

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

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Introductory Note

This report consists of 30 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 28 are national surveys from various countries.

Topic of the week:
157-31 Egypt in the Spot Light



In the light of recent events in the Middle East Egypt has attracted a lot of attention world wide. This week's Topic focuses on snippets of four surveys focusing on the volatile nation.

Egypt, Democracy and Islam

January 31, 2011: With massive protests threatening to upend the three-decades-long reign of President Hosni Mubarak, the world has been captivated by the events in Egypt. In a survey conducted *April*



12 to May 7, 2010, the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project examined the views of Egypt and six other Muslim publics about politics and the role Islam should play in it.

A **59%**-majority of Muslims in Egypt believed that democracy was preferable to any other kind of government. About one-in-five (**22%**), however, said that in some circumstances, a non-democratic government could be preferable, and another **16%** said it did not matter what kind of government is in place for a person in their situation.

Egyptians were split on how big a role Islam played in the political life of their country. Among Muslims in Egypt, **48%** said Islam played a large role in their nation's political life while a nearly equal **49%**

said it played only a small role. By wide margins, Muslims surveyed in the spring of 2010 believed that Islam's influence in politics was positive rather than negative. In Egypt, Islam's role in politics was seen favorably by an

| | Views of Democracy | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--|----|
| | Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government | In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable | For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have | DK |
| | % | % | % | % |
| Lebanon | 81 | 12 | 5 | 2 |
| Turkey | 76 | 6 | 5 | 13 |
| Jordan | 69 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Nigeria | 66 | 18 | 16 | 1 |
| Indonesia | 65 | 12 | 19 | 4 |
| Egypt | 59 | 22 | 16 | 2 |
| Pakistan | 42 | 15 | 21 | 22 |

Based on Muslims only.
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q17.

overwhelming **85%-to-2%** margin among Muslims.

Just **31%** of Egyptian Muslims saw a struggle between modernizers and fundamentalists in their country. Among Egyptian Muslims who did see a struggle, a **59%**-majority sided with the fundamentalists. Just **27%** of those who saw such struggle sided with the modernizers. Concerns about Islamic extremism -- both in their country and around the world -- were widespread in Egypt. About **six-in-ten** Egyptians were very (**20%**) or somewhat (**41%**) concerned about the rise of Islamic extremism in their country. Asked about extremism around the world, **30%** of Egyptians were very concerned about Islamic extremism and **40%** were somewhat concerned.

SOURCE : <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1874/egypt-protests-democracy-islam-influence-politics-islamic-extremism>

State of Women in Egypt

VIENNA, Virginia, February 1, 2010 – D3 Systems released a report recently on the social and economic trends in the lives of Egyptian women. The analysis explores quantitative data measuring improvements and setbacks in the lives of urban Egyptian women. The findings report that Egyptian women are becoming more economically driven. **65%** have reported that “more money / more wealth” would make them happier. This is an increase of **21%** since our previous survey of women in 2007.

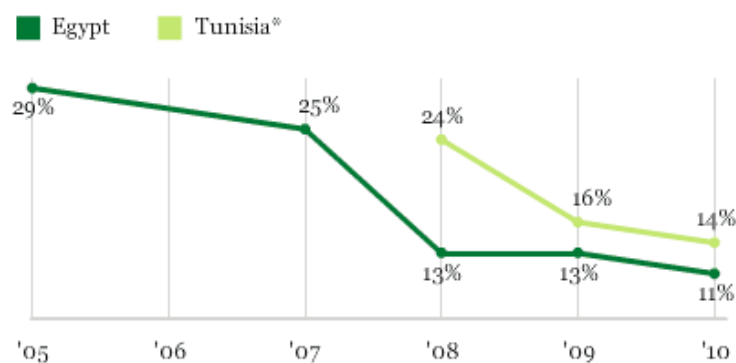
While women have reported more interest in their economic well being, social injustice is a significant problem. One third of women report being denied access to education (**32%**), the legal system (**32%**) and health care (**31%**).

SOURCE: http://www.d3systems.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Wave-2-Egypt-Wimc_FINAL_v2.pdf

Egyptians', Tunisians' Wellbeing Plummets Despite GDP Gains

Traditional economic indicators paint an incomplete picture of life in these countries

Percentage "Thriving" in Egypt and Tunisia



*Gallup does not have data for Tunisia prior to 2008.

GALLUP

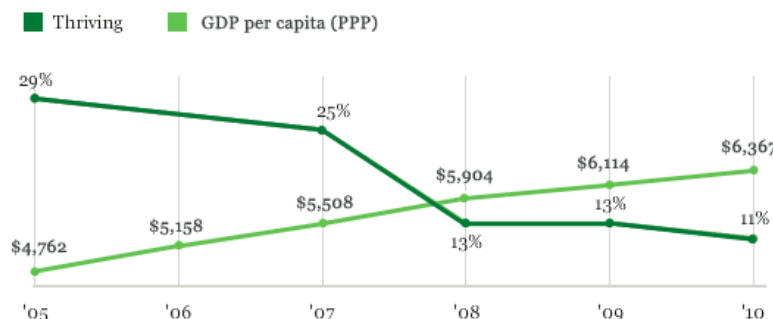
month, the percentage of people Gallup classifies as thriving fell **10 points** since 2008.

In Egypt, all income groups have seen wellbeing decline significantly since 2005, with only the richest **20%** of the population trending positively

February 2, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Wellbeing in Egypt and Tunisia decreased significantly over the past few years, even as GDP increased. In Egypt, where demonstrations have prompted President Hosni Mubarak to give up power after elections this fall, the percentage of people "thriving" fell by **18 percentage points** since 2005. In Tunisia, where mass protests toppled the country's government last

Egypt: Recent Trends in Percentage "Thriving" and GDP per Capita (PPP)



2005-2010
GDP per capita (ppp) estimates are from the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook database.

GALLUP

since 2009. In Tunisia, wellbeing for all groups has declined since 2008 at similar rates. Wellbeing in these countries now ranks among the worst in the Middle East and North Africa region. When more people were thriving in **Egypt** and **Tunisia** in past years, their wellbeing ranked toward the higher end for the region. Thus, it is important to consider the current state of wellbeing in each country as well as the trend and trajectory.

The data underscore how traditional economic metrics can paint an incomplete picture of life in a given country. Over the same period that wellbeing decreased in Egypt and Tunisia, GDP increased. This is particularly noteworthy because previous Gallup research, by Angus Deaton, Betsey Stevenson and Justin Wolfers, and Gallup researchers, has found wellbeing to be highly correlated with GDP per capita.

Gallup's global wellbeing metrics make clear that leaders cannot assume that the lives of those in their countries would improve in tandem with rising GDP. The traditional GDP gains seen in Tunisia and Egypt alongside declines in wellbeing and subsequent political instability are evidence of this. Together, the data strongly suggest leaders need to follow much more than GDP to effectively track and lead the progress of their nation.

SOURCE : <http://www.gallup.com/poll/145883/egyptians-tunisians-wellbeing-plummets-despite-gdp-gains.aspx>

Egypt 9th in the List of Countries Vitally Important to U.S.

Less than half of Americans (45%) say what happens in Egypt is vitally important to U.S.



by Frank Newport- *PRINCETON, NJ* -- Seven out of 10 Americans say what happens in China is vitally important to the U.S., putting China at the top of 12 countries Gallup asked Americans to rate on this dimension, significantly ahead of North Korea and Iran. Egypt is 9th on the list; 45% of Americans say what happens there is vitally important.

The demonstrations and unrest in **Egypt** have dominated international news coverage in recent weeks. But Americans, according to Gallup's Feb. 2-5 poll, are less likely to say what happens there is vitally important than to say this about a number of other

countries around the world, particularly China. In addition to *China, North Korea*, and Iran, other countries seen as at least marginally more important than Egypt to U.S. interests include *Israel, Iraq, Afghanistan, Mexico*, and *Pakistan*. Only *Canada, Russia*, and *India* are below **Egypt** on this measure.

Implications

Americans' perceptions of the importance of what happens in China most likely underscore the public's underlying concern about economic matters. Although **Egypt** is currently much in the news, the American public may have a longer-range perspective on events around the world and may recognize that *China's* economic prowess will potentially have the most dramatic, direct effect on the U.S. in years to come.

Americans rate what happens in *Israel* as more important than what happens in **Egypt**, likely reflecting their views of the centrality of *Israel's* status to the entire Middle



East region and *Israel's* long-standing role as a major U.S. ally. These results suggest that if the **Egyptian** unrest is perceived as directly affecting *Israel* in the future, Americans may elevate their views of the importance of what happens in **Egypt**.

SOURCE: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/146039/China-Tops-List-Countries-Vitally-Important-Egypt-9th.aspx>

157-32 EGYPT



EGYPT:

Population: 80,471,869 (July 2010 est.)

GDP per Capita (PPP): \$5,900 (2009 est.)

The regularity and richness of the annual Nile River flood, coupled with semi-isolation provided by deserts to the east and west, allowed for the development of one of the world's great civilizations. A unified kingdom arose circa 3200 B.C., and a series of dynasties ruled in Egypt for the next three millennia. The last native dynasty fell to the Persians in 341 B.C., who in turn were replaced by the Greeks, Romans, and Byzantines. It was the Arabs who introduced Islam and the Arabic language in the 7th century and who ruled for the next six centuries. A local military caste, the Mamluks took control about 1250 and continued to govern after the conquest of Egypt by the Ottoman Turks in 1517. Following the completion of the Suez Canal in 1869, Egypt became an important world transportation hub, but also fell heavily into debt. Ostensibly to protect its investments, Britain seized control of Egypt's government in 1882, but nominal allegiance to the Ottoman Empire continued until 1914. Partially independent from the UK in 1922, Egypt acquired full sovereignty with the overthrow of the British-backed monarchy in

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

Summary of Polls

MIDDLE EAST

Palestinians Expecting Major U.S. Role For Peace

Majority of Palestinians in a recent survey oppose any negotiations with Israeli until construction is refreeze. Majority expects a more influential role from U.S. and believe only U.S. policies can influence Israeli stand. (AWRAD)

February 02, 2011

NORTH AFRICA

SOTU Overshadowed by Middle East Unrest

In the first part of last week, the media focused on President Obama's Jan. 25 State of the Union speech. In the latter half, Egyptian protests that began to look like a revolution dominated coverage, virtually drowning out the president's emphasis on re-tooling the U.S. economy.

February 1, 2011

Egypt, Democracy and Islam

With massive protests threatening to upend the three-decades-long reign of President Hosni Mubarak, the world has been captivated by the events in Egypt. A 59%-majority of Muslims in Egypt believed that democracy was preferable to any other kind of government in a survey last year.

January 31, 2011

State of Women in Egypt

A recent report on women status in Egypt shows that women are economically driven as compared three years ago. Sixty-five percent have reported that “more money / more wealth” would make them happier. This is an increase of 21% since our previous survey of women in 2007. (D3 Systems)

February 01, 2011

WEST ASIA

Pakistanis Pessimistic About The Future of PPP Government

According to a recent survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , almost half of all Pakistanis (47%) believe that the current government will dissolve without completing its tenure as opposed to 31% in whose assessment it will complete its term. (Gallup Pakistan)

February 4, 2011

Financial Worries Tops The List Of Personal Problems

A recent survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, shows that half of all Pakistanis (50%) consider financial issues to be the most important personal problem followed by domestic issues (14%) and security risk (11%). (Gallup Pakistan)

February 2, 2011

EAST EUROPE

(Russian) Mass Media: Main Source Of Information For Russians

Every third Russian (33%) trusts information and opinion of friends and relatives rather than mass media. There were 24% of such respondents three years ago. However, the majority (53%) still trust mass media, rather than word-of-mouth communication. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

January 25, 2011

Portrait Of Modern Students

According to Russians, over the recent decades it has become more difficult for the graduates to find a job in their field of study (69%). Two thirds of Russians think that negative trends are witnessed when the young specialists try to get well paid job (65%). (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

January 21, 2011

Ecological Culture Of Russians

Every fifth Russian believes the green measures implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources are effective (19%). Most positive assessments are expressed by Volga district residents (23%), Siberians (22%), residents of small, middle cities and rural area (20-24%), young people aged 18-24 (24%), as well as residents of Sverdlovsk region (41%). (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

January 20, 2011

Social Well-Being Of Russians: 2010

Satisfaction with life index has been stable over 2010. This index was the only one not affected by December negative dynamics. It was due to the gradual increase in the share

of respondents who are satisfied with their life. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

January 17, 2010

WEST EUROPE

Little Movement Seen in Britain's Alternative Vote Referendum

A majority of respondents are still "not too informed" or "not informed at all" about the proposed electoral system. A large proportion of Britons remains uninformed about the referendum that could alter the way members of the House of Commons are elected, a new Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll has found. (Vision Critical)

January 28, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Americans Believe GOP Should Consider Tea Party Ideas

About 7 in 10 national adults, including 88% of Republicans, say it is important that Republican leaders in Congress take the Tea Party movement's positions and objectives into account as they address the nation's problems. Among Republicans, 53% rate this "very important." (Gallup USA)

January 31, 2011

No Bounce for President After State of the Union

Last week, immediately before his speech, approval for his handling of the economy reached a six month high of 41%. However, the steady gains in approval over the past month were reversed this week as Americans gave his economic policies an approval rating of 35%. The speech did not boost his overall approval ratings either. At 44%, approval for the President is virtually unchanged. (YouGov)

February 03, 2011

No SOTU Bump for Obama, but Approval Remains Higher

Gallup Daily tracking finds no change in President Obama's job approval rating after his State of the Union address. The president's 50% average for the week ending Sunday, Jan. 30, matches the prior week's rating, which was the highest weekly average for Obama since May. (Gallup USA)

January 31, 2011

Americans Split on Desired Influence of Organized Religion

Americans have mixed views on the influence of organized religion in the U.S. today, with 29% saying religion should have more influence and an identical percentage saying it should have less influence. A slightly larger 39% believe organized religion's influence should be kept as it is now. (Gallup USA)

February 2, 2011

Americans Have Down-to-Earth Goals for Living Comfortably

The slight majority of Americans, 55%, believe they could live comfortably on something less than \$75,000 a year. That's not an extravagant figure given that the median family income is now about \$52,000, although it still represents a daunting income gap to close in today's tough economic times. One in four, 24%, say they would need \$100,000 or more to achieve a comfortable lifestyle, slightly more than the 16% already making six figures. (Gallup USA)

February 3, 2011

Obama's Approval Ratings More Polarized in Year 2 Than Year

President Barack Obama's job approval ratings were even more polarized during his second year in office than during his first, when he registered the most polarized ratings for a first-year president. An average of 81% of Democrats and 13% of Republicans approved of the job Obama was doing as president during his second year. That 68-point gap in party ratings is up from 65 points in his first year and is easily the most polarized second year for a president since Dwight Eisenhower. (Gallup USA)

February 4, 2011

In U.S., Caregivers Suffer From Poorer Physical Health

Americans who work a full-time job and say they care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend, suffer from poorer physical health than those who work a full-time job but do not have additional caregiving responsibilities. Caregivers, who represent 16% of the full-time American workforce, have a Physical Health Index score of 77.4, which is significantly lower than the 83.0 found among non-caregivers. (Gallup USA)

February 4, 2011

Many Small Businesses Hiring Fewer Workers Than Needed

Half of small-business owners (51%) who employ people other than themselves hired new workers in 2010, according to the Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey. However, of these, 42% hired fewer new employees than they needed -- likely a major reason job growth was so anemic last year. Of course, an additional factor is that 48% of small businesses with more than one employee did not make any new hires in 2010. (Gallup USA)

February 4, 2011

American Public Shows How it Would Cut the Budget Deficit

A new study finds that when average Americans are presented the federal budget in some detail, most are able to dramatically reduce the budget deficit and resolve the Social Security shortfall. (www.worldpublicopinion.org)

February 3, 2011

Canadians Flatly Reject Usage Based Billing for Internet Access

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,024 Canadian adults, three-in-four respondents (76%) disagree with the recent decision from the Canada Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), which recently ruled that Internet service providers should adopt "usage-based billing". (Angus Reid / Toronto Star poll)

February 04, 2011

Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010

As of March 2010, 11.2 million unauthorized immigrants were living in the United States, virtually unchanged from a year earlier, according to new estimates from the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. This stability in 2010 follows a two-year decline from the peak of 12 million in 2007 to 11.1 million in 2009 that was the first significant reversal in a two-decade pattern of growth. (Pew Research Center)

February 1, 2011

In U.S., Majority Still Wants Less Corporate Influence

The large majority of Americans (62%) want major corporations to have less influence in the United States. While this is down from a peak of 68% in 2008, it remains well above the 52% recorded in 2001. Relatively few Americans would prefer to see corporations gain influence, but the 12% recorded this year is the highest to date. (Gallup USA)

February 1, 2011

In U.S., Chronic Health Conditions as Prevalent in 2010 as 2009

About 3 in 10 American adults continue to report having been diagnosed with high blood pressure or high cholesterol in their lifetimes, making these two illnesses the most widespread diseases measured. The prevalence of diagnoses of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and cancer is up compared with 2008. (Gallup USA)

February 2, 2011

In U.S., Alternative Energy Bill Does Best Among Eight Proposals

Of eight actions Congress could take this year, Americans most favor an energy bill that provides incentives for using alternative energy (83%), an overhaul of the federal tax code (76%), and speeding up withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan (72%). (Gallup USA)

February 2, 2011

Two-in-Five Americans Report Worsening Views of Sarah Palin

Barack Obama leads the former Alaska Governor in a 2012 ballot test, but people who watched Palin's show on TLC hold more favorable views. Many Americans believe that Sarah Palin is not ready to replace Barack Obama as President, a new Vision Critical poll has found. (Vision Critical)

January 31, 2011

World Cancer Day: Canadians Willing to Pitch in to Prevent Cancer

A national survey released today in advance of World Cancer Day shows that more than half of Canadians 35 to 69 years of age feel cancer should be a top priority for health research. However, the survey also shows that a similar number do not know how to get involved in a way that could be helpful to other people. (Vision Critical)

February 03, 2011

AUSTRALASIA

Two Thirds of Australians Say Economy is in Good Shape

A large proportion of Australians appear satisfied with their country's current economic standing, and boast a level of confidence that surpasses other industrialized nations, a new Vision Critical poll has found. (Vision Critical)

February 04, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Egyptians', Tunisians' Wellbeing Plummet Despite GDP Gains

Wellbeing in Egypt and Tunisia decreased significantly over the past few years, even as GDP increased. In Egypt, where demonstrations have prompted President Hosni Mubarak to give up power after elections this fall, the percentage of people "thriving" fell by 18 percentage points since 2005. In Tunisia, where mass protests toppled the country's government last month, the percentage of people Gallup classifies as thriving fell 10 points since 2008. (Gallup USA)

February 2, 2011

CYBERWORLD

Accessing Health Topics on the Internet

Health information remains one of the most important subjects that internet users research online. The Pew Project have added eight new topics -- including food safety, drug safety and pregnancy information -- to our national survey measuring internet users' interest in health information. (Pew Research Center)

February 1, 2011

MIDDLE EAST

157-1 Palestinians Expecting Major U.S. Role For Peace¹

This was the second in a series of surveys tracking Palestinian public opinion on the peace process and internal Palestinian politics. The questionnaire was fielded between 19-20 January 2011, prior to the publication the Palestine Papers and the events taking place in Egypt. The first survey in this series was conducted in October 2010.

For this survey, one thousand two hundred Palestinians were interviewed in the West Bank and Gaza. All socioeconomic groups were represented in the poll (for more details on the sample, please refer to the www.awrad.org). The margin of error in this poll is plus or minus 3 percent. The poll was carried out by the Arab World for Research and Development (AWRAD) by competent expert researchers under the supervision of Dr. Nader Said-Foqahaa, President of AWRAD.

The Peace Process

Negotiations

The poll mirrors October 2010 findings that the majority of Palestinian respondents (75 percent) believe that negotiations should resume only after a full freeze of settlement construction. Only 6 percent are willing to negotiate under a partial freeze. An additional 6 percent supports the resumption of negotiations without any conditions.

