

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 31 surveys. Five of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 26 are national surveys.

Summary of Polls

MIDDLE EAST

Iraqis Believe Country is Going in The Wrong Direction

Iraqis give a mixed evaluation of their personal life, state and issues in the country. Almost six in ten Iraqis believe that their country is going in the wrong direction. This is almost equivalent to their responses in June 2010. (IRI)
February 02, 2011

WEST ASIA

Poverty on the Rise in Pakistan

According to a recent survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , 77% of all Pakistanis are of the opinion that poverty has increased in our country. Furthermore nearly half of all Pakistanis (47%) believe that the trend of helping the poor has decreased. It should be noted that this survey captured perceptions which may or may not match with realities. (Gallup Pakistan)
February 9, 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Filipinos Preferences For Life Partners

Fifty-one percent of Filipinos would choose a lifetime partner who is rich but ugly rather than someone who is good-looking but poor (46%), according to the Social Weather Stations Fourth Quarter 2010. (SWS)
February 01, 2011

NORTH EAST ASIA

Japanese Government Low Approval Continues

A recent survey of Japanese public shows that Mr. Kan cabinet in Japan is not able to recover its approval ratings in the country. However Democratic Party of Japan is slightly more popular than Liberal Democratic Party. (Asahi Shimbun)
January 17, 2011

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

South Africans Getting Disillusioned With Zuma

A recent survey of South Africans shows that popularity of President Jacub Zuma is now beginning to decline. Compared with November 2009 ratings his approval ratings and ratings of the government have declined by 15 and 11 points respectively. (Ipsos SA)
February 09, 2011

Nigerians Optimistic About Coming Presidential Elections

IRI's poll suggests that Nigerians are optimistic about their prospects for peaceful and credible elections in 2011. Seventy-seven percent of those interviewed agree that the elections will be mostly free, fair and credible, and 74 percent believe that they will be more credible than the 2007 elections. (IRI)

February 1, 2011

WEST EUROPE

The European Emergency Number 112

More than 9 in 10 (96%) EU citizens thought that it was very useful to have a European emergency number available throughout the EU (83% totally agreed and 13% tended to agree). (Gallup Hungary)

February 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Cold Winter Weather Doesn't Change Opinions About Global Warming

It may have been cold and snowy so far this winter, but Americans are just as likely to believe in global warming as they were a year ago, according to the latest Economist/YouGov Poll. 60% say global warming is happening, about the same as the 59% who said so last March. 29% this time, and 30% last year, said it was not. (Yougov)

February 10, 2011

Americans Prefer the Death Penalty - Despite the Possibility of Executing the Innocent

More than two out of three Americans support the death penalty in the latest Economist/YouGov Poll, which is about the same level of support they have shown for the death penalty for serious crimes over time. Those who favor death penalty do so despite the fact that many of them think innocent people have been executed in the last five years. (Yougov)

February 09, 2011

Americans Lean Toward Revising No Child Left Behind

As the Obama administration and Congress ponder the fate of the No Child Left Behind Act, Americans are inclined to retain it but not necessarily in its present form. Overall, 41% of Americans say Congress should keep the act but with major revisions, while 21% want it kept more or less in its present form, and 16% want it eliminated. (Gallup USA)

February 7, 2011

Insights on Hispanic Shopping Behaviors

Representing more than 15 percent of the population, Hispanic consumers' current spending power of \$950 billion is expected to increase to an astounding \$1.2 trillion by 2012. With that kind of revenue at stake, it is no wonder that the CPG industry is constantly searching for new ways to reach Hispanic consumers through marketing, advertising, promotion and media. (Synovate)

February 08, 2011

Americans Sympathetic to Egyptian Protesters

Most Americans support the protesters who have called for a change in the government in Egypt, with 82% saying they are sympathetic to the protesters (including 42% who are very sympathetic), while 11% are unsympathetic. (Gallup USA)

February 7, 2011

Americans' Views of Egypt Sharply More Negative

Americans' opinions of Egypt have become sharply more negative, with an 18-percentage-point drop in the country's favorable ratings -- from 58% in 2010 to 40% this year. For the first time since Gallup's initial measurement in 1991, more Americans have a negative than positive view of Egypt. (Gallup USA)

February 8, 2011

In U.S., Flu, Colds Hit Hard in January

After a slow start to the season, Americans' self-reports of colds and the flu are on the rise, tracking higher now compared with the last two years, according to the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. In January, 3.1% of Americans reported having the flu the day before the survey, compared with 2.4% last season and 2.9% in 2008-2009. (Gallup USA)

February 8, 2011

Obama's Approval Rating on Deficit Sinks to New Low

President Barack Obama's approval rating for handling the federal budget deficit has gone from bad to worse in recent months, even as his ratings on all other major national issues have generally held steady. Currently, 27% of Americans approve of Obama on the deficit, down from 32% in November, while 68% disapprove. (Gallup USA)

February 9, 2011

China Tops List of Countries Vitally Important to U.S.; Egypt 9th

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. (Gallup USA)

February 9, 2011

Public Uncertain About Effect of Egypt Protests on U.S.

Americans do not have a clear point of view about how the massive anti-government protests in Egypt will affect the United States. More than half (58%) say the protests will not have much of an effect (36%), or offer no response or are noncommittal (22%). Of the minority that thinks the protests will have an effect on the U.S., nearly twice as many say their impact will be negative rather than positive (28% vs. 15%). (Pew Research Center)

February 8, 2011

Historically, Public Has Given Low Priority to Promoting Democracy Overseas

Americans like the idea of their government promoting democracy in other nations. But democracy promotion has historically lagged far behind other objectives among the public's long-term foreign policy goals. (Pew Research Center)

February 4, 2011

Rethinking Budget Cutting

The public's views about federal spending are beginning to change. Across a range of federal programs, Americans are no longer calling for increased spending, as they have for many years. For the most part, however, there is not a great deal of support for cutting spending, though in a few cases support for reductions has grown noticeably. The survey also shows that the public is reluctant to cut spending -- or raise taxes -- to balance state budgets. (Pew Research Center)

February 10, 2011

Americans' Life Evaluation Climbs to Three-Year High

Americans rated their lives better in January than in any other month since Gallup and Healthways began tracking life evaluation. The percentage of Americans who were "thriving" rose to 54.2%, the highest on record, far surpassing the 42.6% who were "struggling," and driving the Life Evaluation Index score to a new high of 51 in January. (Gallup USA)

February 10, 2011

Republicans Remain Reticent to Approve of New Congress

Republicans give Congress lackluster approval ratings -- as do the rest of Americans -- despite their party's increased share of power. At 23%, Republicans' approval is essentially the same as independents' (23%) and Democrats' (25%) approval -- making the three groups more closely aligned in their views of Congress than at any time in the past several years, and resulting in a 23% approval rating overall. (Gallup USA)

February 10, 2011

Unemployment Solidifies Position as Most Important Problem

Thirty-five percent of Americans name unemployment as the most important problem facing the U.S., the highest percentage since the economic slowdown began and higher than at any point since October 1983 (41%). Unemployment is the most important problem for the second month in a row, with the economy ranking second and healthcare third. (Gallup USA)

February 11, 2011

Iran, North Korea Still Americans' Least Favorite Countries

Americans have a more positive view of Canada than they do of any of 20 other countries rated in Gallup's annual World Affairs poll. Great Britain is a close second at 88%, while Americans have the most negative opinions of Iran, North Korea, and Afghanistan. (Gallup USA)

February 11, 2011

Americans And Canadians More Likely To Observe Valentine's Day Than Britons

Canadians and Americans are more likely than Britons to give their spouse or partner a card or gift this Valentine's Day, according to a recent Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll. (Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll)

February 11, 2011

Egypt Overwhelms News Agenda

Last week's turmoil in the Middle East registered as the biggest international story in the past four years-- surpassing any coverage of the Iraq war, the Haiti earthquake and the conflict in Afghanistan. (Pew Research Center)

February 8, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Young Egyptians Increasingly See Their Potential Untapped

Young people in several Arab countries became less likely in 2010 to believe their leadership fully uses their human capital. Young Egyptians' perceptions experienced one of the largest declines: fewer than 3 in 10 15- to 29-year-olds say Egypt's leadership maximizes youth potential, down from almost 4 in 10 in 2009. (Gallup USA)

February 9, 2011

About 1 in 7 Chinese Leave Communities for Healthcare

As China starts the final year of its aggressive three-year plan to provide "safe, effective, convenient, and affordable" healthcare to all Chinese, about one in seven (15%) residents

say at least one member of their household needed to travel to another community for medical care in the past year. This percentage is lower than the median of 21% across 13 Asian countries Gallup surveyed. (Gallup USA)

February 8, 2011

Qatar's FIFA World Cup Bid Win Makes Middle East So Proud

Over two thirds (68%) of respondents of Middle East agree they felt proud of the Middle East when they heard that Qatar had won the FIFA World Cup™. They believe it is a well deserved win for a nation with vision (68%) and a milestone in history (79%).

(Yougov Siraj)

December 16, 2010

CYBER WORLD

Social Media Transforming Dating

Facebook has become a primary means of finding and expressing romance for millions of Americans. Nearly one-half of this nation's adults on Facebook use it to tell the world they are in a relationship with someone. Nearly three-fourths of all Facebook users who are not in a relationship log on to learn about people they want to date. Romance-related uses of Facebook for people ages 18-29 are even greater. (Zgby Interactive)

February 10, 2011

Latinos and Digital Technology

Latinos are less likely than whites to access the internet, have a home broadband connection or own a cell phone, according to survey findings from the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. Latinos lag behind blacks in home broadband access but have similar rates of internet and cell phone use. (Pew Research Center)

February 9, 2011

Generations and Gadgets

Many devices have become popular across generations, with a majority of adults now owning cell phones, laptops and desktop computers. Younger adults are leading the way in increased mobility, preferring laptops to desktops and using their cell phones for a variety of functions, including internet, email, music, games and video. (Pew Research Center)

February 3, 2011

Topic of the week:

158-32 Iraqis Believe Country is Going in the Wrong Direction



IRI Iraq Index: October 2010 Survey of Iraqi Public Opinion

Personal Sentiments

The International Republican Institute (IRI) surveys conducted in December 2009 and June 2010 demonstrated mixed feeling regarding Iraq's future. The most recent survey conducted in October 2010, during the long period of political stalemate, continued that trend. On a personal level, the October 2010 poll shows that when asked, "Thinking ahead to next year, do you expect your household financial situation to get better, worse or stay the same?" **50 %** responded positively (**38 %** somewhat better and **12 %** much better). This marks a 13-point drop from **63 %** the previous June (**55 %** somewhat better and **8%** much better).

National Sentiments

There is a clearer consensus on a sense of national (as opposed to personal) dissatisfaction. When asked in October 2010, "In your opinion, would you say things in Iraq are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?" **57 %** of respondents answered that Iraq is moving in the wrong direction. Although this is statistically equivalent to the figure from the June 2010 poll, it is still 14 points higher than in the December 2009 survey. Furthermore, there has been a steady decline in respondents who believe Iraq is moving in the right direction: from **51 %** in December 2009, to **41 %** in June 2010, to **35 %** in October 2010.

In particular, when asked in each of the three surveys, "Not personally, but in terms of

SIX REGIONS OF IRAQ



1. KURDISTAN REGION

2. DISPUTED TERRITORIES

3. NORTHERN TRIANGLE

4. BAGHDAD

5. SOUTHERN BELT

6. BASRA



Iraq, what in your opinion is the single biggest problem facing Iraq as a whole?" security is ranked first in December 2009 at **43 %** and in October 2010 at **36 %**. June 2010 could be read as an outlier: security came in second at **24 %** while basic services were the primary concern for **66 %** of respondents, during a summer when Iraq was ravaged by high heat and inadequate electrical grids. Basic services, in the winter of 2009 and the fall of 2010, otherwise remain in a steady second place at **23 %** and **25 %**, respectively.

Yet over the same period, perceptions of a decline in Iraq's security situation have generally stabilized. When asked over the three surveys, "Over the last year, would you say that security in Iraq has gotten better or gotten worse?" **81 %**

in December 2009, **73 %** in June 2010, and **65 %** in October 2010 said better. Conversely, over the same three surveys, a mere **18 %**, **23 %**, and most recently **20 %** said worse.

