes? [OPEN-ENDED]

(Asked of underemployed respondents) In your previous full-time job, what was your total MONTHLY pay before taxes?

Monthly pay annualized

	Under $24,000	$24,000 to $59,999	$60,000 to $89,999	$90,000 or more	No opinion
	%	%	%	%	%
Unemployed	48	25	4	3	20
Underemployed	36	26	5	4	28

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

(Asked of unemployed respondents) What is the lowest level of monthly pay, before taxes, you would take in order to get a job? [OPEN-ENDED]

(Asked of underemployed respondents) What is the lowest level of monthly pay, before taxes, you would take in order to get a full-time job? [OPEN-ENDED]

Monthly pay annualized

	Under $24,000	$24,000 to $59,999	$60,000 to $89,999	$90,000 or more	No opinion
	%	%	%	%	%
Unemployed	57	20	3	1	20
Underemployed	41	24	4	3	29

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

It seems clear that the current unemployment situation does not result from unwillingness on many Americans' part to take a job they don't want. Nor are many Americans unwilling to take a job that provides them with the same or lower income. Instead, significant portions of unemployed and underemployed Americans believe they will have to take any job, even if they don't want it, and majorities are willing to take the same pay or a pay cut in a new job. Although many of the unemployed are discouraged right now and have stopped looking for work, those who are actively looking are making the job search a job in itself. Unfortunately, their relative lack of interview opportunities may partly explain why so many have become discouraged.

Further, data from the same poll find that these Americans face more than financial struggles. Not only are one in four unemployed individuals experiencing financial distress, but similar numbers are experiencing major problems in their relationships, and, separately, have sought professional medical help for stress or other major health problems.

On the other hand, the recent increases in economic confidence and the relative steadiness of the job market provide some hope that the job situation will improve, at least at a modest pace, during the months ahead. Similarly, 4 in 10 unemployed Americans expect their job search efforts to pay off in as little as four weeks, reflecting some added optimism that all unemployed, underemployed, and discouraged workers may want to keep in mind.

Survey Methods

Unemployed and underemployed results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking from Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011, with a random sample of 15,120 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 subgroup of 1,145 unemployed Americans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points. Unemployed Americans are defined as not currently working and either actively looking for work or not actively looking for work now, but saying they want to work 30 or more hours per week and saying they plan to actively look for work in the future.

For results based on the subgroup of 675 underemployed Americans one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±5 percentage points. Underemployed Americans are defined as currently working a part-time job but wanting to work a full-time job.

The national adult and non-unemployed/underemployed results reported for comparison in this article are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking on Dec. 21, 2010, with a random sample of 1,009 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, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

156-15 Americans Link Gun Laws, Mental Health to Mass Shootings[15]

Majority assign "a great deal" of blame to mental health system in Tucson shootings

January 24, 2011

Monday's scheduled arraignment of Jared L. Loughner, the man accused of killing six people and wounding more than a dozen others in Tucson on Jan. 8, again raises the issue of what can be done to prevent mass shootings. When asked what they think would work, Americans are most likely to make suggestions relating to guns, including stricter gun control laws, education about guns and violence, background checks for guns, and allowing more Americans to carry guns for protection. The second-most-frequently mentioned response involves improving the mental health system.

[15] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145757/Americans-Link-Gun-Laws-Mental-Health-Mass-Shootings.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Just your opinion, what do you think are the one or two most important things that could be done to prevent mass shootings from occurring in the United States? [OPEN-ENDED]

	2011 Jan 14-16
	%
Stricter gun control laws	24
Better mental health screening/Better mental health support	15
More education/Teach children about violence/proper use of guns	9
More extensive background checks for those buying guns	8
Need stricter security measures for public gatherings	6
Ban handguns/bullets	5
Americans need to be aware/speak up about possible dangers	4
Better parenting/Hold parents accountable	4
Allow people to carry guns for their own protection	4
Bring God/morality back into people's lives	4
Tougher criminal justice/sentencing	3
Better enforcement of existing gun laws	3
Less media coverage of shootings/Don't sensationalize	2
Restrict sale of automatic handguns	2
Better cooperation/communication between political parties	1
Improve the economy/More jobs	1
Crack down on illegal immigration	1
Other	4
Nothing (vol.)	11
No opinion	12

(vol.) = Volunteered response

Percentages total more than 100% due to multiple responses

GALLUP

These open-ended results, from a Jan. 14-16, 2011, *USA Today*/Gallup poll, reflect a somewhat different pattern of results than that found in other Gallup polling conducted in the first days after the Tucson shootings. More than 7 out of 10 Americans in a Jan. 11 *USA Today/Gallup* poll <u>said they did not believe stricter gun laws would have prevented that tragedy</u>. A poll conducted in 2007, after the shootings on the campus of Virginia Tech, also found that the significant majority of Americans <u>did not believe stricter gun control laws in Virginia would have prevented those shootings</u>.

These findings underscore Americans' difficulty in grappling with questions about how to prevent these types of shootings. Additional gun control appears to be an obvious choice for many Americans. At the same time, the public appears to doubt that stricter gun laws per se would have prevented the specific tragedies in Arizona and Virginia, perhaps because of the intense focus in the news media on the accused perpetrator in each tragedy.

Americans also volunteer that improvements in the mental health system, better security at public gatherings, speaking up more about possible dangers, better parenting, and bringing God or morality back into people's lives might help prevent future shootings.

In addition to the open-ended question, the Jan. 14-16 poll asked Americans how much they would blame six possible causes for the Tucson shootings, and for mass shootings in general.

A majority of Americans assign "a great deal" of blame for the Tucson shootings to failure of the mental health system to identify individuals who pose a danger to others. More than 4 in 10 blame easy access to guns. These two factors lead the list of potential causes. They also emerge as leading factors when Americans are asked to rate the causes of mass shootings in general.

Blame for Mass Shootings: Arizona and Recent Shootings in General

Thinking about [the recent shooting in Arizona that killed six people and seriously injured others including a member of Congress/mass shootings that have occurred in the United States in recent years], from what you know or have read, how much do you think each of the following factors is to blame for the shootings -- a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all?

% "Great deal"

2011 Jan 14-16 (sorted by "Tucson")	**Tucson**	**Recent U.S. shootings**
	%	%
Failure of the mental health system to identify individuals who are a danger to others	55	48
Easy access to guns	43	46
Drug use	37	42
The spread of extremist viewpoints on the Internet	34	32
Violence in movies, video games, and music lyrics	31	31
Inflammatory language from prominent political commentators	22	19

Each question asked of a half sample

GALLUP

Speculation about the possible impact of highly partisan political rhetoric in causing the Tucson shootings provoked controversy in the aftermath of the incident. But of the six causes tested, Americans are least likely to consider "inflammatory language from prominent political commentators" as highly to blame for the shootings. More Americans perceive violence in popular culture, such as in movies, video games, and music lyrics, as causes. Drug use and the spread of extremist views on the Internet -- both of which were raised in news accounts of the alleged Tucson killer's lifestyle -- also receive higher mentions than inflammatory language.

Implications

No one knows at this point exactly what motivated the accused gunman in Tucson to show up at U.S. Rep. Giffords' town hall rally and allegedly shoot her at point-blank range and then shoot many others surrounding her. Nor is it clear why others around the country on a periodic basis are motivated to acquire firearms, and shoot at and kill innocent people. This lack of a full understanding of why the events occur makes it difficult for authorities or others in positions of influence to figure out exactly what can be done to prevent such incidents in the future.

The public's instinctive reaction when asked about shooting prevention is to talk about guns, perhaps because these types of mass shootings by definition involve individuals with firearms shooting other individuals.

Still, Americans clearly have mixed feelings about the ultimate impact of gun control to forestall future shootings. The public on the one hand believes that easy access to guns was at least partially to blame for the Tucson shootings. On the other hand, the majority of Americans do not believe stricter gun laws would have prevented either the Tucson shootings or the mass shootings that occurred at Virginia Tech in 2007.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 14-16, 2011, with a random sample of 1,032 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 2010 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.

156-16 **U.S. Satisfaction With Gov't, Morality, Economy Down Since '08**[16]

Satisfaction with government system, size, and power down most in last 10 years

January 24, 2011

When President Obama delivers his State of the Union speech Tuesday, he will be addressing a nation that is less satisfied with a variety of aspects of U.S. life than it was in 2008. Americans' satisfaction with six of seven different economic, moral, or governmental aspects is down significantly compared with Gallup's prior measurement three years ago, as the economy was slowing down but before the financial crisis hit.

Next, I'm going to read some aspects of life in America today. For each one, please say whether you are -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied.

Figures represent % very satisfied/somewhat satisfied

	Jan 4-6, 2008 (%)	Jan 7-9, 2011 (%)	Change (pct. pts.)
The overall quality of life	82	77	-5
The influence of organized religion	56	58	+2
The opportunity for a person to get ahead by working hard	68	55	-13
Our system of government and how well it works	53	42	-11
The size and power of the federal government	41	31	-10
The moral and ethical climate	39	30	-9
The size and influence of major corporations	35	29	-6

GALLUP

Currently, Americans are most likely to express satisfaction with the overall quality of life in the United States (77%). Majorities also remain satisfied with the influence of organized religion (58%) and the opportunity for a person to get ahead by working hard (55%), though the latter has shown the greatest decline since 2008. Americans are least satisfied with the size and influence of major corporations (29%), the moral and ethical climate (30%), and the size and power of the federal government (31%).

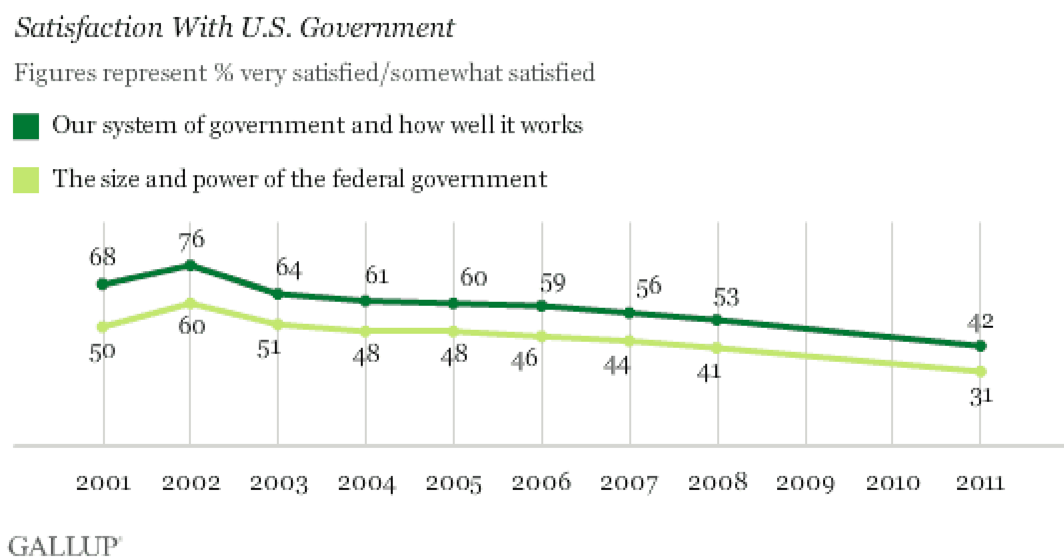
The latest data, from a Jan. 7-9 poll, represent new low points in satisfaction for the six items showing declines this year compared with the prior measurement. Gallup first asked this list of items in January 2001 and tracked it each January through 2008. Gallup did not ask the questions in either of the last two years, so it is unclear whether satisfaction levels would have been worse in 2009 or 2010 during the height of the economic downturn.

Largest Declines in Satisfaction With Government

[16] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145760/Satisfaction-Gov-Morality-Economy-Down.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Over the past decade, the two items measuring satisfaction with the government have declined the most. Satisfaction with the U.S. system of government and how it works is down 34 percentage points from its 2002 high, and satisfaction with the size and power of the federal government is down 29 points from its high the same year. Those 2002 figures were higher because of the rally in support of government after the Sept. 11 terror attacks, but since then, there has been a decline in satisfaction in those two areas that has accelerated over the last three years. The current satisfaction levels with government are also significantly lower than in January 2001, prior to the terrorist attacks.

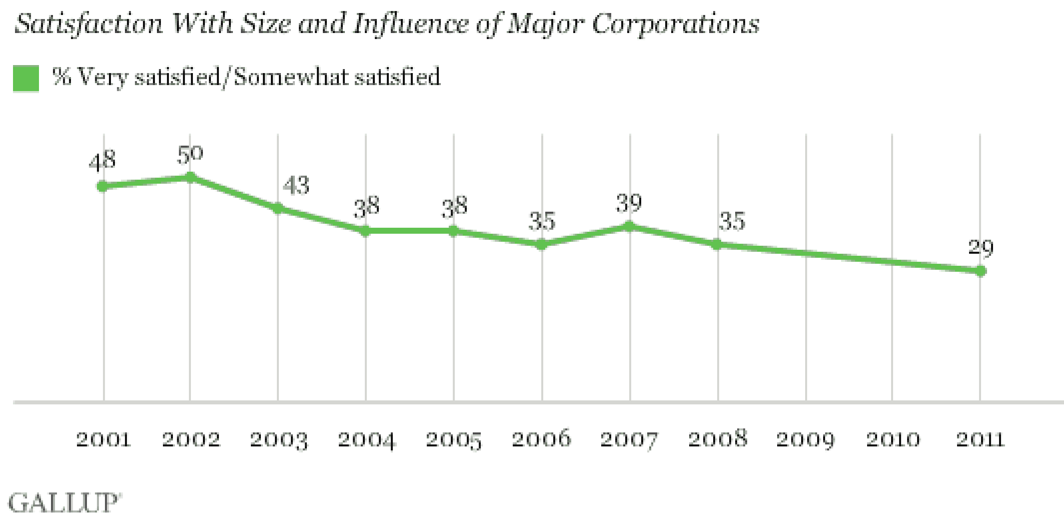
The trend lines on these two items are similar; Americans have been more satisfied with how the government system works than with its size and power, and the gap has consistently been greater than 10 points.



The proper role of the federal government has come into sharper focus in recent years as both the Bush and Obama administrations attempted to avoid an economic collapse and the demise of several major U.S. corporations, largely through government aid and guarantees, many of which proved unpopular.