The role of the United Nations

A majority of 73 percent believe that the PA should directly petition the UN Security Council to declare a Palestinian state. Similarly, on the issue of settlements, 83 percent support a move by the PA to petition the Security Council for a resolution freezing settlement construction.

Palestinians believe that the United States is the most influential entity on Israeli policies. When asked about the country that is most likely to affect Israeli policy towards settlements and final status issues, a majority of 58 percent said that an American recognition of an independent Palestinian state would have the most impact on Israeli policies. The second most important position was that of the EU (23 percent), followed by Russia (15 percent) and the Arab League (13 percent). Iran's recognition was deemed as most important by about 8 percent. Only small percentages of respondents feel that the recognition of countries such as Brazil and Argentina would be important in changing Israeli policies.

Obstacle

When asked to identify the single greatest obstacle confronting the peace process, the largest group (31 percent) of respondents, giving open-ended responses, cited the Israeli occupation. In contrast, 22 percent said internal Palestinian division was the biggest obstacle, while another 12

¹ <http://www.awrad.org/pdfs/Report-%20english%20jan%202011.pdf>

percent listed Israeli settlements. Five percent said progress was prevented by the lack of an Israeli negotiating partner and 3 percent named the United States.

Most respondents (59 percent) did not think the outcome of the American mid-term Congressional elections would affect the peace process. Twenty percent, however, said the outcome would be harmful, while 13 percent indicated they thought it would help, and 8 percent did not know.

Violence

About 71 percent of the Palestinian respondents in the West Bank and Gaza prefer non-violent means to resolve the ongoing conflict and end the occupation. Of those, 34 percent believe negotiations are the best means to end the occupation. Twenty-one percent believe a popular non-violent uprising is the best means. Seventeen percent believe that an international conference that imposes a settlement of the dispute is the best means. In contrast, 22 percent of respondents believe that violence is the best means to end the occupation. The remaining 8 percent have no definitive answer on the issue. No significant changes could be detected since October 2010 in this regard among Palestinian respondents.

Evaluation of Government and Leaders

Consistent with the October 2010 poll, about 63 percent of the respondents believe that Palestinian society is heading in the wrong direction. Thirty-one percent said Palestine is moving in the right direction.

Evaluation of President Abbas

President Abbas's approval declined sharply (14 percent) from October 2010 to January 2011 (29 percent, down from 43 percent). The current poll shows respondents are divided in their evaluation of the overall performance of President Abbas, where 29 percent give him a "good" evaluation, 34 percent a "neutral" evaluation and 35 percent a "poor" evaluation. Since October 2010, Abbas's approval among West Bank respondents has declined by 11 percent and by 18 percent among Gazans. Lower approval numbers corresponded to a rise in disapproval—3 percent in the West Bank and 15 percent in Gaza.

A plurality of Palestinians (42 percent) do not feel Abbas has done his job well enough to be reelected as President. This sentiment was particularly pronounced in Gaza, where 53 said his performance does not warrant reelection, compared with 36 percent in the West Bank.

Evaluation of Prime Minister Fayyad

Positive evaluation of the overall performance of Fayyad declined from 44 percent during October 2010 to 36 percent now, an 8-point decline. Fayyad, however, receives a better overall evaluation than either Abbas or Haniyeh. West Bank respondents view his performance more favorably than Gaza respondents, where 38 percent see it as good compared with 26 percent in Gaza. The negative evaluation of Fayyad's performance increased by 10 points in Gaza, but remained static in the West Bank.

About 39 percent of the respondents believe that Fayyad has done his job well enough to be reappointed as Prime Minister. This represents a 6 point decline from October 2010 (45

percent).

Evaluation of Prime Minister Haniyeh

Compared with AWRAD's October poll, the popularity of Haniyeh's performance increased by 5 points, from 18 percent to 23 percent. The major increase in his positive evaluation was detected in Gaza from 23 percent in October to 31 percent now (8 points increase). No significant change was detected in the West Bank. Nevertheless, of the main Palestinian leaders tested in the poll, Haniyeh receives the lowest evaluation for his performance. Only 23 percent give him a positive evaluation, while 34 percent disapprove of his overall performance and 31 percent are neutral. At 19 percent, his approval is lowest in the West Bank. Gaza respondents were more polarized concerning his evaluation, where 31 percent evaluate his overall performance as "good" and 39 percent evaluate it as "poor."

| Positive Overall Evaluation of the Performance of Leaders | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Leader | October 2010 | January 2011 |
| Abbas | 43% | 29% |
| Fayyad | 44% | 36% |
| Haniyeh | 18% | 23% |

Performance on Corruption, Security, and Public Services

Overall, there was no significant shift in Palestinian attitudes toward the performance of the West Bank and Gaza governments since the October 2010 poll. As in October, approval ratings for both the Ramallah and Gaza administrations hovered in the mid-thirty range and neither government received approval ratings above 38 percent. However, approval of PA's performance on fighting corruption and improving security declined markedly among West Bank respondents from October 2010, and corresponded with a rise in approval among Gazans of Haniyeh's performance in the same areas. Though the PA government led by Salam Fayyad outperformed the Haniyeh government in the field of service provision, its 36 percent approval

rating in this area nevertheless represents a three percent drop from October 2010. This was mirrored by a similar four percent drop in Haniyeh's public service approval. It is worth noting that though the PA receives far fewer "poor" ratings among West Bank respondents (19 percent) than Haniyeh receives among Gaza respondents (43 percent), Haniyeh's "poor" rating among Gazans improved by 11 percent since October 2010.

Haniyeh's government appears to be more polarizing, as evidenced by both higher positive ratings and negative ratings than the PA in the areas of security, fighting corruption, and delivering public services. For example, in the field of fighting corruption the Haniyeh cabinet in Gaza receives higher positive (40 percent vs. 36 percent) and negative (34 percent vs. 26 percent) approval ratings than the PA government in the West Bank. The trend was also evident in the area of improving security—Haniyeh received 42 percent approval compared to the PA's 36 percent but also received 32 percent disapproval compared to the PA's 26 percent.

| Positive Evaluation ("Good") of the Fayyad vs. Haniyeh Governments (by respective West Bank and Gaza respondents) | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|
| | Fayyad Government | | | Haniyeh Government | | |
| | Oct 2010 | Jan 2011 | Variance | Oct 2010 | Jan 2011 | Variance |
| Fighting Corruption | 37% | 29% | -8% | 27% | 40% | +13% |
| Improving Security | 43% | 36% | -7% | 34% | 42% | +8% |
| Public Services | 44% | 41% | -3% | 18% | 27% | +9% |

Elections

Support and Participation

As in October 2010, the vast majority of Palestinians (79 percent) support the conduct of municipal, legislative and presidential elections as soon as possible. Only 16 percent disagree. Also consistent with the October 2010 poll, 71 percent of respondents said they will participate in the next elections and 24 percent say that they will not.

With respect to the conditions and timeframe for future elections, Palestinians were divided between those who wanted elections immediately (about 43 percent) and those who thought elections should be held after reconciliation between Fatah and Hamas (about 41 percent). Only 5 percent said elections should remain on hold indefinitely. Forty-one percent of respondents said Presidential, PLC and municipal elections should be held at different times, while 33 percent all elections should be held simultaneously and 21 percent said it didn't matter.

Palestinian Legislative Council Elections

When questioned about party preferences for the PLC, the largest group of respondents indicated support for Fatah candidates. At 35 percent, this popular support nevertheless represents a 7 percent decline from the 42 percent Fatah enjoyed in October 2010. At 34 percent, undecided voters (or seeking other options) remained the second largest group, followed by Hamas with 14 percent. The PFLP receives less than 5 percent, while an independent list led by Fayyad receives almost 4 percent and the Mubadara receive less than 4 percent.

Presidential Elections

As to presidential candidates' popularity, the following results emerge in the absence of Marwan Bargouthi on a list of seven candidates: With 22 percent, Abbas receives the most support, followed by a highly contested second place between Fayyad (13 percent), Haniyeh (13 percent) and Mustafa Bargouthi (11 percent). Mohamad Dahlan received just 4 percent support, on par with support for Khaled Meshal. As in the October 2010 poll, about 15 percent would not choose any of the seven leaders listed and 18 percent are undecided.

Fatah-Hamas Reconciliation

The overwhelming majority (71 percent) of respondents believe reconciliation talks between the two parties are the best means to end the domestic political division. The majority of Palestinians (51 percent) blame Fatah and Hamas equally for the lack of progress in the reconciliation process. About 16 percent place all the blame on Hamas and 8 percent hold Fatah responsible for

the lack of progress. Eight percent blame the United States and about 4 percent blame Arab countries other than Egypt.

The Tunis-Aftermath

The vast majority of Palestinians (91 percent) have followed events in Tunisia that led to the removal of President Zein Eddine AlAbdine Ben Ali. At 74 percent, a broad majority of Palestinians viewed the so-called Jasmine revolution positively, while 18 percent viewed it as negative. Gazans viewed the Tunisian events more negatively than respondents in the West Bank (24 percent compared to 15 percent). The Largest group of respondents (41 percent) predicted that Egypt will be next in line for change, while 10 percent predicted that the first country to see regime change is Jordan followed by 8 percent for Algeria, 6 percent for Palestine, 4 percent in Yemen, and 3 percent for each of Syria and Morocco.

NORTH AFRICA

157-2. Egypt, Democracy and Islam²

January 31, 2011

With massive protests threatening to upend the three-decades-long reign of President Hosni Mubarak, the world has been captivated by the events in Egypt. In a survey conducted April 12 to May 7, 2010, the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project examined the views of Egypt and six other Muslim publics about politics and the role Islam should play in it.

A 59%-majority of Muslims in Egypt believed that democracy was preferable to any other kind of government. About one-in-five (22%), however, said that in some circumstances, a non-democratic government could be preferable, and another 16% said it did not matter what kind of government is in place for a person in their situation.

| | Views of Democracy | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--|----|
| | Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government | In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable | For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have | DK |
| | % | % | % | % |
| Lebanon | 81 | 12 | 5 | 2 |
| Turkey | 76 | 6 | 5 | 13 |
| Jordan | 69 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Nigeria | 66 | 18 | 16 | 1 |
| Indonesia | 65 | 12 | 19 | 4 |
| Egypt | 59 | 22 | 16 | 2 |
| Pakistan | 42 | 15 | 21 | 22 |

Based on Muslims only.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q17.

² <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1874/egypt-protests-democracy-islam-influence-politics-islamic-extremism>

Role of Islam in Politics

| | Large % | Small % | DK % |
|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Indonesia | 89 | 10 | 1 |
| 2005 | 85 | 12 | 2 |
| 2002 | 86 | 12 | 1 |
| Nigeria | 88 | 11 | 1 |
| 2002 | 82 | 16 | 2 |
| Turkey | 69 | 19 | 12 |
| 2005 | 62 | 30 | 9 |
| 2002 | 45 | 44 | 11 |
| Lebanon | 54 | 45 | 1 |
| 2005 | 51 | 48 | 1 |
| 2002 | 65 | 30 | 5 |
| Egypt | 48 | 49 | 3 |
| Pakistan | 46 | 36 | 18 |
| 2005 | 63 | 20 | 18 |
| 2002 | 57 | 27 | 16 |
| Jordan | 34 | 64 | 2 |
| 2005 | 27 | 71 | 2 |
| 2002 | 53 | 47 | 0 |

Based on Muslims only.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q52.

Support for democracy was much higher among Muslims in Lebanon, where 81% preferred it to any other kind of government, and in Turkey, where 76% of Muslims supported it. Roughly two-thirds of Muslims also preferred democracy to any other kind of government in Jordan (69%), Nigeria (66%) and Indonesia (65%). Among the Muslim publics surveyed, only in Pakistan (42%) did fewer Muslims say democracy was preferable to any other kind of government than in Egypt.

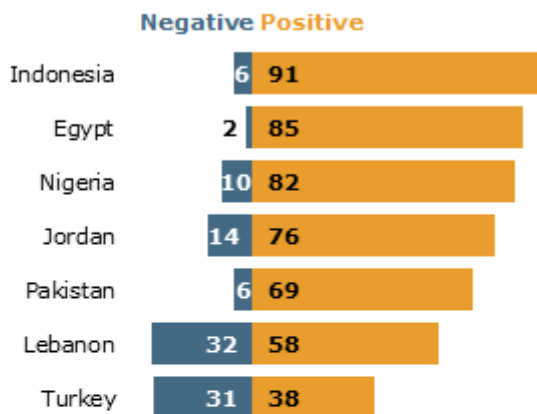
Egyptians were split on how big a role Islam played in the political life of their country. Among Muslims in Egypt, 48% said Islam played a large role in their nation's political life while a nearly equal 49% said it played only a small role.

Divisions about the perception of Islam's role in politics were also seen in Lebanon and Pakistan.

In contrast, Muslims in Indonesia, Nigeria and Turkey overwhelmingly agreed that Islam played a large role in their politics.

By wide margins, Muslims surveyed in the spring of 2010 believed that Islam's influence in politics was positive rather than negative. In Egypt, Islam's role in politics was seen favorably by an overwhelming 85%-to-2% margin among Muslims.

Islam's Influence in Politics Is...*



Based on Muslims only.

* Respondents who have a positive view of Islam's influence include those who say Islam is playing a large role in their country's political life and see this as a good thing and those who say Islam is playing a small role and see this as a bad thing. Respondents who have a negative view of Islam's influence include those who say Islam is playing a large role in their country's political life and see this as a bad thing and those who say Islam is playing a small role and see this as a good thing.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q52 & Q53.

Islam was seen as a positive rather than negative influence in politics by equally impressive margins in Indonesia (91% to 6%), Nigeria (82% to 10%), Jordan (76% to 14%) and Pakistan (69% to 6%).

In Lebanon and Turkey, close to a third said that Islam had a negative influence in politics, but in both nations more believed Islam's influence was positive than said it was negative.

Respondents who had a positive view of Islam's influence included both those who said Islam was playing a large role in their country's political life and saw this as a good thing and those who said Islam was playing a small role and saw this as a bad thing. The reverse was true for those respondents who had a negative view of Islam's influence.

Asked whether there is a struggle in their nations between those who want to modernize their country and Islamic fundamentalists, a 61%-majority of Muslims in Egypt said they did not see a

Struggle Between Modernizers and Fundamentalists

| | See struggle | And identify with...* | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Moder- nizers | Funda- mentalists |
| | % | % | % |
| Lebanon | 53 | 84 | 15 |
| Turkey | 52 | 74 | 11 |
| Pakistan | 44 | 61 | 28 |
| Indonesia | 42 | 54 | 33 |
| Nigeria | 42 | 39 | 58 |
| Egypt | 31 | 27 | 59 |
| Jordan | 20 | 48 | 38 |

Asked of Muslims only.

* Based on those who say there is a struggle in their country between groups who want to modernize the country and Islamic fundamentalists.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q94 & Q95.

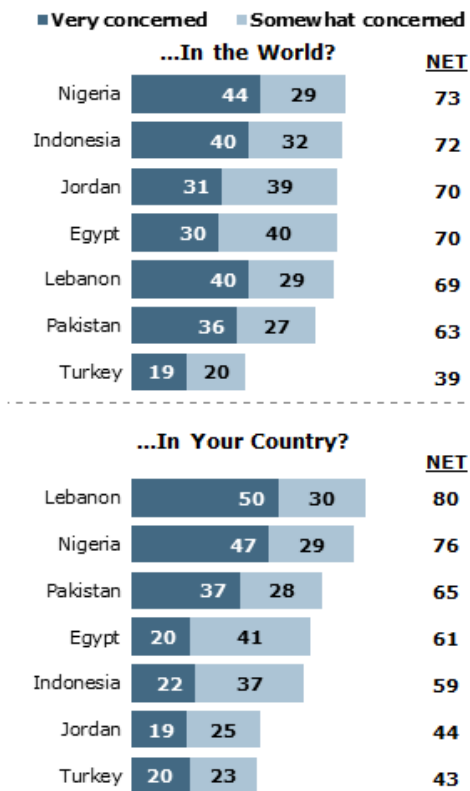
struggle. _____

Just 31% of Egyptian Muslims saw a struggle between modernizers and fundamentalists in their country. Among the seven Muslim publics surveyed in 2010, only in Jordan (20%) did fewer say they saw such a struggle.

Among Egyptian Muslims who did see a struggle, a 59%-majority sided with the fundamentalists. Just 27% of those who saw such struggle sided with the modernizers.

This stands in sharp contrast with four other Muslim publics surveyed. Many more Muslims in Lebanon, Turkey, Pakistan and Indonesia than in Egypt said they saw a struggle between modernizers and fundamentalists in their country.

Concern About Islamic Extremism...



Based on full samples in each country.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q30 & Q31.

In each of these nations, though, a majority of those seeing a conflict sided with the modernizers. Nigeria was the only other country surveyed in which a majority of Muslims who saw such a conflict identified with the fundamentalists.

Concerns about Islamic extremism -- both in their country and around the world -- were widespread in Egypt. About six-in-ten Egyptians were very (20%) or somewhat (41%) concerned about the rise of Islamic extremism in their country.

By comparison, at least three-quarters in Lebanon (80%) and Nigeria (76%) were concerned about Islamic extremism in their nation, while less than half expressed such concern in Jordan (44%) and Turkey (43%).

Asked about extremism around the world, 30% of Egyptians were very concerned about Islamic extremism and 40% were somewhat concerned.

Large majorities in five of the other Muslim publics surveyed also expressed concern about Islamic extremism around the world. Only in Turkey did a majority not express concern.

For more, see "[Muslim Publics Divided on Hamas and Hezbollah; Most Embrace a Role for Islam in Politics](http://pewglobal.org)" at pewglobal.org.

157-3. State of Women in Egypt³

VIENNA, Virginia, February 1, 2010 – D3 Systems (www.d3systems.com) released a report today on the social and economic trends in the lives of Egyptian women. The analysis explores quantitative data measuring improvements and setbacks in the lives of urban Egyptian women. The report can be found in its entirety on D3's website (<http://www.d3systems.com/women-in-muslim/>).

The findings report that Egyptian women are becoming more economically driven. Sixty-five percent have reported that “more money / more wealth” would make them happier. This is an increase of 21% since our previous survey of women in 2007.

While women have reported more interest in their economic well being, social injustice is a significant problem. One third of women report being denied access to education (32%), the legal system (32%) and health care (31%).

D3's report, entitled “Egyptian Women: Incremental Progress Towards Happiness”, is the second installment of D3's Egyptian research under the Women in Muslim Countries (WIMC) Project (<http://www.d3systems.com/women-in-muslim/>). Conducted in twenty-three Muslim majority countries, the WIMC study is designed to measure women's empowerment in actual daily practice, providing a deep look into the oft-perceived gap between current public policy and empowerment initiatives and actual practice on the personal and local level.

WIMC is conducted and sponsored by D3 Systems of Vienna, Virginia, USA. The Egyptian survey was administered to a random sample of 500 women in Egypt via face-to-face interviews. Field work was conducted by Ipsos Egypt, between May 22 and June 15 2010. Interviewing was conducted in Arabic by Egyptian interviewers. The margin of error is $\pm 4\%$ at the 95% confidence level. The response rate was 64%.

WEST ASIA

157-4. Pakistanis Pessimistic About The Future of PPP Government

47% Believe The Government May Fall Before Its Term Ends While 31% Say It Will Complete Its Tenure: Gilani Poll/Gallup Pakistan⁴

Islamabad, February 4, 2011

³ http://www.d3systems.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Wave-2-Egypt-Wimc_FINAL_v2.pdf

⁴ <http://www.gallup.com.pk/Polls/4-02-11.pdf>

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , almost half of all Pakistanis (47%) believe that the current government will dissolve without completing its tenure as opposed to 31% in whose assessment it will complete its term.

In a survey, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: *“Do you think that the current government will complete its tenure or dissolve before that?”* Forty seven percent (47%) believed that the government will not complete its term of 5 years where as 31% were of the view that the government will complete its tenure. A considerable 22% gave no response.

“Do you think that the current government will complete its tenure or dissolve before that?”