The Iraqi National Army receives a strong 77 % approval rating, followed by the Iraqi National Police with **73 %**, and the Iraqi National Government with **58 %**. Shia Arabs voice the highest approval ratings of these government entities, closely followed by Sunni Arabs and then distantly trailed by the Kurds. For example, **88 %** of Shia Arabs support the Iraqi National Army, compared to **75 %** of Sunni Arabs but only **43 %** of the Kurds.

Regional and Sectarian Differences

The most significant differences by region are in satisfaction with basic services (electricity, water and sewage), with those in the Kurdistan region polling far more favorably than the rest of the country. Otherwise, a majority throughout Iraq maintain that unemployment and government corruption are either somewhat worse or much worse than in the previous year. A majority across the country also see no change in wages and salaries.

There is a wide consensus in all of Iraq's regions on bellwether questions such as, "In your opinion, would you say things in Iraq are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?" the Kurdistan region (**63 %**), disputed territories (**59 %**), northern triangle (**58 %**), Baghdad (**62 %**) and Basrah (**65 %**) responded in the wrong direction. Those in the Kurdistan region in the north are essentially polling even with Basrah in the south. The southern belt is the only outlier, with only **47 %** responding negatively.

These views are also roughly consistent along sectarian and ethnic lines. In October 2010, **68 %** of Sunni Arabs, **52 %** of Shia Arabs and **56 %** of Kurds all responded negatively. The proportion of Sunni Arabs who responded that things in Iraq are going in the right direction dropped three points from June to October; among Shia Arabs, that figure dropped 19 points, and among Kurds 11 points.



March 2010 Elections and the New Parliament

There are almost no differences at all among the three major communities in assessing last spring's elections and anticipating the new parliament's performance. Around two-thirds in each group say the March 2010 elections were free and fair. Moreover, nearly the same high proportion of each group (**57 %**) voice confidence that the new parliament will work well for the benefit of all the Iraqi people.

Looming Decisions

The character of the Iraq's government, whether federally or centrally administered, secular or religious, remains a highly divisive issue. Majorities in most provinces – but not in the Kurdistan region – desire a strong central government, and believe that oil revenues should go to the central government, not to the provinces.



Overall, **44 %** of Iraqis say that Iraqi politics should be based on religion (**20 %** somewhat, **24 %** very much), as opposed to **50 %** who say it should be secular (**21 %** somewhat, **29 %** very much). However, this issue, too, does not break down evenly by region. **59%** in the southern belt and **79 %** in the Kurdish region want Iraqi politics to be based on religion. Basrah is evenly split, **47 %** to **48 %**. In striking contrast, **66 %** in the disputed territories, **67 %** in the northern triangle, and **70 %** in Baghdad all want Iraqi politics to be based on secularism. IRI focus groups conducted after the October poll suggest a correlation between favoring a secular government and experience with sectarian violence: very high numbers of Kurds favor a moderate form of religion in government, but have also been spared the sectarian violence experienced elsewhere in Iraq. §

SOURCE:[http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%20%20Survey%20of%20Iraqi%20Public%20Opinion,%20October%2023-30,%202010\(1\).pdf](http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%20%20Survey%20of%20Iraqi%20Public%20Opinion,%20October%2023-30,%202010(1).pdf)

158-33 IRAQ



IRAQ:

Population: 28,945,569 (July 2010 est.)

GDP per Capita: \$3,800 (2009 est.)

Formerly part of the Ottoman Empire, Iraq was occupied by Britain during the course of World War I; in 1920, it was declared a League of Nations mandate under UK administration. In stages over the next dozen years, Iraq attained its independence as a kingdom in 1932. A "republic" was proclaimed in 1958, but in actuality a series of strongmen ruled the country until 2003. The last was SADDAM Husayn. Territorial disputes with Iran led to an inconclusive and costly eight-year war (1980-88). In August 1990, Iraq seized Kuwait but was expelled by US-led, UN coalition forces during the Gulf War of January-February 1991. Following Kuwait's liberation, the UN Security Council (UNSC) required Iraq to scrap all weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles and to allow UN verification inspections. Continued Iraqi noncompliance with UNSC resolutions over a period of 12 years led to the US-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003 and the ouster of the SADDAM Husayn regime. US forces remained in Iraq under a UNSC mandate through 2009 and under a bilateral security agreement thereafter, helping to provide security and to train and mentor Iraqi security forces. In October 2005, Iraqis

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

MIDDLE EAST

158-1. Iraqis Believe Country is Going in The Wrong Direction

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Personal Sentiments

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On a personal level, the October 2010 poll shows that when asked, "Thinking ahead to next year, do you expect your household financial situation to get better, worse or stay the same?" 50 percent responded positively (38 percent somewhat better and 12 percent much better). This marks a 13-point drop from 63 percent the previous June (55 percent somewhat better and eight percent much better).

When asked retrospectively, "Has the situation regarding wages and salaries gotten better, gotten worse or stayed the same over the last year?" 32 percent responded favorably (26 percent somewhat better and six percent much better), while 44 percent responded same. Only 18 percent responded negatively (eight percent somewhat worse and 10 percent much worse).

National Sentiments

There is a clearer consensus on a sense of national (as opposed to personal) dissatisfaction. When asked in October 2010, "In your opinion, would you say things in Iraq are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?" 57 percent of respondents answered that Iraq is moving in the wrong direction. Although this is statistically equivalent to the figure from the June 2010 poll, it is still 14 points higher than in the December 2009 survey. Furthermore, there has been a steady decline in respondents who believe Iraq is moving in the right direction: from 51 percent in December 2009, to 41 percent in June 2010, to 35 percent in October 2010.

In particular, when asked in each of the three surveys, "Not personally, but in terms of Iraq, what in your opinion is the single biggest problem facing Iraq as a whole?" security is ranked first in December 2009 at 43 percent and in October 2010 at 36 percent. June 2010 could be read as an outlier: security came in second at 24 percent while basic services were the primary concern for 66 percent of respondents, during a summer when Iraq was ravaged by high heat and inadequate electrical grids. Basic services, in the winter of 2009 and the fall of 2010, otherwise remain in a steady second place at 23 percent and 25 percent, respectively.

Yet over the same period, perceptions of a decline in Iraq's security situation have generally stabilized. When asked over the three surveys, "Over the last year, would you say that security in Iraq has gotten better or gotten worse?" 81 percent in December 2009, 73 percent in June 2010, and 65 percent in October 2010 said better. Conversely, over the same three surveys, a mere 18 percent, 23 percent, and most recently 20 percent said worse.

The Iraqi National Army receives a strong 77 percent approval rating, followed by the Iraqi National Police with 73 percent, and the Iraqi National Government with 58 percent. Shia Arabs voice the highest approval ratings of these government entities, closely followed by Sunni Arabs and then distantly trailed by the Kurds. For example, 88 percent of Shia Arabs support the Iraqi National Army, compared to 75 percent of Sunni Arabs but only 43 percent of the Kurds.

Regional and Sectarian Differences

The most significant differences by region are in satisfaction with basic services (electricity, water and sewage), with those in the Kurdistan region polling far more favorably than the rest of the country. Otherwise, a majority throughout Iraq maintain that unemployment and government corruption are either somewhat worse or much worse than in the previous year. A majority across the country also see no change in wages and salaries.

In addition, the only area that clearly approves of its provincial council is the Kurdistan region, at a 69 percent approval rating (37 percent somewhat approve, 32 percent strongly approve). Elsewhere, the disputed territories are evenly split in their assessments, while a slim majority in the northern triangle and southern belt disapprove of their provincial councils. Baghdad (62 percent) and Basrah (81 percent) solidly disapprove.

There is a wide consensus in all of Iraq's regions on bellwether questions such as, "In your opinion, would you say things in Iraq are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?" the Kurdistan region (63 percent), disputed territories (59 percent), northern triangle (58 percent), Baghdad (62 percent) and Basrah (65 percent) responded in the wrong direction. Those in the Kurdistan region in the north are essentially polling even with Basrah in the south. The southern belt is the only outlier, with only 47 percent responding negatively.

These views are also roughly consistent along sectarian and ethnic lines. In October 2010, 68 percent of Sunni Arabs, 52 percent of Shia Arabs and 56 percent of Kurds all responded negatively. The proportion of Sunni Arabs who responded that things in Iraq are going in the right direction dropped three points from June to October; among Shia Arabs, that figure dropped 19 points, and among Kurds 11 points.

March 2010 Elections and the New Parliament

There are almost no differences at all among the three major communities in assessing last spring's elections and anticipating the new parliament's performance. Around two-thirds in each group say the March 2010 elections were free and fair. Moreover, nearly the same high proportion of each group (57 percent) voice confidence that the new parliament will work well for the benefit of all the Iraqi people.

Looming Decisions

The character of the Iraq's government, whether federally or centrally administered, secular or religious, remains a highly divisive issue. Majorities in most provinces – but not in the Kurdistan region – desire a strong central government, and believe that oil revenues should go to the central government, not to the provinces.

Overall, 44 percent of Iraqis say that Iraqi politics should be based on religion (20 percent somewhat, 24 percent very much), as opposed to 50 percent who say it should be secular (21 percent somewhat, 29 percent very much). However, this issue, too, does not break down evenly by region. Fifty-nine percent in the southern belt and 79 percent in the Kurdish region want Iraqi politics to be based on religion. Basrah is evenly split, 47 percent to 48 percent. In striking contrast, 66 percent in the disputed territories, 67 percent in the northern triangle, and 70 percent in Baghdad all want Iraqi politics to be based on secularism. IRI focus groups conducted after the October poll suggest a correlation between favoring a secular government and experience with sectarian violence: very high numbers of Kurds favor a moderate form of religion in government, but have also been spared the sectarian violence experienced elsewhere in Iraq.

Source: [http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%20%20Survey%20of%20Iraqi%20Public%20Opinion,%20October%2023-30,%202010\(1\).pdf](http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%20%20Survey%20of%20Iraqi%20Public%20Opinion,%20October%2023-30,%202010(1).pdf)

WEST ASIA

158-2. Poverty on the Rise in Pakistan

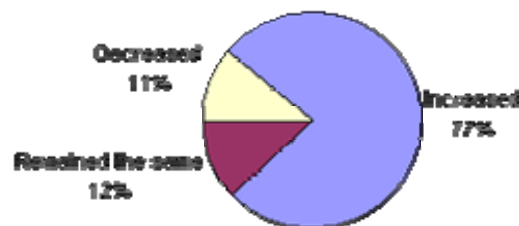
Majority (77%) Believes That Poverty Has Increased In Pakistan. Furthermore 47% Say The Trend Of Helping The Poor Has Decreased: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, February 9, 2011

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , 77% of all Pakistanis are of the opinion that poverty has increased in our country. Furthermore nearly half of all Pakistanis (47%) believe that the trend of helping the poor has decreased. It should be noted that this survey captured perceptions which may or may not match with realities.

In a survey, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: " *In your opinion has poverty increased or decreased in the last ten years in Pakistan . Here poverty refers to those people who cannot afford two meals a day or have a shelter?*" Seventy seven percent (77%) believed that poverty has increased in Pakistan in the past one decade, 12% said it has remained the same while 11% were of the opinion that it has decreased.

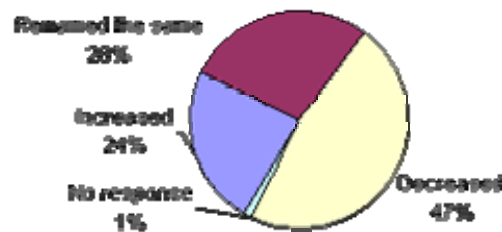
"In your opinion has poverty increased or decreased in the last ten years in Pakistan . Here poverty refers to those people who cannot afford two meals a day or have a shelter?"



Source: Gallup and Gilani Surveys

In a follow up question, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: “Do you believe the trend of helping and supporting the poor has increased or decreased?” Forty seven percent (47%) were of the opinion that the trend of helping the poor has decreased, 28% said it has remained the same while 24% stated it has increased. 1% gave no response.

“Do you believe the trend of helping and supporting the poor has increased or decreased?”



Source: Gallup and Gilani Surveys

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.

Source: <http://www.gallup.com.pk/Polls/9-02-11.pdf>

SOUTH EAST ASIA

158-3. Filipinos Preferences For Life Partners

1 February 2011

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey:

51% prefer someone *Rich but Ugly*
while 46% prefer someone *Good-looking but Poor*;
55% are Very Happy with their Love Life

Social Weather Stations

Fifty-one percent of Filipinos would choose a lifetime partner who is *rich but ugly* rather than someone who is *good-looking but poor* (46%), according to the Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey conducted on November 27-30, 2010. [Chart 1]

The survey also found that 55% of Filipinos are *very happy* with their love life, while 34% say it *could be happier*, and 11% have *no love life*.