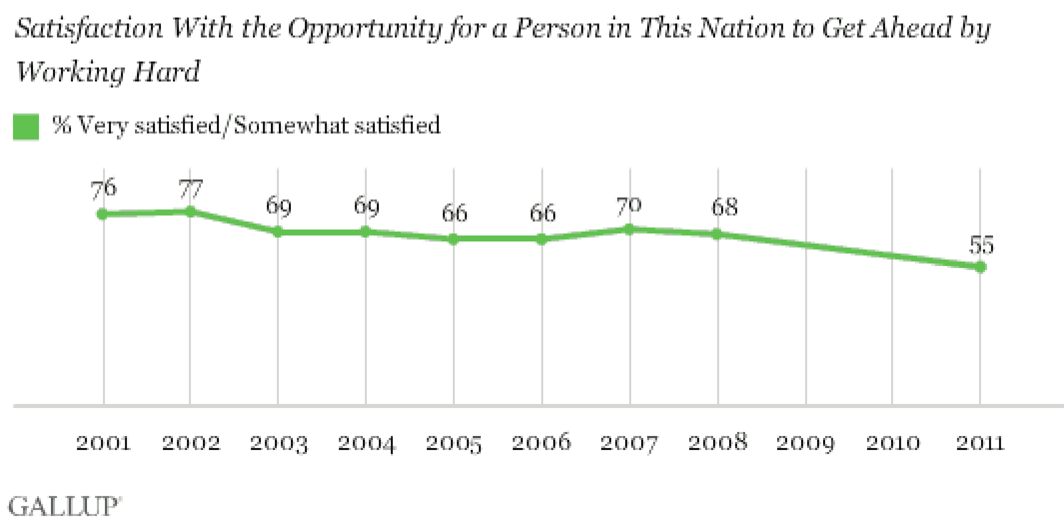
Satisfaction With Major Corporations at a New Low

Those actions affected not only Americans' views of the government for the worse but likely also their views of big business. Today, 29% are satisfied and 67% dissatisfied with the size and influence of major corporations in the United States, a new low, and a 21-point drop in satisfaction since 2002.

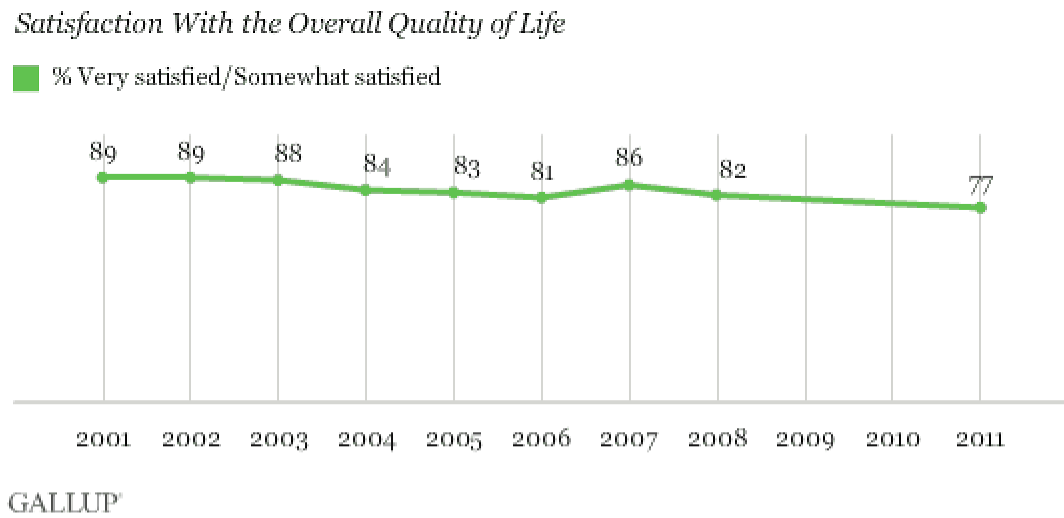


Americans Less Satisfied With U.S. Economic Opportunity

The sustained economic downturn has possibly affected Americans' views of opportunity in this country. Fifty-five percent are satisfied with the opportunity for a person to get ahead by working hard, down 13 points from early 2008, when the economic slowdown was becoming apparent. Americans' satisfaction with economic opportunity had been fairly stable from 2001-2008, ranging between 66% and 77%.



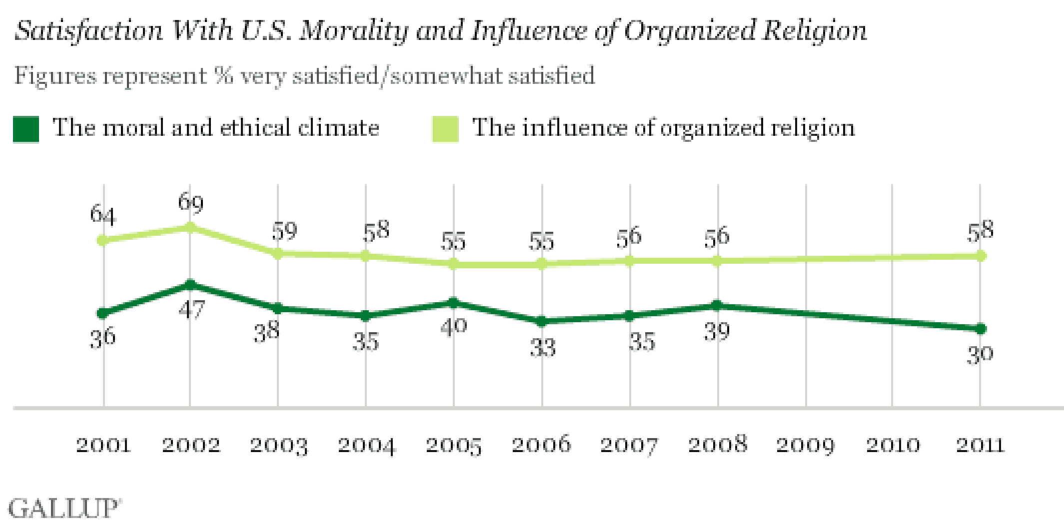
There has been less change in Americans' satisfaction with the quality of life in the U.S., which, although currently at a low of 77%, remains high on an absolute basis.



Satisfaction With Influence of Religion Unchanged, but Fewer Satisfied With Moral Climate

The one area in which Americans' satisfaction has not changed in recent years concerns the influence of organized religion. The fifty-eight percent who are satisfied today is in line with readings of 55% to 59% since 2003. Americans were a bit more satisfied with this in 2001 (64%) and 2002 (69%).

At the same time, Americans remain largely dissatisfied with the moral and ethical climate in the United States. This year's 30% marks a new low.



Implications

Given the sustained U.S. economic slump, it is perhaps not surprising that Americans are less satisfied with most aspects of U.S. life today compared with 2008 and earlier. The government's attempts to avoid a U.S. economic collapse, to prevent the demise of several major U.S.

corporations specifically in the financial and automotive sectors, and to jump-start the economy through stimulus spending have not been popular with most Americans, and may have furthered the decline in Americans' satisfaction with the government and major corporations. Less than half of Americans are now satisfied with the state of these institutions, major pillars of U.S. society.

President Obama has an important opportunity to address Americans' concerns in his State of the Union address. And his ability to work with congressional Republicans to improve the economy over the next two years could also go a long way toward restoring Americans' satisfaction.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 7-9, 2011, with a random sample of 1,018 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 2010 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.

156-17 Post-State of Union Obama Approval Uptick Would Be Atypical[17]

Approval rating for Obama in past week was highest since May

January 25, 2011

U.S. presidents rarely see a spike in public support after their delivery of State of the Union addresses. Since 1978, Gallup has measured only four instances when a president's approval rating increased by at least four percentage points after a State of the Union address, with Bill Clinton the president in three of these instances and George W. Bush in the other.

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[17] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145769/Post-State-Union-Obama-Approval-Uptick-Atypical.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Approval Ratings Pre- and Post-State of the Union, Presidents From Jimmy Carter to George W. Bush

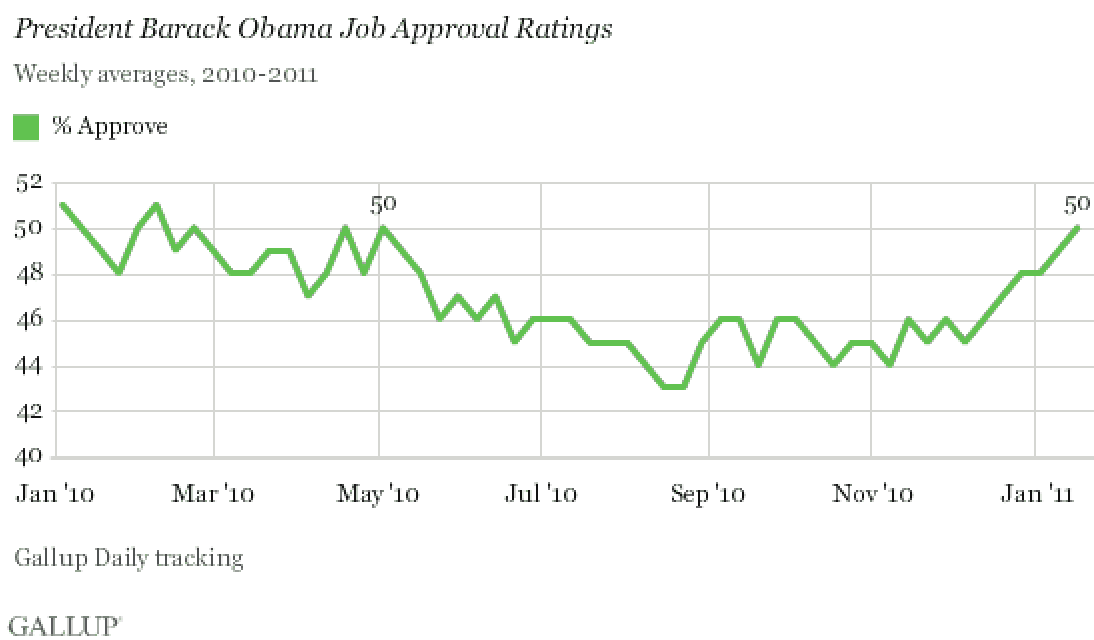
		Pre-speech approval rating (%)	Poll dates	Date of address	Post-speech approval rating (%)	Poll dates	Change (pct. pts.)
2010	Obama	48	Jan 24-26	Jan 27	48	Jan 28-30	0
2008	Bush	34	Jan 10-13	Jan 28	34	Jan 30-Feb 2	0
2007	Bush	36	Jan 15-18	Jan 23	32	Feb 1-4	-4
2006	Bush	43	Jan 20-22	Jan 31	42	Feb 6-9	-1
2005	Bush	51	Jan 14-16	Feb 2	57	Feb 4-6	6
2004	Bush	53	Jan 12-15	Jan 20	49	Jan 29-Feb 1	-4
2003	Bush	60	Jan 23-25	Jan 28	61	Jan 31-Feb 2	1
2002	Bush	84	Jan 25-27	Jan 29	82	Feb 4-6	-2
2000	Clinton	64	Jan 25-26	Jan 27	63	Feb 4-6	-1
1999	Clinton	69	Jan 15-17	Jan 19	69	Jan 22-24	0
1998	Clinton	59	Jan 25-26	Jan 27	69	Jan 30-Feb 1	10
1997	Clinton	60	Jan 30-Feb 2	Feb 4	57	Feb 24-26	-3
1996	Clinton	46	Jan 12-15	Jan 25	52	Jan 26-29	6
1995	Clinton	47	Jan 16-18	Jan 24	49	Feb 3-5	2
1994	Clinton	54	Jan 15-17	Jan 25	58	Jan 28-30	4
1992	Bush	46	Jan 16-19	Jan 28	47	Jan 31-Feb 2	1
1991	Bush	83	Jan 23-26	Jan 29	82	Jan 30-Feb 2	-1
1990	Bush	80	Jan 4-7	Jan 31	73	Feb 8-11	-7
1988	Reagan	49	Jan 22-25	Jan 25	50	Mar 4-6	1
1987	Reagan	48	Jan 16-19	Jan 27	43	Mar 6-9	-5
1986	Reagan	64	Jan 10-13	Feb 4	63	Mar 4-10	-1
1985	Reagan	64	Jan 25-28	Feb 6	60	Feb 15-18	-4
1984	Reagan	52	Jan 13-16	Jan 25	55	Jan 27-30	3
1983	Reagan	37	Jan 21-24	Jan 25	35	Jan 28-31	-2
1982	Reagan	47	Jan 22-25	Jan 26	47	Feb 5-8	0
1980	Carter	56	Jan 5-8	Jan 21	58	Jan 25-28	2
1979	Carter	43	Jan 19-22	Jan 25	42	Feb 2-5	-1
1978	Carter	55	Jan 6-9	Jan 19	52	Jan 20-23	-3

GALLUP

Last year, Barack Obama's job approval rating in the days just prior to his first official State of the Union address was 48%, and it remained at that level for the first three days after the speech. However, his approval rating did rise slightly after that, averaging 50% in February.

It is not clear whether that increase was a delayed reaction to his address or the result of other factors. Obama's approval rating in the days leading up to his 2010 State of the Union was down from what he had been getting earlier in January, so the post-State of the Union increase may also have been just a return to his prior levels.

Obama enters this year's address on an upswing, with the improvement coming slowly but steadily over the past two months. His weekly average from Gallup Daily tracking for Jan. 17-23 is 50%, the first time it has reached that level since last May. In the first full week after the midterm elections last November, Obama's approval rating averaged 44%.



As with all State of the Union addresses, Obama's will command the attention of the news media -- if not the nation -- over the next few days. That short-term increase in attention usually does not translate into increased public support for a president, perhaps because presidential addresses seem to be viewed more widely by the president's supporters than by nonsupporters. Obama's support is already elevated in comparison with recent weeks; this may make it less likely that his approval rating will rise after the State of the Union.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Jan. 17-23, 2011, with a random sample of 3,542 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 ±3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

156-18 U.S. Economic Confidence at Three-Year High in January[18]

More upper-income Americans say economy getting better vs. worse for first time in 16 months

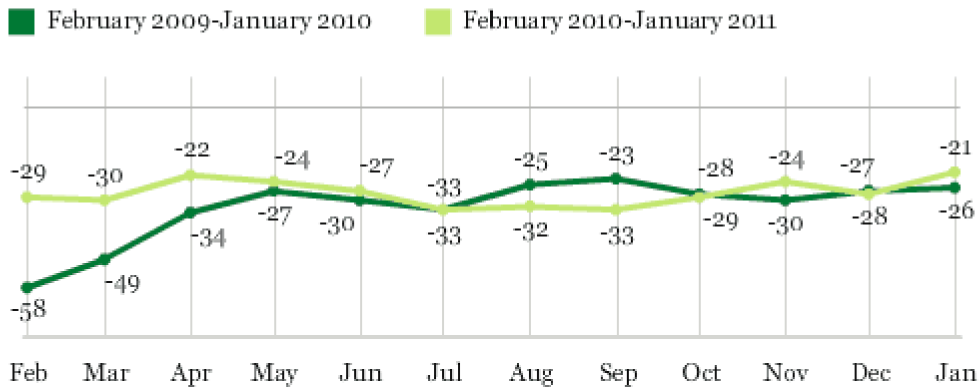
January 25, 2011

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index improved to an average of -21 in Gallup Daily tracking so far in January, up from -28 in December. If these optimism levels continue through the end of the month, January 2011 will have the most positive economic confidence score since Gallup began daily measurement in January 2008.