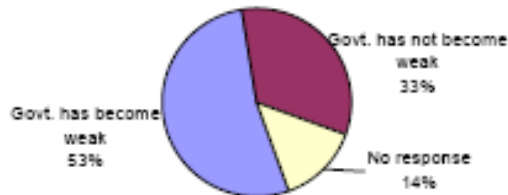


Source: Gallup and Gilani Surveys
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

In a follow up question, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: *“Some people believe that government has become too weak at the moment while others believe it is not so. What is your opinion?”* Fifty two percent (52%) agreed that government has become weak. On the contrary 29% said that it has not become weak. 19% were unsure and gave no response.

A detailed analysis of the survey showed that relatively more urbanites (59%) believed that government has become weak as compared to its rural counterparts (50%).

“Some people believe that government has become too weak at the moment while others believe it is not so. What is your opinion?”



Source: Gallup and Gilani Surveys

**157-5.Financial Worries Tops The List Of Personal Problems
Gilani Poll/Gallup Pakistan⁵**

Islamabad, February 2, 2011

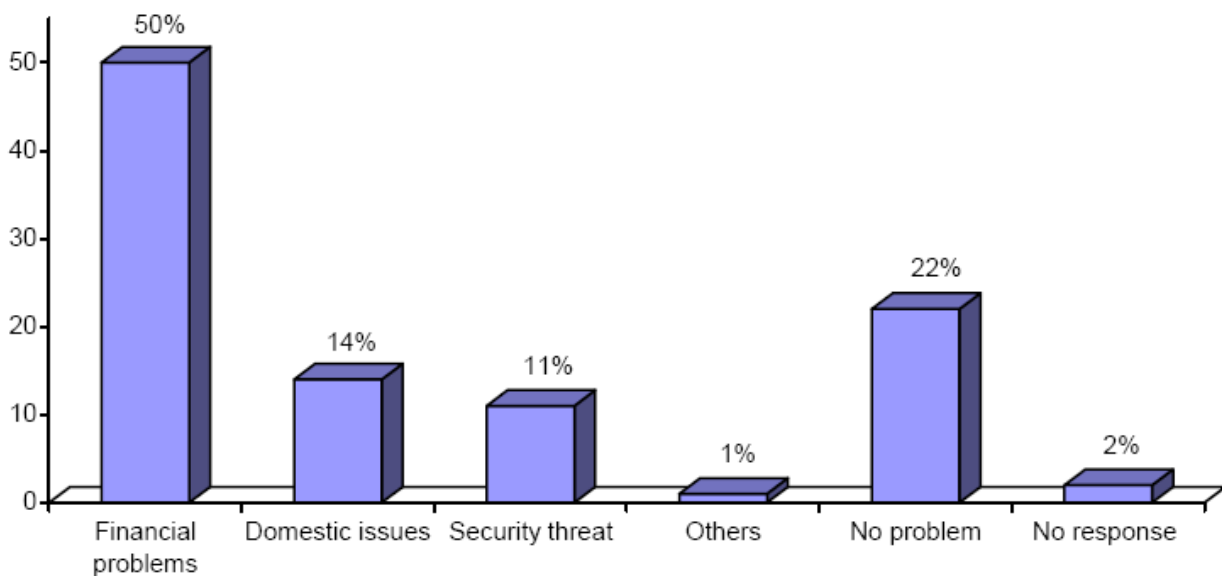
⁵ <http://www.gallup.com.pk/Polls/2-01-11.pdf>

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , half of all Pakistanis (50%) consider financial issues to be the most important personal problem followed by domestic issues (14%) and security risk (11%).

In a survey, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: “*At the moment, which is the most important problem in your personal life?*” Fifty percent (50%) of all Pakistanis rated financial issues as most crucial, 14% stated domestic issues and 11% security threat to be most significant. 1% gave other responses while 22% said that they have no problem at all. 2% gave no response.

A detailed analysis of the survey showed small differences across various groups of society. For example it was found that relatively more urban dwellers (53%) found financial issues to be most important among personal problems compared to their rural counter parts (48%). At the same time, comparatively more males (52%) considered financial worries to be more significant than the females (47%). The study of urban and rural sections revealed that more urbanites (15%) felt a greater security threat as compared to their rural counter parts (9%).

“*At the moment, which is the most important problem in your personal life?*”



Source: *Gallup and Gilani Surveys the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)*

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan , the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2738 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during January 2011. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

EAST EUROPE

157-6. Mass Media: Main Source Of Information For Russians⁶

⁶ <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111297.html>

Every third Russian (33%) trusts information and opinion of friends and relatives rather than mass media. There were 24% of such respondents three years ago. However, the majority (53%) still trust mass media, rather than word-of-mouth communication.

MOSCOW, January 25, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing what source of information is regarded to be reliable among Russians.

Russians increasingly trust the information received from the people around, rather than that provided by mass media. As before, Russians tend to trust information given by mass media rather than what people around say (53% versus 33% respectively). At the same time, the share of those who think the information received from relatives and colleagues is reliable is increasing year by year (from 24% in 2008 to 33% currently).

Rural area respondents trust mass media, unlike metropolitan residents who trust people around. Asked what source of information is reliable, metropolitan area residents and the rest of respondents split on their opinions: Muscovites and St.Petersburgians tend to trust the data received from relatives and friends (45%), at the same time, the rest of respondents believe the data provided by mass media is more reliable (52-57%).

Mass media is a reliable source of information according to women (55%), 18-24-year-old Russians (56%), those with low level of education (59%), and those who do not use Internet (56%). Information received from relatives and friends is regarded to be reliable among 45-59-year-old Russians (35%) and those who use Internet (35%).

The higher the financial self-assessment of Russians is, the more they trust what mass media say (from 43% among those with low level of income to 65% among those with high level of income). On the contrary, the lower the level of income is, the more people tend to believe what people around say (from 28 to 40% respectively).

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 8-9 January, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

| What source of information do you trust more? (close-ended question, one answer) | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2011 |
| <i>Information provided by mass media</i> | 49 | 52 | 53 |
| <i>Information received from friends, colleagues, relatives</i> | 24 | 26 | 33 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 27 | 21 | 14 |

| What source of information do you trust more? (close-ended question, one answer) | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Total respondents | Moscow and St.Petersburg | More than 500 thousand | 100 - 500 thousand | Less than 100 thousand | Rural area |
| <i>Information provided by</i> | 53 | 34 | 52 | 54 | 57 | 56 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| <i>mass media</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Information received from friends, colleagues, relatives</i> | 33 | 45 | 35 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 14 | 21 | 13 | 16 | 12 | 12 |

What source of information do you trust more? (close-ended question, one answer)

| | Total respondents | Age | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| | | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-59 | 60 and above |
| <i>Information provided by mass media</i> | 53 | 56 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 50 |
| <i>Information received from friends, colleagues, relatives</i> | 33 | 31 | 33 | 32 | 35 | 33 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 14 | 13 | 15 | 16 | 11 | 17 |

What source of information do you trust more? (close-ended question, one answer)

| | Total respondents | Do you use Internet? If yes, how often? | | |
|---|-------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| | | Almost every day, several times per week | Several times per month, from time to time | I do not use Internet |
| <i>Information provided by mass media</i> | 53 | 50 | 51 | 56 |
| <i>Information received from friends, colleagues, relatives</i> | 33 | 35 | 35 | 31 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 14 | 15 | 13 | 13 |

What source of information do you trust more? (close-ended question, one answer)

| | Total respondents | Financial self-assessment | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Very good | good, Average | Very bad, bad |
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|----|----|----|
| <i>Information provided by mass media</i> | 53 | 65 | 54 | 43 |
| <i>Information received from friends, colleagues, relatives</i> | 33 | 28 | 32 | 40 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 14 | 7 | 14 | 17 |

Note: Using materials from the site www.wciom.ru or wciom.com, as well as distributed by VCIOM, the reference to the source (or hyperlink for the electronic media) is obligatory!

157-7. Portrait Of Modern Students⁷

It has become much harder for Russian graduates to find well paid job or job in their field of study.

MOSCOW, January 21, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data concerning how Russians describe a modern student.

According to Russians, over the recent decades **it has become more difficult for the graduates to find a job in their field of study (69%)**. Two thirds of Russians think that negative trends are witnessed when the young specialists try **to get well paid job (65%)**.

The changes in the portrait of modern students are not so dramatic, Russians say. Over the recent five years the share of those who point out worsening in financial well-being of students has decreased (from 53 to 40%); on the contrary, the share of those who think nothing has changed in this sphere has increased (from 14 to 19%). The cultural level of students has declined but this problem seems to be less acute than it was in 2006 (from 47 to 43%). As to professional training level, Russians witness negative trends as it was five years ago: 44% of respondents think the situation has not changed for the better.

The situation has worsened **in students` attitudes to learning** (46% think so); however, every fifth think that **no changes happened** (20%). On the contrary, **the lecturers` attitudes to their work** look less negative, as they were five years ago: negative trends have been observed less rarer (from 46 to 39%).

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 15-16 December, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

In your opinion, has everything changed for the better or for the worse, compared to 15 or 20 years ago? (position)

| | |
|---|---|
| | |
| financial well-being of students | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |

⁷ <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111291.html>

| | |
|---|---|
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| level of professional training of graduates | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| general cultural level, mental outlook of students | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| students` attitudes toward studying, their willingness to gain knowledge | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| teachers` attitude to their work | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| opportunities for graduates to find a job in their field | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |
| opportunities for the young specialists to get well paid job | <i>Situation has changed for the better</i> |
| | <i>Situation has changed for the worse</i> |
| | <i>Nothing has changed</i> |
| | <i>Hard to tell</i> |

Note: Using materials from the site www.wciom.ru or wciom.com, as well as distributed by VCIOM, the reference to the source (or hyperlink for the electronic media) is obligatory!

157-8. Ecological Culture Of Russians⁸

According to the typical features of Russian ecological culture, the environment is perceived not as an independent value, but as a condition for comfortable life.

MOSCOW, January 20, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the results of the study devoted to the assessment of environmental measures implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation, the performance of non-governmental organizations, as well as the level of the green culture among Russians today.

Every fifth Russian believes the green measures implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources are effective (19%). Most positive assessments are expressed by Volga district residents (23%), Siberians (22%), residents of small, middle cities and rural area (20-24%), young people aged 18-24 (24%), as well as residents of Sverdlovsk region (41%).

Almost one-third of Russians are aware of the activities of ecological organizations (29%). The highest level of awareness is observed among residents of the Sverdlovsk (46%) and Samara (42%) regions, as well as Moscow region (42%).

Most of Russians support the activity of ecological organizations. Those who approve of their activities are residents of Kemerovo and Irkutsk regions - 60% (for each region). This figure makes up not less than 51% in other regions of Russia (except Tyumen region - 34%).

Residents of Irkutsk region stress the high effectiveness of activities of non-governmental organizations: more than one-third of Russians (37%) regard them as being productive. This indicator is high in Sverdlovsk region (31%). The share of such respondents in the rest of the Russian subjects is fluctuating within 24-29%, excepting for Tyumen region where this indicator makes up 7% due to low awareness of residents of the region about ecological campaigns.

The qualitative research revealed two types of ecological culture (i.e. set of rules, attitudes and beliefs that characterize the attitude of society, social groups and humans toward environment): 1) **reproducing** - aimed at keeping the society within the given ecological culture; 2) **developmental** - aimed at the development of ecological culture.

The reproducing type of ecoculture is dominant. It can be seen through **adapting ecological behavior to modern life circumstances.** The study revealed the following **peculiarities of the reproducing type** of culture: the environment is perceived not as an independent value, but as a condition for a certain life; the state of environment is closely tied to the state of health; requirements to the environment are based on personal human interests; natural diversity is not perceived as an obligatory factor of the everyday life; the perception of ecology is schematic.

The developmental type of ecological culture is typical for the small part of Russians (not more than 2%). This type of culture is based on the ability of human to comprehend and understand the ecological information and develop behavioral standards.

⁸ <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111285.html>

Public ecological consciousness (set of ecological views about the relationship between human and nature and within nature as well as the existing strategies and technologies of communication with nature) can be characterized by **three basic parameters such as:** 1) psychological "opposition/inclusion" (either human stands behind/above nature or human is a part of nature); 2) "object/subject" perception of nature (human perceives nature as a object that is devoid of independent value , or as an equal subject of interaction); 3) "pragmatic/non-pragmatic" character of interaction (interaction with nature serves to satisfy only pragmatic needs of human or to satisfy his non-pragmatic, spiritual needs).

The survey concludes that **consumer settings are dominant in environmental issues.** Consumerism determines all three levels of consciousness. The main **characteristics** of the state of ecological consciousness today are ecological dependency and personal distance of the vast part of population from participating in solving the environmental issues.

Regional peculiarities of ecological consciousness are based on two major **factors:** structure of ecological local problems and settlement structure. Those who assess ecological situation positively tend to reside in small settlements or rural area, whereas residents of big cities are most dissatisfied with ecological situation. There are also differences in defining the **problem field:** residents of cities put attention to the state of air, water and problem of waste, whereas rural area residents evaluate disafforestation, problem of waste and then - the impact of industry on nature.

During the qualitative research we found out that the **attitudes of the population towards ecological issues and nature conservation activity are structured by means of the definition of relation, actualization of the problem field with regard to the following objects:** physiological programs, nutrition programs, lifestyle programs, information search programs, programs of organizations of territorial communities, programs of self-conservation. Despite the apparent character of the patterns of ecological behavior, we should acknowledge that the patterns only partially can be determinants; the ecological behavior is shaped by the comfort and economic well-being.

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 11-12 December, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

Regional polls were conducted in December 2010 in Moscow, Moscow, Samara, Sverdlovsk, Tyumen, Kemerovo, Irkutsk and Bryansk regions of Russia. 600 respondents aged 18 and above were polled in each region.

Qualitative research (14 focus groups - 2 per each region) was conducted in December 2010.

Could you assess the effectiveness of environmental measures implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources and environment of the RF
(close-ended question, one answer, shown are the shares of respondents who gave the answer "rather effective" % of respondents)

| | Total | Federal District |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
|--|--------------|-------------------------|

| | respondents | CFD | NWFD | SFD | VFD | UFD | SFD | FEFD | NCFD |
|---|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|------|------|------|
| <i>Rather effective</i> | 19 | 18 | 21 | 21 | 23 | 13 | 22 | 16 | 15 |
| Do you have non-governmental environmental organizations operating in your city (region)? (<i>close-ended respondents</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Total respondents | Moscowregion | Tyumenregion | Sverdlovskregion | Samara region | Kemerovoregion | Irkr | | |
| <i>There are the organizations of that kind and I am aware of their activity</i> | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 4 | | | 11 |
| <i>I heard something about such organizations but I do not know exactly what they do</i> | 25 | 40 | 28 | 38 | 34 | 28 | | | 25 |
| <i>I have not heard about such organizations</i> | 65 | 48 | 57 | 46 | 48 | 59 | | | 54 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 6 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 10 | 9 | | | 10 |

Note: Using materials from the site www.wciom.ru or wciom.com, as well as distributed by VCIOM, the reference to the source (or hyperlink for the electronic media) is obligatory!

157-9. Social Well-Being Of Russians: 2010⁹

As financial well-being of Russians keeps improving, the economic situation gives reasons for concern.

MOSCOW, January 17, 2010. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the information about social welfare of Russians based on the indices of 2010.

Satisfaction with life index has been stable over 2010. This index was the only one not affected by December negative dynamics. It was due to the gradual increase in the share of respondents who are satisfied with their life (from 26% in October to 30% in December) and due to the stable proportion of those who are relatively satisfied with their life (45-47% over the recent three months). The indicator (50 points) can be considered as average across the previous

⁹ <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111261.html>

year: in September the record was updated (60 points); however, the previous records were up to 46 points. In five-year retrospective, the index holds an average position. The most optimistic mood before holidays was expressed by Russians in 2007 (52 points); in the end of 2005 life situation was regarded as the worst (35 points).

As most of indicators, social optimism index lost 2 points (up to 60) in December. The decline was due to the reduction in the share of optimistic Russians (from 29 to 26%). Despite the negative dynamics, this indicator remains to be the **leading** one. It was observed not only across 2010, but across average December measurements: Russians were slightly optimistic only in 2007 (62 points) and in 2006 (61). To compare, 2009 was welcomed less positively - social optimism index was 40 points, and the share of pessimistic Russians was equaled to the share of the optimistic ones.

As most of indicators, economic situation index lost 2 points in December (from 26 to 24 points). This index differs from the rest of indices only by its low value. Despite statements from officials about the exit from the crisis, Russians are still pessimistic about the current economic state of Russia: 36% are convinced that the economic situation is bad; 8% think it is good. On the whole, over the recent two years after the acute phase of the crisis, the economic situation index has not reached the 2006 level (30-45 points). In addition, by the end of the year the index lost its positions it had had across the whole year (36 points in August). At the end of 2010 this index is having the same positions as it had in 2009.

After the November rise the financial self-assessment index (58) went down to the same level as it had had across 2010 (56 points). According to Russians, 2010 was one of the most successful and stable year over the recent five years in terms of family budget: whereas in 2008 financial self-assessments were fluctuating, in 2010 this index has remained at the same level of 54-55 points; it was due to the dominating position of the group of respondents who assess their financial well-being as average (62-67% during the year). To compare, a year ago financial self-assessment index did not rise above the level of 48 points.

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 25-26 December, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

| Are you generally satisfied with the life you are living? (close-ended question, one answer) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|------|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|--------|---------|-------|------|-------|-----------|
| | XII.09 | I.10 | II.10 | III.10 | IV.10 | V.10 | VI.10 | VII.10 | VIII.10 | IX.10 | X.10 | XI.10 | XII.10 |
| <i>Quite satisfied, mostly satisfied</i> | 28 | 29 | 30 | 32 | 26 | 30 | 32 | 30 | 27 | 36 | 26 | 28 | 30 |
| <i>Partly satisfied, partly not</i> | 45 | 45 | 43 | 43 | 47 | 46 | 41 | 43 | 45 | 43 | 47 | 46 | 45 |
| <i>Completely</i> | 23 | 23 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 22 | 25 | 24 | 26 | 19 | 25 | 24 | 25 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|
| <i>not satisfied, mostly not satisfied</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Index (difference between good and bad evaluations) | 50 | 51 | 47 | 50 | 47 | 54 | 48 | 49 | 46 | 60 | 48 | 50 | 50 |

In your opinion, will you/your family live better or worse than now in a
(close-ended question, one answer)

| | XII.09 | I.10 | II.10 | III.10 | IV.10 | V.10 | VI.10 | VII.10 | VIII.10 | IX.10 | X.10 | XI.10 |
|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>Much better, slightly better</i> | 31 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 30 | 24 | 31 | 26 | 29 |
| <i>Same as now</i> | 39 | 45 | 43 | 46 | 47 | 46 | 48 | 46 | 47 | 45 | 47 | 46 |
| <i>Much worse, slightly worse</i> | 12 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 11 | 14 | 13 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 17 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 14 | 11 |
| Index (difference between good and bad evaluations) | 58 | 58 | 55 | 61 | 62 | 60 | 68 | 64 | 57 | 65 | 59 | 62 |

Could you assess your family's current financial well-being?
(close-ended question, one answer)

| | XII.09 | I.10 | II.10 | III.10 | IV.10 | V.10 | VI.10 | VII.10 | VIII.10 | IX.10 | X.10 | XI.10 | XII.10 |
|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| <i>Good in general</i> | 12 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 12 |
| <i>Average</i> | 64 | 66 | 65 | 65 | 67 | 62 | 64 | 62 | 64 | 64 | 67 | 66 | 66 |
| <i>Bad in general</i> | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 22 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Index (difference between good and bad evaluations) | 52 | 52 | 55 | 56 | 55 | 54 | 54 | 55 | 54 | 55 | 54 | 58 | 56 |

| Could you assess the current economic situation in Russia in general? <i>(close-ended question, one answer)</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| | XII.09 | I.10 | II.10 | III.10 | IV.10 | V.10 | VI.10 | VII.10 | VIII.10 | IX.10 | X.10 | XI.10 | XII.10 |
| <i>Very good, good</i> | 9 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| <i>Average</i> | 51 | 50 | 50 | 53 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 51 | 49 | 54 | 49 | 52 | 52 |
| <i>Very bad, bad</i> | 36 | 39 | 38 | 33 | 35 | 32 | 35 | 33 | 36 | 31 | 36 | 35 | 36 |
| <i>Hard to tell</i> | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Index (difference between good and bad evaluations) | 24 | 19 | 19 | 28 | 25 | 30 | 26 | 28 | 23 | 33 | 22 | 26 | 24 |

Note: Using materials from the site www.wciom.ru or wciom.com, as well as distributed by VCIOM, the reference to the source (or hyperlink for the electronic media) is obligatory!