52% of men pick good-looking but poor, 57% of women pick rich but ugly

To the question, "*Halimbawa pong kayo ay papipiliin ng isa sa dalawang sumusunod na makasama nang habangbuhay, sino po ang inyong pipiliin: Ang isang mayaman ngunit pangit ang itsura, o Ang isang mahirap ngunit gwapo o maganda ang itsura?* [If you were to choose one of the following two persons to be your lifetime partner, who would you pick: A person who

is rich but ugly, or A person who is good-looking but poor," 51% chose *rich but ugly* and 46% chose *good-looking but poor*. Two percent did not give an answer.

Filipino men are more likely to choose someone *good-looking but poor* (52%) for a life partner rather than someone *rich but ugly* (46%). [Chart 2]

Filipino women, on the other hand, are more inclined to choose a life partner who is *rich but ugly* (57%) rather than someone who is *good-looking but poor* (41%).

Among men, majorities of those 55 years old and above (60%), 45-54 (54%) and 18-24 or the youth (56%) would choose a life partner who is *good-looking but poor* rather someone *rich but ugly*.

In contrast, 53% of the men aged 25-34 are more likely to choose a life partner who is *rich but ugly* than someone *good-looking but poor*.

Opinion is divided among men aged 34-44 or middle-aged, with 50% who would prefer someone *rich but ugly* and 49% *good-looking but poor*.

Among women, preference for a life partner who is rich but ugly is high across all age groups. In particular, those who would choose someone *rich but ugly* is highest among the women aged 18-24 (71%), and decreases by age: it is 61% among those 25-34, 57% among those 35-44, 51% among those 45-54, and 50% among those 55 and above.

Area and class differences in preferences for life partner

By area, 55% in Metro Manila and another 55% in Balance Luzon would choose someone *rich but ugly* for a life partner, in contrast to 56% in Mindanao who would choose someone *good-looking but poor*. [Chart 3]

Opinion is divided in Visayas, with 50% who would choose someone *rich but ugly* and 49% who would choose someone *good-looking but poor*.

By class, whereas 57% of the middle-to-upper classes ABC and 52% of the *masa* class D would prefer someone *rich but ugly*, 51% of the *very poor* class E would choose *good-looking but poor*.

Happiness in love life bounced back in 2010

There are more Filipinos in 2010 who are happy with their love life than in 2004 when SWS last asked the question. [Chart 4]

The percentage of Filipinos who say their love life is *very happy* bounced back to 55% in 2010 after a decline to 46% in 2004, from a high 58% in 2002 when the question was first asked.

Those who say their love life *could be happier*, meanwhile, declined to 34% in 2010, from 44% in 2004. In 2002, 32% said their love life *could be happier*.

The number of those who say they have *no love life* hardly changed at 11%.

Married people have happier love life

Married people have happier love life, with three out of five (64%) who are *very happy* with their love life as compared to 43% among those with a live-in partner, and 33% among those single (without a spouse/partner). [Chart 5]

Fifty-five percent of those with live-in partners, on the other hand, say their love life *could be happier* as compared to 36% among those married, and 21% among those single.

About half (45%) of those single say they have *no love life*, only 0.4% among married people, and only 1% among those with live-in partner. There are more single females (53%) than single males (38%) who say they have no love life.

Older people have happier love life

By age, only two out of five (44%) of the youth [18-24] are *very happy* with their love life, lower compared than most of the older people who are also very happy with their love life: 53% among those 25-34, 60% among those 35-44, 52% among those 45-54 and 59% among those 55 and above.

Notably, one out of four (26%) of the youth say they have no love life, higher than the older age groups.

People from Visayas and Mindanao have happier love life

About seven in ten of those from Mindanao (71%) and Visayas (67%) say their love life is *very happy*, as compared to 57% in Metro Manila and 40% in Balance Luzon. [Chart 6]

Almost half (48%) of those in Balance Luzon say their love life *could be happier*, as compared to 29% in Metro Manila, 22% in Visayas and 21% in Mindanao.

Survey Background

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

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

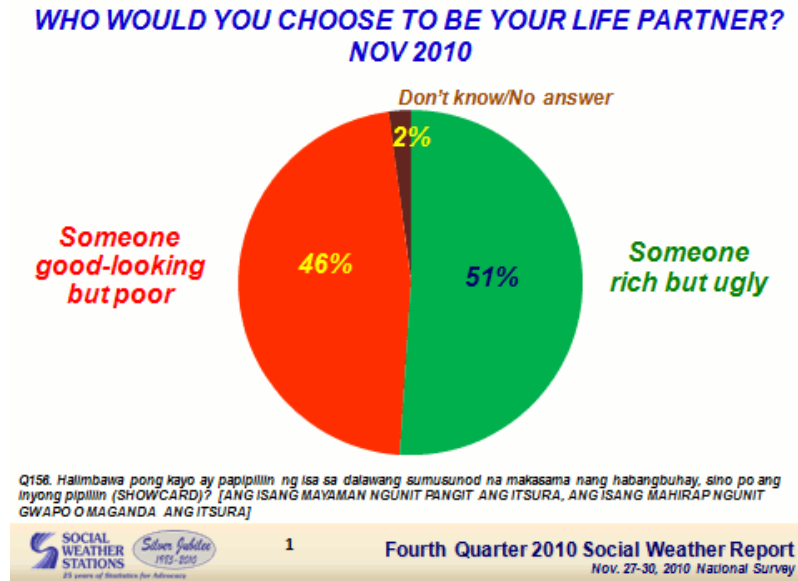
The survey questions on happiness with love life and preference for lifetime partners are non-commissioned items, and were included on SWS's own initiative.

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

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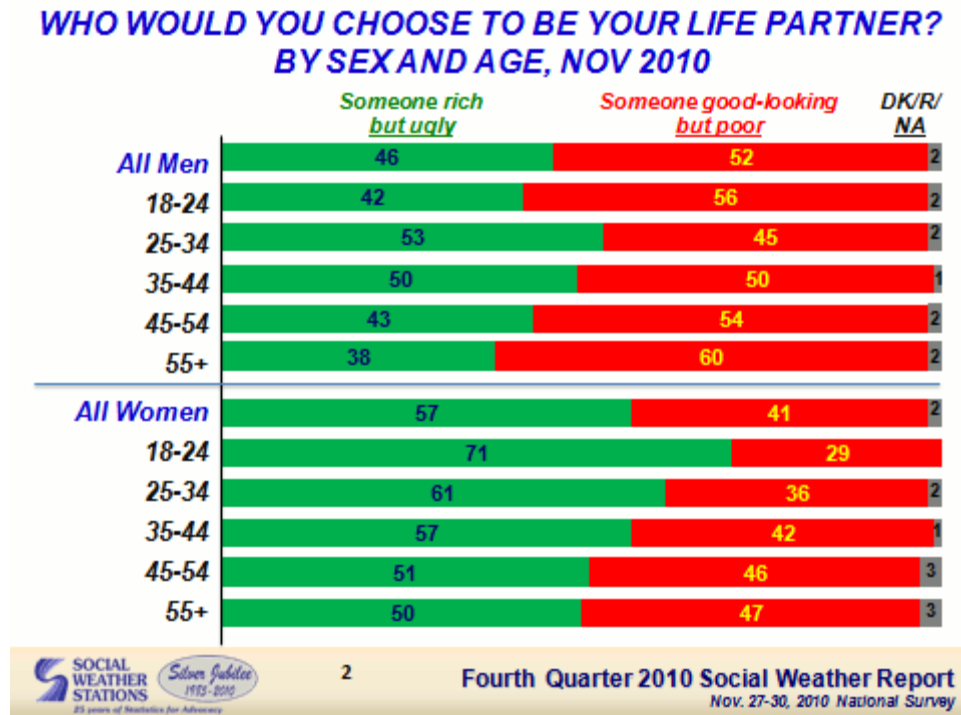
Chart

1



Chart

2



Chart

3

**WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE TO BE YOUR LIFE PARTNER?
BY AREA AND CLASS, NOV 2010**



Q156. Halimbawa pong kayo ay papalilihin ng isa sa dalawang sumusunod na makasama nang habangbuhay, sino po ang inyong pipiliin (SHOWCARD)? (ANG ISANG MAYAMAN NGUNIT PANGIT ANG ITSURA, ANG ISANG MAHRAP NGUNIT GWAPO O MAGANDA ANG ITSURA)

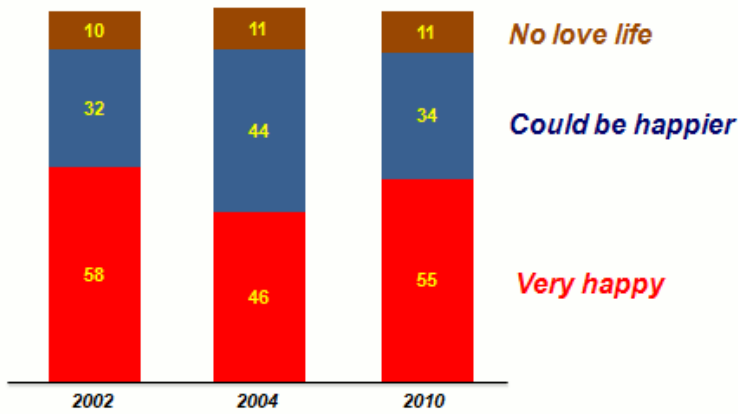


3
Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
Nov. 27-30, 2010 National Survey

Chart

4

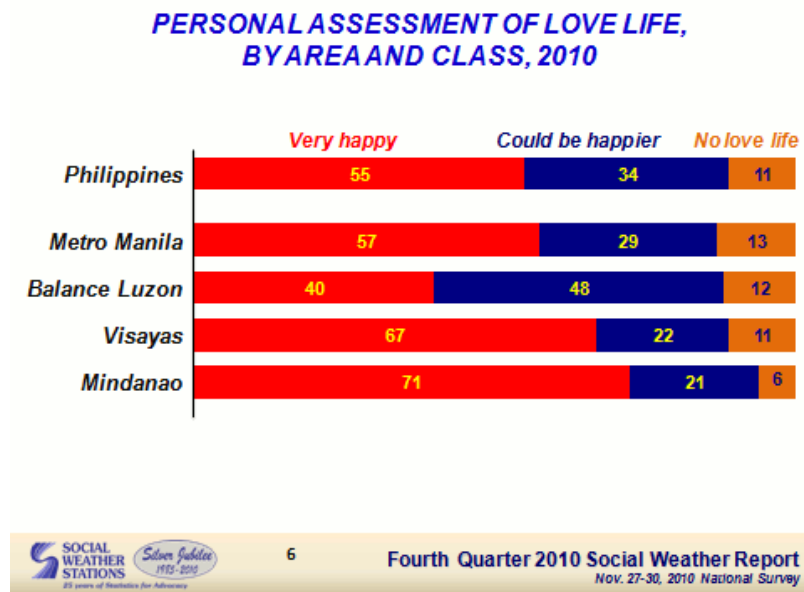
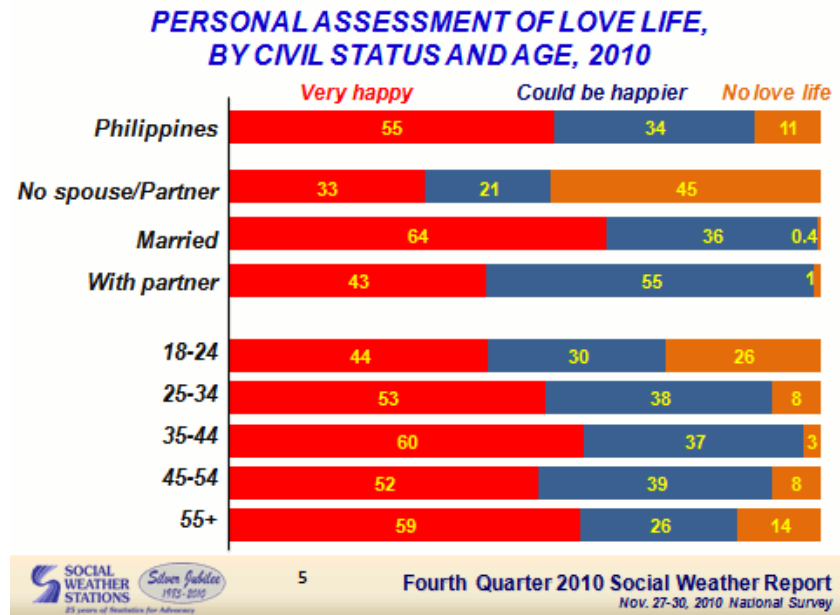
PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF LOVE LIFE, 2002 TO 2010



Q157. Alin po sa mga ito ang naglalarawan sa inyong "love life" o buhay-pag-ibig? (SHOWCARD) (NAPAKASAYA, SANA MAS MASAYA PA, WALANG "LOVE LIFE" O BUHAY-PAG-IBIG)



4
Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Report
Nov. 27-30, 2010 National Survey



Source: <http://www.sws.org.ph/>

158-4. Japanese Government Low Approval Continues

Asahi Shimbun January 2011 Regular Public Opinion Poll

Dates Conducted

January 15 and 16, 2011

Released

January 17, 2011 (Morning edition of the Asahi Shimbun).