[18] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145766/Economic-Confidence-Three-Year-High-January.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

Economic Confidence Index, Monthly Averages

Combination of current economic conditions and economic outlook measures



January 2011 data (-21) based on month-to-date average for period ending Jan. 23, 2011; January 2010 data (-26) based on the average for the month ending Jan. 31, 2010

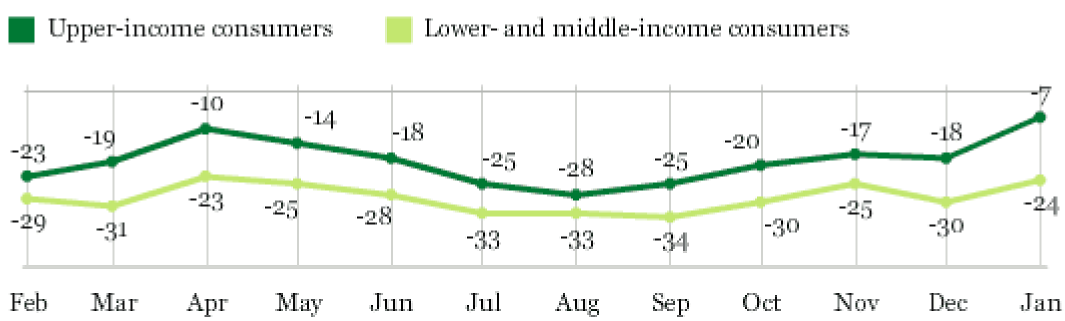
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Optimism among upper-income Americans is increasing faster than that of their lower- and middle-income counterparts. Gallup's Economic Confidence Index among upper-income Americans (those making $90,000 or more annually) has averaged -7 so far in January -- a sharp improvement from -18 in December, and better than the -18 in January 2010. Lower-and middle-income Americans' confidence shows a similar, if more modest, improvement: to -24 thus far in January, from -30 in December and -27 in January 2010.

Economic Confidence Index, Monthly Averages, February 2010-January 2011

Combination of current economic conditions and economic outlook measures

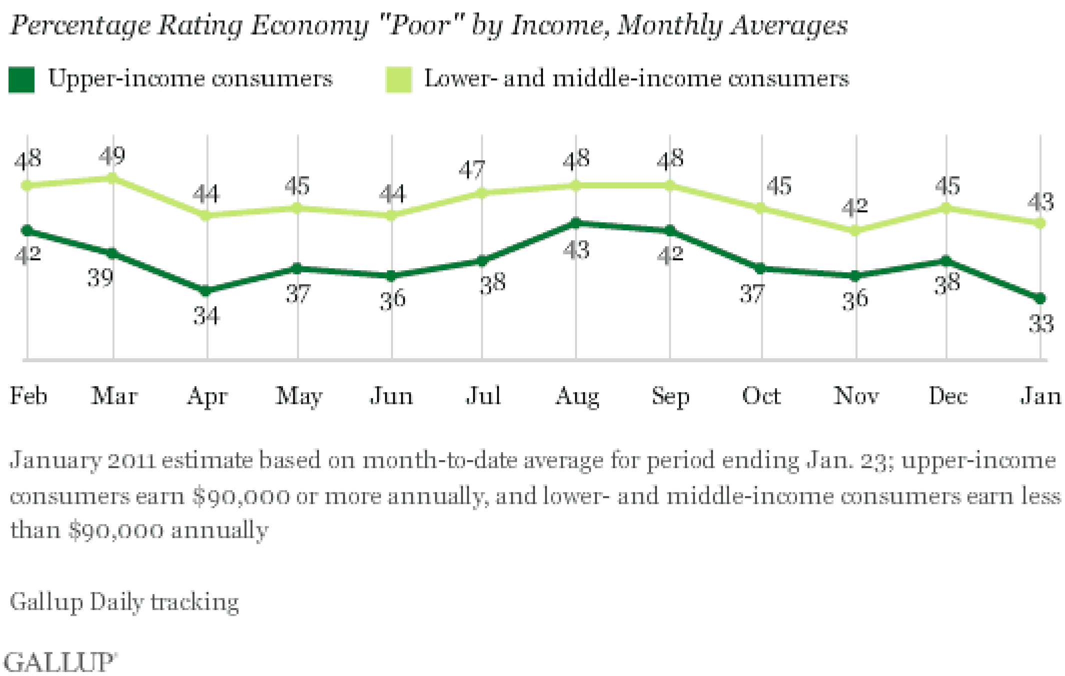


January 2011 estimate based on month-to-date average for period ending Jan. 23; upper-income consumers earn $90,000 or more annually, and lower- and middle-income consumers earn less than $90,000 annually

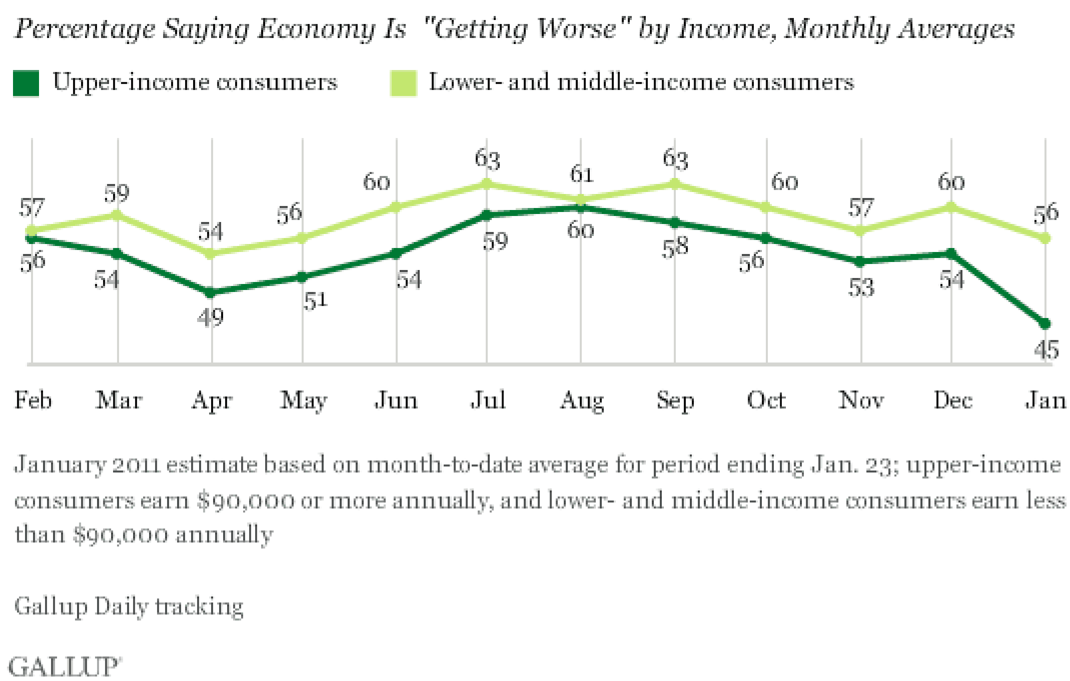
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index consists of two measures, both of which show improvement: one gauging Americans' perceptions of current economic conditions and the other, their economic outlook. In January to date, 42% of Americans rate current economic conditions "poor" -- a slight improvement from 44% in December and 45% in January 2010. Consumers' assessments of current economic conditions improved slightly more among upper-income than among lower- and middle-income Americans (those making less than $90,000 annually).



Upper-income Americans, as is typical, are less likely to say economic conditions are "getting worse" than are lower- and middle-income Americans. So far in January, 45% of upper-income Americans and 56% of lower- and middle-income consumers say this.



The percentage of upper-income Americans (50%) in January who say economic conditions are "getting better" is higher than the percentage who say things are getting worse, for the first time since September 2009, and the second time in the three years of Gallup Daily tracking.

Commentary

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index shows that consumers are more optimistic about the economy in January than they have been in three years. It may be that the start of a new year, the more cooperative tone in Washington, the continued gains on Wall Street, the Federal Reserve's continuing efforts to stimulate the economy, and the extension of the Bush tax cuts late last year have combined to make all Americans -- and particularly upper-income Americans -- more optimistic about the U.S. economy. Confidence is also up despite fears of continued financial problems in Europe, inflation problems in Asia, and state and local financial problems as well as housing issues in the U.S.

Gallup Daily tracking also suggests that the Conference Board will report an increase in consumer confidence on Tuesday morning. On the other hand, because of its composition of economic measures, the Reuters/University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index on Friday may not fully correct itself from its early January reading showing a decline in confidence.

Although overall economic confidence remains low as reflected by its negative score, its improved January status also provides a somewhat more positive setting for President Obama's State of the Union address Tuesday. Improved economic perceptions may not only explain, at least in part, the recent increase in the president's approval rating, but may also make Americans more receptive to any new actions he puts forth, particularly if they have bipartisan support.

Still, creating jobs and balancing the federal budget continue to be among the major challenges facing the nation. Slightly improved economic confidence can help set the stage for a successful effort to aggressively stimulate private-sector job growth and aggressively cut federal spending, but it will take a lot more to actually turn these priorities into realities.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking during the month of January 2011, for the month-to-date ending Jan. 23, with 8,755 respondents, 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 weekly sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±2 percentage points. For results based on the total monthly sample of more than 15,000 national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±1 percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

156-19 In U.S., One in Four Unemployed Adults in Financial Distress[19]

Underemployed facing nearly as much difficulty making ends meet

January 25, 2011

About one in four unemployed adults in the United States today, 26%, reports they are either falling behind on their bills or facing more serious financial difficulties such as bankruptcy or foreclosure. This compares with 21% of underemployed Americans and 8% of adults who are neither unemployed nor underemployed.

[19] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145772/One-Four-Unemployed-Adults-Financial-Distress.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

Self-Assessment of Personal Finances

Which of the following best describes your current financial situation -- [you are not having any real financial problems, you are having difficulty paying bills but are managing to pay them, you are falling behind on your bills, but not facing more serious financial difficulties (or) you are facing serious financial difficulties, such as declaring bankruptcy, or losing a home or a car]?

	Not having problems	Managing to pay bills	Falling behind on bills	Facing serious difficulties
	%	%	%	%
Unemployed	29	40	16	10
Underemployed	34	37	13	8
Not unemployed/underemployed^	57	28	5	3
All national adults^	53	30	8	3

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011
^ Based on 1,009 national adults interviewed Dec. 21, 2010

GALLUP

Although most unemployed Americans are not sinking financially, relatively few are worry free: fewer than 3 in 10 say they are having no difficulty whatsoever meeting expenses. An additional 40% are having trouble paying their bills, but managing to do so.

These results are based on a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking between Dec. 21, 2010 and Jan. 9, 2011. The *USA Today*/Gallup survey defines unemployed Americans as adults aged 18 and older who are currently out of work but say they are able to work and are actively looking. The unemployed group also includes out-of-work adults who are not currently looking for a job, but who plan to look in the future. The latter constitute so-called "discouraged workers" who are commonly considered out of the workforce and therefore not included in standard government or Gallup unemployment figures. Underemployed Americans are those working part time, but who would like to work full time.

Underemployed Americans are only slightly better situated than the unemployed, with 34% reporting no financial problems. Unemployed and underemployed adults, however, are faring far worse than other Americans.

Nearly 6 in 10 U.S. adults who are neither unemployed nor underemployed -- essentially all adults employed full time or employed part time but not wanting full-time work, retirees, and those not in the workforce -- say they are not having financial difficulties.

Financial Risk Greater for 30- to 40-Somethings

Being unemployed appears to carry greater financial risks for adults aged 30 to 49 than for those younger or older. More than one-third of unemployed Americans in this age group, compared with 22% of younger unemployed adults, 19% of those aged 50 to 64, and 12% of seniors, indicate they are either falling behind on their bills or experiencing more serious financial problems.

Although the reason for this pattern is unclear, it could reflect that 30- to 49-year-olds are old enough to have acquired significant expenses such as mortgages, car payments, and children, but are not old enough to have accumulated the financial reserves necessary to carry them in bad times.

Self-Assessment of Personal Finances, Among Unemployed U.S. Adults

By age

	18 to 29	30 to 49	50 to 64	65+
	%	%	%	%
Not having difficulties	38	19	27	36
Difficulty paying bills, but managing	34	41	47	41
Falling behind on bills	16	20	11	6
Facing serious financial difficulties	6	15	8	6
Total "falling behind" or worse	22	35	19	12

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

While unemployed men are more likely than unemployed women to report experiencing no financial problems, they are slightly more likely to be facing serious financial problems. This U-shaped pattern in reported financial security is also seen among whites relative to blacks and Hispanics.

Self-Assessment of Financial Situation, Among Unemployed U.S. Adults

By gender, race, and ethnicity

	Men	Women	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%
Not having difficulties	34	24	31	23	26
Difficulty paying bills, but managing	35	44	40	49	32
Falling behind on bills	13	18	13	17	24
Facing serious financial difficulties	12	8	12	5	9
Total "falling behind" or worse	25	26	25	22	33

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

Most Unemployed Americans Have Avoided Housing, Relationship, Stress Issues

The *USA Today*/Gallup survey also asked unemployed and underemployed Americans whether they have experienced each of three kinds of problems often associated with lack of employment: having to find less expensive housing, encountering major problems in relationships with a spouse or other close family member, and seeking medical help for stress or other health problems resulting from joblessness.

The percentages of unemployed vs. underemployed Americans experiencing each of these problems are generally similar, ranging from 21% to 27%. Among the unemployed, encountering major problems in relationships with a spouse or other close family member is the most common occurrence, experienced by 27%. However, the majority of unemployed -- as well as underemployed -- Americans say they have not experienced each of these problems.

Personal Problems Resulting From Unemployment/Underemployment

% Saying each issue has occured as a result of not having a job (if unemployed) or not having a full-time job (if underemployed)

	Unemployed	Underemployed
	%	%
Moved to less expensive housing	23	21
Had major problems in relationships	27	25
Sought medical help for stress or other major health problems	21	25

USA Today/Gallup, Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

Fewer than 3 in 10 unemployed Americans (29%) are fortunate to report they are having no difficulty meeting their expenses, contrasted with 57% of Americans who are neither unemployed nor underemployed. Many of the unemployed are struggling to make ends meet, while more than one-quarter are in the untenable situation of falling behind on their bills; this includes 10% who are facing serious financial consequences such as bankruptcy or losing a home or car. At the same time, most unemployed and underemployed Americans have not experienced severe consequences such as having to move or seeking medical help for stress or other major health problems.

Underemployed Americans -- those working part time but wanting full time work -- are only marginally better off financially than the unemployed, both in terms of their finances and their experience with significant personal problems resulting from lack of work.

Survey Methods

Unemployed and underemployed results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking from Dec. 21, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011, with a random sample of 15,120 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 subgroup of 1,145 unemployed Americans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points. Unemployed Americans are defined as not currently working and either actively looking for work or not actively looking for work now, but saying they want to work 30 or more hours per week and saying they plan to actively look for work in the future.

For results based on the subgroup of 675 underemployed Americans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±5 percentage points. Underemployed Americans are defined as currently working a part-time job but wanting to work a full-time job.