WEST EUROPE

157-10. Little Movement Seen in Britain's Alternative Vote Referendum¹⁰

January 28, 2011

A majority of respondents are still “not too informed” or “not informed at all” about the proposed electoral system.

A large proportion of Britons remains uninformed about the referendum that could alter the way members of the House of Commons are elected, a new Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll has found.

The referendum, which is scheduled for 5 May 2011, will ask voters whether the United Kingdom should continue to rely on the first past the post system to elect MPs to the House of Commons, or move to the alternative vote system instead.

¹⁰ <http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5548/little-movement-seen-in-britain%e2%80%99s-alternative-vote-referendum/>

Referendum

As you may know, a referendum will take place in on 5 May 2011 in the United Kingdom. The referendum question reads as follows: "At present, the UK uses the 'first past the post' system to elect MPs to the House of Commons. Should the 'alternative vote' system be used instead?" If this referendum were held today, how would you vote?

| | Region | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------|-------|----------|
| | Total | London | South of England | Midlands and Wales | North | Scotland |
| Yes | 35% | 34% | 35% | 32% | 38% | 39% |
| No | 21% | 21% | 22% | 22% | 16% | 23% |
| Not sure | 37% | 38% | 37% | 37% | 39% | 30% |
| Would not vote | 7% | 7% | 5% | 9% | 7% | 8% |

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,010 British adults, 54 per cent of respondents say they are “not too informed” or “not informed at all” about the alternative vote system.

Overall, 35 per cent of respondents (-2 since early January) say they would vote Yes to switch to the alternative vote system to elect MPs to the House of Commons. One-in-five respondents (21%, +1) would cast a No ballot in order to keep the existing first past the post system. More than a third of respondents (37%, =) are undecided, and seven per cent (+1) would not vote.

Referendum

As you may know, a referendum will take place in on 5 May 2011 in the United Kingdom. The referendum question reads as follows: "At present, the UK uses the 'first past the post' system to elect MPs to the House of Commons. Should the 'alternative vote' system be used instead?" If this referendum were held today, how would you vote?

| | Vote in May 2010 General Election | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Total | Labour | Conservative | Liberal Democrats |
| Yes | 35% | 34% | 31% | 50% |
| No | 21% | 26% | 32% | 10% |
| Not sure | 37% | 38% | 36% | 36% |
| Would not vote | 7% | 3% | 1% | 4% |

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.

NORTH AMERICA

157-11. SOTU¹¹ Overshadowed by Middle East Unrest¹²

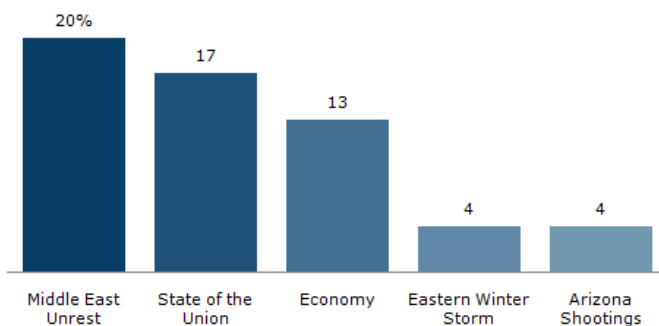
February 1, 2011

Last week's news landscape was a tale of two stories -- one much-anticipated event in Washington and an unexpected drama unfolding about 6,000 miles away. In the first part of last week, the media focused on President Obama's Jan. 25 State of the Union speech. In the latter half, Egyptian protests that began to look like a revolution dominated coverage, virtually drowning out the president's emphasis on re-tooling the U.S. economy.

By the time it was over, events in the Middle East -- most notably the Egyptian uprising against President Hosni Mubarak -- was the No. 1 story from Jan. 24-30. They accounted for 20% of the week's coverage according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. Coverage of the State of the Union speech, and the reaction to it, trailed closely behind, filling 17% of the coverage studied by PEJ's weekly News Coverage Index.

Egypt and Obama's Speech Top the News

Percent of Weekly Newshole



News Coverage Index, January 24-30, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

That was not what President Obama had planned. In the first three days of the week, his address accounted for much more of the media narrative (28%) than it would by week's end.

Much of the coverage of the speech featured post-mortems and an emerging consensus that it was centrist, careful and politically sound. (One poll, from CNN/Opinion Research, had 84% of the public offering either a very or somewhat a positive response.)

Coverage of the rapidly spiraling events in the Middle East began slowly, but picked up momentum as crowds of Egyptian protestors swelled in defiance of the government. As the week went on, coverage turned more U.S.-centric, as pundits and analysts debated the potential impact the instability in Egypt would have here as well as the wise course of action for the Obama administration.

¹¹ SOTU Stands for State of The Union

¹² <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1877/news-media-coverage-egypt-protests-state-of-the-union-2011>

While attention to the Mideast upheaval in Tunisia, Lebanon, Yemen and Egypt accounted for only 8% of the overall coverage early in the week, from Jan. 27 through Jan. 30 it skyrocketed to 36%.

A third story generated significant attention last week as well -- the U.S. economy, at 13% of the newshole. That narrative was fueled by a disquieting estimate from the Congressional Budget Office that the budget deficit in 2011 would reach \$1.5 trillion.

The week's No. 4 story (at 4%) was a major midweek winter storm that roared along the East Coast, stranding rush-hour commuters in Washington and dumping accumulation on an already shell-shocked Boston.

The fifth-biggest story is one rapidly moving off the media radar screen. The aftermath of the Jan. 8 Tucson shootings that killed six and seriously wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords accounted for just 4% of the coverage last week. That is down dramatically from 17% the previous week and from a stratospheric 57% the week prior to that.

157-12. Americans Believe GOP Should Consider Tea Party Ideas¹³

Half of Republicans are Tea Party supporters; 5% are "opponents"

January 31, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- About 7 in 10 national adults, including 88% of Republicans, say it is important that Republican leaders in Congress take the Tea Party movement's positions and objectives into account as they address the nation's problems. Among Republicans, 53% rate this "very important."

¹³ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145838/Americans-Believe-GOP-Consider-Tea-Party-Ideas.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

How Important Should GOP Leaders Consider Tea Party Movement Ideas?

How important should it be for the Republican leaders in Congress to take into account the objectives and positions of the Tea Party movement when it comes to dealing with the problems facing the nation?

| | Very important | Somewhat important | Not too important | Not at all important |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| National adults | 42 | 29 | 11 | 15 |
| Democrats | 26 | 27 | 13 | 31 |
| Independents | 46 | 26 | 13 | 14 |
| Republicans | 53 | 35 | 7 | 2 |

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

GALLUP®

These results are from a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Jan. 14-16, prior to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address.

Although few Democrats (6%) are supporters of the Tea Party or even have a favorable view of it (11%), more than half say it is important that the Republican Party take the Tea Party's positions into account. Why this is the case is unclear, although Democrats may simply feel that the opposing party should pay attention to all of its constituencies.

Perhaps underscoring the same principle, Republicans overwhelmingly feel their leaders should take the Tea Party's positions into account, even though barely half are self-identified as Tea Party supporters.

Despite Americans' willingness to have Tea Party voices heard, it is not clear that the Republican Party benefits when Tea Party leaders publicly overshadow its own. Indeed, the GOP confronted that issue last week when Rep. Michele Bachmann's Tea Party-sanctioned response to Obama's State of the Union address seemed to draw attention away from the Republican Party's official response given by Rep. Paul Ryan.

The Republican Party has a somewhat more favorable image nationally than does the Tea Party, and by the widest margin seen over the past year. In the poll, 47% of Americans had a favorable opinion of the Republican Party compared with 39% holding a favorable view of the Tea Party movement.

Overall Opinion of Republican Party and Tea Party Movement

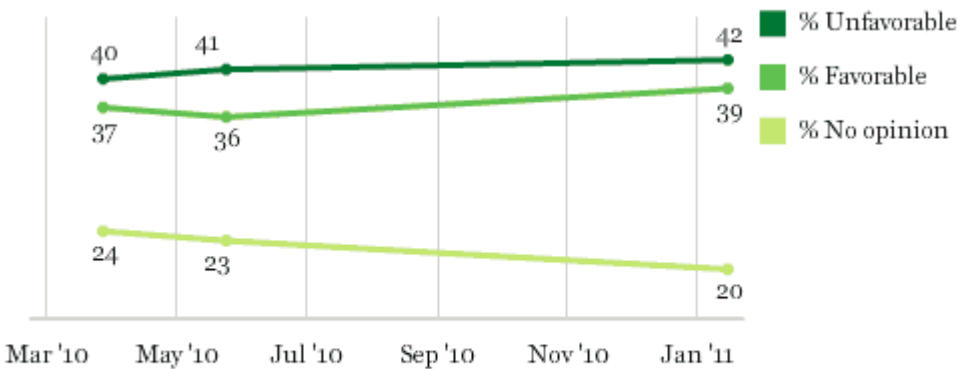
| | Favorable | Unfavorable | Never heard of/ No opinion |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| | % | % | % |
| Republican Party | 47 | 43 | 10 |
| Tea Party movement | 39 | 42 | 20 |

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

GALLUP®

In contrast to the recently improved ratings of the Republican Party, public opinion of the Tea Party movement has changed little since Gallup's initial measurement in March 2010, with just under 40% viewing it favorably and slightly more viewing it unfavorably.

Overall Opinion of the Tea Party Movement



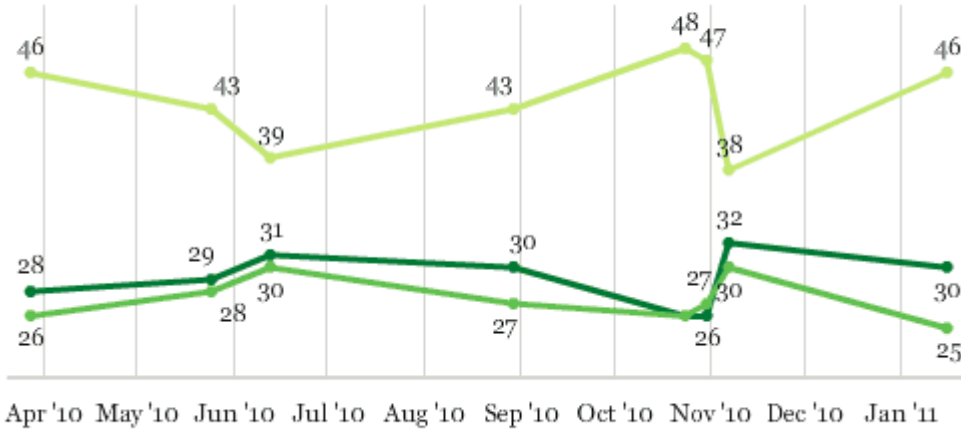
No opinion response includes "never heard of"

GALLUP®

The percentage of Americans labeling themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement has also held steady over the same period at about 30%. Currently, slightly more Americans call themselves supporters of the movement than opponents, 30% vs. 25%.

Do you consider yourself to be [a supporter of the Tea Party movement, an opponent of the Tea Party movement], or neither?

■ % Supporter ■ % Opponent ■ % Neither/No opinion



GALLUP®

The Bachmann speech highlights the fine line the GOP leadership must walk between Tea Party movement activists and traditional Republicans. About half of Republicans, 52%, say they are supporters of the Tea Party movement. Most others (43%) take no position on the movement, while 5% say they oppose it.

Bottom Line

While media commentators duel over whether Bachmann's response to the State of the Union address deserved prime-time coverage, the Republican Party has its own dilemma: how much deference to show Tea Party activists and their generally conservative proposals in crafting public policy. Almost all Republicans say it is at least somewhat important for GOP congressional leaders to take the Tea Party's views into account, with about half saying it is very important. More broadly, the Tea Party has neither lost nor gained strength since the midterm elections. It remains popular with about 3 in 10 Americans who call themselves supporters of the movement, and it continues to generate as much opposition as support overall.

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.

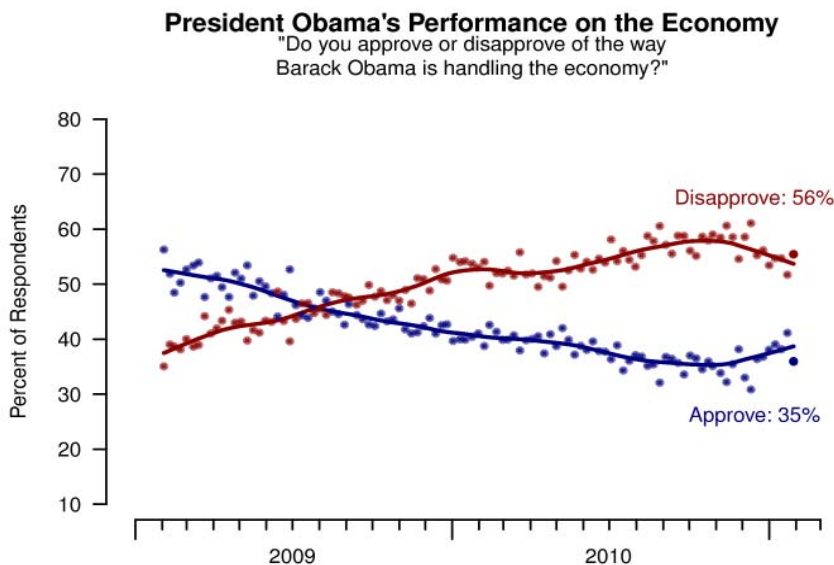
Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, education, region, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in continental U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of 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.

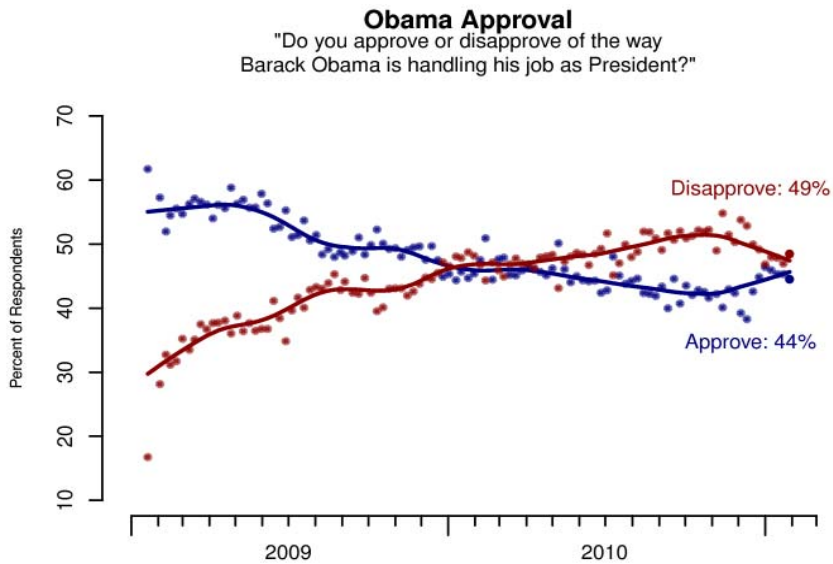
157-13. No Bounce for President After State of the Union¹⁴

Thu February 3, 10:24 a.m. PST by YouGov Staff in Economist Poll

President Obama delivered his second annual State of the Union address last Tuesday. In his speech, he focused on his administration's economic policies, saying that they had "broken the back of the recession." Last week, immediately before his speech, approval for his handling of the economy reached a six month high of 41%. However, the steady gains in approval over the past month were reversed this week as Americans gave his economic policies an approval rating of 35%. The speech did not boost his overall approval ratings either. At 44%, approval for the President is virtually unchanged from last week's *Economist/YouGov* poll.

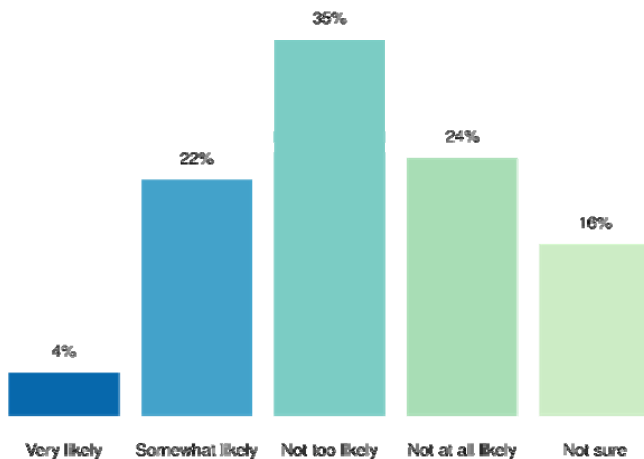


¹⁴ <http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/02/03/no-bounce-president-after-state-union/>



In his speech, President Obama announced plans to control the budget deficit through a five-year domestic spending freeze. But approval for his handling of the budget deficit failed to move from 30%, where it has hovered for months. A plurality of Americans would support such a freeze (46% support, 18% oppose, and the remainder express no opinion); but most Americans don't believe the President will succeed in implementing this pledge.

In his State of the Union speech, President Obama proposed freezing annual domestic spending for the next five years. In your opinion, how likely is he to succeed in this pledge?



While skeptical about the chances of this particular deficit control measure, 9 in 10 Americans are concerned about the size of the federal budget deficit. 64% of those who are concerned say that they are VERY concerned. And there are signs that people are willing to accept the tough measures necessary to control the deficit. Compared to last July, more Americans support a reduction in government spending, and the percent of Americans calling for tax decreases has

dropped 9%. The reduction in the number of people advocating tax decreases comes from members of all parties and income levels.

| | Jul. 2010 | | | Jan. 2011 | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----------|-----|-----|
| | Dem | Rep | Ind | Dem | Rep | Ind |
| <i>Increase</i> | 14% | 2% | 6% | 12% | 1% | 3% |
| <i>Keep the same</i> | 21% | 4% | 14% | 18% | 3% | 13% |
| <i>Decrease</i> | 49% | 90% | 70% | 54% | 93% | 78% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 12% | 3% | 10% | 15% | 2% | 6% |

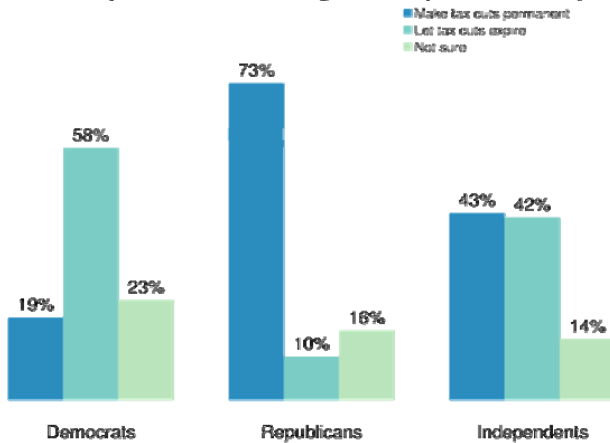
Overall, do you think that the federal government should increase or decrease the amount it spends?

| | Jul. 2010 | | | Jan. 2011 | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----------|-----|-----|
| | Dem | Rep | Ind | Dem | Rep | Ind |
| <i>Increase</i> | 21% | 4% | 16% | 32% | 4% | 26% |
| <i>Keep the same</i> | 33% | 24% | 26% | 30% | 39% | 27% |
| <i>Decrease</i> | 33% | 68% | 48% | 24% | 55% | 41% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 13% | 4% | 9% | 14% | 2% | 6% |

Do you think that the federal government should increase or decrease taxes?