Methodology

The poll was conducted by telephone on January 15 and 16 with voters from across Japan, whose telephone numbers were selected by a computer at random. Subjects were selected using a three-stage random sampling method (the Asahi RDD). The total number of those polled was 3,380, with 2,030 responses and a 60% response rate. Decimals were rounded up. Unless otherwise noted, the numbers in () are the results from a poll conducted on December 11 and 12 , 2010.

Key Issues

- Support for the Kan cabinet
- Reshuffling of Kan cabinet
- Social Security and taxes

Disclaimer

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

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

Support	26% (21)
Do not support	54% (60)

SQ1. Why? (Please choose one from the following. On the left are the 26% that answered “Support,” and on the right are the 30% that answered “Do not support.”)

The prime minister is Mr.Kan	19% [5]	2% [1]
The administration is centered around the Democratic Party of Japan	36% [9]	11% [27]
Policies	23% [6]	27% [15]
Ability to get things done	8% [2]	56% [30]

Q2. Which political party do you currently support?

Democratic Party of Japan	21% (23)
Liberal Democratic Party	18% (17)
New Komeito	3% (3)
Japan Communist Party	1% (1)
Social Democratic Party	0% (1)
Your Party	3% (3)
The People's New Party	0% (0)
The Sunrise Party of Japan	0% (0)
The New Party Nippon	0% (0)
New Renaissance Party	0% (0)
Other party	0% (1)
Do not support any party	47% (45)
No answer/Do not know	7% (6)

Q3. If the general election were being held today, which party do you think you would vote for in the proportional representation section?

Democratic Party of Japan	23% (23)
Liberal Democratic Party	27% (27)
New Komeito	3% (4)
Japan Communist Party	3% (2)

Social Democratic Party	1% (1)
Your Party	7% (8)
The People's New Party	0% (0)
The Sunrise Party of Japan	0%(0)
The New Party Nippon	0% (0)
New Renaissance Party	0% (0)
Other party	0% (1)
No answer/Do not know	36% (34)

Q4. Going forward, what is your level of expectations for Prime Minister Kan? (Please choose one)

High expectations	6% (6)
Some expectations	29% (28)
Not many expectations	40% (43)
No expectations	23% (22)

Q5. In Prime Minister Kan's cabinet shuffle former Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshito Sengoku (who was censured by the Upper House) was removed from the cabinet. Do you agree or not agree with this personnel change?

Agree with this personnel change	47%
Do not agree with this personnel change	34%

Q6. Prime Minister Kan appointed former DPJ Chief Secretary General Mr. Edano as the new chief cabinet secretary. Do you agree or not agree with this personnel change?

Agree with this personnel change	41%
Do not agree with this personnel change	39%

Q7. Prime Minister Kan appointed Mr. Yosano, who split from The Sunrise Party of Japan, as the cabinet member in charge of tax and social security reform. Do you agree with this appointment? Do you not agree with this appointment?

Agree with this appointment	31%
Do not agree with this appointment	50%

Q8. Has Prime Minister Kan's handling of Mr. Ozawa's political funding scandal been appropriate or not appropriate?

Appropriate	27%
Not appropriate	62%

Q9. Do you agree with raising the consumption tax? Do you disagree? (Results from September 4 and 5, 2010 are in parenthesis)

Agree	42% (48)
Disagree	48% (44)

Q10. Prime Minister Kan has said that he wants to discuss social security and its funding and reveal his plans by June. He is also actively discussing his position toward increasing the consumption tax. Do you agree or disagree with his position?

Agree	39%
Disagree	48%

Q11. Do you agree or disagree with further large reductions of agricultural tariffs, and further liberalization of foreign trade?

Agree	41%
Disagree	39%

Q12. Are you satisfied with the leaders of your local government?

Satisfied	42%
Not Satisfied	36%

Q13. Are you satisfied with the assemblies of your local government?

Satisfied	27%
Not Satisfied	41%

Q14. Would you be supportive if Osaka Governor Tōru Hashimoto or Nagoya Major Kawamura created an independent local government party and sought the majority in the Diet?

I would support them	62%
I would not support them	19%

Source: <http://mansfieldfdn.org/polls/2011/poll-11-01.htm>

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

158-5. South Africans Getting Disillusioned With Zuma

9 February 2011

How is Government Performing ahead of the State of the Nation speech 2011

2010 was characterised by the success of the FIFA Soccer World Cup in South Africa. After the hype surrounding the World Cup, South Africans were faced with a reality check of poor service delivery, crime, unemployment and corruption and this sentiment was reflected in the national poll conducted by Ipsos Markinor in November 2010. Overall performance ratings for the President and national government is down. In several areas of government, South Africans also reported that they believe that performance is down compared to May 2010.

Director and Political Analyst at Ipsos Markinor, Anneke Greyling said “When the survey was conducted in November 2010, Zuma has been in power for 18 months and it seems like voters have allowed the present government a honeymoon period which is now over. South Africans

are now saying that the government has had time to show what they are made of and the public is not impressed with what they see.”

President Zuma’s State of the Nation speech at the opening of Parliament tomorrow will set the tone for the next few months and give us an indication of how and where government hopes to improve the lives of its many citizens who still live in dire socio-economic circumstances. Zuma’s government started off with favourable public opinion as a result of its „down to earth“, people-centred approach and public opinion, but as his term has continued it has been characterised by declining performance scores for both him and the national government as many commitments have been made but many have not been implemented.

Summary of findings

As at November 2010, 62% of South Africans felt President Zuma was doing his job well or very well, which is a decline from 77% in November 2009.

59% of South Africans felt the National Government was doing its job well or very well which is also down from 70% in November 2009.

There has been a drop in optimism levels which is seen in the belief that government has made little or no progress on reducing the crime rate, fighting corruption and creating jobs. Government is credited with addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS. 50% of the population feel the country is headed in the right direction.

The above headline findings are results from an *Ipsos Markinor* public opinion survey of 3558 South Africans conducted during November 2010. The sample of 3558 accurately mirrors the South African population and the margin of error is 1.6% with a 95% confidence level. The aim of the survey is to monitor government performance by gauging public opinion on the performance levels of the President, National Government and on key performance areas.

Performance of President Jacob Zuma and the National Government

How well is the President doing his job?	% fairly well + very well
November 2010	62%
April 2010	68%
November 2009	77%
April 2009	50%

At the start of 2011, the performance rating – whether the President is doing his job fairly well or very well combined – has declined from 77% to 62%. He begins the year with 62% of the population agreeing that he is doing his job fairly well or very well. This is very different from his positive position at the beginning of 2010 where he was on 77% in terms of public rating. The decline in support is amidst the government making little progress in many of its key performance areas. The term has been characterised by increasing levels of unemployment, corruption, wasteful spending, high crime rates, a lack of presence by Zuma, and tension

between the party and the ANC youth league President Julius Malema. Only time will tell whether support for Zuma will continue to decline or if it will take a turn for the better.

How well is the National Government doing its job?	% fairly well + very well
November 2010	59%
April 2010	65%
November 2009	70%
April 2009	56%
November 2008 (Under leadership of Kgalema Motlanthe at that stage)	52%


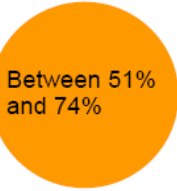

There has also been a decline in the view that the National Government is doing its job fairly well or very well. Scores are declining to levels seen at the end of 2008 (after the disruption of Mbeki's recall) when just over half the population felt positive about the national government and its job performance.

Performance of National Government in specific focus areas

Ipsos Markinor has been tracking issues of delivery and views on the government since 1994 and produces a 6-monthly report, titled “*Government Performance Barometer*”. In this report we probe 23 areas of delivery. The different areas in the study focus on social, political and economic issues. Respondents are asked to indicate whether they think the government is doing “very well”, “fairly well”, “not really well” or “not at all well” on each of the delivery areas.

The results of this survey can be summarised in the format of a traffic light. All areas where the government receives a positive score of up to 50% are classified as “*red light*”, thus areas that need urgent action and attention; positive scores of 51% to 74% are classified as “*orange light*”, thus areas that need attention, but not as critically as “*red light*” areas; a score of 75% and more receives a “*green light*”, thus the performance in this area is regarded as exemplary as it meets with the approval of at least three quarters of South Africans.

Government Performance - % rating performance as “very well and fairly well”

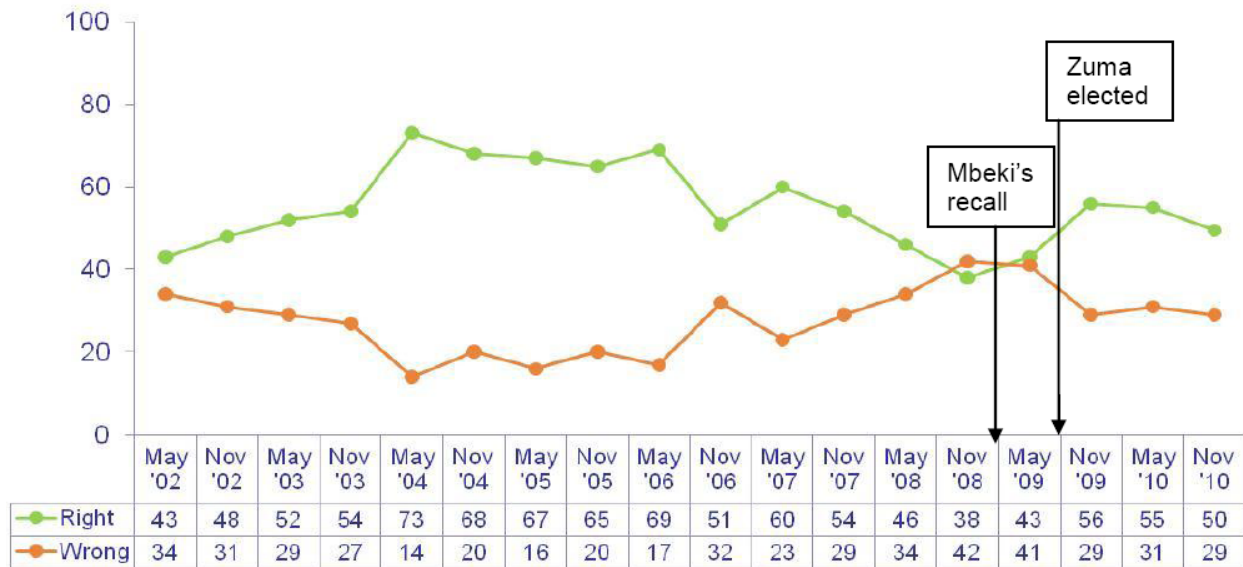
 <p>50% or less</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping the brain drain • Reducing the income gap • Reducing the crime rate • Maintaining transparency and accountability • Controlling inflation • Promoting access to land • Ending political violence • Reducing income gap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fighting corruption • Managing the economy • Appropriate appointments • Creating jobs • Controlling cost of living • Affirmative action • Building houses • Reducing unemployment • Encouraging international investment
 <p>Between 51% and 74%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting nation building • Improving basic health services • Promoting gender equality • Addressing HIV/AIDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bringing police closer to community • Addressing educational needs • Delivering basic services
 <p>75% or more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributing welfare payments 	

The area of fair distribution of welfare payments (grants) to those who are entitled to them has been at the top of the list (received the “green light”) for some years now, but the same key areas seem to remain at the bottom of the list (and receive a “red light”):

Reducing the crime rate Maintaining transparency and accountability Fighting corruption Creating jobs and reducing unemployment. Five areas – *encouraging international investment, promoting access to land, building houses, implementing affirmative action and ending political violence* - have graduated from “orange light” status to “red light” status and, therefore, signify a decline in government performance on these specific issues and that urgent action and attention are required. The rest of the allocation of performance areas remains exactly the same as the previous survey with little or no movement.