The national adult and non-unemployed/underemployed results reported for comparison in this article are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking on Dec. 21, 2010, with a random sample of 1,009 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, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

156-20 **Americans Oppose Cuts in Education, Social Security, Defense**[20]

Large plurality call for Congress to agree on deficit reduction before raising debt limit

January 26, 2011

[20] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145790/Americans-Oppose-Cuts-Education-Social-Security-Defense.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Prior to the State of the Union address, a majority of Americans said they favor cutting U.S. foreign aid, but more than 6 in 10 opposed cuts to education, Social Security, and Medicare. Smaller majorities objected to cutting programs for the poor, national defense, homeland security, aid to farmers, and funding for the arts and sciences.

Reaction to Cutting Government Spending in Various Areas

Next, please say whether you favor or oppose cutting government spending in each of the following areas.

	Favor	Oppose	No opinion
	%	%	%
Foreign aid	59	37	4
Funding for the arts and sciences	46	52	2
Aid to farmers	44	53	3
Homeland security	42	56	3
The military and national defense	42	57	1
Anti-poverty programs	39	55	6
Medicare	38	61	1
Social Security	34	64	2
Education	32	67	2

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 14-16, 2011

GALLUP

In the weeks ahead, Congress and the White House will likely focus on negotiations over government spending and how to cut the federal budget deficit. In addition to broad concerns about the size of the deficit, Congress is under pressure to raise the legal limit on the national debt before U.S. borrowing exceeds the existing limit -- or face what Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner describes as "catastrophic economic consequences." Geithner's department predicts the current debt ceiling could be exceeded as early as March 31 of this year.

The new Republican leadership in Congress has indicated it will look for progress on deficit reduction before agreeing to raise the federal debt ceiling, and Americans appear to agree with that point in principle. Half of Americans say the limit on the national debt should be raised only if Congress specifies in advance what measures would be taken to reduce the deficit in the future, compared with 16% who think Congress should raise the debt limit regardless. An additional third of Americans have no opinion on the matter.

Preferences for Raising Federal Debt Ceiling

As you may know, the government will be forced to raise the legal limit on the national debt soon or the United States will default on its debts and force a government shutdown. What would you like to see Congress do?

	%
Vote to raise the debt limit only if Congress can agree ahead of time on measures to reduce the deficit in the future	50
Vote to raise the debt limit to avoid a government shutdown even if Congress cannot agree on measures to reduce the deficit in the future	16
Don't know enough to say	29
No answer	4

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 14-16, 2011

GALLUP

A thriving national economy can be effective in reducing the federal deficit, because it produces increased revenues even if tax rates remain the same. This happened in the late 1990s during the "dot-com" boom, but few economists are predicting a recurrence of those circumstances in the immediate future. That leaves two practical, but politically painful, approaches to deficit reduction: raising taxes and reducing spending. Americans certainly do not favor an increase in taxes for anyone other than the wealthy, and at this point frown on spending cuts in most of the obvious areas where such reductions could be made.

The largest slices of the current government spending pie, other than interest on the debt, are the entitlement programs and national defense. Entitlement programs are of particular concern, given the looming impact of the aging baby boom generation, the oldest members of which are now turning 65. Despite this, 64% of Americans interviewed in the Jan. 14-16 *USA Today*/Gallup survey are opposed to cutting government spending for Social Security, and 61% oppose cutting Medicare. Meanwhile, 57% of Americans oppose cutting government spending for national defense. A majority of Americans also oppose cutting education, anti-poverty programs, homeland security, aid to farmers, and funding for the arts and sciences. Foreign aid is the only area out of the nine measured that a majority of Americans agree should be cut.

Two areas of possible cuts generate the biggest differences between Republicans (including independents who lean Republican) and Democrats (including leaners): national defense and funding for the arts and sciences. Democrats are much more in favor of cutting the former, and Republicans, the latter.

Support for Cutting Federal Spending in Specific Areas

% Favor cutting spending

	Republican/ Lean Republican	Democrat/ Lean Democrat	Difference
	%	%	+/-
Foreign aid	63	55	8
Funding for the arts and sciences	56	35	21
Aid to farmers	42	48	-6
Homeland security	38	47	-9
The military and national defense	31	54	-23
Anti-poverty programs	46	35	11
Medicare	40	36	4
Education	35	31	4
Social Security	34	34	0

USA Today/Gallup, Jan. 14-16, 2011

GALLUP'

Republicans and Democrats differ only minimally in their views on cutting the big-ticket items of Medicare and Social Security. Democrats are slightly more likely to favor cuts in homeland security and aid to farmers, while Republicans are slightly more likely to favor cuts in anti-poverty programs and foreign aid.

Implications

It has become a maxim of U.S. politics that Americans approve of cutting spending in concept but disapprove of cutting specific programs. The Defense Department long ago realized that closing specific military bases is difficult because local politicians always push to keep their area's bases open. This realization led to the creation of a special commission that recommends base closures without directly involving Congress -- an idea that may need to be replicated to achieve broader government spending cuts.

In his State of the Union address Tuesday night, President Barack Obama called for a five-year freeze in most domestic federal discretionary spending, contrasting with Rep. Paul Ryan's Republican response, which emphasized broader and deeper cuts in domestic spending. While Americans may believe, in principle, that the federal government should cut spending, the current data suggest they may be more receptive to Obama's spending freeze, given that Republicans' cuts will inevitably take aim at some programs Americans think ought to be spared.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 14-16, 2011, with a random sample of 1,032 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.

For results based on the sample of 516 national adults in Form A and 516 national adults in Form B, the maximum margins of sampling error are ±5 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 2010 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.

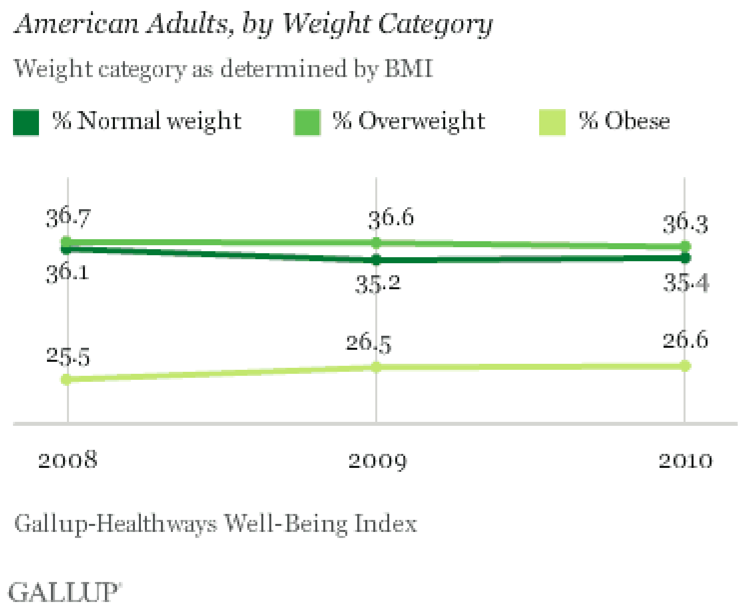
156-21 In U.S., Adult Obesity Stabilizes in 2010, at 26.6%[21]

More than 3 in 10 black, low-income, and middle-aged Americans are obese in 2010

January 27, 2011

More than 6 in 10 American adults (62.9%) were either overweight (36.3%) or obese (26.6%) in 2010, on par with 2009, but still slightly more than the 62.2% in 2008. The corollary of this is that the percentage of Americans of normal weight, now 35.4%, was also about the same last year as in 2009, but down slightly from 2008.

[21] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145802/Adult-Obesity-Stabilizes-2010.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - USA - Wellbeing



The 2010 data encompass more than 300,000 surveys of American adults. The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index uses respondents' self-reports of their height and weight to calculate body mass index (BMI) scores. Individual BMI values of 30 or above are classified as "obese," 25 to 29.9 are "overweight," 18.5 to 24.9 are "normal weight," and 18.4 or less are "underweight."

Quarterly tracking of Americans' weight situation reveals that obesity levels dropped slightly in the last quarter of 2010, but the percentage who were overweight increased by about the same amount.

U.S. Normal Weight, Overweight, and Obesity Rates by Quarter

Q1 2008-Q4 2010

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

<u>Obesity levels rose above 26% in the first quarter of 2009</u> and have remained at that level since then. Slightly more Americans have been overweight than normal weight each quarter since Gallup and Healthways began tracking BMI in the United States in 2008.

More Than 3 in 10 Black, Low-Income, and Middle-Aged Americans Obese

Black Americans continue to struggle with their weight the most, with 36% obese in 2010. Low-income Americans and adults aged 45 to 64 are also among the most likely to be obese, as they were in past years. Obesity levels increase with age -- until they drop among seniors. The likelihood to be obese decreases as income rises.

The groups least likely to be obese in 2010 include high-income Americans, young adults, and Asian Americans, as in 2009 and 2008. Americans living in the West and East also continue to be less likely to be obese than those living in the Midwest and South.

Percentage Obese in U.S. Among Various Demographic Groups

Sorted by most to least obese in 2010

Among adults aged 18 and older

	2008	2009	2010	Change, '10 vs. '09	Change, '10 vs. '08
Blacks	35.1	36.2	36.0	-0.2	0.9
Annual income less than $36,000	30.0	30.9	31.1	0.2	1.1
Aged 45-64	29.5	30.6	30.9	0.3	1.4
South	26.9	28.2	28.4	0.2	1.5
Hispanics	27.4	28.3	28.2	-0.1	0.8
Aged 30-44	27.0	27.7	28.1	0.4	1.1
Men	27.0	27.8	28.1	0.3	1.1
Midwest	26.8	27.7	28.0	0.3	1.2
Annual income $36,000-$89,999	25.8	26.9	26.8	-0.1	1.0
NATIONAL ADULTS	25.5	26.5	26.6	0.1	1.1
East	24.7	25.6	25.8	0.2	1.1
Whites	24.2	25.2	25.4	0.2	1.2
Women	23.9	25.2	25.1	-0.1	1.2
Aged 65+	23.4	24.2	24.6	0.4	1.2
West	22.8	23.7	23.3	-0.4	0.5
Annual income $90,000+	21.1	21.4	21.6	0.2	0.5
Aged 18-29	17.4	18.3	18.0	-0.3	0.6
Asians	8.6	9.6	8.2	-1.4	-0.4

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

There was essentially no significant change from 2009 to 2010 in the percentage obese across all of the demographic groups analyzed. However, across the board, Americans -- with the exception of Asian Americans -- are more likely to be obese in 2010 than they were in 2008.

Bottom Line

The stability in obesity levels in 2010 could be a good sign that at least some Americans are attempting to better manage their weight. Still, more than one in four American adults remain obese, putting them at risk for a slew of chronic illnesses and increasing their individual and the nation's collective healthcare costs. A Gallup analysis found that if the 10 most obese U.S. cities reduced their rates to the national average, they could collectively save about $500 million in healthcare costs a year. In addition, the National Research Council Tuesday released a new study linking Americans' obesity levels to their shorter life expectancy compared with residents of other high-income countries.

The new healthcare law requires certain health insurance plans to offer free preventive services including weight loss counseling, which may have a positive influence on Americans' eating and exercise habits and lead to lower obesity levels. If the requirement that all Americans purchase health insurance remains intact, these new preventive services could reach even more people -- particularly low-income Americans, who face the double burden of being among the most likely to be obese and to be uninsured. Decreasing obesity levels, however, cannot be accomplished through medical care or counseling alone; individual citizens have to commit to leading healthier lifestyles on their own, including exercising more frequently and eating better foods.

About the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index tracks U.S. wellbeing and provides best-in-class solutions for a healthier world. To learn more, please visit well-beingindex.com.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2010, with a random sample of 333,213 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

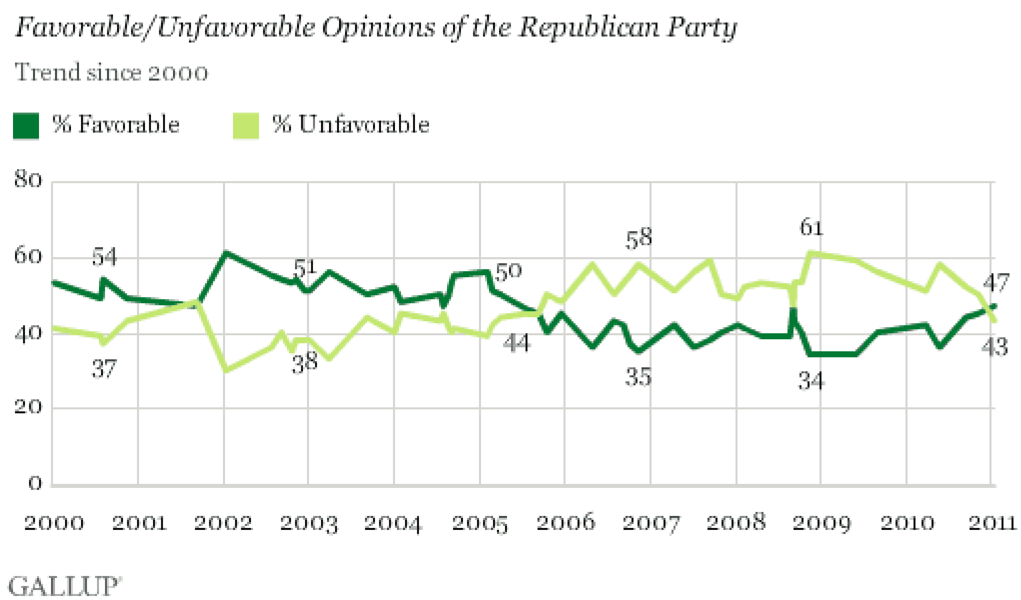
In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

156-22 GOP Image Net-Positive for First Time Since 2005[22]

Democratic Party's favorable rating is improved from last year

January 27, 2011

Americans' opinions of the Republican Party have improved to the point where now more have a favorable than unfavorable opinion of the party. The last time more Americans viewed the GOP more positively than negatively was in 2005.



These results are based on a *USA Today/*Gallup poll conducted Jan. 14-16.

For the early part of the 2000s, Americans had a net-positive image of the Republican Party. That changed in 2005, as Americans soured on the Bush administration over the ongoing Iraq war, the federal government's response to Hurricane Katrina, and rising gas prices, among other issues. After the 2006 midterm elections, which saw Americans remove the Republicans as the majority party in Congress, the Republicans' ratings were 35% favorable and 58% unfavorable.