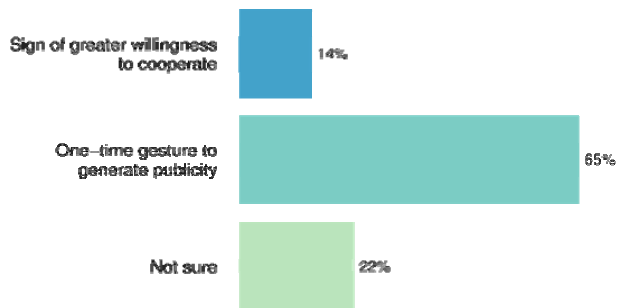
When asked what should eventually happen to the tax cuts that were recently extended for two more years, Americans are split on whether to make them permanent or to let them expire. Opinion on this issue divides by party, with Democrats favoring letting them expire, Republicans favoring making the permanent, and independents divided between the two options.

Last year Congress extended the tax cuts enacted in 2001 under President George W. Bush for two more years. Do you favor making the tax cuts permanent or letting them expire after two years?



Following the deadly rampage outside of a Tucson, Arizona supermarket on January 8th, the President also used his State of the Union address to remember the victims and call for greater civility in political discourse and cooperation between opposing parties. To demonstrate bipartisanship, many members of Congress broke with the tradition of sitting with their own party members and sat instead next to colleagues from the opposing party. About 2/3 of Americans did not see this seating arrangement as a sign of greater willingness of the parties to cooperate with one another, but rather as a one-time gesture intended to generate publicity.

Traditionally, Republican and Democratic members of Congress sit in separate sections during the State of the Union address. This year, some members of Congress chose to sit next to colleagues from the opposing party. Do you think this is a sign of greater willingness of the parties to cooperate in the future, or was it just a one-time gesture intended to generate publicity?



157-14. No SOTU Bump for Obama, but Approval Remains Higher¹⁵

Obama averaged 50% for five days before and five days after State of the Union address

January 31, 2011

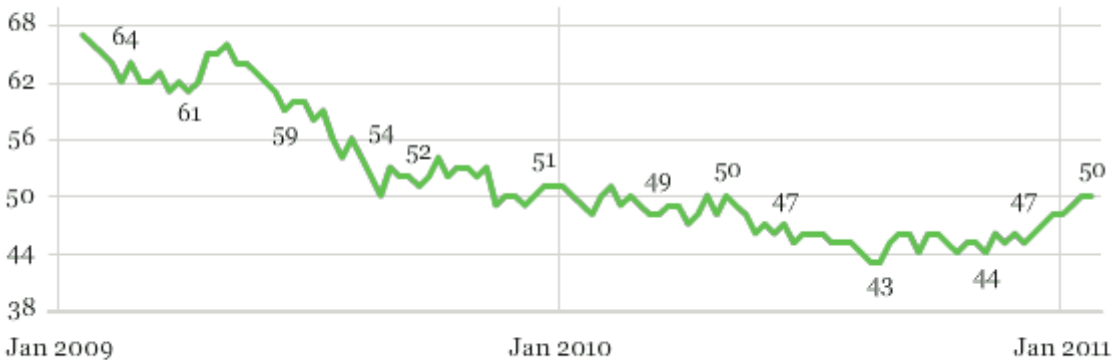
PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup Daily tracking finds no change in President Obama's job approval rating after his State of the Union address. The president's 50% average for the week ending Sunday, Jan. 30, matches the prior week's rating, which was the highest weekly average for Obama since May.

¹⁵ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145853/No-SOTU-Bump-Obama-Approval-Remains-Higher.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Obama Job Approval Rating, Weekly Averages

Weeks ending Jan. 25, 2009-Jan. 30, 2011

■ % Approve



GALLUP®

Those who watched or saw coverage of the president's State of the Union address on Jan. 25 generally gave it positive reviews. The speech does not, however, appear to have significantly affected Obama's job approval rating. Obama averaged 50% for the five days preceding his speech (Jan. 20-24) and 50% for the five days afterward (Jan. 26-30).

Highest Since May

Obama's job approval rating was generally in the mid-40% range in the summer and fall of 2010, including his lowest weekly average of 43% measured during two weeks in August. Approval rose to the high 40% range in December before reaching the current 50% average over the last two weeks of January.

The increase in Obama's ratings late last year and early this year was coincident with the bipartisan agreement on several pieces of legislation, including the extension of tax cuts and the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, and Obama's well-received speech in Tucson on Jan. 12 after the shootings there on Jan. 8.

President Obama's job approval rating for the week of Jan. 24-30 was 84% among Democrats, 45% among independents, and 15% among Republicans.

Not Predictive of 2012 Election at This Point

President Obama's job approval ratings will ultimately be a good predictor of his chances for re-election in November 2012, but at this early stage -- some 21 months before the election -- they have little election forecasting validity. Ronald Reagan, for example, had a low 35% approval rating in late January 1983, yet went on to win re-election handily in 1984. On the other hand, President George H.W. Bush enjoyed a job approval rating of 83% in late January 1991 as the U.S. engaged in the first Persian Gulf War, yet he was defeated in his bid for re-election the following year.

Survey Methods

Results for the latest Gallup poll weekly average are based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 24-30, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 3,552 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 ± 2 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.

157-15. Americans Split on Desired Influence of Organized Religion¹⁶

Majority are satisfied with its influence

February 2, 2011

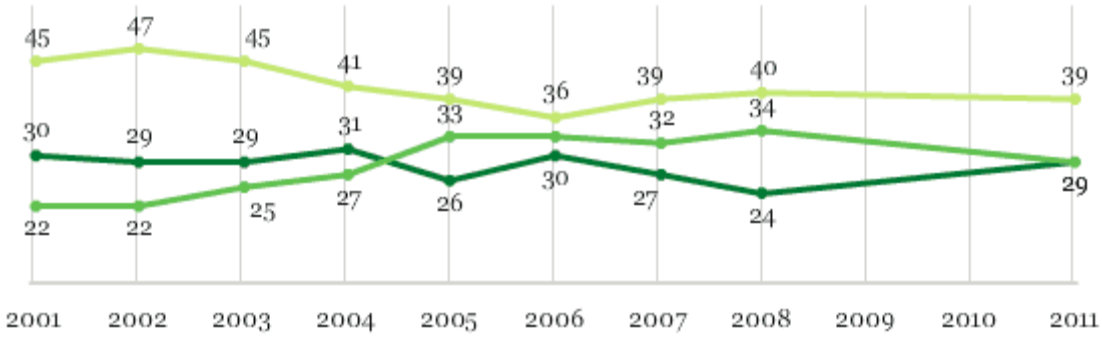
PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have mixed views on the influence of organized religion in the U.S. today, with 29% saying religion should have more influence and an identical percentage saying it should have less influence. A slightly larger 39% believe organized religion's influence should be kept as it is now.

¹⁶ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145916/Americans-Split-Desired-Influence-Organized-Religion.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Religion and Social Trends - USA

Preferences for Influence of Religion in the U.S.

Would you like to see organized religion have more influence in this nation, less influence, or keep its influence as it is now?

■ % More influence ■ % Less influence ■ % Keep influence as it is now



Surveys conducted in January of each year

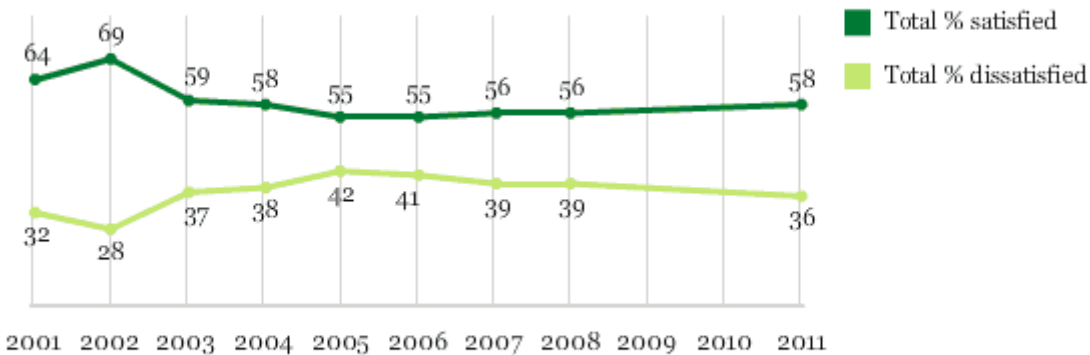
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There have been only small changes in these attitudes over the last decade, although from 2001 to 2004, Americans tilted in the direction of more influence rather than less, and from 2005 to 2008, they showed a slight tilt in the opposite direction.

The same Jan. 7-9 Gallup poll finds 58% of Americans satisfied with the influence of organized religion, similar to views in 2003 through 2008, but slightly less than in 2001 and 2002.

Satisfaction With the Influence of Organized Religion in America Today

Based on U.S. national adults



Surveys conducted in January of each year

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Americans are more satisfied with the influence of organized religion than any of the other seven aspects of life in the United States rated in the poll, with the exception of "the overall quality of life," which tops the list.

Of the 36% of Americans who are dissatisfied with the influence of organized religion, most feel that organized religion should have less influence, rather than more.

Attitudes toward the influence of organized religion are strongly related to respondents' level of religious commitment. Americans who attend church at least monthly are more likely to say organized religion should have more influence. Still, slightly less than half of the most religious group -- those who attend church weekly -- want organized religion to have more influence. Most of the rest are content to leave things as they are now. Conversely, slightly less than half of those who seldom or never attend church say organized religion should have less influence.

Would you like to see organized religion have more influence in this nation, less influence, or keep its influence as it is now?

| | More influence | Less influence | Keep influence as it is now |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | % | % | % |
| National adults | 29 | 29 | 39 |
| Republicans | 39 | 19 | 39 |
| Independents | 31 | 27 | 41 |
| Democrats | 19 | 42 | 37 |
| Conservative | 47 | 15 | 35 |
| Moderate | 20 | 34 | 44 |
| Liberal | 11 | 49 | 38 |
| Attend church weekly | 46 | 11 | 41 |
| Attend church nearly every week/monthly | 38 | 19 | 41 |
| Seldom or never attend church | 15 | 46 | 37 |
| Protestant/Other non-Catholic Christian | 38 | 21 | 40 |
| Catholic | 27 | 24 | 47 |
| Non-Christian religion | 7 | 65 | 26 |
| No religion | 9 | 68 | 20 |

Jan. 7-9, 2011

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Religiousness is highly correlated with political orientation in the U.S. today. Republicans are on average significantly more religious than Democrats. This helps explain why Republicans and conservatives are more likely to say organized religion should have more influence, while Democrats and liberals are more in favor of the "less influence" choice.

Implications

The question on organized religion did not specify what was meant by "more influence" or "less influence," leaving open the issue of what respondents may mean when they answer it. Additionally, for some respondents, "organized religion" may connote something different from more informal or personal religion. In general, many Americans today are drifting more toward nondenominational churches and away from identification with formal religion, which means that some may have divergent opinions on the influence of "organized" religion versus a more personal religion.

Still, the results suggest that there is no overwhelming groundswell of opinion in the U.S. today to either quell or expand the influence of organized religion. Opinions on this issue differ by politics, but even among the most religious Americans, less than half say organized religion's influence should be expanded.

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.

157-16. Americans Have Down-to-Earth Goals for Living Comfortably¹⁷

One in four say they would need upwards of \$100,000 annually

February 3, 2011

The slight majority of Americans, 55%, believe they could live comfortably on something less than \$75,000 a year. That's not an extravagant figure given that the median family income is now about \$52,000, although it still represents a daunting income gap to close in today's tough economic times. One in four, 24%, say they would need \$100,000 or more to achieve a comfortable lifestyle, slightly more than the 16% already making six figures.

Actual Household Income vs. Income Needed to Live Comfortably

How much income would you need each year to live a lifestyle that you would consider to be comfortable?

| | Actual annual income | Annual income needed |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | % | % |
| \$100,000 or more | 16 | 24 |
| \$75,000-\$99,999 | 12 | 14 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 18 | 24 |
| \$40,000-\$49,999 | 10 | 12 |
| \$20,000-\$39,999 | 20 | 16 |
| Less than \$20,000 | 17 | 3 |
| No answer | 7 | 6 |

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

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Naturally, perceptions of income needed are closely related to current household income. In general, the lower their income bracket, the more likely Americans are to say they need to earn something above that level to live comfortably.

Adults with annual household incomes between \$100,000 and \$149,999 are the only group with a fairly sizable percentage saying they could live comfortably on something less than their current income. That figure is 40% among those in the highest income bracket, compared with 11% of those with incomes between \$50,000 and \$99,999, and 5% among those with incomes between \$30,000 and \$49,999. In fact, Americans earning between \$100,000 and \$149,999 are more likely to say they could live comfortably on less, rather than more, income.

¹⁷ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145928/Americans-Down-Earth-Goals-Living-Comfortably.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - USA - Wellbeing

Ideal Annual Income to Live Comfortably, by Current Household Income

| | \$100,000 to \$149,999 | \$50,000 to \$99,999 | \$30,000 to \$49,999 | Less than \$30,000 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Income needed: | | | | |
| \$150,000 or more | 24 | 7 | 7 | 3 |
| \$100,000-\$149,999 | 36 | 22 | 5 | 4 |
| \$50,000-\$99,999 | 31 | 60 | 45 | 27 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 9 | 9 | 38 | 38 |
| Less than \$30,000 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 28 |
| Percentage above current income bracket | | | | |
| | 24 | 29 | 57 | 72 |

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

Respondents earning \$150,000 or more not included in this analysis

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Not too long ago, \$100,000 was a dream income for Americans. In a 1987 *USA Today* poll, just 8% of Americans believed they would need \$100,000 or more to live comfortably, while the majority, 56%, thought they could achieve that on something less than \$50,000.

Younger Women's Income Needs Hardest to Meet

Women aged 18 to 49 are among the most likely to believe they need \$100,000 or more to live comfortably, according to the new poll. Additionally, the 31% saying this is nearly double the 17% of 18- to 49-year-old women whose current reported household income is in this range. By contrast, the 23% of younger men who say they would need \$100,000 or more is similar to the 19% already in that income bracket.

Women aged 50 and older have the most modest perceptions of what it would take to live comfortably as well as the lowest reported levels of household income.

Ideal Annual Income to Live Comfortably and Actual Annual Household Income

By gender/age

| | Men 18 to 49 years | Men 50 and older | Women 18 to 49 years | Women 50 and older |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Annual income needed: | | | | |
| \$100,000 or more | 23 | 26 | 31 | 18 |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 18 | 12 | 15 | 11 |
| Less than \$75,000 | 54 | 55 | 52 | 61 |
| Not sure | 5 | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Actual annual income: | | | | |
| \$100,000 or more | 19 | 19 | 17 | 10 |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 11 |
| Less than \$75,000 | 67 | 59 | 67 | 67 |
| No answer | 4 | 9 | 4 | 11 |

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

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Despite the gender differences in the amount of money younger adults think it would take to live comfortably, nearly two-thirds of women aged 18 to 49 (66%) as well as men 18 to 49 (63%) told Gallup in April 2010 that they had enough money to live comfortably. Women and men aged 50 and older were somewhat more content, with about three-quarters saying they had enough money.

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.

157-17. Obama's Approval Ratings More Polarized in Year 2 Than Year 1¹⁸

Ranks as fourth-most-polarized year for a president since 1953

February 4, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Barack Obama's job approval ratings were even more polarized during his second year in office than during his first, when he registered the most polarized ratings for a first-year president. An average of 81% of Democrats and 13% of Republicans approved of the job Obama was doing as president during his second year. That 68-point gap in party ratings is up from 65 points in his first year and is easily the most polarized second year for a president since Dwight Eisenhower.

¹⁸ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145937/Obama-Approval-Ratings-Polarized-Year-Year.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

Gaps in Presidential Approval Ratings by Party During Presidents' Second Year in Office

| President | Dates | Average approval rating, Republicans | Average approval rating, Democrats | Party gap (pct. pts.) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Obama | January 2010- January 2011 | 13% | 81% | 68 |
| Reagan | January 1982- January 1983 | 79% | 23% | 56 |
| Clinton | January 1994- January 1995 | 19% | 73% | 54 |
| G.W. Bush | January 2002- January 2003 | 95% | 51% | 44 |
| Nixon | January 1970- January 1971 | 82% | 41% | 41 |
| Eisenhower | January 1954- January 1955 | 87% | 50% | 37 |
| Kennedy | January 1962- January 1963 | 49% | 86% | 37 |
| Ford | August 1975- August 1976 | 68% | 34% | 34 |
| G.H.W. Bush | January 1990- January 1991 | 85% | 53% | 32 |
| Johnson | November 1964- November 1965 | 49% | 80% | 31 |
| Carter | January 1978- January 1979 | 28% | 57% | 29 |

Dates analyzed for each president are the second full year after taking office, usually Jan. 20 for presidents elected to office.

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Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton are the only two presidents prior to Obama who had gaps of at least 50 points in their approval ratings by party in their second year in office. In general, recent presidents, including George W. Bush, tend to have more polarized ratings than earlier presidents did.

Though Obama's first- and second-year ratings rank among the most polarized of all presidential years, Bush had three years with a larger gap in party ratings. In Bush's fourth year in office -- the year he was re-elected -- there was an average 76-point gap in approval ratings of him between Republicans and Democrats.

Largest Gaps in Presidential Approval Ratings by Party, All Presidential Years Since 1953

| President | Year | Dates | Average approval rating, Republicans | Average approval rating, Democrats | Party gap (pct. pts.) |
|-----------|------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| G.W. Bush | 4 | January 2004-January 2005 | 91% | 15% | 76 |
| G.W. Bush | 5 | January 2005-January 2006 | 86% | 14% | 72 |
| G.W. Bush | 6 | January 2006-January 2007 | 79% | 9% | 70 |
| Obama | 2 | January 2010-January 2011 | 13% | 81% | 68 |
| G.W. Bush | 7 | January 2007-January 2008 | 73% | 7% | 66 |
| Obama | 1 | January 2009-January 2010 | 23% | 88% | 65 |
| Clinton | 4 | January 1996-January 1997 | 24% | 85% | 61 |
| G.W. Bush | 8 | January 2008-January 2009 | 67% | 6% | 61 |
| Reagan | 4 | January 1984-January 1985 | 89% | 29% | 60 |
| G.W. Bush | 3 | January 2003-January 2004 | 92% | 33% | 59 |

Years are measured as full years from the time the president took office, usually Jan. 20 after his election.

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In total, Bush accounts for 6 of the 10 most polarized presidential years in Gallup history. Bush's first two years were less polarized owing to the rally in support he got from Americans after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Clinton and Reagan are the only other presidents to make the top 10 list; both did so in the year they were re-elected.

Implications

Though Americans have always been more approving of presidents from the party they support than of presidents from the party they oppose, the partisan gap in presidential ratings has expanded. As Gallup pointed out last year, none of the presidents prior to Reagan averaged more than a 40-point gap in approval ratings by party. But from Reagan through Obama, all except George H.W. Bush have averaged more than a 50-point divide in party ratings.

The growing polarization is made clear by the fact that each of the last eight years -- spanning the final six years of George W. Bush's administration and the first two of Obama's -- have ranked in the 10 most polarized years in presidential approval ratings since 1953.

Obama has made efforts of late to work with congressional Republicans, such as on the deal to extend the Bush-era income tax cuts. These efforts may have helped fuel a rise in his approval ratings, from 44% in mid-November to 50% in the most recent weekly average. But the rise in Obama's public support has not necessarily meant a reduction in the polarization of views about him, as there continues to be a nearly 70-point gap between Democratic and Republican approval ratings of the president.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Jan. 20, 2010-Jan. 19, 2011, with a random sample of 178,864 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 the total sample of 56,106 Democrats, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 1 percentage point.

For results based on the total sample of 54,593 Republicans, 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.

157-18. In U.S., Caregivers Suffer From Poorer Physical Health¹⁹

Negative effects of caregiving greatest for those aged 18 to 29

February 4, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans who work a full-time job and say they care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend, suffer from poorer physical health than those who work a full-time job but do not have additional caregiving responsibilities. Caregivers, who represent 16% of the full-time American workforce, have a Physical Health Index score of 77.4, which is significantly lower than the 83.0 found among non-caregivers.