Zuma has delivered on his promise from the 2010 State of the Nation address for HIV/AIDS which is in the orange light. Interventions have been made to reduce new HIV infections. Zuma also centred on education in the previous state of the nation address which he made good plans to ensure that learners and teachers are at school on time and learning for seven hours a day but not much progress has been put into that.

Is the country headed in the right or wrong direction?



As of November 2010, 50% of the population believe the country is headed in the right direction. This is a decline from November 2009 at 56%. The decline in this rating mirrors the decline in the scores for the President and National Government for doing their job well.

Jacob Zuma's term as President has begun with a strong position with public opinion and much positivity which is slowly being eroded and being replaced by disillusionment over lack of delivery of promises.

President Zuma starts the New Year in a weaker position to last year with public opinion less positive about his Presidency and the performance of National Government. Hopefully 2010 will be a year of improving public goodwill and making real progress in the areas where government has not fared so well in the past.

Source: <http://ipsos-markinor.co.za/news/state-of-the-nation-10th-february-2011>

158-6. Nigerians Optimistic About Coming Presidential Elections

Iri Releases National Public Opinion Poll On Upcoming Elections In Nigeria

February 1, 2011

Abuja, Nigeria – IRI today released its **public opinion survey** today on Nigerians' expectations in the run-up to the country's upcoming April elections. The survey, conducted November 29-December 7, 2010, will help inform Nigerian media, election officials, candidates and political parties about current public perception as it relates to key issues, voter education, and prospects for peaceful and credible elections.

IRI's poll suggests that Nigerians are optimistic about their prospects for peaceful and credible elections in 2011. Seventy-seven percent of those interviewed agree that the elections will be

mostly free, fair and credible, and 74 percent believe that they will be more credible than the 2007 elections.

Voter interest also appears to run high, with 89 percent of those polled indicating that they would definitely or probably vote in the upcoming presidential election. A similar majority also indicated their intention to vote in the national assembly and state and local elections. The optimism is accompanied by high expectations: 77 percent expect their personal and/or family economic situation will improve after the elections. The top two national issues cited by the potential voters include corruption (16 percent) and unemployment (15 percent) while lack of electricity (21 percent) was identified as the number one issue of local concern.

On April 2, Nigerians will head to the polls to elect members of the national assembly. The presidential election will be held one week later, on April 9, followed by state and local elections on April 16. To gauge public opinion, IRI commissioned international polling firm Opinion Research Business to conduct the poll in partnership with local Nigerian firm, Practical Sampling International. A total of 3,030 face-to-face interviews of men and women of voting age were collected. The margin of error for the national sample is less than +/- 1.7 percent.

This is the first national opinion poll that IRI has conducted in Nigeria. IRI has been working for more than a decade to improve democratic processes, engaging political parties, civil society, media and key sectors such as women, youth and the disabled to enhance their ability to participate in the electoral process. IRI has observed every election since Nigeria's return to democracy in 1999 and will be leading an international delegation of experts to observe the upcoming April elections.

Source: <http://www.iri.org/news-events-press-center/news/iri-releases-national-public-opinion-poll-upcoming-elections-nigeria>

WEST EUROPE

158-7. The European Emergency Number 112

Introduction

The single European emergency number 112 was introduced to enable citizens to call the emergency services (i.e. police, fire and ambulance) by using the same number from anywhere in the EU1. This is particularly important as European citizens are increasingly travelling to other EU countries for work, study or leisure. Since the end of 2008, all EU Member States have ensured that anyone can call the emergency services from fixed and mobile phones by using the 112 number.

National differences in the availability of emergency numbers

Before 112 became the European emergency number, it had already served for several decades as an emergency number in some EU Member States; for example, for the German fire brigade and for the Italian police forces. Nevertheless, for most Member States, 112 was a new emergency number and its introduction led to different situations in the various Member States, as follows:

a) 112 is the sole/main emergency number

In some Member States, 112 has become the main national emergency number, promoted as the number to contact all emergency services (i.e. police, fire and ambulance). Countries where this is the case include Denmark, the Netherlands and Romania. However, some other prior (legacy)2 national numbers may still link callers to the emergency services.

b) 112 operates alongside other emergency numbers

Most Member States, however, have decided to introduce 112 as a number that will work alongside their national emergency numbers. Both 112 and such national numbers are presented as numbers to call in order to contact some or all emergency services. In the UK, for example, citizens can either call 112 or the national number 999 in the case of an emergency.

Purpose of the Flash Eurobarometer survey on “The European Emergency Number 112”

This Flash Eurobarometer survey on “*The European Emergency Number 112*” (No314), requested by the Directorate-General for Information Society and Media is part of a trend survey. The results of previous waves were published in 2008, 2009 and 2010 – Flash Eurobarometer surveys No228, No262 and No285, respectively. Although the current Flash Eurobarometer (No314) builds on these earlier surveys, the questionnaire has been re-designed. Wherever possible, comparative data between the four waves will be presented.

The report deals with the following aspects relating to the European emergency number 112:

- opinions about: a) the usefulness of the European emergency number 112 and b) whether access to 112 for people with disabilities is adequate
- opinions concerning the level of information about the European emergency number 112, and details about the actual information received about 112 and other national emergency numbers
- knowledge of 112 as an emergency number available from within one’s own country and when travelling to other EU countries
- usage of the European emergency number 112 (vs. usage of other national emergency numbers).

Methodological note on the survey

The survey’s fieldwork was carried out between 3 and 7 January 2011. Over 40,500 randomly selected EU citizens, aged 15 years and above, were interviewed in the EU’s 27 Member States. Interviews were predominantly carried out via fixed-line telephones, with approximately 1,500 in each of the Member States.

To correct sampling disparities, a post-stratification weighting of the results was implemented, based on important socio-demographic variables. More details on the survey methodology are included in the Annex of this report.

Note that due to rounding, the percentages shown in the charts and tables in the Annex do not always add up exactly to the totals mentioned in the text.

Main findings

Usefulness of the European emergency number 112

□ More than 9 in 10 (96%) EU citizens thought that it was very useful to have a European emergency number available throughout the EU (83% *totally agreed* and 13% *tended to agree*). Almost 9 in 10 (87%) interviewees also agreed that their country's authorities should do more to make it easier for disabled users to contact the emergency services by calling 112 (66% *totally agreed* and 21% *tended to agree*).

□ The proportion of respondents who *totally agreed* with the statement about the usefulness of the EU-wide emergency number ranged from 69% in the UK to 97% in Malta. The proportion of respondents who *totally agreed* with the statement about access to the European emergency number 112 for disabled users ranged from 45% in Denmark to 94% in Cyprus.

□ Comparing the current results to those of 2010, respondents were now more likely to *totally agree*, rather than *tend to agree*, with the statements as described above. Lithuania has seen the largest increase, from 2010 to 2011, in the proportion of respondents who *totally agreed* that having an EU-wide emergency number was very useful (+15 percentage points). For the statement about “access to 112 for disabled users”, Bulgaria joined Lithuania in having seen the largest increase in the proportion expressing strong agreement (both +16 points).

Information about the European emergency number 112

□ Just over a third of EU citizens agreed that people in their country were adequately informed about the existence of the European emergency number 112 (15% *totally agreed* and 20% *tended to agree*). Agreement with this statement has gradually increased from 27% in 2008 to 35% in 2011 (+8 percentage points).

□ As in 2010, Luxembourg (70%), the Czech Republic (68%), Romania (64%) and Slovakia (59%) had majorities of respondents thinking that the available information about 112 was adequate. In 2011, these countries have been joined by Poland (54%) and Finland (52%).

□ A comparison across the four waves showed that, in more than half of the EU countries, the current level of agreement was the highest measured since the first wave of this survey in 2008. The proportion of interviewees who agreed that people in their country were adequately informed about the European emergency number has increased by at least 19 percentage points in Bulgaria (from 21% in 2008 to 46% in 2011; +25 percentage points), Slovakia (from 36% to 59%; +23 points), Lithuania (from 28% to 50%; +22 points) and Romania (from 45% to 64%; +19 points).

□ Slightly more than a quarter (27%) of EU citizens said they had heard about or seen information regarding the European emergency number 112 in their country during the past 12 months. Furthermore, among respondents who had travelled to another EU country during this time frame, 17% said they had received information about the possibility of using the 112 number in that country.

□ While two-thirds of respondents in Slovakia (68%) and a slim majority of those in Finland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Lithuania (51%-56%) said they had received information about the European emergency number 112 in the past 12 months *in their country*, this proportion was just 8% in Italy and 10% in the UK.

□ Of those who have seen/heard about the European emergency number 112 in their country, a large majority named media outlets as their source of information; they had learned about the 112 number by watching television (61%), reading newspapers (23%), listening to the radio (16%) or surfing the Internet (11%).

Knowledge of the European emergency number 112

□ The current survey results showed that EU citizens remained relatively unfamiliar with the European emergency number 112: only about a quarter (26%) of respondents could spontaneously identify 112 as the number to call for emergency services from anywhere in the EU. Awareness of 112 as an EU-wide emergency number has slowly increased from 22% in 2008 to this current figure in 2011 (+4 percentage points).

□ In five countries, a majority of respondents spontaneously identified 112 as the number to call for emergency services from anywhere in the EU: Luxembourg (63%), the Czech Republic (59%), Slovakia (57%), Finland (56%) and Poland (54%).

□ As in previous waves, respondents in Greece (6%), Italy (7%), the UK (8%) and Cyprus (9%) were the least likely to be aware of 112's EU-wide functionality.

□ In three countries, knowledge of 112 as the European emergency number has increased by at least five percentage points from 2010 to 2011: Austria (from 31% to 39%; +8 points), Finland (from 50% to 56%; +6 points) and the Netherlands (from 45% to 50%; +5 points).

□ Respondents who knew that 112 was a national emergency number to call for urgent situations *in their own country* did not necessarily know that this number was the European emergency number to call from anywhere in the EU. As in 2010, just 4 in 10 respondents who would call 112 in the event of an emergency in their own country also knew that this number could be used in all other EU countries.

□ There was a strong correlation at a country level between the proportion of respondents who knew that 112 could be used to reach the emergency services from anywhere in the EU and the proportion who had received information about the EU-wide emergency number.

Usage of the European emergency number 112

□ A sixth of EU citizens reported that they had called an emergency number in the past 12 months. The proportion of respondents who had called an emergency service during that time frame ranged from less than a tenth in Malta and Slovenia (8%-9%) to more than a quarter in Latvia and Estonia (26%-27%).

□ In countries where 112 operates alongside other national emergency numbers, the proportion of respondents who had called the EU-wide emergency number 112 during an emergency

situation in their own country in the past 12 months was somewhat lower than the proportion who had called a national emergency number (7% and 10%, respectively). Furthermore, in this group of countries, the proportion of respondents who had called the 112 number was the highest in Luxembourg (84%); in the UK and France, however, less than 10% of respondents had called this number.

□ In all countries where 112 was the sole/main emergency number, a large majority of interviewees had called this number during an emergency situation in the past 12 months (from 77% in Portugal and Denmark to 95% in Romania).

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_314_en.pdf

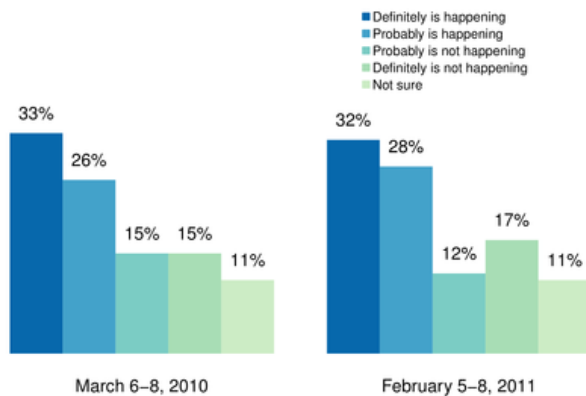
NORTH AMERICA

158-8. Cold Winter Weather Doesn't Change Opinions About Global Warming

Thu February 10, 5:26 p.m. PST by **YouGov Staff** in *Economist Poll*

It may have been cold and snowy so far this winter, but Americans are just as likely to believe in global warming as they were a year ago, according to the latest *Economist/YouGov* Poll. 60% say global warming is happening, about the same as the 59% who said so last March. 29% this time, and 30% last year, said it was not.