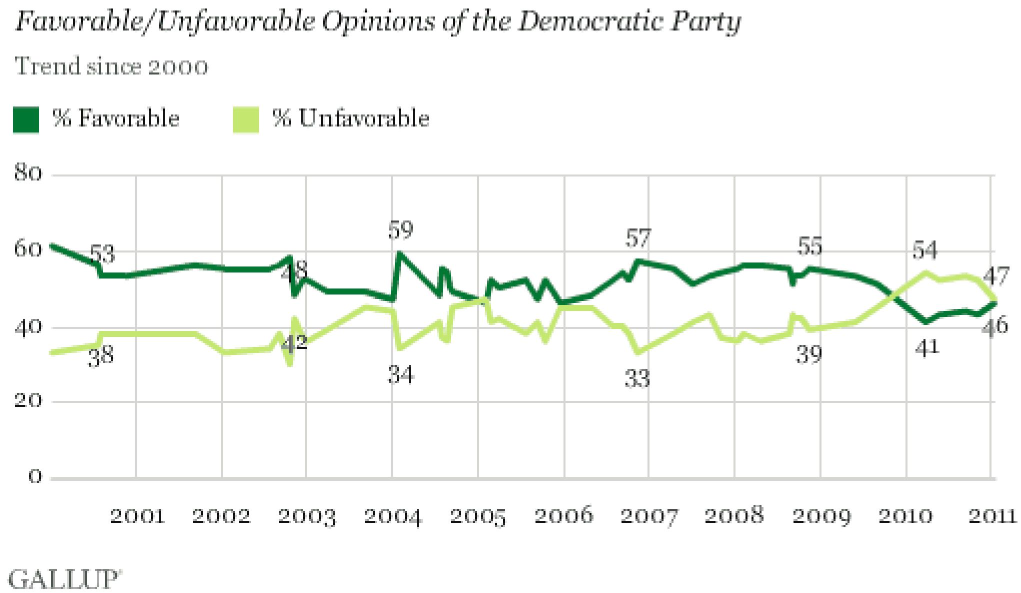
The Republican Party's image remained negative over the next two years as the economy worsened, except for a 47%-47% reading after the party's well-received national convention in 2008, which ended days before the financial crisis intensified. Just after Americans elected Barack Obama to replace Bush later that year, the Republicans' net-favorable score was -27 (34% favorable, 61% unfavorable) -- the worst Gallup has measured in this trend dating to 1992.

Americans' opinions of the Republican Party improved in late 2009 and early 2010 before falling back in a May 2010 poll, but have steadily improved since then.

[22] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145805/GOP-Image-Net-Positive-First-Time-2005.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Democratic Party Image Divided, but Improved

Americans' current 46% favorable and 47% unfavorable rating of the Democratic Party is among the worst for Democrats since 1992, but is an improvement from last year.



In March, just after President Obama signed the healthcare reform bill into law, 41% of Americans had a favorable view and 54% an unfavorable view of the Democratic Party, the worst Gallup has ever measured. Three other 2010 measurements showed similar scores.

Those ratings are a significant departure from what Gallup has historically measured for the Democratic Party, with generally more than 50% of Americans holding a favorable opinion, and ratings more positive than negative in all but a few polls.

Implications

After a rancorous election year in 2010, Americans' opinions of both political parties are improving in early 2011. If the Republican Party is able to sustain its net positive image, this will indicate the party has completely recovered from the downturn it took beginning in 2005.

The Democratic Party's image, though improved, remains low for the party from a historical perspective.

The two parties' ratings are now generally similar, suggesting they are starting off on relatively equal footing as a Democratic president and Senate, and a Republican House of Representatives attempt to govern the nation over the next two years. The parties made a show of bipartisanship at Tuesday's State of the Union by having their members sit together rather than in separate sections. Such attempts at working together likely would have a positive impact on how Americans view the two parties.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 14-16, 2011, with a random sample of 1,032 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 2010 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.

156-23 **Despite Media Coverage, Few Interested in Hu's Visit**[23]

January 26, 2011

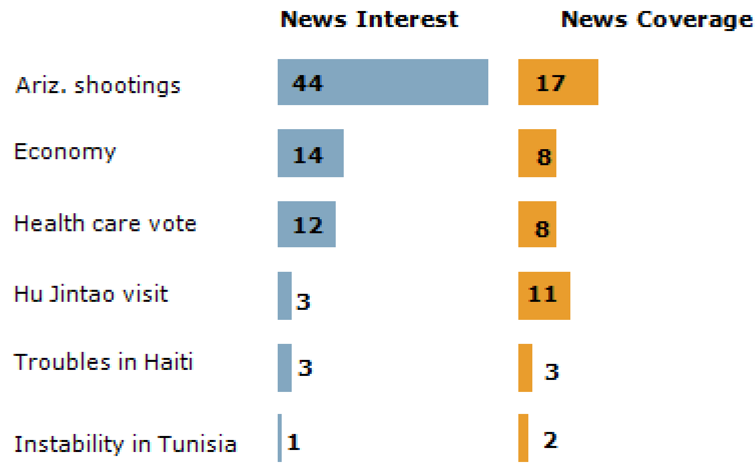
The public continued to show strong interest last week in news about the shooting rampage in Tucson, Ariz., though the story did not dominate media coverage as it had one week earlier.

More than four-in-ten Americans (44%) say they followed news about the aftermath of the Jan. 8 shootings more closely than any other news last week, according to the latest News Interest Index survey conducted Jan. 20-23 among 1,001 adults. One week earlier, 49% said this was the news they followed most closely.

News about the shootings and what followed them -- with a strong focus on Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' recovery and debate over angry political rhetoric in the United States -- accounted for 17% of coverage last week, according to a separate analysis by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). The story accounted for 57% of the newshole in the week immediately after the shootings.

[23] http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1870/news-interest-tucson--hu-jintao-visit-steve-jobs-state-of-the-union-bipartisan-seating

News Interest vs. News Coverage



News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, January 20-23, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, January 17-23, 2011.

Among the other top stories for the public -- both well behind the Arizona rampage -- were news about the economy (14% most closely) and news about Republican efforts to repeal the health care law enacted in 2010 (12% most closely). These stories each accounted for 8% of coverage.

Few Americans say they followed news about the visit to this country by Chinese President Hu Jintao most closely (3%). Still, news about the visit accounted for 11% of the newshole, making the trip the second most covered story of the week.

Partisan Differences Over the Week's News

More than half of Democrats (55%) say they tracked news about the Arizona shootings very closely, compared with 44% of Republicans and 39% of independents. And while 54% of Democrats say the Arizona shooting was the story they followed most closely, fewer independents (44%) and Republicans (41%) say this.

There also is a gender gap in attentiveness to news about the Arizona shootings: 53% of women say it was the story they followed most closely, compared with 36% of men.

Tucson a Bigger Story for Dems, Health Care Registers More with Reps

% following "very closely"	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Ariz. shootings	45	44	55	39
Economy	37	43	34	35
Health care vote	29	41	29	27
Hu Jintao visit	13	16	15	12
Haiti	16	16	19	15
Tunisia	7	9	6	6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 20-23, 2011.

Republicans are more likely to say they followed news about the GOP effort to repeal last year's health care bill very closely (41%) than are either Democrats (29%) or independents (27%). Republicans also are more likely to say that this was the story they followed most closely; 19% say this, compared with 10% each of Democrats and independents. Those ages 50 and older are much more likely to say they followed this news very closely than those ages 49 and younger (40% vs. 21%).

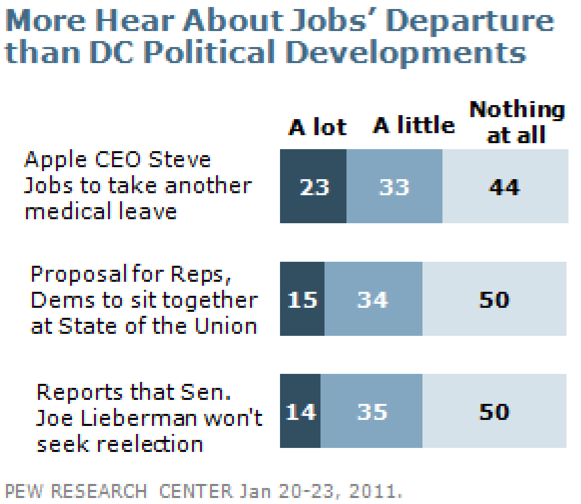
Close to four-in-ten (37%) Americans say they followed news about the economy very closely last week, a level of interest little changed since the start of December; 14% say they followed news about the economy most closely. Partisan differences on economic news are slight. Other stories garnered relatively low interest, including the visit to the U.S. by Chinese President Hu Jintao, news about political instability and earthquake recovery in Haiti and news about instability in Tunisia following the government's collapse there.

Just more than one-in-ten (13%) say they followed news about the Chinese leader's visit very closely, while 3% say this was the news they followed most closely. There are no significant differences in interest among partisans.

Meanwhile, 16% say they followed reports out of Haiti very closely and 7% say they followed news about instability in Tunisia that closely. News out of Haiti accounted for 3% of coverage, while news about Tunisia accounted for 2%.

Many Have Heard About Steve Jobs' Medical Leave

More than half of the public (56%) says they heard at least a little last week about Apple CEO Steve Jobs taking another medical leave. Nearly one quarter (23%) say they heard a lot about Jobs' announcement, while 33% say they heard a little. In June 2009, fewer (9%) had heard a lot about Jobs' liver transplant. At that point, 33% said they had heard a little about his transplant.



About half (49% each) say they heard at least a little about a proposal that Republicans and Democrats sit together at President Obama's Jan. 25 State of the Union address or about Sen. Joe Lieberman's announcement that he would not seek reelection in 2012.

Just 15% say they heard a lot about the proposal for bipartisan seating at the annual speech in the House chamber, while 34% heard a little about this. Half say they heard nothing about the plan. About two-in-ten Democrats (21%) say they had heard a lot about the proposal, compared with 10% of independents. Among Republicans, 17% say they heard a lot about this.

Looking at Lieberman's retirement plans, 14% say they heard a lot about the Connecticut independent's announcement while 35% heard a little. Again, 50% say they heard nothing at all about this. There are no significant differences among partisans.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected Jan. 17-23, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected Jan. 20-23, from a nationally representative sample of 1,001 adults.

LATIN AMERICA

156-24 Brazilians Optimistic About Their Country and Personal Finances[24]

27/12/2010
Note: This is a google translation of a Portuguese survey.

[24] http://datafolha.folha.uol.com.br/

The views on the economic expectations of the Brazilian was one of the topics researched by Datafolha, in a survey conducted between 17 and 19 November. The results were compared to same period in 2002, when then-President Fernando Henrique Cardoso was leaving office. 11,281 Brazilians were interviewed in all Brazilian states in 421 cities, and the maximum margin of error for the total sample is two percentage points more or less.

The survey investigated the expectation on the country's economic situation, and individual perceptions of economic improvement, asking if in the coming months the country's economic situation will improve, worsen or continue as is, and continuing, if staff asked each interviewee, particularly if the situation would improve, worsen or continue as is.

Half of the respondents (51%) believes that Brazil's economic situation will improve, while for 9%, it will get worse and 33% it will stay as it is today. No answer about the economic situation of the country, 7%.In December 2002, at the end of Cardoso's second term, 48% of Americans said the country's situation would improve, worsen 18% and 30% said that would be stable. The rate of those who believe the country's economic situation will improve is one of the highest during the Lula government and is nine points higher than that observed in December 2009.

They are more optimistic about the country's economic situation the younger (57%), the least educated (53%) and those with family incomes below five minimum wages (53%).

On the personal economic situation, 61% say that their situation will improve, indicating a greater optimism than in the personal effort in the government effort. Only 6% said their economic situation will get worse and 28% say it will stay as it is today. No answer about your particular situation, 5%.

The sense of personal improvement was also lower at the end of Cardoso's government: 54% thought they would improve their personal situations which would worsen by 12% and 29% would maintain its stable economic situation.

Younger people are also those who are more optimistic about their particular situations, of which 68% say that the personal economic situation will improve. Residents of the North and Midwest are also optimistic about their personal circumstances, of which 72% believe their economic situation will improve and are followed by Northeastern, of which 63% think it will improve your personal situation.

Asked further about the economic perception of Brazil in five years as a print medium term, 67% of respondents believe the Brazilian economic situation will improve. To 7%, it will be worse and 17% believe it will continue as it is today. No answer 10%. For younger people (74%), the country's economic situation will improve, as well as for residents of the North and Midwest, of which 76% believe that Brazil's economic situation will improve.

At the end of the Cardoso government, the index of Brazilians believed that the country's economic situation improved in five years is exactly equal to the rate achieved in this study: 67%. At the time, 11% were pessimistic and 14% thought that the Brazilian economic situation would not change.

This picture is even more optimistic when asked about the personal situation of each respondent: 74% say they are economically better five years from now, who will be 4% worse, and 14% who are exactly as they are today. No answer on the personal situation, 8%. Younger people, in relation to personal circumstances are even more optimistic: 82% believe that will improve economically, the same index of the residents of the North and Midwest.

45% of Brazilians think that winning is not enough

For 45% of Brazilians who earn money every month is not enough, sometimes missing, reveals research.For 31%, is exactly what they need to live, while for 19% is too little, bringing many difficulties. Only 4% of respondents to the money they earn is more than enough. Compared to the end of the Cardoso government, these rates were in December 2002: 37% thought that the monthly gain was not enough, sometimes missing, 17% said that was exactly what they needed to live, 45% of what was earned very little, bringing many difficulties and only 1% which was more than enough.

Compared regions of Brazil, the rates obtained in this question has some significant changes. While for 42% of residents of the Southeast, the money they earn is not enough, lacking any, between the Northeast, this rate reaches 49%. But those who think that winning is exactly what they need to live among the Northeast the index reaches 22%, lowest among Brazilian regions, while in the southern states, satisfaction with what they earn reaches 37%. For 23% of the Northeast is the money they earn very little, leading to difficulties, while this figure reaches only 15% in the South.

Segmented the sample by educational level, rates are not similar: while the average level of respondents 48% say they earn is not enough, 32% think that is exactly what they need to live, 14% say it is very little, making it difficult and only 4% believe they earn more than enough. The more educated identified respectively, 41%, 42%, 8% and 7%. Of the less educated, 42% say that the monthly gain is not sufficient, with any defects, 27% claim to be exactly what they need to live and another 27% say it is too little, bringing many difficulties.

Among the richest (with monthly income above 10 minimum wages), 20% say that they earn is not enough, 56% say it is exactly what they need to live, 3% which is rather low, making it difficult and 20% complete that they earn is more than enough for your life. This picture, for the lower classes is quite different: 47% say that their monthly earnings is not enough, possibly missing, 27% say their monthly gain is exactly what they need to live, which is 21% too little, leading to difficulties and only 2% conclude that their earnings are more than enough to live.

39% of Brazilian think that inflation will stay as it is today

Asked if going forward, inflation will increase, decrease or stay the same, 33% of Brazilians believe that it will increase, while 19% say that inflation will decrease to 39% which will stay as is. No answer was 9%.In December 2002, 46% believed that inflation would increase, which would decrease 27% and 21% that would be stable.

Residents of the North and Midwest are the most optimistic of which 28% believe in reducing inflation, the same ratio of those who think inflation will increase. The Southeast region, in turn, is more pessimistic, whereas 36% believe the increase in inflation, while 15% think it will decrease to 41% which will stay as is.