Physical Health Index Scores for Caregivers vs. Non-Caregivers, by Age

Among those employed full time

| | Caregivers | Non-Caregivers | Difference |
|-------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Total | 77.4 | 83.0 | -5.6 |
| 18-29 | 79.0 | 85.7 | -6.7 |
| 30-44 | 77.2 | 83.3 | -6.1 |
| 45-64 | 77.0 | 81.5 | -4.5 |
| 65+ | 79.1 | 81.8 | -2.7 |

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Jan. 2-Nov. 24, 2010

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As with overall wellbeing, working Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 suffer the physical effects of caregiving more than any other group, followed closely by 30- to 44-year-olds. Americans younger than the age of 30 have characteristically better physical health than those in other age groups, but this advantage is largely erased among those who fulfill a caregiving role. The difference in physical health between working caregivers and non-caregivers declines as Americans get older, with the smallest affect found among those aged 65 and older.

These findings are based on 140,853 interviews with American adults employed full time conducted Jan. 2-Nov. 24, 2010, as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. Of these respondents, 23,520 self-identified as caregivers based on their response to the question "Do you currently help care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend, or not?"

Six percent of caregivers who are employed full time are aged 18 to 29, 22% are aged 30 to 44, 65% are between the ages of 45 and 64, and 6% are aged 65 and older.

¹⁹ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145940/Caregivers-Suffer-Poorer-Physical-Health.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - USA - Wellbeing

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Physical Health Index comprises 18 items measuring chronic conditions and daily ailments.

Caregivers More Likely to Have High Blood Pressure, Physical Pain

Caregivers employed full time across all age groups, but particularly those younger than 45, are substantially more likely to experience various common physical health issues than their non-caregiving counterparts.

Adult caregivers younger than 30, for example, are 63% more likely than non-caregivers to have high blood pressure and are 61% more likely to have recurring neck or back pain. Even seniors feel negative effects of caregiving, with caregivers aged 65 and older being 26% more likely than non-caregivers to report daily physical pain.

Increased Likelihood of Having Certain Conditions for Caregivers vs. Non-Caregivers, by Age

Among those employed full time

| | 18-29 | 30-44 | 45-64 | 65+ |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| High blood pressure | +63% | +31% | +7% | +2% |
| Physical pain "a lot of the day yesterday" | +60% | +64% | +36% | +26% |
| Recurring neck or back pain | +61% | +39% | +23% | +23% |
| Recurring knee or leg pain | +57% | +51% | +32% | +16% |
| Health preventing usual activities two or more days per month | +53% | +47% | +35% | +19% |
| Did not feel well-rested "a lot of the day yesterday" | +19% | +16% | +25% | +26% |

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Jan. 2-Nov. 24, 2010

GALLUP®

The act of caregiving, perhaps in conjunction with caregivers' increased likelihood to have physical ailments, also brings with it reduced energy and productivity levels. Caregivers in all age groups are more likely than non-caregivers to report that poor health keeps them from doing their usual activities and that they did not feel well-rested the prior day.

Implications

Caregiving, along with being stressful, oftentimes requires more physical activity than normal, including assisting in transfers into and out of wheelchairs, vehicles, and beds; physical therapy; and daily tasks such as bathing and dressing. Although the specific tasks involved in caregiving certainly differ from situation to situation, it is clear that what is involved is taking a toll on the physical health of those who fill this type of role. While young adults generally enjoy superior

physical health compared with those who are middle-aged or seniors, caregiving clearly has a disproportionate negative effect on their health. Furthermore, those who self-identify as caregivers are somewhat more likely to come from lower income households, meaning they may have reduced options for acquiring outside care, a scenario that may disproportionately affect the young. Regardless, community and business leaders should note the challenges caregivers face so they can help create support systems to help improve the lives of this high-risk group.

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. 2-Nov. 24, 2010, with a random sample of 140,853 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling. Of this sample of respondents, one-sixth self-identified as caregivers. Nearly two-thirds of all caregivers are between the ages of 45 and 64.

Sample Sizes for Reported Groups

| | Total | 18-29 | 30-44 | 45-64 | 65+ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Caregivers employed full time | 23,520 | 1,678 | 5,077 | 14,990 | 1,355 |
| Non-caregivers employed full time | 117,333 | 12,535 | 34,002 | 60,210 | 8,602 |

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index
Jan. 2-Nov. 24, 2010

GALLUP®

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 0.6 percentage point. For smaller groups, such as caregivers aged 18 to 29 and 65 years old and older, the maximum error range is about ± 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.

157-19. Many Small Businesses Hiring Fewer Workers Than Needed²⁰

Many small businesses hired to replace workers who left

February 4, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Half of small-business owners (51%) who employ people other than themselves hired new workers in 2010, according to the Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey. However, of these, 42% hired fewer new employees than they needed -- likely a major reason job growth was so anemic last year. Of course, an additional factor is that 48% of small businesses with more than one employee did not make any new hires in 2010.

Have you hired as many employees as you need, more than you need immediately, or fewer than you need?

Based on small-business owners who have hired new employees in 2010

| | Quarter 4, 2010 |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| | % |
| As many as needed | 48 |
| More than immediately needed | 9 |
| Fewer than needed | 42 |
| Don't know/Refused | 1 |

Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey

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The Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey further reveals that the top reason so many of these small-business owners are hiring fewer employees than they need is that they are worried they won't have sales or revenues to justify more employees. This is followed by worries about their future cash flows and whether they will have money to make payroll. Third is their concern that they can't find employees who are qualified for the positions available. Finally, half of owners say they are worried about the potential cost of healthcare.

²⁰ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145946/Small-Businesses-Hiring-Fewer-Workers-Needed.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

Why did you hire fewer than needed? For each of the following, please indicate if it is a reason why you hired fewer than you needed. How about -- ?

Based on small-business owners who hired fewer employees than needed

| | Quarter 4, 2010 |
|---|----------------------------|
| | % "Yes, it is a reason" |
| Worried revenues or sales won't be able to justify more employees | 79 |
| Worried about cash flow or ability to make payroll | 70 |
| Hard to find qualified employees for positions available | 62 |
| Worried about the potential cost of healthcare | 51 |
| Some other reason | 31 |

Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey

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The survey, conducted Nov. 4-10, 2010, with 604 randomly sampled small-business owners nationwide, asked respondents who employ people other than themselves about their recent hiring activity and the reasons behind it. The major reason small businesses hired new employees in 2010 was to replace employees who left. The reason mentioned second most often was to support growth or expansion plans, followed by an increase in sales or revenue.

Which of the following best describes your primary motivation or reason for hiring? How about 1) revenues or sales have increased, 2) economy is getting better, 3) March announcement of new tax credits for hiring unemployed workers, 4) replace an employee who left, 5) support growth or expansion plans, 6) or some other reason?

Based on small-business owners who have hired new employees in 2010

| | Quarter 4, 2010 |
|---|----------------------------|
| Revenues or sales have increased | 13 |
| Economy is getting better | 5 |
| March announcement of new tax credits for hiring unemployed workers | 1 |
| Replace an employee who left | 41 |
| Support growth or expansion plans | 21 |
| Some other reason | 18 |
| Don't know/Refused | 1 |

Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index survey

GALLUP®

Implications

The hiring efforts of small-business owners in 2010 provide some insights into why generating job growth continues to be so difficult. The most important reason for today's anemic job growth among small businesses seems to be that many are hiring fewer employees than they need. They are doing so in part because they are worried about their future revenues and cash flows -- reasonable concerns, given the small-business operating environment of the past couple of years. Significantly, this is something that can turn around quickly if the economy continues to gain positive momentum, as seems to be the case in the most recent economic data, such as the improvement in the Chicago PMI report, stronger-than-expected auto sales, and the better-than-expected ISM non-manufacturing report that came out during the past week.

More troubling is the explanation of a large percentage of small-business owners that they can't find enough qualified employees for the jobs they have available. This reflects the way the U.S. economy is changing and adjusting to the new global marketplace of the past few years. It is also indicative of today's structural unemployment, in which many workers who have been out of work for a long time may no longer be able to be productive without retraining and additional education.

Of course, job creation is also a problem because some sectors of the U.S. economy -- such as housing and real estate -- are not recovering. Although the sample sizes are small, small-business owners who say they let workers go in 2010 suggest they did so because they felt the economy was getting worse and owing to decreases in their revenues or sales.

Small businesses are essential to the future of U.S. job growth. Reducing economic uncertainty and increasing small-business owners' confidence in their future revenues and cash flows is key to unleashing the hiring of the new employees these firms need. Some of this will happen naturally, as the private sector expands, but efforts by the federal government and the Federal Reserve to speed the process are a must if the real unemployment rate is going to fall to more traditional levels anytime soon.

Survey Methods

Results for the total dataset are based on telephone interviews with 604 small-business owners, conducted Nov. 4-10, 2010. For results based on the total sample of small-business owners, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

For questions based on the 417 employers who employ people other than themselves in 2010, the maximum margin of error is ± 5 percentage points.

For questions based on the 223 employers who have hired new employees in 2010, the maximum margin of error is ± 7 percentage points. For questions based on the 98 employers who have hired fewer new employees than needed in 2010, the maximum margin of error is ± 11 percentage points.

Sampling is done on a random-digit-dial basis using Dun & Bradstreet sampling of small businesses having \$20 million or less of sales or revenues. The data are weighted to be representative of U.S. small businesses within this size range nationwide.

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.

157-20. American Public Shows How it Would Cut the Budget Deficit²¹

February 3, 2011

A new study finds that when average Americans are presented the federal budget in some detail, most are able to dramatically reduce the budget deficit and resolve the Social Security shortfall.

In December the Chairs of the President's Fiscal Commission released their proposal for addressing the budget deficit and the projected shortfalls for Social Security and Medicare. This new study shows how the American public would deal with these challenges.

Through a combination of spending cuts and tax increases, on average, respondents cut the discretionary budget deficit projected for 2015 by seventy percent. Six in ten solved the problem of the projected Social Security shortfall through adjustments in payroll taxes, premiums, and benefits. The projected Medicare shortfall was also dramatically reduced.

The study was conducted by the Program for Public Consultation (PPC), affiliated with the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, and fielded by Knowledge Networks. Unlike conventional polls PPC consults with the public by first presenting respondents with information on policy issues and a range of options for addressing them.

Steven Kull, director of PPC comments, "When given information and a chance to sort through their options, most Americans do a pretty good job of dealing with America's budget problems--better than most politicians."

| Average Net Reductions <i>in billions</i> | |
|--|----------|
| Defense | -\$109.4 |
| Intelligence Agencies | -\$13.1 |
| Defense (Iraq & Afg.) | -\$12.8 |
| Veterans' Benefits | -\$6.7 |
| Highways | -\$4.6 |
| Space Program | -\$3.2 |
| Medical Research | -\$2.6 |
| Homeland Security | -\$2.5 |
| Economic Support Fund | -\$2.3 |
| Subsidies to Large Farms | -\$2.3 |
| Air Travel and Roads | -\$2.0 |
| Development Assistance | -\$1.8 |
| Military Aid | -\$1.8 |
| State Department | -\$1.6 |
| Land Management | -\$0.1 |
| Nuclear Weapons | -\$0.4 |
| Federal Law Enforcement | -\$0.2 |
| Global Health | -\$0.2 |
| Mass Transit | -\$0.1 |
| International Organizations | -\$0.1 |

Respondents were presented 31 of the major line items of the discretionary federal budget with a description of each one, the amount budgeted for 2015, and the projected deficit. They were then given a chance to increase or decrease each item as they saw fit and to try to reduce the deficit.

²¹ <http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/articles/brunitedstatescanadara/677.php?nid=&id=&pnt=677&lb=>

On average respondents made net spending cuts of \$145.7 billion. The largest cuts included those to defense (\$109.4 billion), intelligence (\$13.1 billion), military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq (\$12.8 billion) and the federal highway system (\$4.6 billion)--all of which were cut by majorities.

On average respondents increased revenues by \$291.6 billion. The largest portion was from income taxes which were raised by an average of \$154.8 billion above the levels currently in place. Majorities increased taxes on incomes over \$100,000 by 5% or more and increased them by 10% or more for incomes over \$500,000.

Majorities also made increases in corporate taxes and alcohol taxes as well as new sources of revenue, including a tax on sugary drinks, treating 'carried interest' income as ordinary income (also known as the hedge fund managers' tax), and charging a crisis fee to large banks. A plurality (49%) favored a tax on carbon dioxide emissions. But a sales tax was rejected by 58 percent of respondents.

Summary of Changes to Main Budget and General Revenues

| | 2015 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Average net change in spending | -\$145.7B |
| Average net change in revenues | +\$291.6B |
| Total reduction in deficit | \$437.3B |
| Main budget deficit | \$625.0B |
| Residual deficit | \$187.7B |

For the estate tax, a majority (77%) favored reverting at least to the 2009 levels, taxing estates over \$3.5 million at a 45% rate. Only 15% of respondents supported the estate tax levels recently passed: taxing estates over \$5 million at a 35% rate.

Most respondents also successfully dealt with the problem of Social Security. Respondents were presented eight possible steps for dealing with the Social Security shortfall that will occur when the baby boom generation retires.

Six in ten respondents selected enough steps to resolve the problem. This was the case even though many of them also chose to make the problem more difficult by increasing benefits to low income retirees.

The most popular approaches--selected by large majorities--were raising the limit on wages subject to the payroll tax at least to \$156,000 and increasing the retirement age at least to 68. Substantial numbers also selected gradually increasing the payroll tax rate, and recalculating downward the inflation rate for the benefits of new beneficiaries and cost-of-living increases for all benefits.

Because the effect of the new Health Care law on Medicare in the future has not been fully analyzed, it was only possible to have respondents evaluate a series of options for reducing the Medicare deficit, rather than a full exercise in which respondents could work to resolve that deficit.

Some options were found at least "just tolerable" by majorities. These included raising Medicare premiums to \$135 a month, raising the payroll tax rate by 1 percentage point, reducing payments to doctors by 5%, and gradually raising the age of eligibility to 68. Views were divided on the tolerability of raising the payroll tax by 2 percentage points.

A separate sample was also asked to consider reducing or eliminating certain tax deductions for individual incomes taxes. A majority found the following at least "tolerable": limiting the amount of mortgage interest that can be deducted to \$25,000; reducing the amount of mortgage interest that can be deducted by half; eliminating the exclusion of income earned overseas; reducing the benefit of 'cafeteria plans'; and eliminating the child tax credit to children 13 and over. However, less than half found it tolerable to completely eliminate the child tax credit.

Majorities also favored raising the maximum tax rate for both capital gains (58%) and for dividends (56%) at least back to the 20% that was in place before the Bush tax cuts.

The study was conducted in two waves. A sample of 1,250 respondents was fielded October 8-22 and a second sample of 793 respondents was fielded December 18-29. It was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone or by mail to participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. For those who agree to participate, but do not already have Internet access, Knowledge Networks provides a laptop and ISP connection. More technical information is available at <http://www.knowledgenetworks.com/ganp/reviewer-info.html>.

157-21. Canadians Flatly Reject Usage Based Billing for Internet Access²²

Feb 04, 2011

Canadians are decidedly opposed to a recent decision that could change the way customers are charged for Internet access, a new Angus Reid / Toronto Star poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,024 Canadian adults, three-in-four respondents (76%) disagree with the recent decision from the Canada Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), which recently ruled that Internet service providers should adopt "usage-based billing".

Under this structure, Internet users would be charged an additional fee if they download more than a pre-established amount of data from the Internet.

²² <http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5749/canadians-flatly-reject-usage-based-billing-for-internet-access/>

| Internet Billing | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|------|--------|-------|-------|-----|
| As you may know, the Canada Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) recently ruled that Internet service providers should adopt "usage-based billing". Under this structure, Internet users would be charged an additional fee if they download more than a pre-established amount of data from the Internet. All things considered, do you agree or disagree with this ruling? | | | | | | |
| | Gender and Age | | | | | |
| | Canada | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ |
| Strongly agree | 4% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 5% | 4% |
| Moderately agree | 13% | 12% | 13% | 12% | 11% | 17% |
| Moderately disagree | 12% | 10% | 15% | 13% | 10% | 15% |
| Strongly disagree | 64% | 69% | 59% | 62% | 68% | 59% |
| Not sure | 7% | 4% | 10% | 10% | 6% | 5% |

The level of “strong disagreement” with the proposed course of action is above the 50 per cent mark in every region of the country (from a high of 74% in Ontario to a low of 52% in Quebec), across both genders (69% for men, 59% for women), and all three main age groups (62% for respondents aged 18 to 34, 68% for those aged 25 to 54, and 59% for those over the age of 55).

The survey was completed before CRTC chair Konrad von Finckenstein announced a decision “to delay the implementation of usage-based billing for wholesale customers by at least 60 days.”

Methodology: From February 2 to February 3, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,024 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum 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 samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

157-22. Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010²³

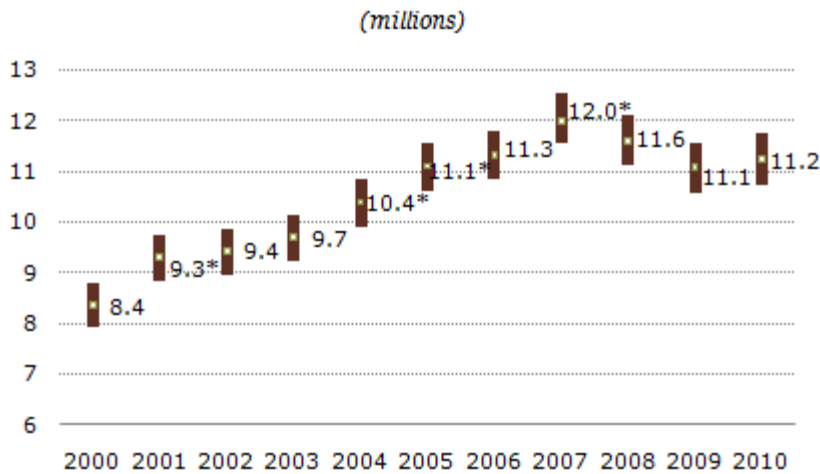
February 1, 2011

As of March 2010, 11.2 million unauthorized immigrants were living in the United States, virtually unchanged from a year earlier, according to new estimates from the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. This stability in 2010 follows a two-year decline from the peak of 12 million in 2007 to 11.1 million in 2009 that was the first significant reversal in a two-decade pattern of growth.

The number of unauthorized immigrants in the nation's workforce, 8 million in March 2010, also did not differ from the Pew Hispanic Center estimate for 2009. As with the population total, the number of unauthorized immigrants in the labor force had decreased in 2009, from its peak of 8.4 million in 2007.

²³ <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1876/unauthorized-immigrant-population-united-states-national-state-trends-2010>

Figure 1
Estimates of the U.S. Unauthorized Immigrant
Population, 2000-2010



Notes: Bars indicate low and high points of the estimated 90% confidence interval. The symbol * indicates the change from the previous year is statistically significant.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates based on residual methodology applied to March Supplements to the Current Population Survey. See Methodology.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The number of children born to at least one unauthorized-immigrant parent in 2009 was 350,000, essentially the same as it was a year earlier. An analysis of the year of entry of unauthorized-immigrant parents indicates that 61% arrived before 2004, 30% arrived from 2004 to 2007, and 9% arrived from 2008 to 2010.

According to the Pew Hispanic Center, unauthorized immigrants made up 3.7% of the nation's population and 5.2% of its labor force in March 2010. Births to unauthorized immigrant parents accounted for 8% of newborns from March 2009 to March 2010, according to the center's estimates, which are based mainly on data from the government's Current Population Survey.

The decline in the population of unauthorized immigrants from its peak in 2007 appears due mainly to a decrease in the number from Mexico, which went down to 6.5 million in 2010 from 7 million in 2007. Mexicans remain the largest group of unauthorized immigrants, accounting for 58% of the total.

Table 1
States with Changes in
Unauthorized Immigrant
Populations, 2007-2010

(thousands)

| | 2010 | 2007 | Change |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Decline | | | |
| Florida | 825 | 1,050 | -230 |
| New York | 625 | 825 | -200 |
| Virginia | 210 | 325 | -100 |
| Colorado | 180 | 240 | -65 |
| AZ-UT-NV | 700 | 850 | -160 |
| Increase | | | |
| TX-LA-OK | 1,800 | 1,550 | +240 |

Note: Changes shown are statistically significant based on 90% confidence interval, and are the only statistically significant changes for 2007 to 2010 for individual states. Unauthorized estimates are rounded. Change is computed from unrounded data and independently rounded.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates based on augmented March Supplements to the Current Population Survey. See Methodology.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The decline in the population of unauthorized immigrants since 2007 has been especially marked in some states that recently had attracted large numbers of unauthorized immigrants. The number has decreased in Colorado, Florida, New York and Virginia. The combined unauthorized immigrant population of three contiguous Mountain West states -- Arizona, Nevada and Utah -- also declined.