Some people say that global temperatures have been going up slowly over the past 100 years – the phenomenon called "global warming." Do you think that global warming is happening?



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But belief in global warming is partisan. Democrats believe in it, by a margin of 84% to 6%. So do independents, 62% to 30%. But Republicans don't—and by two to one. Just 29% of Republicans say global warming is happening, while 59% say it is not. In fact, 41% of Republicans say global warming definitely is not happening (Overall, 17% think that).

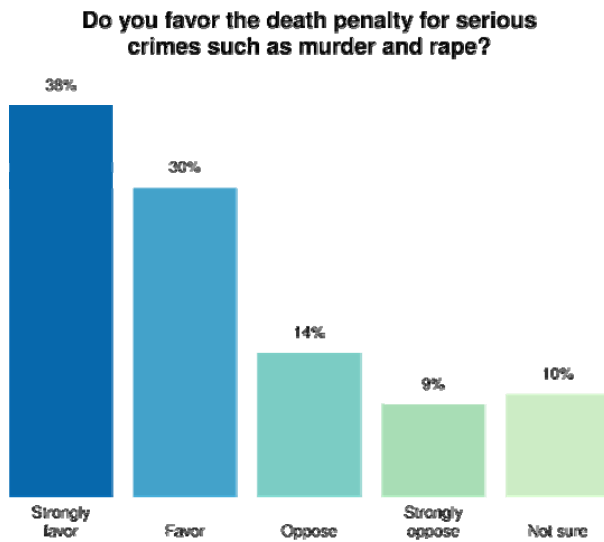
As for this season’s cold weather, 57% of Americans say that’s something that just happens occasionally. Only 33% attribute it to climate change.

Source: <http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/02/10/cold-winter-weather-doesnt-change-opinions-about-g/>

158-9. Americans Prefer the Death Penalty - Despite the Possibility of Executing the Innocent

Wed February 9, 5:43 p.m. PST by **YouGov Staff** in ***Economist Poll***

More than two out of three Americans support the death penalty in the latest *Economist/YouGov* Poll, which is about the same level of support they have shown for the death penalty for serious crimes over time. Those who favor death penalty do so despite the fact that many of them think innocent people have been executed in the last five years.



There are reasons Americans support the death penalty. And many would like to see it used more frequently. Of those who don’t oppose it, most believe it isn’t used often enough. Just 7% say it is used too often. And many supporters see few exceptions, although a majority would execute women and first time offenders, 58% would not execute the mentally retarded, and there is an even division on executing the mentally ill.

And there is the issue of deterrence. Although the country divides on whether the death penalty deters other people from committing murder (in fact, more say it doesn’t act as a deterrent than say it does), supporters of the death penalty see it as a deterrent by 53% to 32%.

	Total	Death penalty supporters	Death penalty opponents
Yes	39%	53%	7%
No	47%	32%	88%

Not sure 14% 15% 5%

Do you think that executing murderers deters others from committing murder?

Americans overall – and especially death penalty supporters – don’t think the penalty is unfairly applied: that it is disproportionately applied to racial minorities. Americans overall disagree 49% to 29%; supporters of the death penalty disagree by an even greater margin, 61% to 23%. However, a majority of African-Americans believe the penalty IS disproportionately applied to racial minorities.

But even many of those who favor the death penalty agree it can be misapplied – and that innocent people have been executed. Overall, 54% of Americans believe there have been some improper executions in the last few years. Those who favor the death penalty agree, 45% to 23%.

	Total	Death penalty supporters	Death penalty opponents
Yes	54%	45%	79%
No	17%	23%	5%
Not sure	29%	32%	16%

Do you think that any innocent persons have been executed in the U.S. during the last five years?

Who favors the death penalty? There is much more support for the punishment among older adults than younger ones, among men more than women, in the South and West than in the Northeast and Midwest, and among Republicans more than Democrats. And despite the perception among African-Americans that the punishment is disproportionately applied to minorities, there is only a small difference in the opinions of whites and blacks on the question.

	Party ID			Race			
	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind	White	Black	Hispanic
Strongly favor	38%	27%	57%	35%	38%	36%	34%
Favor	30%	30%	31%	30%	31%	28%	18%
Oppose	14%	20%	5%	12%	13%	12%	23%
Strongly oppose	9%	13%	2%	13%	9%	9%	10%
Not sure	10%	11%	5%	10%	8%	16%	14%

	Age			Gender		
	Total	18-29	30-64	65+	Male	Female
Strongly favor	38%	20%	43%	39%	43%	33%
Favor	30%	32%	27%	35%	30%	29%

<i>Oppose</i>	14%	22%	12%	8%	13%	14%
<i>Strongly</i>						
<i>oppose</i>	9%	15%	5%	15%	8%	10%
<i>Not</i>						
<i>sure</i>	10%	11%	11%	3%	5%	14%

	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West

<i>Strongly</i>						
<i>favor</i>	38%	30%	29%	47%	38%	
<i>Favor</i>	30%	30%	31%	27%	33%	
<i>Oppose</i>	14%	17%	16%	11%	13%	
<i>Strongly</i>						
<i>oppose</i>	9%	11%	16%	6%	6%	
<i>Not</i>						
<i>sure</i>	10%	12%	9%	9%	9%	

Do you favor the death penalty for serious crimes such as murder and rape?

Source: <http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/02/09/americans-prefer-death-penalty-despite-possibility/>

158-10. Americans Lean Toward Revising No Child Left Behind

One in six believe law should be eliminated

February 7, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- As the Obama administration and Congress ponder the fate of the No Child Left Behind Act, Americans are inclined to retain it but not necessarily in its present form. Overall, 41% of Americans say Congress should keep the act but with major revisions, while 21% want it kept more or less in its present form, and 16% want it eliminated. About one in five do not have an opinion about the law. The percentage preferring to see No Child Left Behind kept, but with major revisions rises to a majority among those with an opinion on the law.

What action would you like to see Congress take on the No Child Left Behind education law -- [ROTATED: eliminate the No Child Left Behind law, keep the law but with major revisions, keep the No Child Left Behind law basically as it is], or don't you know enough to say?

	Eliminate law	Keep it, with major revisions	Keep basically as is	Don't know enough to say/ No opinion
All Americans	16%	41%	21%	22%
Have an opinion on No Child Left Behind	21%	53%	27%	--

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

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The No Child Left Behind Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2002 as a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act passed in 1965. The law in its current form relies on measurement of student achievement through standardized testing, and attempts to hold schools accountable for failing to make progress.

President Obama is eager to revise if not replace No Child Left Behind, and leaders of both parties in Washington seem to agree on the need to change some provisions of the law. Among the more likely changes are revisions of the criteria used for judging schools as either making progress or failing, and easing the requirement that 100% of students be proficient at their grade level in math and reading by 2014.

The No Child Left Behind Act was one of President George W. Bush's first major legislative victories and was passed largely on a bipartisan basis, with the late Democratic Sen. Ted Kennedy a leading co-sponsor. That may explain why Republicans, Democrats, and independents largely share similar views on what action Congress should take. A plurality of each group believes the law should be kept with major revisions, and no more than 20% of any political group thinks the law should be eliminated.

What Action Should Congress Take on No Child Left Behind, by Political Party

	Eliminate law	Keep it, with major revisions	Keep basically as is	Don't know enough to say/ No opinion
Democrats	13%	45%	23%	20%
Independents	20%	41%	18%	22%
Republicans	16%	37%	22%	24%

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

GALLUP®

Gallup previously asked about No Child Left Behind in 2009, at which time 85% said they were familiar with the law. Among this group, views were mixed, with 21% saying it had made the education U.S. public school students receive better, 29% saying it had made it worse, and 45% saying it had not made much difference.

Implications

The No Child Left Behind Act, which was due for re-authorization in 2007, has taken a back seat to the economy, healthcare, and the Iraq and Afghanistan wars as a legislative priority. With a growing number of schools now judged to be failing by the standards laid out in the law, there is increasing pressure from the Obama administration and education leaders to revise it this year. President Obama called for action on No Child Left Behind in his recent State of the Union address, and, given the limited support there is for either abolishing or maintaining the law, proposing major revisions to it may be the most popular course.

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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/145952/Americans-Lean-Toward-Revising-No-Child-Left-Behind.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-11. Insights on Hispanic Shopping Behaviors

Symphony IRI Group and Synovate

8 February 2011

HispanicLink Report Compares Shopping Preferences and Motivational Drivers among Hispanic Households to Help CPG Marketers Focus Efforts Effectively and Efficiently

CHICAGO — Representing more than 15 percent of the population, Hispanic consumers' current spending power of \$950 billion is expected to increase to an astounding \$1.2 trillion by 2012. With that kind of revenue at stake, it is no wonder that the CPG industry is constantly searching for new ways to reach Hispanic consumers through marketing, advertising, promotion and media. To help the industry take a closer look at this complex consumer group, SymphonyIRI Group, Inc. and Synovate created HispanicLink, a report that provides a truly representative view of Hispanic shoppers. The analysis offers a deep understanding of Hispanics' shopping habits, cooking, eating and drinking behaviors, health and wellness practices as well as their media preferences.

"CPG retailers and manufacturers need to have a better understanding of Hispanic consumers to effectively focus their marketing efforts and win at the shelf," says Robert (Bob) I. Tomei, president, Consumer & Shopper Marketing, SymphonyIRI. "This is no easy task when considering the complexity of the Hispanic population, so the HispanicLink report breaks down this multifaceted group in terms of acculturation, language preference and attitudes and examines their shopping patterns and motivations. Retailers and manufacturers no longer have to take a one-size-fits-all approach with Hispanic consumers and can leverage these insights to develop targeted marketing programs."

"With HispanicLink, CPG companies can better understand how to allocate their marketing budgets when trying to reach Hispanic consumers," said Mark Berry, executive vice president of Synovate's North American Consumer and Retail Business Units and co-lead of the Global Shopper Insights Group. "The report takes an in-depth look into the Hispanic population to reveal spending habits, shopping trip behavior and the impact the economy has had on the price/value equation for this valuable target group."

The HispanicLink report addresses many business issues, including how to pinpoint key purchase influencers, and can help allocate marketing spending across different avenues, such as in-store promotions, coupons and between television, radio and Internet advertising. It examines the importance of health and wellness as well as meal and flavor preferences, such as reading nutrition labels, cooking habits, eating fresh, frozen or canned foods, and dining out. Shopping outlet preferences are also highlighted as well as budgetary concerns, kids' influences, willingness to try new products and affinity to store versus national brands.

The report also contains a survey and shopping basket analysis component. The survey portion answers important questions about Hispanic preferences and will help marketers discover the differences in attitudes and the critical "why behind the buy" among more and less acculturated Hispanic households versus non-Hispanic households. Findings include key facts about Hispanic attitudes, preferences and needs that fuel decisions and impact strategies regarding channel selection, product selection, new product opportunities, and co-promotion opportunities.

The shopping basket analysis delivers an in-depth view into how Hispanic households shop various classes of trade. It also ranks which categories are most likely to appear in the cart of the average Hispanic household and compares it to a non-Hispanic household.

In addition to uncovering how many dollars are spent of the average shopping trip, marketers can also get a firm handle on not only what categories are important, but which represent the greatest opportunities. This information can be leveraged for several different purposes, such as identifying categories that are attractive to Hispanic households, directing retailers on how to shelve categories, and determining how valuable that Hispanic shopper is to a particular retailer.

About SymphonyIRI Group, Inc.

SymphonyIRI Group, formerly named Information Resources, Inc. ("IRI"), is the global leader in innovative solutions and services for driving revenue and profit growth in CPG, retail and healthcare companies. SymphonyIRI offers two families of solutions: Core IRI solutions for market measurement and Symphony Advantage solutions for enabling new growth opportunities in marketing, sales, shopper marketing and category management. SymphonyIRI solutions uniquely combine content, analytics and technology to deliver maximum impact. SymphonyIRI helps companies create, plan and execute forward-looking, shopper-centric strategies across every level of the organization.