Among younger (16 to 24 years), 37% believe that inflation will increase, even if such a population that never experienced the days of rampant inflation. This is the same ratio between the richest (with family income above ten minimum wages). For the economically active population, 34% believe the increase in inflation, while 18% think it will decrease to 40% which will stay as is.

Evolutionarily, the index of Brazilians who thought that inflation would fall arrived at their lowest during the first mandate of Lula in 9% in April 2006, and later, in his second term in November 2007 (9%) and 2008 (9%). The highest percentage of Brazilians who believe that inflation will decrease is reached in this poll. Cardoso's government, by comparison, this same index was measured at the beginning of the first term when it reached its highest rate: 17%, and had its lowest measurement in June 1998 (7%). In the second term of the toucan, the perception of rising inflation levels remained between 5% and 8%, but reached 27% after the presidential elections that were won by the PT in December 2002 (27%).

41% think that unemployment will decrease

As for the expectation of unemployment, Brazilians are more optimistic: 41% think that unemployment will decline, which will increase 24% and 28% which will stay as is. Another 7% did not respond. These rates compared to the end of the Cardoso government are slightly more optimistic. At the time, asked, 38% thought that unemployment would increase, 39% said they would decline 18% and that unemployment would stay the same moment.

Again the North and Midwest are more optimistic: 51% believe that unemployment will decrease, a rate which reaches 38% in South and Southeast. Among the residents of the North and Midwest, 21% think that unemployment will increase and 22% who will continue as it is today. These indices for the Southeast region are 25% and 31% respectively and for the southern region, 22% and 35%. To the northeast, 43% believe in reducing unemployment, 23% rise in unemployment rates and 24% said it would continue as is.

Optimistic in relation to employment are also the poorest 42% of them believe that unemployment will decrease, a rate that reaches 35% among the richest. Among those who have household incomes less than five minimum wages, 24% think that unemployment will increase and 28% who will continue as is.Younger people are also among the most optimistic about the job, of which 45% believe that unemployment will decline, which will increase 24% and 25% who will continue as is.

In the history of the last two presidents, the perception more optimistic about unemployment is now at the end of Lula's second term, the index reached only in June 2003 during his first term as president (41%). During the term of Fernando Henrique Cardoso, a better understanding about unemployment occurred in August 2002 when 23% of Brazilians believed that unemployment would decrease. On the other hand, hit the worst perception in June 2001, when 72% of Brazilians believed that unemployment would increase. Since 2002, with President Lula, the sense that unemployment would increase had its highest levels in March 2009 (59%), now in its second term, and the first term in May 2005, when perception reached 48%.

46% believe the increase in purchasing power

When asked about the expectations of the purchasing power of Brazilians, 46% of respondents believe that purchasing power will increase going forward, while only 15% feel that purchasing power will decrease and 29% who will stay as it is today . This same question was also applied at the end of the Cardoso government. At the time, 38% believed that the purchasing power of Brazilians would increase 29% to 27% would decrease and that purchasing power would stabilize.

Again the young are the most optimistic, 52% of which believe in increasing the purchasing power of wages. This index is haunted by the Northeast (51%), and those who live in the North and Midwest (51%).Men, in turn, are more optimistic than women, of whom 48% thought that the purchasing power will increase, compared with 45% of women.

In the sample segmented by level of education, those who have medium level, 49% say that purchasing power will increase going forward, the index reaches 44% in both the most educated and least educated.

In historical comparison, the current poll shows the highest degree of optimism in relation to purchasing power, comparing the two mandates of both Lula and Cardoso. Only in April 2003, the feeling of increased purchasing power had similar rates: 40%. During the term of Fernando Henrique, in turn, that same sense in increasing the purchasing power reached its peak in December 1994 (41%), when he had not been installed yet, and in December 2002 (38%) already in transition to Lula.

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

156-25 Worldwide, Personal Wellbeing Related to Civic Engagement[25]

Religious adults also more likely to be civically engaged

January 28, 2011

Gallup surveys in 130 countries show people with higher personal wellbeing are more likely to say they give something -- time, money, or help to a stranger -- back to their communities. Civic Engagement Index scores, which measure people's likelihood to do all three, are twice as high among those who are "thriving" compared with those who are "suffering."

[25] http://www.gallup.com/poll/145811/Worldwide-Personal-Wellbeing-Related-Civic-Engagement.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Religion and Social Trends

Wellbeing and Civic Engagement

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering
Civic Engagement Index score	40	30	20
Helped a stranger	53%	45%	32%
Donated money	41%	27%	16%
Volunteered time	25%	17%	10%

Based on 130 countries surveyed between 2009 and 2010
Population projected weights used for this analysis

GALLUP

Gallup classifies individuals as "thriving," "struggling," or "suffering" according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale. While those with thriving wellbeing also tend to make more money, controlling for income shows this alone doesn't explain their greater likelihood to give back. While it's difficult to discern whether higher wellbeing promotes higher civic engagement or the other way around, wellbeing research by Gallup's Tom Rath and Jim Harter shows people get an emotional boost from doing kind things for other people, and that donating money can have a bigger return on wellbeing than spending it on material goods.

Religious Adults More Likely to Be Civically Engaged

Given the relationships Gallup finds between religiosity and wellbeing, it's not too surprising that adults who say religion is an important part of their daily life are more likely to be civically engaged than those who say it is not. The largest difference between these two groups is in regard to donating money, perhaps indicating the inclination among religious adults to give money to charity.

Is religion an important part of your daily life?

	Yes	No
Civic Engagement Index score	34	25
Helped a stranger	47%	41%
Donated money	33%	21%
Volunteered time	21%	13%

Based on 130 countries surveyed between 2009 and 2010
Population projected weights used for this analysis

GALLUP

Bottom Line

The Civic Engagement Index is a key measure of an individual's commitment to his or her community and an indicator of his or her likelihood to give back to it. Given that wellbeing and civic engagement are related, community leaders could benefit from investing in their constituents' wellbeing and creating an atmosphere in which giving is encouraged.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults in 127 countries, 2,000 adults in Russia, 4,150 in China, and 6,000 adults in India, 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 ranged from a low of ±1.7 percentage points in India to a high of ±4.7 percentage points in Haiti. 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.

156-26 The Future of the Global Muslim Population[26]

Projections for 2010-2030

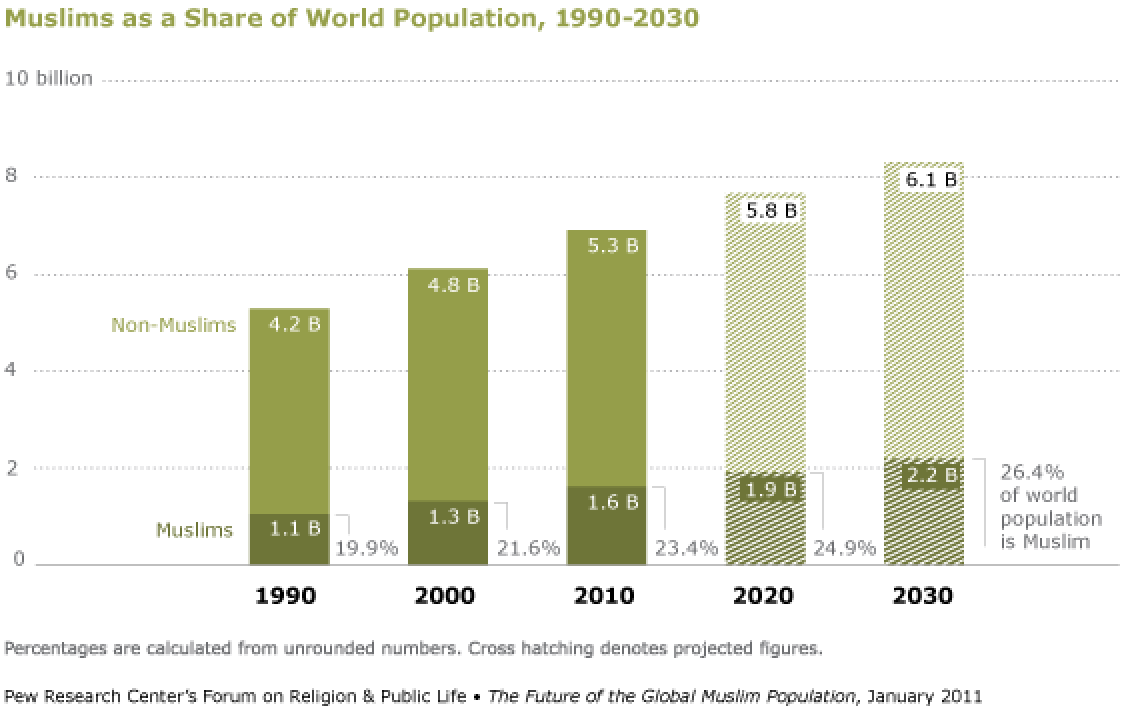
January 27, 2011

The world's Muslim population is expected to increase by about 35% in the next 20 years, rising from 1.6 billion in 2010 to 2.2 billion by 2030, according to new population projections by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life.

Globally, the Muslim population is forecast to grow at about twice the rate of the non-Muslim population over the next two decades -- an average annual growth rate of 1.5% for Muslims, compared with 0.7% for non-Muslims. If current trends continue, Muslims will make up 26.4% of the world's total projected population of 8.3 billion in 2030, up from 23.4% of the estimated 2010 world population of 6.9 billion.

While the global Muslim population is expected to grow at a faster rate than the non-Muslim population, the Muslim population nevertheless is expected to grow at a slower pace in the next two decades than it did in the previous two decades. From 1990 to 2010, the global Muslim population increased at an average annual rate of 2.2%, compared with the projected rate of 1.5% for the period from 2010 to 2030.

[26] http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1872/muslim-population-projections-worldwide-fast-growth



These are among the key findings of a comprehensive report on the size, distribution and growth of the global Muslim population. The report by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life seeks to provide up-to-date estimates of the number of Muslims around the world in 2010 and to project the growth of the Muslim population from 2010 to 2030. The projections are based both on past demographic trends and on assumptions about how these trends will play out in future years. Making these projections inevitably entails a host of uncertainties, including political ones. Changes in the political climate in the United States or European nations, for example, could dramatically affect the patterns of Muslim migration.

Muslim Population by Region

	2010 ESTIMATED MUSLIM POPULATION	2010 ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF GLOBAL MUSLIM POPULATION	2030 PROJECTED MUSLIM POPULATION	2030 PROJECTED PERCENTAGE OF GLOBAL MUSLIM POPULATION
World	**1,619,314,000**	**100.0%**	**2,190,154,000**	**100.0%**
Asia-Pacific	1,005,507,000	62.1	1,295,625,000	59.2
Middle East-North Africa	321,869,000	19.9	439,453,000	20.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	242,544,000	15.0	385,939,000	17.6
Europe	44,138,000	2.7	58,209,000	2.7
Americas	5,256,000	0.3	10,927,000	0.5

Population estimates are rounded to thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life • *The Future of the Global Muslim Population*, January 2011

If current trends continue, however, 79 countries will have a million or more Muslim inhabitants in 2030, up from 72 countries today.[1] A majority of the world's Muslims (about 60%) will continue to live in the Asia-Pacific region, while about 20% will live in the Middle East and North Africa, as is the case today. But Pakistan is expected to surpass Indonesia as the country with the single largest Muslim population. The portion of the world's Muslims living in sub-Saharan Africa is projected to rise; in 20 years, for example, more Muslims are likely to live in Nigeria than in Egypt. Muslims will remain relatively small minorities in Europe and the Americas, but they are expected to constitute a growing share of the total population in these regions.

In the United States, for example, the population projections show the number of Muslims more than doubling over the next two decades, rising from 2.6 million in 2010 to 6.2 million in 2030, in large part because of immigration and higher-than-average fertility among Muslims. The Muslim share of the U.S. population (adults and children) is projected to grow from 0.8% in 2010 to 1.7% in 2030, making Muslims roughly as numerous as Jews or Episcopalians are in the United States today. Although several European countries will have substantially higher percentages of Muslims, the United States is projected to have a larger number of Muslims by 2030 than any European country other than Russia and France. (See the Americas section of the full report for more details.)

In Europe as a whole, the Muslim share of the population is expected to grow by nearly one-third over the next 20 years, rising from 6% of the region's inhabitants in 2010 to 8% in 2030. In absolute numbers, Europe's Muslim population is projected to grow from 44.1 million in 2010 to 58.2 million in 2030. The greatest increases -- driven primarily by continued migration -- are likely to occur in Western and Northern Europe, where Muslims will be approaching double-digit percentages of the population in several countries. In the United Kingdom, for example, Muslims are expected to account for 8.2% of the population in 2030, up from an estimated 4.6% today. In Austria, Muslims are projected to reach 9.3% of the population in 2030, up from 5.7%

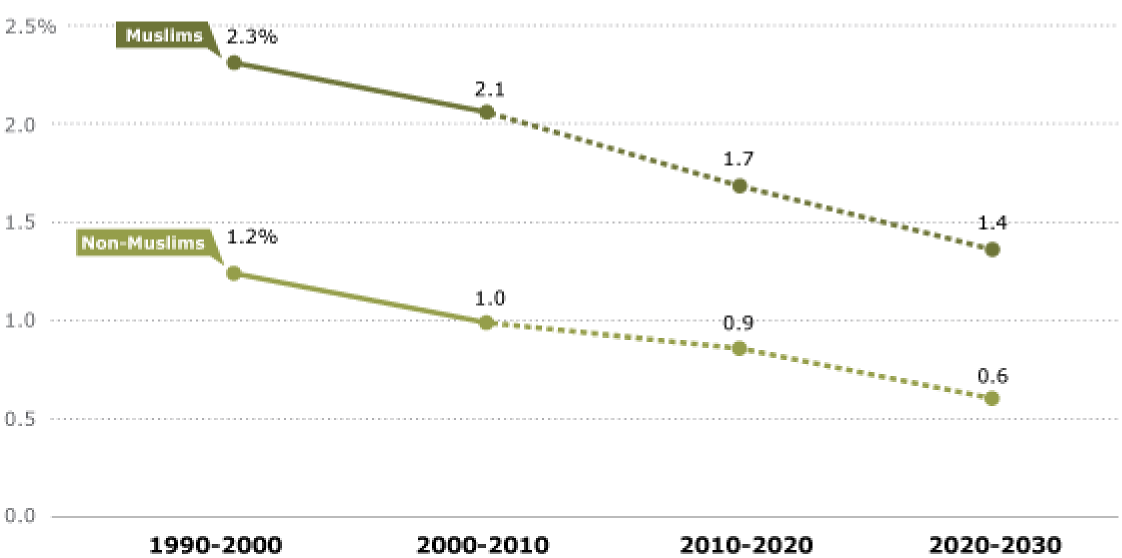
today; in Sweden, 9.9% (up from 4.9% today); in Belgium, 10.2% (up from 6% today); and in France, 10.3% (up from 7.5% today). (See the Europe section of the full report for more details.)