The number of unauthorized immigrants may have declined in other states as well, but this cannot be stated conclusively because the measured change was within the margin of error for these estimates.

In contrast with the national trend, the number of unauthorized immigrants has grown in some West South Central states. From 2007 to 2010, there was a statistically significant increase in the combined unauthorized immigrant population of Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. The change was not statistically significant for these states individually, but it was for the combined three states. Texas has the second largest number of unauthorized immigrants, trailing only California.

Despite the recent decline and leveling off, the number of unauthorized immigrants living in the United States has tripled since 1990, when it was 3.5 million. The size of this population grew by a third since 2000, when was 8.4 million.

The estimates are produced using a multistage method that subtracts the legal foreign-born population from the total adjusted foreign-born population, with the residual then used as the source of information about unauthorized immigrants. The source of these data is the U.S. Census Bureau's March Current Population Surveys.

Because these estimates are derived from sample surveys, they are subject to uncertainty from sampling error, as well as other types of error. Each annual estimate of the unauthorized

population is actually the middle point of a range of possible values that could be the true number. Additionally, the change from one year to the next has its own margin of error.

Because of the margin of error in these estimates, two numbers may look different but cannot be said definitively to be different. For example, there is no statistically significant difference between the estimate of the unauthorized population for 2009 (11.1 million) and the estimate for 2010 (11.2 million). Similarly, some state estimates for single years are based on small samples; especially in less populous states, two single years should not be compared.

These ranges represent 90% confidence intervals, meaning that there is a 90% probability that the range contains the true value.

Although the estimates presented here indicate trends in the size and composition of the unauthorized-immigrant population, they are not designed to answer the question of why these changes occurred. There are many possible factors. The deep recession that began in the U.S. economy in late 2007 officially ended in 2009, but recovery has been slow to take hold and unemployment remains high. Immigration flows have tended to decrease in previous periods of economic distress.

The period covered by this analysis also has been accompanied by changes in the level of immigration enforcement and in enforcement strategies, not only by the federal government but also at state and local levels. Immigration also is subject to pressure by demographic and economic conditions in sending countries. This analysis does not attempt to quantify the relative impact of these forces on levels of unauthorized immigration.

157-23. In U.S., Majority Still Wants Less Corporate Influence²⁴

Low income, non-college-educated Americans most likely to favor expanded role

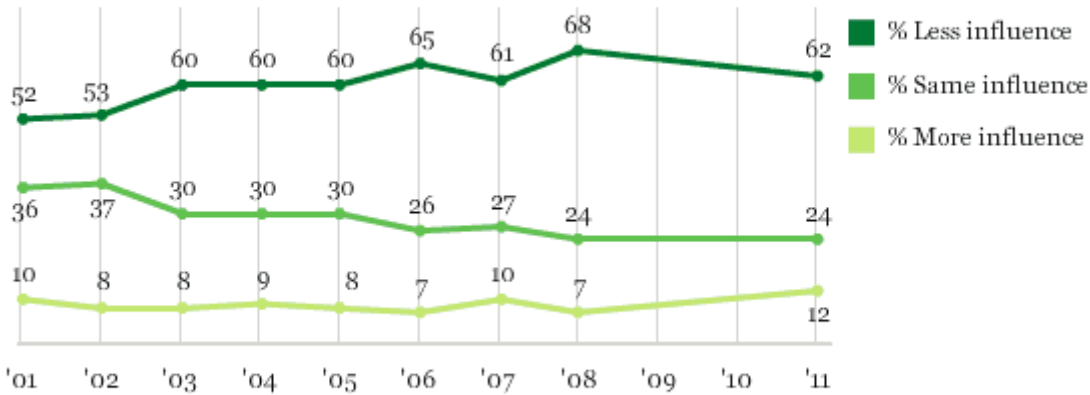
February 1, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- The large majority of Americans (62%) want major corporations to have less influence in the United States. While this is down from a peak of 68% in 2008, it remains well above the 52% recorded in 2001. Relatively few Americans would prefer to see corporations gain influence, but the 12% recorded this year is the highest to date.

²⁴ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145871/Majority-Wants-Less-Corporate-Influence.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

Preferences for Corporate Influence in the U.S.

Would you like to see major corporations have more influence in this nation, less influence, or keep their influence as it is now?



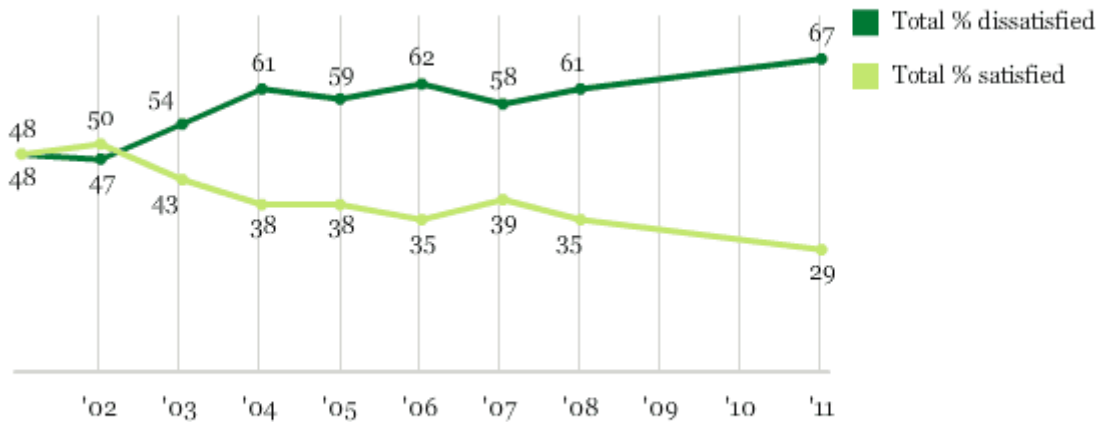
Surveys conducted in January of each year

GALLUP®

The new data come from a Jan. 7-9 Gallup poll. The same survey found 67% of Americans dissatisfied with the size and influence of major corporations in the country today, the highest level since Gallup first asked this question in 2001. Of seven aspects of the United States rated in the poll, Americans are the least satisfied with corporate influence.

Satisfaction With Size and Influence of Major Corporations in America Today

Based on U.S. national adults



Surveys conducted in January of each year

GALLUP®

Republicans are often seen as champions of corporate power -- favoring lower corporate tax rates, battling efforts to strengthen labor unions, and advocating less government regulation of business. That is borne out to some degree in the finding that Republicans are more than twice as

likely as Democrats, 36% vs. 16%, to say major corporations should maintain the same level of influence in the country, while, by 73% to 49%, Democrats are much more likely to favor less corporate influence. However, relatively few Republicans, 13% -- little different from the 10% of Democrats -- believe major corporations should have more influence in the country.

The groups of Americans most likely to favor expanded corporate influence are, perhaps, those least likely to be associated with corporate America: young adults, adults living in low-income households, and those with no college education. This could reflect the lower levels of attention these groups have paid in recent years to controversies involving corporate America, including the Wall Street financial bailout and, prior to that, Enron and other business scandals.

Preferences for Corporate Influence in the U.S.

| | More influence | Same influence | Less influence |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | % | % | % |
| Republican | 13 | 36 | 49 |
| Independent | 13 | 20 | 64 |
| Democrat | 10 | 16 | 73 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| \$75,000 and over | 5 | 22 | 73 |
| \$30,000 to \$74,999 | 11 | 20 | 68 |
| Less than \$30,000 | 22 | 23 | 51 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| College graduate | 4 | 24 | 71 |
| Some college | 8 | 23 | 67 |
| No college | 24 | 23 | 50 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 18 to 34 years | 17 | 24 | 59 |
| 35 to 54 years | 11 | 21 | 67 |
| 55 and older | 10 | 25 | 61 |

Jan 7-9, 2011

GALLUP®

Implications

President Barack Obama reportedly signed an executive order Monday formally establishing a new presidential advisory panel on jobs and competitiveness, with General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt as the chairman. This, along with several other business-friendly decisions by Obama since the midterm elections, arguably signals that corporate America will have an enhanced role in shaping the administration's economic policy going forward.

Americans may appreciate Obama's focus on jobs, and GE has not been among the companies embroiled in scandal or controversy over government bailouts in recent years. However, Obama's overtures to the corporate world could carry political risks, as Americans' overall confidence in big business remains historically low and their desire for less corporate influence -- at least in broad terms -- remains high.

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.

157-24. In U.S., Chronic Health Conditions as Prevalent in 2010 as 2009²⁵

High blood pressure and high cholesterol remain the most widespread

February 2, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- American adults were as likely in 2010 as they were in 2009 to say they have ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, depression, asthma, diabetes, cancer, and heart attack, revealing that the country as a whole has made no progress in decreasing these costly chronic conditions. About 3 in 10 American adults continue to report having been diagnosed with high blood pressure or high cholesterol in their lifetimes, making

²⁵ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145868/Chronic-Health-Conditions-Prevalent-2010-2009.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - USA - Wellbeing

these two illnesses the most widespread diseases measured. The prevalence of diagnoses of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and cancer is up compared with 2008.

Chronic Conditions in the United States

Have you ever been told by a physician or nurse that you have any of the following ... ?

Among adults aged 18 and older

Ordered by 2010 prevalence

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | Change, 2010 vs. 2009 | Change, 2010 vs. 2008 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| % High blood pressure | 29.4 | 30.6 | 30.6 | 0 | 1.2 |
| % High cholesterol | 26.5 | 27.5 | 27.3 | -0.2 | 0.8 |
| % Depression | 17.1 | 17.4 | 17.2 | -0.2 | 0.1 |
| % Asthma | 11.4 | 11.3 | 11.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| % Diabetes | 10.6 | 11.0 | 11.3 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| % Cancer | 6.9 | 7.2 | 7.3 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| % Heart attack | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 | -0.1 | 0 |

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

These data are in line with Gallup's finding that obesity -- which is linked to a number of chronic diseases including diabetes and high blood pressure -- did not increase significantly last year compared with 2009, although it remains a major problem.

Gallup tracks chronic conditions in the United States on a daily basis as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, surveying more than 350,000 American adults per year. Gallup asks respondents if a physician or nurse has ever diagnosed them with any of the conditions.

High-Risk Populations

Some groups are more at risk for having certain health conditions, likely for a number of reasons. Income, health habits such as exercise and healthy eating, age, and genetic predisposition all relate to whether individuals have chronic conditions. For example, previous Gallup research has found that low-income Americans, regardless of age, have worse emotional and physical health, health habits, and access to healthcare than do those with higher incomes. A closer look at the 2010 Gallup data reveals:

- Seniors (58.7%) and black Americans (38.7%) are the groups most likely to report **high blood pressure**.
- Americans 45 years of age and older are among the most likely to report **high cholesterol**.
- One in four low-income Americans reports having been diagnosed with **depression**, which is more than any other group.

- **Asthma** is most prevalent among low-income Americans (14.6%), women (13.7%), young adults (13.4%), and blacks (13.2%).
- The percentage of seniors who have **diabetes** (22.7%) is double the national average (11.3%). Blacks are the second most likely group to report diabetes (15.5%).
- Nearly 2 in 10 seniors have been diagnosed with **cancer**.
- Seniors (12.2%) and low-income Americans (6.2%) are the most likely to have had a **heart attack**.

Chronic Conditions in the United States Among Various Demographic Groups in 2010

Among adults aged 18 and older

| | % High blood pressure | % High cholesterol | % Depression | % Asthma | % Diabetes | % Cancer | % Heart attack |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------|------------|----------|----------------|
| GENDER | | | | | | | |
| Male | 30.4 | 27.5 | 12.5 | 9.2 | 10.9 | 6.5 | 5.5 |
| Female | 30.8 | 27.0 | 21.5 | 13.7 | 11.7 | 8.1 | 3.5 |
| AGE | | | | | | | |
| 65+ | 58.7 | 48.9 | 15.5 | 10.4 | 22.7 | 18.6 | 12.4 |
| 45-64 | 36.7 | 34.9 | 20.1 | 11.5 | 13.7 | 7.6 | 4.6 |
| 30-44 | 16.0 | 15.1 | 16.7 | 11.2 | 5.6 | 2.6 | 1.0 |
| 18-29 | 7.5 | 4.6 | 13.9 | 13.4 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 0.4 |
| RACE/ETHNICITY | | | | | | | |
| Black | 38.7 | 23.1 | 14.8 | 13.2 | 15.5 | 4.3 | 3.7 |
| Hispanic | 21.5 | 20.4 | 18.1 | 9.8 | 11.8 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| White | 31.5 | 29.5 | 17.5 | 11.5 | 10.8 | 8.6 | 4.8 |
| Asian | 14.0 | 16.9 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 1.9 | 1.3 |
| REGION | | | | | | | |
| South | 34.0 | 28.7 | 18.0 | 11.4 | 12.8 | 7.5 | 5.1 |
| Midwest | 30.3 | 27.0 | 17.0 | 11.1 | 11.2 | 7.2 | 4.6 |
| East | 30.3 | 28.2 | 16.6 | 12.0 | 10.9 | 7.4 | 4.4 |
| West | 26.6 | 24.6 | 16.8 | 11.7 | 9.8 | 7.1 | 3.6 |
| INCOME | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$36,000 per year | 34.9 | 28.6 | 25.7 | 14.6 | 14.9 | 7.5 | 6.2 |
| \$36,000-\$89,999 per year | 27.7 | 25.7 | 13.8 | 10.2 | 9.3 | 6.7 | 3.2 |
| \$90,000 or more per year | 23.6 | 25.1 | 10.3 | 9.3 | 6.8 | 6.0 | 2.2 |

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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Top Performers

Three groups stand out as being in the best health: Asian Americans, high-income Americans, and young adults. While differences by age and income are more easily explainable, reasons for Asian Americans' better physical health are not as straightforward. At every major age and income level, Asian Americans have a lower prevalence of most of the chronic conditions than do whites, blacks, and Hispanics.

- Asian Americans and young adults are the least likely to report **high blood pressure**.
- Americans aged 18 to 44 are the least likely to report **high cholesterol**.
- High-income Americans (10.3%) and Asian Americans (7.7%) are among the least likely to report having been diagnosed with **depression**.
- **Asthma** is least prevalent among high-income Americans (9.3%), men (9.2%), and Asian Americans (7.3%).
- At 1.9%, young adults are the least likely to report **diabetes**, although this jumps up to 5.6% among those aged 30 to 44.
- Fewer than 2% of Asian Americans and young adults report a **cancer** diagnosis.
- Americans younger than 44 years of age, Asian Americans, and high-income Americans report a **heart attack** diagnoses at less than half the national average.

To view chronic condition prevalence by demographic groups by year, see page 2.

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 352,840 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.

157-25. In U.S., Alternative Energy Bill Does Best Among Eight Proposals²⁶

Two-thirds favor expanded drilling and exploration for oil and gas

February 2, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Of eight actions Congress could take this year, Americans most favor an energy bill that provides incentives for using alternative energy (83%), an overhaul of the federal tax code (76%), and speeding up withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan (72%).

Next, I'm going to read a list of actions Congress could take this year. Please say whether you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose Congress doing each of the following this year. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

| | Total % favor | Total % oppose |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Pass an energy bill that provides incentives for using solar and other alternative energy sources | 83 | 15 |
| Pass a bill to overhaul the federal tax code | 76 | 14 |
| Speed up the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan | 72 | 25 |
| Pass an energy bill that expands drilling and exploration for oil and gas | 65 | 33 |
| Approve a free-trade agreement with South Korea | 53 | 35 |
| Pass stronger gun control laws | 49 | 50 |
| Take steps to deny automatic citizenship to children born in the U.S. whose parents are illegal immigrants | 44 | 54 |
| Pass a bill to give some illegal immigrants living in the U.S. a path to legal status | 43 | 55 |

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

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A smaller percentage of Americans, but still a solid majority at 65%, favor an energy bill that expands drilling and exploration for oil and gas.

²⁶ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145880/Alternative-Energy-Bill-Best-Among-Eight-Proposals.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA

The two least popular proposals tested address the illegal immigration issue, with one seeking to expand the rights of illegal immigrants and the other to roll them back. By 55% to 43%, Americans oppose Congress' passing legislation that would give some illegal immigrants living in the U.S. a path to legal status. By a similar margin (54% to 44%), Americans also oppose taking steps to deny automatic citizenship to children born in the U.S. whose parents are illegal immigrants.

Americans are about equally divided in their support for (49%) and opposition to (50%) passing stronger gun control laws.

The proposals tested in the Jan. 14-16 *USA Today*/Gallup poll include some of the actions the new Congress could take, but do not amount to a comprehensive list. The results can be viewed as Americans' support for or opposition to the basic idea of each policy, and not necessarily their backing of particular legislation Congress may pursue. For example, should Congress actually draft legislation to overhaul the federal tax code, Americans could be less supportive than this poll suggests if the specific bill eliminated popular tax deductions.

Of the eight proposals, the alternative energy bill and tax code overhaul ideas show the greatest bipartisan agreement, with 74% or more of each party group favoring these. Majorities of all three party groups also favor faster withdrawal from Afghanistan and expanded exploration for oil and gas, though with less widespread party consensus: Republicans are much less likely to back a speedier withdrawal from Afghanistan and Democrats less likely to endorse increased oil and gas exploration. Slim majorities of all three party groups favor passage of a free-trade agreement with South Korea.

Support for Possible Congressional Actions, by Political Party

Figures represent total % in favor

| | Democrats | Independents | Republicans |
|--|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | % | % | % |
| Pass alternative energy bill | 93 | 82 | 75 |
| Overhaul federal tax code | 74 | 77 | 77 |
| Speed up withdrawal from Afghanistan | 86 | 72 | 61 |
| Pass energy bill to expand oil and gas exploration | 52 | 62 | 83 |
| Approve a free-trade agreement with South Korea | 53 | 55 | 50 |
| Pass stronger gun control laws | 68 | 47 | 30 |
| Deny automatic citizenship to children of illegal immigrants | 36 | 44 | 51 |
| Give some illegal immigrants living in the U.S. a path to legal status | 64 | 39 | 27 |

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

GALLUP®

The party groups show the most disagreement on stronger gun control laws and a path to legal status for some illegal immigrants, both of which are favored by most Democrats but opposed by most Republicans.

None of the party groups shows solid support for taking steps to deny automatic citizenship to children of illegal immigrants, with Republicans most supportive at 51%.

Implications

With Republicans in control of the House of Representatives and Democrats in control of the Senate, it would appear the proposals with the best chances of passing are those that generate strong bipartisan support. That is clearly the case for a bill that would provide incentives for increased use of alternative energy.

While there is strong bipartisan sentiment for overhauling the federal tax code, Republicans and Democrats would likely have very different ideas on how to handle an overhaul, making the odds of passing such legislation unclear.

Though there is less bipartisan agreement on increased oil and gas exploration or a speedier withdrawal from Afghanistan, there may be enough that Congress could pass legislation on these issues if it decides to pursue them.

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.

157-26. Two-in-Five Americans Report Worsening Views of Sarah Palin²⁷

Published on Jan 31, 2011

Barack Obama leads the former Alaska Governor in a 2012 ballot test, but people who watched Palin's show on TLC hold more favorable views.

Many Americans believe that Sarah Palin is not ready to replace Barack Obama as President, a new Vision Critical poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,006 American adults, half of respondents (51%) hold an unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin.

About two-in-five Americans (38%) say that their opinion of Palin has worsened over the course of the past year. However, three-in-ten respondents who watched the television show "Sarah Palin's Alaska" on TLC (29%) say their views of the former Alaska Governor have improved.

Character Traits

A majority of Americans believe Sarah Palin is inexperienced (64%) and more style than substance (58%), while half believe she represents a new brand of politics (49%). Respondents are almost evenly split on whether Palin is too radical (45% agree, 42% disagree). Two-in-five Americans believe Palin inspires hope (40%), and one third believe she will make progress in bringing change to America (35%) and regard her as a person who can work across party lines to get things done (34%). Only 29 per cent of respondents think Palin stands for big government.