Source:<http://www.synovate.com/news/article/2011/02/symphonyiri-group-and-synovate-offer-insights-on-hispanic-shopping-behaviors.html>

158-12. Americans Sympathetic to Egyptian Protesters

Majority think the outcome will be mostly good for the U.S. and for Egypt

February 7, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Most Americans support the protesters who have called for a change in the government in Egypt, with 82% saying they are sympathetic to the protesters (including 42% who are very sympathetic), while 11% are unsympathetic.

Overall, are you sympathetic or unsympathetic to the protesters in Egypt who have called for a change in the government?

	Sympathetic	Unsympathetic	Don't know/ No opinion
	%	%	%
National adults	82	11	6
Those following situation in Egypt very or somewhat closely	87	10	2
Those not following situation closely	71	14	15

Feb. 2-5, 2011

GALLUP®

These results are based on interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, as part of Gallup's annual World Affairs Social Series poll, and during a time when protests and reactions in Egypt dominated the international news.

While the ratio of sympathetic to unsympathetic attitudes is larger among those who are following the situation closely than among those not following it closely, the differences largely disappear when those with no opinion are taken into account.

Overall, 69% of Americans are following the news about the political crisis and demonstrations in Egypt very or somewhat closely. This puts the Egyptian situation in the top half of all news stories Gallup has measured using this question format since 1991, slightly above the median of 60%.

Americans View Political Changes as Good for Egypt and for the United States

Two-thirds of Americans (66%) say the political changes occurring in Egypt will be mostly good for that country, and a similar percentage (60%) say the changes will be mostly good for the United States.

From what you have heard or know about the situation in Egypt, all in all, do you think the political changes that are occurring will be mostly good or mostly bad for --

	Mostly good	Mostly bad	No opinion
	%	%	%
The country of Egypt	66	19	14
The United States	60	26	13

Feb. 2-5, 2011

GALLUP®

Those who are closely following news of the situation in Egypt do not differ markedly from others in their views of the situation's impact.

Political Differences

Democrats are more likely than independents or Republicans to say they are sympathetic to the Egyptian protesters. Democrats are also more likely to say the developments in Egypt are mostly good for both the country of Egypt and the United States. Overall, regardless of partisan orientation, majorities of all party groups are sympathetic to the protesters and view the changes to the Egyptian government positively.

Opinions on the Situation in Egypt

By party ID

	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
SYMPATHY TOWARD PROTESTERS			
	%	%	%
Sympathetic	77	82	88
Unsympathetic	16	12	8
Don't know/No opinion	7	7	5
RESULTS FOR UNITED STATES			
Mostly good	51	59	71
Mostly bad	34	28	18
No opinion	15	12	11
RESULTS FOR EGYPT			
Mostly good	59	64	77
Mostly bad	25	21	13
No opinion	16	15	10

Feb. 2-5, 2011

GALLUP®

Implications

The Obama administration has so far reacted cautiously to the developments in Egypt, by all accounts attempting to support the idea of democratic reforms without appearing to interfere too much in the ultimate fate of the Egyptian government. The administration, diplomats, commentators, and other observers also continue to debate the ultimate ramifications of the changes in Egypt for combating terrorism, maintaining stability in the Middle East, and protecting the supply of oil to the U.S. But the potential risks related to the likely change in government in Egypt do not appear to be prominent in Americans' minds. The overwhelming majority are sympathetic to the protesters seeking to oust the current government and are generally optimistic that the outcome of the situation will be positive for the U.S. and for Egypt.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 national 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.

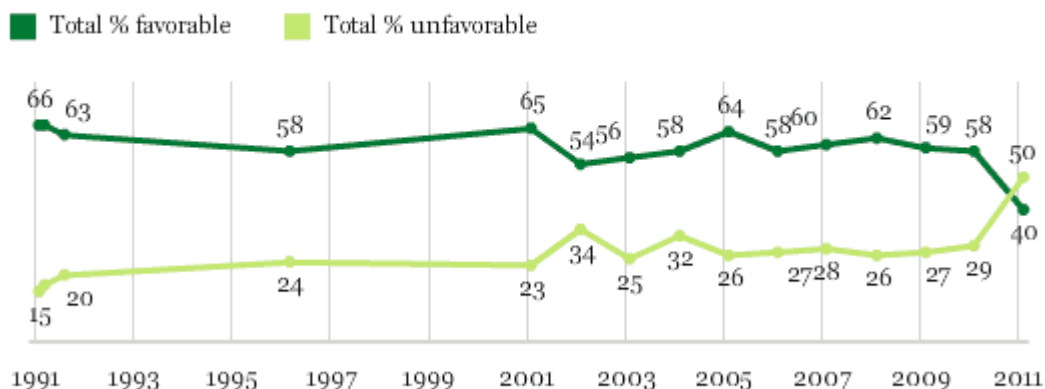
Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/145979/Americans-Sympathetic-Egyptian-Protesters.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-13. Americans' Views of Egypt Sharply More Negative

Favorable rating down 18 percentage points since last year
February 8, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' opinions of Egypt have become sharply more negative, with an 18-percentage-point drop in the country's favorable ratings -- from 58% in 2010 to 40% this year. For the first time since Gallup's initial measurement in 1991, more Americans have a negative than positive view of Egypt.

Next, I'd like your overall opinion of some foreign countries. What is your overall opinion of Egypt? Is it very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?



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These results are based on Gallup's annual World Affairs poll, conducted Feb. 2-5.

The more negative rating of Egypt comes in the midst of extensive news coverage of the massive political demonstrations and push for regime change in that country. The same poll finds that most Americans are sympathetic to the anti-government protesters and think the changes taking place in Egypt are good for that country as well as for the United States.

To a large extent, Americans' ratings of foreign countries seem to be influenced by each country's foreign policy and particularly their orientation toward the United States, with nations like Great Britain and Canada typically rated most positively, and Iran and North Korea least positively. Gallup will provide the full 2011 update on country ratings later this week.

Egypt's higher favorable ratings in the past likely stemmed from the country's generally friendly relations with the United States. But the decline in Americans' favorability toward Egypt this year may be a result of the protests that have made Americans more aware of longtime President Hosni Mubarak's largely autocratic rule.

Americans' opinions of Egypt do not vary to a meaningful degree based on their level of attention to the demonstrations and political crisis there. Favorable ratings are 43% among those following the story very closely and 39% among those following the story somewhat closely or not closely.

The decline in Americans' positivity toward Egypt is broad-based, with each key demographic subgroup showing at least a 10-point decline in favorable ratings. The largest drops in favorability toward Egypt over the past year have come among nonwhites, conservatives, and young adults.

The net result of these changes is that young adults are the only group in which a majority currently holds a favorable opinion of Egypt. Last year, all major subgroups except senior citizens did.

Changes in Favorable Ratings of Egypt, by Demographic Subgroup

	% Favorable, 2010	% Favorable, 2011	Change (pct. pts.)
Male	60	46	-14
Female	55	34	-21
White	57	42	-15
Nonwhite	59	33	-26
18 to 29 years	76	51	-25
30 to 49 years	63	41	-22
50 to 64 years	51	39	-12
65+ years	42	31	-11
East	58	42	-16
Midwest	60	36	-24
South	59	41	-18
West	52	41	-11
Postgraduate	62	45	-17
College graduate only	63	43	-20
Some college	57	42	-15
High school or less	54	35	-19
Conservative	58	33	-25
Moderate	59	43	-16
Liberal	59	49	-10
Republican	57	36	-21
Independent	53	42	-11
Democrat	64	42	-22

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Implications

Americans' views of Egypt have been substantially affected by the protests in that country, shifting from consistently positive opinions to generally negative ones for the first time in two decades. Americans are overwhelmingly sympathetic to the anti-government protesters in Egypt. So if the current government, or a new one, enacts some of the protesters' reforms while remaining largely pro-United States, that could restore Americans' positive feelings toward Egypt.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146003/Americans-Views-Egypt-Sharply-Negative.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-14. In U.S., Flu, Colds Hit Hard in January

Daily cold and flu reporting edges ahead of 2009 and 2010 levels in January
February 8, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- After a slow start to the season, Americans' self-reports of colds and the flu are on the rise, tracking higher now compared with the last two years, according to the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. In January, 3.1% of Americans reported having the flu the day before the survey, compared with 2.4% last season and 2.9% in 2008-2009.

Were you sick with the flu yesterday?

Average percentage of American adults reporting having the flu on any given day



Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index asks 1,000 Americans each day whether they had a cold and the flu "yesterday." In general, the percentage of Americans who report having had a cold on any given day is roughly three times greater than the percentage who report they had the flu.

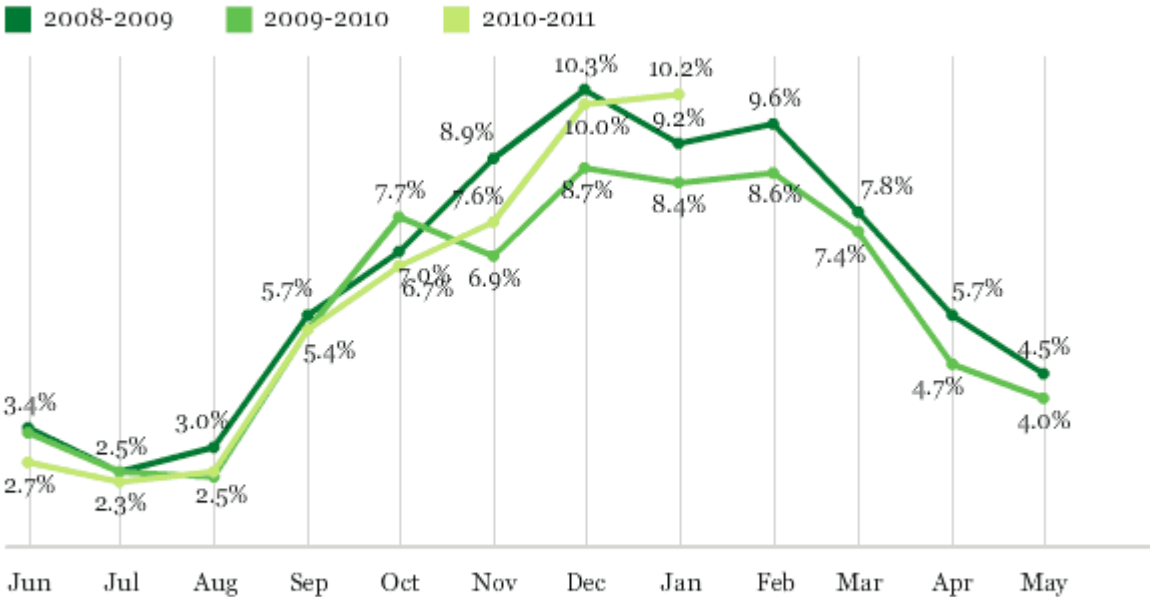
The measurement of colds vs. the flu in a survey research environment is complex because of the overlapping symptoms of the two disease conditions and many Americans' misunderstanding of which symptoms constitute "the flu" versus "a cold." It is also possible that the estimate of daily cold and flu prevalence is underestimated, as would-be respondents who were sick the day before may be less likely to respond to a phone survey than those who were not sick. Still, Gallup's measurement approach -- asking the same question in the same survey day after day -- does provide evidence as to whether the incidence of these conditions is increasing or decreasing from month to month and year to year.

January Reports of Colds Surpass 2009, 2010 Levels

In each of the past two years, reports of daily colds were highest in December, followed by somewhat lower levels in January and February -- typically the three peak months of cold and flu season. This season, however, more Americans reported colds in January (10.2%) than did so in December (10.0%). The 10.2% of Americans reporting a cold the prior day is the second highest level recorded across the past three cold and flu seasons, just shy of the 10.3% measured in December 2008.

Were you sick with a cold yesterday?

Average percentage of American adults reporting having a cold on any given day



Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

Americans' increased reports of daily cold and flu in January were not uniform across the United States. Those living in the East experienced the greatest increases for both conditions since November, with a 3.1-percentage-point increase in reported colds and a 1.8-point increase in reported flu cases. This could reflect the particularly bad winter weather in the East this year, which may have kept more people indoors, giving colds and flu viruses better opportunity to spread.

Bottom Line

After tracking at below-average levels in September, October, and November, Americans' average daily reports of colds and the flu sharply increased in December and January, now surpassing levels found in the same month in previous years.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which tracks clinically confirmed influenza via collaborating laboratories in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, has reported similar trends, with the second and third weeks in January representing the highest percentage of positive tests in any week thus far this season.