Several factors account for the faster projected growth among Muslims than non-Muslims worldwide. Generally, Muslim populations tend to have higher fertility rates (more children per woman) than non-Muslim populations. In addition, a larger share of the Muslim population is in, or soon will enter, the prime reproductive years (ages 15-29). Also, improved health and economic conditions in Muslim-majority countries have led to greater-than-average declines in infant and child mortality rates, and life expectancy is rising even faster in Muslim-majority countries than in other less-developed countries. (See the section on Main Factors Driving Population Growth in the full report for more details. For a list of Muslim-majority countries and definitions for the terms less- and more-developed, see the section on Muslim- Majority Countries.)

Growing, But at a Slower Rate

The growth of the global Muslim population, however, should not obscure another important demographic trend: the rate of growth among Muslims has been slowing in recent decades and is likely to continue to decline over the next 20 years, as the graph below shows. From 1990 to 2000, the Muslim population grew at an average annual rate of 2.3%. The growth rate dipped to 2.1% from 2000 to 2010, and it is projected to drop to 1.7% from 2010 to 2020 and 1.4% from 2020 to 2030 (or 1.5% annually over the 20-year period from 2010 to 2030, as previously noted).

Annual Population Growth Rates for Muslims and Non-Muslims



These figures are average compound annual growth rates over the 10-year periods shown. Compounding takes into account that the population base for each year includes growth from the previous year. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Data points are plotted based on unrounded numbers. Dotted lines denote projected figures.

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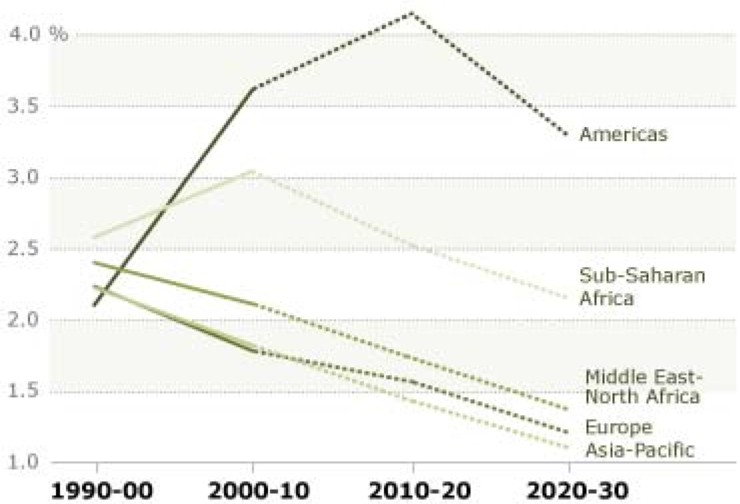
The declining growth rate is due primarily to falling fertility rates in many Muslim-majority countries, including such populous nations as Indonesia and Bangladesh. Fertility is dropping as more women in these countries obtain a secondary education, living standards rise and people move from rural areas to cities and towns. (See the Related Factors section in the full report for more details.)

The slowdown in Muslim population growth is most pronounced in the Asia-Pacific region, the Middle East-North Africa and Europe, and less sharp in sub-Saharan Africa. The only region where Muslim population growth is accelerating through 2020 is the Americas, largely because of immigration. (For details, see the charts on population growth in the sections of this report on Asia-Pacific, Middle-East-North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and the Americas.)

Annual Population Growth Rates for Muslims by Region



These figures are average compound annual growth rates over the 10-year periods shown. Compounding takes into account that the population base for each year includes growth from the previous year. Data points are plotted based on unrounded numbers. Dotted lines denote projected figures.

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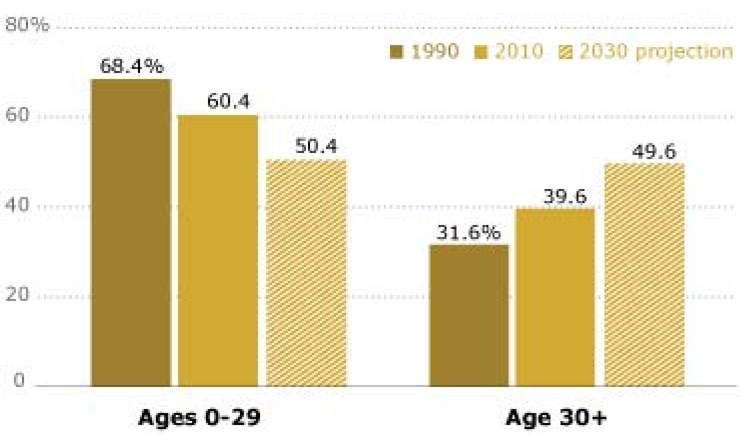
Percentage of Population of Muslim-Majority Countries in Selected Age Groups, 1990-2030



Source: Pew Forum analysis of U.N. data, weighted by country populations so that more populous countries affect the average more than smaller countries. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. Cross hatching denotes projected figures.

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life
The Future of the Global Muslim Population, January 2011

Falling birth rates eventually will lead to significant shifts in the age structure of Muslim populations. While the worldwide Muslim population today is relatively young, the so-called Muslim "youth bulge" -- the high percentage of Muslims in their teens and 20s -- peaked around the year 2000 and is now declining. (See the Age Structure section of the full report for more details.)

In 1990, more than two-thirds of the total population of Muslim-majority countries was under age 30. Today, people under age 30 make up about 60% of the population of these countries, and by 2030 they are projected to fall to about 50%.

At the same time, many Muslim-majority countries will have aging populations; between 2010 and 2030, the share of people ages 30 and older in these countries is expected to rise from 40% to 50%, and the share of people ages 60 and older is expected nearly to double, from 7% to 12%. Muslim-majority countries, however, are not the only ones with aging populations. As birth rates drop and people live longer all around the globe, the population of the entire world is aging. As a result, the global Muslim population will remain comparatively youthful for decades to come. The median age in Muslim-majority countries, for example, rose from 19 in 1990 to 24 in 2010 and is expected to climb to 30 by 2030. But it will still be lower than the median age in North America, Europe and other more-developed regions, which rose from age 34 to 40 between 1990 and 2010 and is projected to be age 44 in 2030. By that year, nearly three-in-ten of the world's youth and young adults -- 29.1% of people ages 15-29 -- are projected to be Muslims, up from 25.8% in 2010 and 20.0% in 1990.

Other key findings of the study include:

Worldwide

• Sunni Muslims will continue to make up an overwhelming majority of Muslims in 2030 (87%-90%). The portion of the world's Muslims who are Shia may decline slightly, largely because of relatively low fertility in Iran, where more than a third of the world's Shia Muslims live.

• As of 2010, about three-quarters of the world's Muslims (74.1%) live in the 49 countries in which Muslims make up a majority of the population. More than a fifth of all Muslims (23.3%) live in non-Muslim-majority countries in the developing world. About 3% of the world's Muslims live in more-developed regions, such as Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

• Fertility rates in Muslim-majority countries are closely related to women's education levels. In the eight Muslim-majority countries where girls generally receive the fewest years of schooling, the average fertility rate (5.0 children per woman) is more than double the average rate (2.3 children per woman) in the nine Muslim-majority countries where girls generally receive the most years of schooling. One exception is the Palestinian territories, where the average fertility rate (4.5 children per woman) is relatively high even though a girl born there today can expect to receive 14 years of formal education.

• Fewer than half (47.8%) of married women ages 15-49 in Muslim-majority countries use some form of birth control. By comparison, in non-Muslim-majority, less-developed countries nearly two-thirds (63.3%) of all married women in that age group use some form of birth control.

Asia-Pacific

• Nearly three-in-ten people living in the Asia-Pacific region in 2030 (27.3%) will be Muslim, up from about a quarter in 2010 (24.8%) and roughly a fifth in 1990 (21.6%).

• Muslims make up only about 2% of the population in China, but because the country is so populous, its Muslim population is expected to be the 19th largest in the world in 2030.

Middle East-North Africa

• The Middle East-North Africa will continue to have the highest percentage of Muslim-majority countries. Of the 20 countries and territories in this region, all but Israel are projected to be at least 50% Muslim in 2030, and 17 are expected to have a population that is more than 75% Muslim in 2030, with Israel, Lebanon and Sudan (as currently demarcated) being the only exceptions.

• Nearly a quarter (23.2%) of Israel's population is expected to be Muslim in 2030, up from 17.7% in 2010 and 14.1% in 1990. During the past 20 years, the Muslim population in Israel has more than doubled, growing from 0.6 million in 1990 to 1.3 million in 2010. The Muslim population in Israel (including Jerusalem but not the West Bank and Gaza) is expected to reach 2.1 million by 2030.

• Egypt, Algeria and Morocco currently have the largest Muslim populations (in absolute numbers) in the Middle East-North Africa. By 2030, however, Iraq is expected to have the second-largest Muslim population in the region -- exceeded only by Egypt -- largely because Iraq has a higher fertility rate than Algeria or Morocco.

Sub-Saharan Africa

• The Muslim population in sub-Saharan Africa is projected to grow by nearly 60% in the next 20 years, from 242.5 million in 2010 to 385.9 million in 2030. Because the region's non- Muslim population also is growing at a rapid pace, Muslims are expected to make up only a slightly larger share of the region's population in 2030 (31.0%) than they do in 2010 (29.6%).

• Various surveys give differing figures for the size of religious groups in Nigeria, which appears to have roughly equal numbers of Muslims and Christians in 2010. By 2030, Nigeria is expected to have a slight Muslim majority (51.5%).

Europe

• In 2030, Muslims are projected to make up more than 10% of the total population in 10 European countries: Kosovo (93.5%), Albania (83.2%), Bosnia-Herzegovina (42.7%), Republic of Macedonia (40.3%), Montenegro (21.5%), Bulgaria (15.7%), Russia (14.4%), Georgia (11.5%), France (10.3%) and Belgium (10.2%).

• Russia will continue to have the largest Muslim population (in absolute numbers) in Europe in 2030. Its Muslim population is expected to rise from 16.4 million in 2010 to 18.6 million in 2030. The growth rate for the Muslim population in Russia is projected to be 0.6% annually over the next two decades. By contrast, Russia's non-Muslim population is expected to shrink by an average of 0.6% annually over the same period.

• France had an expected net influx of 66,000 Muslim immigrants in 2010, primarily from North Africa. Muslims accounted for an estimated two-thirds (68.5%) of all new immigrants to France in the past year. Spain was expected to see a net gain of 70,000 Muslim immigrants in 2010, but they account for a much smaller portion of all new immigrants to Spain (13.1%). The U.K.'s net inflow of Muslim immigrants in the past year (nearly 64,000) was forecast to be nearly as large as France's. More than a quarter (28.1%) of all new immigrants to the U.K. in 2010 are estimated to be Muslim.

The Americas

• The number of Muslims in Canada is expected to nearly triple in the next 20 years, from about 940,000 in 2010 to nearly 2.7 million in 2030. Muslims are expected to make up 6.6% of Canada's total population in 2030, up from 2.8% today. Argentina is expected to have the third-largest Muslim population in the Americas, after the U.S. and Canada. Argentina, with about 1 million Muslims in 2010, is now in second place, behind the U.S.

• Children under age 15 make up a relatively small portion of the U.S. Muslim population today. Only 13.1% of Muslims are in the 0-14 age group. This reflects the fact that a large proportion of Muslims in the U.S. are newer immigrants who arrived as adults. But by 2030, many of these immigrants are expected to start families. If current trends continue, the numbers of U.S. Muslims under age 15 will more than triple, from fewer than 500,000 in 2010 to 1.8 million in2030. The number of Muslim children ages 0-4 living in the U.S. is expected to increase from fewer than 200,000 in 2010 to more than 650,000 in 2030.

• About two-thirds of the Muslims in the U.S. today (64.5%) are first-generation immigrants (foreign-born), while slightly more than a third (35.5%) were born in the U.S. By 2030, however, more than four-in-ten of the Muslims in the U.S. (44.9%) are expected to be native-born.

• The top countries of origin for Muslim immigrants to the U.S. in 2009 were Pakistan and Bangladesh. They are expected to remain the top countries of origin for Muslim immigrants to the U.S. in 2030.

About the Report

This report makes demographic projections. Projections are not the same as predictions. Rather, they are estimates built on current population data and assumptions about demographic trends; they are what will happen if the current data are accurate and the trends play out as expected. But many things -- immigration laws, economic conditions, natural disasters, armed conflicts, scientific discoveries, social movements and political upheavals, to name just a few -- can shift demographic trends in unforeseen ways, which is why this report adheres to a modest time frame, looking just 20 years down the road. Even so, there is no guarantee that Muslim populations will grow at precisely the rates anticipated in this report and not be affected by unforeseen events, such as political decisions on immigration quotas or national campaigns to encourage larger or smaller families.

The projections presented in this report are the medium figures in a range of three scenarios -- high, medium and low -- generated from models commonly used by demographers around the world to forecast changes in population size and composition. The models follow what is known as the cohort-component method, which starts with a baseline population (in this case, the current number of Muslims in each country) divided into groups, or cohorts, by age and sex. Each cohort is projected into the future by adding likely gains -- new births and immigrants -- and subtracting likely losses - deaths and emigrants. These calculations were made by the Pew Forum's demographers, who collaborated with researchers at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Austria on the projections for the United States and European countries. (For more details, see Appendix A: Methodology.)

The current population data that underpin this report were culled from the best sources available on Muslims in each of the 232 countries and territories for which the U.N. Population Division provides general population estimates. Many of these baseline statistics were published in the Pew Forum's 2009 report, Mapping the Global Muslim Population, which acquired and analyzed about 1,500 sources of data -- including census reports, large-scale demographic studies and general population surveys -- to estimate the number of Muslims in every country and territory. (For a list of sources, see Appendix B: Data Sources by Country.)

All of those estimates have been updated for 2010, and some have been substantially revised. (To find the current estimate and projections for a particular region or country, see Muslim Population by Country, 1990-2030.) Since many countries are conducting national censuses in 2010-11, more data are likely to emerge over the next few years, but a cut-off must be made at some point; this report is based on information available as of mid-2010. To the extent possible, the report provides data for decennial years -- 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020 and 2030. In some cases, however, the time periods vary because data is available only for certain years or in five-year increments (e.g., 2010-15 or 2030-35).

The definition of Muslim in this report is very broad. The goal is to count all groups and individuals who self-identify as Muslims. This includes Muslims who may be secular or nonobservant. No attempt is made in this report to measure how religious Muslims are or to forecast levels of religiosity (or secularism) in the decades ahead.

156-27 Group Buying Trend Is Changing How Americans, Britons And Canadians Shop[27]

JAN 25, 2011

[27] http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5510/group-buying-trend-is-changing-how-americans-britons-and-canadians-shop/

Group buying is beginning to have an effect in the mindset of consumers across three countries, with people in the United States, Britain and Canada becoming more price sensitive after taking advantage of a group buying offer, a new Vision Critical poll has found.

The online survey of representative national samples in the three countries also shows that American men are searching for clothing, tools, furniture and electronics deals through group buying, while Canadian and British women use group buying to get spa, cosmetics or salon discounts.