One-in-six Americans (17%) believe Palin deserves to be elected as President of the United States in 2012, while a large majority (64%) disagrees with this notion. Republicans are split on this question, with 37 per cent thinking Palin deserves to become head of state in 2012, and 41 per cent saying she does not. Democrats reject a Palin presidency by an 8-to-1 margin, and Independents do so by a 4-to-1 margin.

2012 Election Scenarios

At this early stage in the 2012 Presidential race, more than a third of Americans (37%) say they will either vote or are leaning towards voting for the Democratic nominee, while three-in-ten (29%) say they will support or are leaning towards supporting the Republican nominee.

The proportion of Independents who are committed or leaning to vote for the Republican nominee stands at 30 per cent, while 26 per cent of Independents are thinking of supporting the Democratic nominee.

However, the situation changes dramatically when voters are asked to ponder a contest pitting Barack Obama and Sarah Palin. The incumbent president gets the support of 37 per cent of respondents, and a further eight per cent are leaning towards casting a ballot for him. Palin gets the commitment of 20 per cent of voters, and seven per cent of leaners.

²⁷ <http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5543/two-in-five-americans-report-worsening-views-of-sarah-palin/>

While Obama can count on the committed support of seven-in-ten Democrats in 2010 (71%), Palin has the backing of half of Republicans (48%). Independents are more likely to support or lean towards Obama (42%) than to back or lean towards backing Palin (30%).

Analysis

Palin remains a mysterious, polarizing and captivating figure on the American political scene. Since her move from the Governor's mansion to her work in multiple media channels as a conservative commentator, media mom and outdoorswoman, Americans seem less enthused about her political image, her chances for a successful run at the White House, and her ability to lead.

Being described in negative terms is nothing new to Palin, as evidenced by an Angus Reid Public Opinion survey conducted in September 2010. However, her downward momentum is measurable. Two-in-five Americans say their opinion of her has worsened in the past year, only one-in-six regard her as "Presidential Material", and Barack Obama holds a substantial lead in a sample ballot against her.

However, not all the news is negative for Palin and two years in American politics can be a lifetime. The former vice-presidential nominee still does well on many measures among Republicans overall and seems to have a positive impact on some Independents. Additionally, she receives high ratings from both of these groups on "representing a new brand of politics." There is also some evidence that suggests that her media strategy is working. Among those Americans who report watching TLC's "Sarah Palin's Alaska", opinion is more favorable, negatives are lower, and Palin gains ground on being regarded as a person who "deserves to be president."

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.

157-27. World Cancer Day: Canadians Willing to Pitch in to Prevent Cancer²⁸

Published on Feb 03, 2011

When it comes to cancer research, Canadians want to do more. A national survey released today in advance of World Cancer Day shows that more than half of Canadians 35 to 69 years of age feel cancer should be a top priority for health research. However, the survey also shows that a similar number do not know how to get involved in a way that could be helpful to other people.

We have the answer and it takes just 30 or so minutes to sign up. The Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow Project is looking for 300,000 Canadians between the ages of 35 and 69 to participate

²⁸ <http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5709/world-cancer-day-canadians-willing-to-pitch-in-to-prevent-cancer/>

in a landmark Canadian study designed to help us better understand cancer and other chronic diseases, like heart and lung disease or diabetes. By following a large group of people over many years, researchers can explore how genetics, environment, lifestyle and behaviour interact and contribute to the development of cancer and other chronic diseases.

“This type of research is often difficult because it is complex, time consuming and extensive resources are required,” says Dr. Heather Bryant, Vice-President of Cancer Control, Canadian Partnership Against Cancer. “By joining this landmark study, Canadians will be contributing to the creation of a rich national bank of health information to help researchers answer fundamental questions about the causes of cancer and chronic disease for future generations.”

Study participants will be asked to provide information about their health, lifestyle and environment, biological samples such as urine and blood, and physical measurements such as weight and height. By following participants over the long term, researchers will be able to build layers of information that will create a rich understanding of how all of these factors interact to affect health. It is much more than a single study: it is the construction of a population laboratory that will yield results for decades to come.

“Like many Canadians, I have been personally affected by cancer and have often felt powerless in the face of this devastating disease,” says Jan Duff, a study participant. “By participating in the Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow Project, I know that I’m making a simple contribution that could make a significant difference in cancer research, and prevent my children and grandchildren from ever developing the disease.”

Most Canadians Want to Do More to Support Cancer Research

A new survey, conducted by Angus Reid Public Opinion for the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer to mark World Cancer Day on February 4th, found that virtually all Canadian respondents aged 35 to 69 (91 per cent) have been touched by cancer and three-quarters (74 per cent) feel that they are likely to develop cancer themselves. While more than half of Canadians (58 per cent), feel that they can do more to help improve the health of Canadians, a similar proportion (54 per cent) also feel that they do not know how they can help other people with their health problems, despite many (59 per cent) being interested in donating more time to health-related causes. While many Canadians in this age group (55 per cent) selected cancer over nine other possibilities as the top priority for health research, when introduced to the Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow Project, 80 per cent agree that it is critical for Canadians to participate in this type of study.

About Canada’s Landmark Cancer and Chronic Disease Research Study

The Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow Project consists of five regional studies known as Atlantic PATH, BC Generations Project, Quebec’s CARTaGENE, Ontario Health Study and Alberta’s The Tomorrow Project. These cohorts are being driven by partner organizations in the five participating regions including the BC Cancer Agency, Alberta Health Services - Cancer Care, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Cancer Care Ontario, Quebec’s CARTaGENE

project, and Cancer Care Nova Scotia with Dalhousie University collaborating for work in the Atlantic Provinces.

Funding includes \$42 million from the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer – a national, independent organization funded by the federal government to accelerate action on cancer control for all Canadians – along with additional regional commitments of \$57.1 million.

AUSTRALASIA

157-28. Two Thirds of Australians Say Economy is in Good Shape²⁹

Published on Feb 04, 2011

A large proportion of Australians appear satisfied with their country's current economic standing, and boast a level of confidence that surpasses other industrialized nations, a new Vision Critical poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 1,021 Australian adults, 69 per cent of respondents rate the economic conditions in the country as “very good” or “good”, while only 25 per cent deem them “bad” or “very bad.”

About half of Australians (47%) expect the national economy to remain the same over the next six months, while 20 per cent expect an improvement, and 28 per cent foresee a decline.

Economic Worries

The most prevalent economic concern in the country is the value of investments, with one third of Australians (34%) saying they have worried about this issue “occasionally” or “frequently” in the past couple of months. Three-in-ten have worried about themselves or somebody in their household becoming unemployed (31%), the safety of their savings (30%), or being able to pay mortgage or rent (29%). Only 18 per cent of respondents have worried “occasionally” or “frequently” about their employer running into serious financial trouble.

Despite the high level of confidence in the economy, Australians opt for a conservative approach when it comes to their personal finances. If Australians were given an extra \$1,000, they would allocate the largest proportions of cash to paying down debt (\$293) and saving in a bank account (\$253). The rest of the funds would be allocated to covering day-to-day expenses (\$127), spending a holiday (\$117), purchasing big items like a car or home improvements (\$85), buying personal gifts or treats (\$70), investing in individual stocks (\$42), and investing in mutual funds (\$13).

Political Leadership

Half of Australians (50%) express trust in Prime Minister Jullia Gillard to do the right thing to help the economy, the highest score among five people rated. Glenn Stevens, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, is next on the list with the confidence of 44 per cent of respondents.

²⁹ <http://www.visioncritical.com/public-opinion/5725/two-thirds-of-australians-say-economy-is-in-good-shape/>

About two-in-five respondents trust Opposition and Coalition Leader Tony Abbott (39%), Shadow Treasurer Joe Hockey (39%), and Treasurer Wayne Swan (38%).

The two main political forces in the country garner a similar level of confidence on this file, with 42 per cent of respondents saying they “completely” or “moderately” trust the Liberal Coalition to do the right thing to help the economy, and 41 per cent expressing similar feelings about the Australian Labor Party. Conversely, just one-in-four respondents (24%) express confidence in The Greens.

Discounts

The survey also looked at the advertised level of discount that Australians would require in order to be enticed to make a purchase at a store. About two-in-ten respondents (39%) would have to see a 40% to 60% discount to enter a store, while 18 per cent would require a discount of over 60%.

Analysis

At the start of 2010, Australians hold a more favourable opinion about their national economy than Canadians (50%), Britons (14%), and Americans (12%). The rating for Julia Gillard as an economic manager is higher than the numbers garnered by Stephen Harper in Canada, David Cameron in Britain, and Barack Obama in the United States.

Respondents maintain a positive assessment of the economic situation, and are particularly buoyant when it comes to the state of the country’s business community. A full two-thirds of respondents say they have never worried about their employer running into serious financial trouble—a significantly higher proportion than in Britain or the United States.

Methodology: From January 19 to January 24, 2011, Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 1,021 randomly selected Australian adults who are YourSource 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 data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Australia. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

157-29. Egyptians', Tunisians' Wellbeing Plummet Despite GDP Gains³⁰

Traditional economic indicators paint an incomplete picture of life in these countries

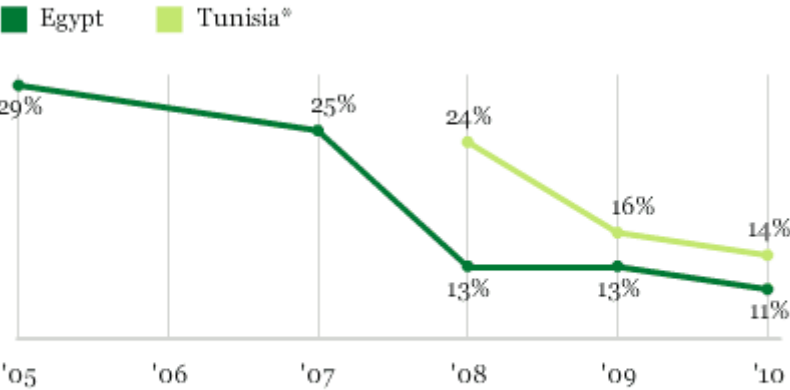
February 2, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Wellbeing in Egypt and Tunisia decreased significantly over the past few years, even as GDP increased. In Egypt, where demonstrations have prompted President

³⁰ http://www.gallup.com/poll/145883/Egyptians-Tunisians-Wellbeing-Plummet-Despite-GDP-Gains.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia-Muslim-World-Wellbeing

Hosni Mubarak to give up power after elections this fall, the percentage of people "thriving" fell by 18 percentage points since 2005. In Tunisia, where mass protests toppled the country's government last month, the percentage of people Gallup classifies as thriving fell 10 points since 2008.

Percentage "Thriving" in Egypt and Tunisia



*Gallup does not have data for Tunisia prior to 2008.

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Gallup classifies respondents worldwide as "thriving," "suffering," or "struggling" based on how they rate their current and future lives on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving ladder scale, with steps numbered from 0 to 10. The declining percentage of those in Egypt and Tunisia who rate their lives well enough to be considered thriving reveals that these populations, as a whole, have become increasingly negative about their lives over the past few years.

In Egypt, all income groups have seen wellbeing decline significantly since 2005, with only the richest 20% of the population trending positively since 2009. In Tunisia, wellbeing for all groups has declined since 2008 at similar rates.

As a result of these declines, wellbeing in these countries now ranks among the worst in the Middle East and North Africa region, on par with Libya, Palestinian Territories, Iraq, Yemen, and Morocco. When more people were thriving in Egypt and Tunisia in past years, their wellbeing ranked toward the higher end for the region. Thus, it is important to consider the current state of wellbeing in each country as well as the trend and trajectory.

Percentage "Thriving" in the Middle East and North Africa

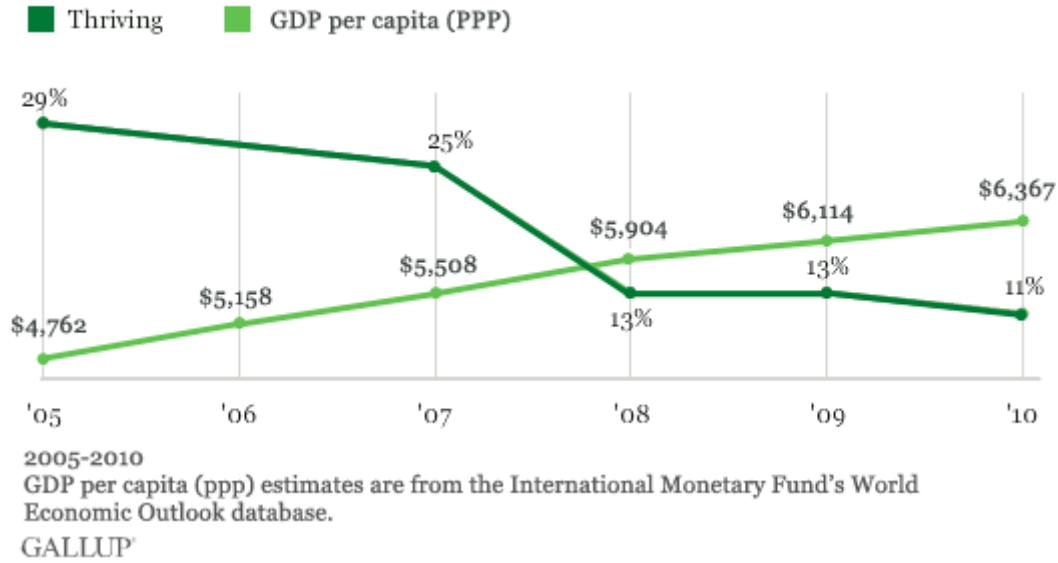
| Country | % Thriving |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| United Arab Emirates | 55 |
| Qatar | 53 |
| Kuwait | 46 |
| Saudi Arabia | 43 |
| Jordan | 30 |
| Bahrain | 27 |
| Lebanon | 21 |
| Algeria | 20 |
| Libya | 14 |
| Palestinian Territories | 14 |
| Tunisia | 14 |
| Iraq | 13 |
| Egypt | 12 |
| Yemen | 12 |
| Morocco | 9 |

2010

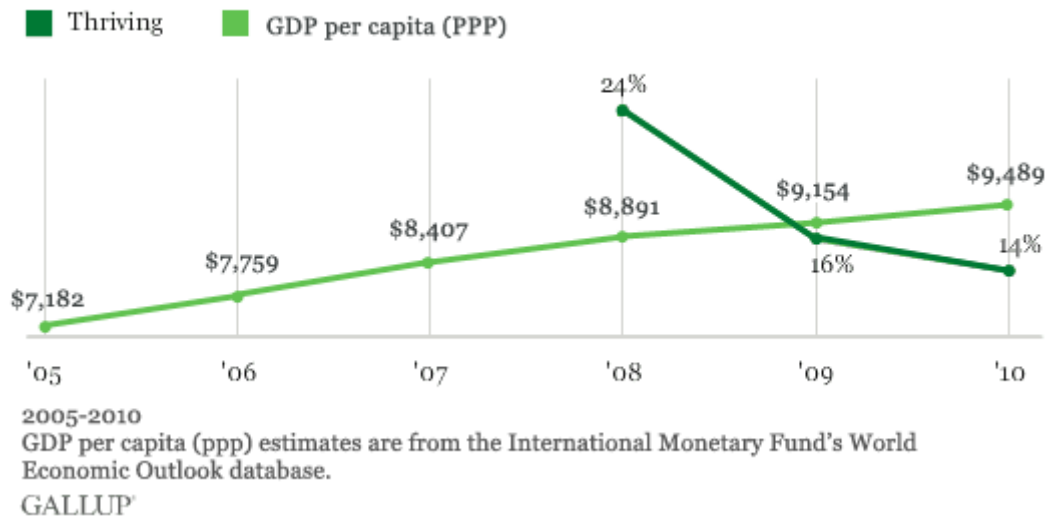
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The data underscore how traditional economic metrics can paint an incomplete picture of life in a given country. Over the same period that wellbeing decreased in Egypt and Tunisia, GDP increased. This is particularly noteworthy because previous Gallup research, by [Angus Deaton](#), [Betsey Stevenson](#) and [Justin Wolfers](#), and Gallup researchers, has found wellbeing to be highly correlated with GDP per capita.

Egypt: Recent Trends in Percentage “Thriving” and GDP per Capita (PPP)



Tunisia: Recent Trends in Percentage “Thriving” and GDP per Capita (PPP)



Gallup's global wellbeing metrics make clear that leaders cannot assume that the lives of those in their countries would improve in tandem with rising GDP. The traditional GDP gains seen in Tunisia and Egypt alongside declines in wellbeing and subsequent political instability are evidence of this. Together, the data strongly suggest leaders need to follow much more than GDP to effectively track and lead the progress of their nation.

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews in Egypt and Tunisia with approximately 2,000 adults in each country, aged 15 and older, in 2009 and 2010. Surveys in Egypt in 2009 took place March 7-22 and Aug. 11-19; in 2010, they were conducted March 13-23 and Sept. 25 to Oct. 26. Surveys in Tunisia in 2009 took place Feb. 20 to March 25 and Aug. 2-22; in 2010, they were conducted Feb. 3 to April 27 and Sept. 10 to Oct. 25. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 2.5 percentage points. Results in Egypt and Tunisia prior to 2009 are based on approximately 1,000 face-to-face interviews each year.

All other results for countries mentioned in this article are based on face-to-face interviews in 2010 with approximately 2,000 adults in each country. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 2.6 percentage points. Surveys in Arab Gulf countries were conducted with nationals and Arab expatriates. 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.

CYBERWORLD

157-30. Accessing Health Topics on the Internet³¹

February 1, 2011

Health information remains one of the most important subjects that internet users research online. The Pew Internet Project and California HealthCare Foundation have added eight new topics -- including food safety, drug safety and pregnancy information -- to our national survey measuring internet users' interest in health information. Among the findings in these areas:

- 29% of internet users look online for information about food safety or recalls.
- 24% of internet users look online for information about drug safety or recalls.
- 19% of internet users look online for information about pregnancy and childbirth.
- 17% of internet users look online for information about memory loss, dementia or Alzheimer's.
- 16% of internet users look online for information about medical test results.
- 14% of internet users look online for information about how to manage chronic pain.
- 12% of internet users look online for information about long-term care for an elderly or disabled person.
- 7% of internet users look online for information about end-of-life decisions.

Symptoms and treatments continue to dominate internet users' health searches. Six related topics were repeated from previous surveys, in some cases adding to trends that date back to 2002:

- 66% of internet users look online for information about a specific disease or medical problem (perennially in the top spot).

³¹ <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1875/internet-health-topics-accessing-updated-data>

- 56% of internet users look online for information about a certain medical treatment or procedure.
- 44% of internet users look online for information about doctors or other health professionals.
- 36% of internet users look online for information about hospitals or other medical facilities.
- 33% of internet users look online for information related to health insurance, including private insurance, Medicare or Medicaid.
- 22% of internet users look online for information about environmental health hazards.

Eight-in-ten internet users look online for health information, making it the third most popular online pursuit among all those tracked by the Pew Internet Project, following email and using a search engine. Since one-quarter of adults do not go online, the percentage of health information seekers is 59% among the total U.S. adult population.

The survey finds that not only are some demographic groups more likely than others to have internet access, but these same groups are generally more likely to seek health information once online.

The most likely groups to look online for health information include:

- Adults who, in the past 12 months, have provided unpaid care to a parent, child, friend, or other loved one
- Women
- Whites
- Adults between the ages of 18 and 49
- Adults with at least some college education
- Adults living in higher-income households

By contrast, fewer than half of adults in the following groups in the U.S. look online for health information:

- African Americans
- Latinos
- Adults living with a disability
- Adults ages 65 and older
- Adults with a high school education or less
- Adults living in low-income households (\$30,000 or less annual income)

However, young people, Latinos and African Americans are increasingly likely to use mobile devices to gather information, which could potentially shift the patterns among those groups when it comes to using health information resources.

[Read the full report at pewinternet.org](http://pewinternet.org). Also find a [commentary](#) about people with disabilities and their limited use of internet information.