Awareness

Groupon has effectively achieved "top-of-mind" status on this new category of group buying facilitators. About half of Americans (45%) have heard of Groupon, along with 35 per cent of Britons and 34 per cent of Canadians. Groupon has the highest level of awareness with competitors trailing far behind. Second to Groupon are WagJag in Canada (23%), EverSave in the U.S. (20%) and Groupola in Britain (9%).

About half of respondents in the three countries (USA 41%, BRI 55%, CAN 51%) had not heard of any of the group buying websites mentioned by name in the survey. In Britain, of those who hadn't heard of the sites, two thirds were over the age of 55 (62%) while roughly half of those under 55 had not heard of them either (18-34: 53%, 35-54: 51%). American and Canadian men are more likely than women to have not heard of group buying.

Habits of Group Buyers

Americans are most likely to purchase restaurant or food-related group buying deals (46%), product deals such as clothing, tools, furniture or electronics (43%) or entertainment deals like movie and concert tickets (39%). British men are more likely to buy restaurant and food deals from group buying websites (44%) while women prefer spa, salon and cosmetic deals (37%). Canadian women also buy spa and salon deals (42%) but both genders participate in restaurant deals (70% of men and 59% of women). Deals for children are the least purchased in Britain and Canada (8% and 4%) while spa and salon deals are the least bought in the U.S. (13%).

Habits of Non-Group Buyers

Americans who have not bought a group deal say this is because they had not heard of the concept (12%) or aren't interested in group buying (27%). One-in-five Americans (18%) who haven't bought from any group buying sites say this is because they do not want to share their credit card information. In Britain, some of those who have not participated also cited not wanting to share their credit card information (14%) but for the most part hadn't seen any deals that were of interest to them (59%). When asked why they have not bought any group deals, Canadians mentioned not having heard of group buying until now (37%) or not having seen any deals they wanted to participate in (27%).

Regional Differences

In the United States, awareness about the concept of group buying is lowest in the Midwest with 46 per cent of respondents saying they have not heard of any of the listed group buying websites. Two thirds of people in the Northeast have heard of one or more of the sites (67%). Awareness is consistent throughout Britain, although Scotland has the highest level of awareness (53% of Scots have heard of one or more of the sites listed). In Canada, awareness is lowest in the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec (74% report having not heard of any of the websites listed) and highest in British Columbia, where 65 per cent of respondents have heard of one or more group buying websites.

Gender Differences

In Canada, women are driving the group buying trend, with 19 per cent having bought from Groupon (compared to 11% for Canadian men). Both genders are equally likely to purchase from group buying sites in the United States (Men 20%, Women 19%) and Britain (Men 20%, Women 17%).

Men in Britain are most likely to allow a group buying deal they've purchased to expire before they get a chance to use it (44%). Less than a quarter of British women (24%) have allowed a deal they bought to expire. In Canada, women are more likely than men to tell their friends about group buying deals they've seen using Facebook, Twitter or email (46% of women and 27% of men). As a result, one third of Canadian women who have purchased a group deal have received a referral incentive (29%). Nearly half of Americans who have bought a group deal have purchased it as a gift for someone else (45%).

Effects on Consumer Loyalty

In Britain, 26 per cent of men have purchased a deal, used it at a vendor, and then returned to that same vendor at full price. Only seven per cent of British women return to pay full price. American men are twice as likely as women to return (36% to 18%). In Canada, women are more loyal (28%) than men (19%) when it comes to returning to a vendor at full price.

Purchasing Habits

Among the three countries studied, Americans are least likely to pay full price and try to seek out a deal (35%), followed by Britons at 31 per cent and Canadians at 29 per cent. Almost two thirds of American men (64%) are willing to pay more for something they really want, but prefer to get a deal. Two thirds of women in Britain (68%) like to get a deal but will pay full price for something they really want. In Canada, 70 per cent of men and 65 per cent of women like to get a deal but will pay full price if required.

Al least three-in-five Britons (68%), Americans (66%) and Canadians (62%) who have bought a group buying deal say it has made them more price-sensitive and as a result they now think twice before paying full price.

Long-Term Effects

Two-in-five British men (40%) and one third of Canadian men (33%) who have purchased from a group buying website, feel that group buying ultimately harms the small businesses that participate in it—only 19 per cent of British women and 13 per cent of Canadian women share this view. Three-in-ten Americans (29%) feel group buying is detrimental to small business.

The trend of group buying is on the rise, as evidenced by the many websites that have followed Groupon's model. More than two thirds of respondents in all three countries who have made a purchase from a group buying website say that the concept will affect the way consumers shop in the future (CAN 74%, BRI 64%,USA 61%).

Methodology: From January 5 to January 6, 2011 Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 1,002 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,011 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,010 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1% 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.

156-28 British Economic Optimism Is Among Lowest In The World[28]

Date:25 January 2011

Britons are among the most negative about the economy in the world – ranking alongside Italy, France and Japan according to January's Economic Global Pulse from Ipsos' Global @advisor, online research conducted in 24 countries.

The news that just one in ten (13%) Britons rate the economy as good and the same number (12%) are optimistic about the next six months comes as a further blow to the Coalition following a difficult week in which saw a the announcement that the UK economy shrank at the end of last year, a rise in unemployment, increasing fuel prices and a rise in inflation.

[28] http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/latestnews/627/British-economic-optimism-is-among-lowest-in-the-world.aspx

Those Countries Where the Country Economic Assessment…									
is HIGHEST this month		has experienced an IMPROVEMENT since last sounding			has experienced a DECLINE since last sounding			is LOWEST this month	
India	87%	South Africa	▲	10	Germany	▼	4	Hungary	6%
Saudi Arabia	81%	Mexico	▲	5	Great Britain	▼	3		
Sweden	75%	Italy	▲	3	Argentina	▼	3		
Australia	75%	Belgium	▲	3	China	▼	2		
China	72%	Japan	▲	3	Brazil	▼	2		
Germany	63%	Indonesia	▲	3	Russia	▼	2		
Brazil	62%	South Korea	▲	2	Poland	▼	2		
Canada	62%	Australia	▲	1	United States	▼	1		
					Canada	▼	1		
					Hungary	▼	1		
					India	▼	1		

Optimism has improved for many countries since the low point of 2008. Citizens of Sweden, Germany, South Korea and Canada are significantly happier now with the current state of their economy than they were two years ago. However, that rise has not been seen among Britons.

However, global citizens are hesitant to hold an optimistic outlook on the future of their local economy. Only 27% say they think it will be stronger in the next six months, which is down 4 points since March, 2010 (31%).

Bobby Duffy, Managing Director at Ipsos MORI, said:
"We in Britain are not the gloomiest but we're certainly worried about the economic situation by global standards. With the cuts beginning to bite and fuel prices reaching record highs the public are wary of the next six months as well."

Indians are the most positive about their own economy, four in five (87%) rating it as good. Those in Saudi Arabia, Australia and Sweden are also particularly satisfied with their economy, with over three quarters rating it as good.

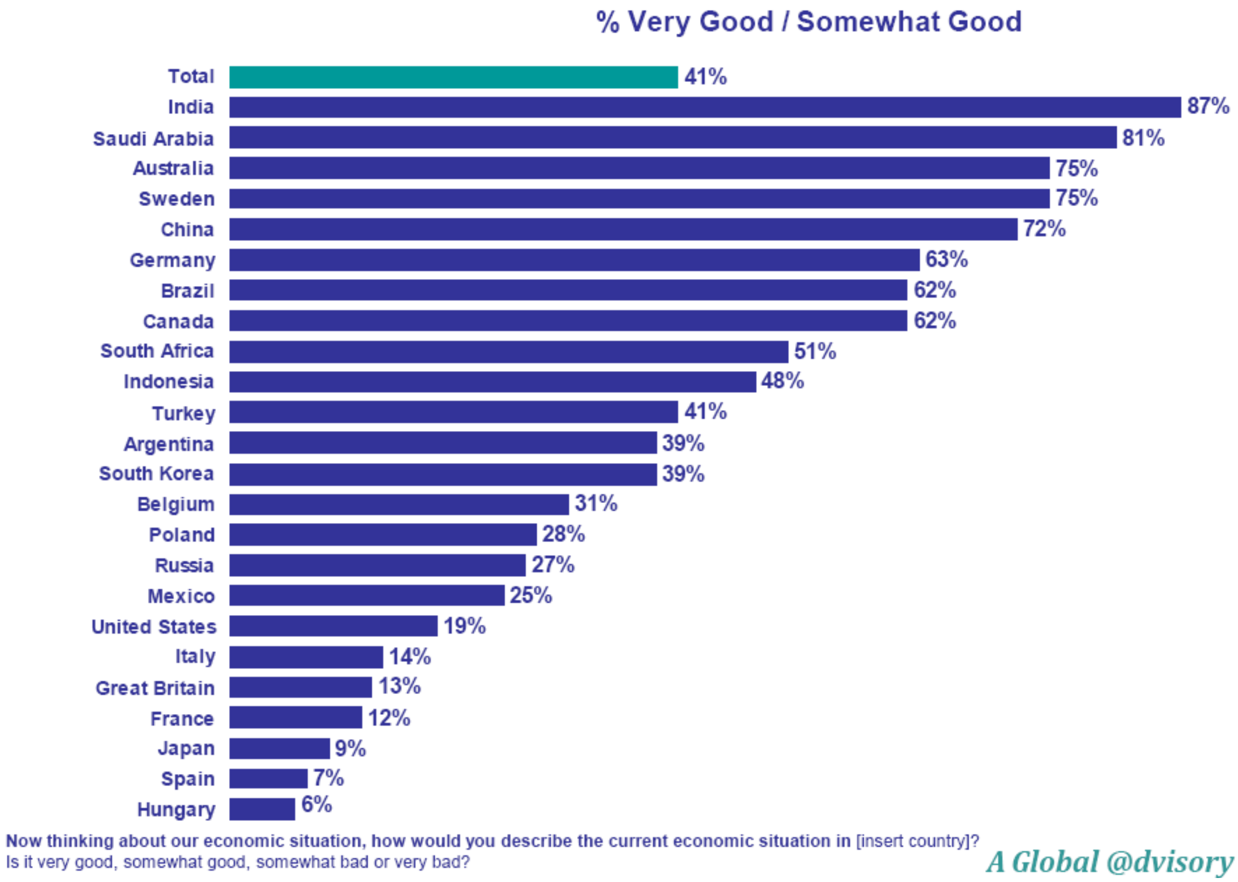
In Europe, Germany and Sweden have the most positive citizenry, three quarters of Swedes think their economy is in a healthy situation, two thirds (63%) of Germans say the same. This compares starkly to the one in ten Brits. A similarly low number of French (12%), Spanish (7%) and Hungarians (6%) say their economy is good.

However, economic optimism for the next six months is not high among European and G8 countries. Of the G8 countries, Germany is the most positive about the future – although even in Germany only 27% expect their local economy to be stronger in six months time. The French are the most pessimistic with just four per cent expecting improvements. Just one in ten Britons are optimistic about the future of their local economy.

Americans assessment of their own economy is only slightly more optimistic than that of Britons

– one in five (19%) think their economy is good and the same amount (20%) expect it to be stronger in six months time.

BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China) often seen as the emerging economic powers are – with the exception of Russia – among the most optimistic. Three quarters of Brazilians (78%), three in five (61%) Indians and 44% of Chinese think their economy will get stronger. By contrast just 16% of Russians expect improvement.



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Notes to Editors

Global @advisor is a monthly online survey conducted by Ipsos via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America. A total sample of 18,676 adults were interviewed for this survey: aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, with approximately 1,000+ individuals on a country by country basis with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey, where each have a sample approximately 500+. Weighting was employed to balance demographics and ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data available and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe.

CYBER WORLD

156-29 Twitter and Social Networking in the 2010 Midterm Elections[29]

January 27, 2011

Some 21% of online adults used social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace in the months leading up to the November 2010 elections to connect with a campaign or the election itself, and 2% of online adults did so using Twitter. That works out to a total of 22% of adult internet users who engaged with the political campaign on Twitter or social networking sites in at least one of the following ways:

- 11% of online adults discovered on a social networking site who their friends voted for in the November elections.
- 9% of online adults received candidate or campaign information on social networking sites or Twitter.
- 8% of online adults posted political content on Twitter or a social networking site.
- 7% of online adults friended a candidate or political group on a social networking site or followed them on Twitter.
- 7% of online adults started or joined a political group on a social networking site.
- 1% of online adults used Twitter to follow the election results as they were happening.

Republicans, who lagged behind Democrats in the 2008 campaign in some key aspects of social media use, caught up with Democrats in the 2010 midterm election cycle. The "political social media user" cohort represented by the 22% of internet users voted for Republican congressional candidates over Democratic candidates by a 45%-to-41% margin, and Republicans' enthusiasm for using social media matched that of Democrats.

[29] http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1871/internet-politics-facebook-twitter-2010-midterm-elections-campaign

Political social networking activities by 2010 vote

% within each group who...

2010 Congressional Vote	Republican	Democrat	Did not vote
Use a social networking site	43%	44%	49%
% of SNS users who used the sites to...			
Discover which candidates your friends voted for	19	21	14
Post political content	18	16	9
Get candidate or campaign info	19	15	13
Friend a candidate or cause	17	12	8
Join a political group/cause	13	11	7
Start a political group/cause	3	3	1

Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, November 3-24, 2010 Post-Election Tracking Survey. N=2,257 national adults ages 18 and older, including 755 cell phone interviews; n=925 based on social networking site users. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

Among social networking site users, 40% of Republican voters and 38% of Democratic voters used these sites to get involved politically. In addition, Tea Party movement supporters were especially likely to friend a candidate or political group on a social networking site during the 2010 election -- 22% of such users did this, significantly higher than all other groups.

Political social networking activities by age group

% within each age group who...

	18-29	30-49	50+
Use a social networking site	74%	54%	24%
% of SNS users who used the sites to...			
Discover which candidates your friends voted for	23	17	12
Post political content	17	9	12
Get candidate or campaign info	16	11	18
Friend a candidate or cause	12	10	12
Join a political group/cause	12	9	10
Start a political group/cause	2	2	2

Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, November 3-24, 2010 Post-Election Tracking Survey. N=2,257 national adults ages 18 and older, including 755 cell phone interviews; n=925 based on social networking site users. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

Compared with the rest of the online population (i.e. those who go online but did not use Twitter or social networking sites for political purposes in 2010) the "political social media" user group differs in some respects from other internet users:

- **Political social media users stand out for their overall use of technology**. They are significantly more likely than other internet users to go online wirelessly from a cell phone or laptop (91% vs. 67%), own a laptop computer (79% vs. 63%), have a high-speed broadband connection (94% vs. 80%) and use the internet on their cell phone (61% vs. 40%).
- **Demographically, political social media users are younger and somewhat more educated than other internet users**. Two-in-five (42%) are younger than age 30 (vs. 22% for the rest of the online population) and 41% have a college degree (34% of other internet users have graduated from college). However, they look quite similar to the rest of the online population in their racial, gender and income composition.