Many public health analysts were cautiously optimistic late last summer that this cold and flu season would be typical, in part because flu vaccinations this season contained seasonal influenza and pandemic H1N1 components, making them much more effective in early prevention compared with last season. Thus far, these projections of a modest season have been

supported, although the uptick in January may indicate an unexpected surge in the latter half of the season. Gallup will continue to track self-reported cold and flu cases throughout the 2010-2011 season.

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 surveys each day, with a random sample of at least 1,000 adults, or roughly 30,000 adults per month, 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 ± 0.6 percentage points.

One of the questions asked each day is "Were you sick with any of the following yesterday?" The question specifies four illnesses: the flu, a cold, a headache, and allergies. Respondents are not asked to indicate whether they had received a clinical diagnosis of H1N1 or other types of influenza via a healthcare professional.

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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146015/Flu-Colds-Hit-Hard-January.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

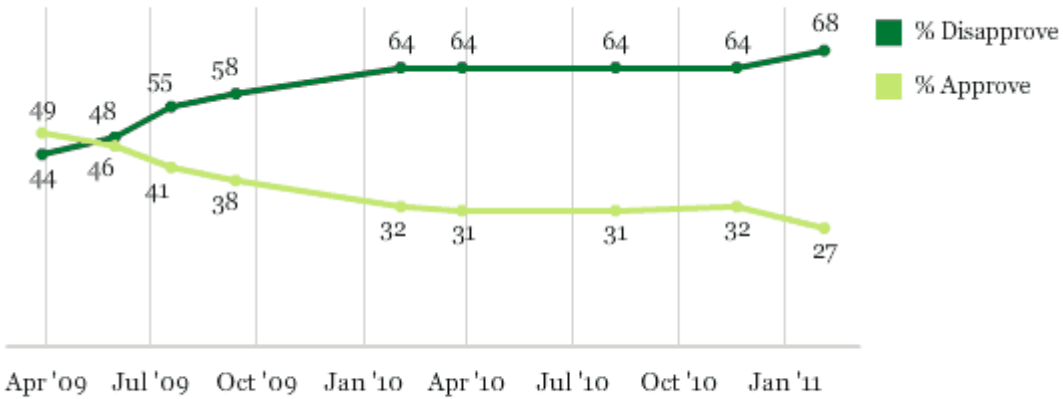
158-15. Obama's Approval Rating on Deficit Sinks to New Low

Egypt ranks among issues on which Obama is best rated

February 9, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Barack Obama's approval rating for handling the federal budget deficit has gone from bad to worse in recent months, even as his ratings on all other major national issues have generally held steady. Currently, 27% of Americans approve of Obama on the deficit, down from 32% in November, while 68% disapprove.

President Barack Obama's Approval Rating on the Federal Budget Deficit



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Overall, Obama is doing much better on international issues than domestic ones. Among eight issues on which Obama was rated in the new poll, Americans give the president the highest approval ratings on foreign affairs and the situations in Egypt and Afghanistan. The deficit, the economy, and taxes rank among his lowest ratings, alongside healthcare policy.

The survey was conducted Feb. 2-5, as the Obama administration was stepping up pressure on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to make a decision about continuing to lead his country in light of mass protests calling for his immediate resignation -- protests with which Americans generally sympathize. The relatively small percentage disapproving of Obama on Egypt (32%) makes his overall net approval on that issue the highest of any issue tested, at +15 percentage points.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling ____?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
	%	%	%
Foreign affairs	48	45	7
The situation in Egypt	47	32	21
The situation in Afghanistan	47	46	7
Energy policy	43	42	14
Taxes	42	54	4
Healthcare policy	40	56	3
The economy	37	60	3
The federal budget deficit	27	68	5

Feb. 2-5, 2011

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Healthcare, the Economy Spark Greatest Political Polarization

Democrats' disapproval on the deficit is a key reason Obama does worst on that issue. It is the only issue on which fewer than 6 in 10 Democrats approve of his performance. By contrast, about three-quarters of Democrats approve of Obama's handling of healthcare and foreign affairs.

Varying degrees of political polarization are seen in Obama's issues ratings. Democrats and Republicans show the most widespread disagreement about his handling of healthcare policy and the economy -- with roughly 60-point gaps -- while they are closer in how they rate his handling of Egypt and Afghanistan.

President Obama Issue Approval Ratings, by Party ID

Ranked by GOP-Dem. gap

	Republican	Independent	Democrat	GOP-Dem. gap
	%	%	%	Pct. pts.
Healthcare policy	12	35	73	61
The economy	9	32	68	59
Foreign affairs	19	46	75	56
Energy policy	19	41	69	50
Federal budget deficit	7	19	57	50
Taxes	22	35	70	48
Situation in Egypt	32	43	64	32
Situation in Afghanistan	34	47	60	26

Feb. 2-5, 2011

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Independents are closer to Republicans than to Democrats on the two most polarizing issues -- healthcare and the economy. Independents come even closer to GOP views with respect to the federal budget and taxes, making these potential problem issues for Obama when it comes to garnering independents' support in the next election. However, on four other issues -- foreign affairs, energy policy, Egypt, and Afghanistan -- independents' views fall at about the midpoint between Republicans' and Democrats' views.

Bottom Line

President Obama has failed to build public support in recent months for his handling of major U.S. economic matters, despite a generally well-received State of the Union address in which he proposed a federal spending freeze to help put the brakes on deficit spending. His approval rating on the economy is no better than it was last fall, and his approval rating on the federal budget deficit -- a top issue for Republicans in Congress since the midterm elections -- is even worse. His broadest support on the issues comes on foreign policy matters, most notably the situation in Egypt, but even on these, his approval ratings register just below 50%.

Explore President Obama's approval ratings in depth and compare them with those of past presidents in the [Gallup Presidential Job Approval Center](#).

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146021/Obama-Approval-Rating-Deficit-Sinks-New-Low.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-16. China Tops List of Countries Vitally Important to U.S.; Egypt 9th

Less than half of Americans (45%) say what happens in Egypt is vitally important to U.S.
February 9, 2011

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.

How important do you think what happens in each of the following countries is to the United States today -- would you say it is vitally important, important but not vital, not too important, or not at all important?

	Vitally important	Important, not vital	Not too/ Not at all important
	%	%	%
China	70	22	7
North Korea	59	24	15
Iran	57	24	16
Israel	54	32	10
Iraq	52	32	15
Afghanistan	51	30	18
Mexico	50	34	15
Pakistan	48	31	17
Egypt	45	34	18
Canada	39	38	21
Russia	36	46	16
India	31	46	19

Feb. 2-5, 2011

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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.

Gallup last asked Americans to rate the importance of countries in this way in February 2007, adding Egypt for the first time this year.

Americans' views of Iraq's importance have shown the greatest change over the last four years, dropping to 52% "vitally important" today from 70% in 2007, when Iraq topped the list. At that time, President George W. Bush had just announced his "surge" strategy in Iraq in response to deteriorating conditions there, and his party had suffered significant losses in the 2006 midterm elections, partly as a result of the debate over Iraq. Now, with American combat troops withdrawn from that country and attention shifted to Afghanistan and other hot spots around the world, Iraq has slipped to fifth place.

Americans also are at least slightly less likely now than they were in 2007 to say what happens in Iran, North Korea, Russia, and Afghanistan is vitally important.

How important do you think what happens in each of the following countries is to the United States today?

% Vitally important

	February 2007	February 2011	Change, 2007 to 2011
	%	%	Pct. pts.
China	58	70	12
North Korea	64	59	-5
Iran	65	57	-8
Israel	55	54	-1
Iraq	70	52	-18
Afghanistan	54	51	-3
Mexico	42	50	8
Pakistan	47	48	1
Egypt		45	
Canada	36	39	3
Russia	40	36	-4
India	28	31	3

Note: Egypt not asked in 2007

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On the other hand, Americans' views that events in China are vitally important to the U.S. have increased by 12 percentage points since 2007, putting China where Iraq was four years ago. The importance of China in the average American's eyes likely reflects continuing awareness of the economic influence of China on the U.S. and world economies. Separate questions in the Feb. 2-5 poll relating to Americans' perceptions of the leading world economic powers show China on top; these results are scheduled for release on Gallup.com on Monday, Feb. 14.

Fifty percent of Americans view what happens in Mexico as vitally important to the U.S., an increase of eight points since 2007. This no doubt reflects the stream of news about violence and drug wars in that country spilling over into U.S. border states, as well as continued immigration to the U.S. from Mexico.

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 may rate other countries such as North Korea and Iran as important because of perceptions of the direct military threat they could pose to the United States. Americans' military involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan over the last decade likely increases those countries' perceived importance to the U.S.

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.

There is no Gallup trend for this measure on Egypt, and it certainly could be that even the relatively modest importance now given to that country is higher than it would have been before the recent events there.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146039/China-Tops-List-Countries-Vitaly-Important-Egypt-9th.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-17. Public Uncertain About Effect of Egypt Protests on U.S.

Positive Marks for Obama's Handling of Situation

February 8, 2011

Uncertainty about Impact of Protests, Positive Marks for Obama

	Feb 2011
<i>Effect of protests on the U.S...</i>	%
Good	15
Bad	28
Not much of an effect	36
Depends/Too soon to tell (Vol.)	5
Don't know	<u>17</u>
	100
<i>Obama administration support for Egypt protestors...</i>	
Handling about right	57
Too much support	12
Too little support	12
Don't know	<u>20</u>
	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7,
2011. Figures may not add to 100%
because of rounding.

Americans do not have a clear point of view about how the massive anti-government protests in Egypt will affect the United States. More than half (58%) say the protests will not have much of an effect (36%), or offer no response or are noncommittal (22%). Of the minority that thinks the protests will have an effect on the U.S., nearly twice as many say their impact will be negative rather than positive (28% vs. 15%).

This lack of agreement notwithstanding, a majority (57%) says the Obama administration is handling the situation in Egypt about right, while much smaller numbers say the administration has shown too much support (12%) or too little support (12%) for the protestors.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Feb. 2-7, 2011 among 1,385 adults, finds that nearly half (48%) say they have heard a lot about the anti-government protests in Egypt; about the same proportion (52%) reports hearing little or nothing.

The survey finds that majorities of Democrats (69%) and independents (57%) say the Obama administration is handling the situation in Egypt about right; fewer Republicans (43%) give the administration positive ratings. Roughly equal numbers of Republicans say the administration is showing too much support (19%) and too little support (15%) for the protesters.

Republicans More Skeptical About Impact of Egyptian Protests

Effect of protests on the U.S...	Good	Bad	Not much of an effect	Other/ DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	15	28	36	22=100
18-29	16	23	46	15=100
30-49	16	28	34	22=100
50-64	12	30	33	24=100
65+	15	29	31	25=100
Republican	8	37	33	22=100
Democrat	21	21	38	20=100
Independent	14	28	36	22=100
<i>Heard about protests...</i>				
A lot	18	35	31	17=100
A little/Nothing at all	12	21	41	26=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7, 2011.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Republicans and independents are more likely than Democrats to say the Egyptian protests will end up having a bad effect on the United States. Nearly four-in-ten Republicans (37%) say the protests will have a negative effect on the U.S., while just 8% think their effect will be positive. Twice as many independents say the protests will end up having a negative (28%) rather than positive (14%) effect on the U.S. Among Democrats, as many say their impact will be positive as negative (21% each).

Among those hearing a lot about the anti-government protests, 35% think they will have a bad effect on the U.S. while 18% think the impact will be positive. Among those who have heard little or nothing, 21% say the protests will end up having a bad effect on the U.S., while 12% say the impact will be positive. Fully 67% of those who have heard little or nothing about the protests in Egypt say they will not have much an effect on the U.S., express no opinion or volunteer another response, compared with 48% of those who have heard a lot about the protests.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1886/poll-egypt-protests-impact-united-states-obama-support>

158-18. Historically, Public Has Given Low Priority to Promoting Democracy Overseas

February 4, 2011

Americans like the idea of their government promoting democracy in other nations. But democracy promotion has historically lagged far behind other objectives among the public's long-term foreign policy goals.

Promoting Democracy Low among Public's Long-Term Policy Priorities

	1993	1997	2001*	2005	2009
<i>% saying each is a "top priority"...</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Protect against terror attacks	--	--	80	86	85
Protect jobs of American workers	85	77	77	84	85
Stop spread of WMD	69	70	78	75	74
Reduce depend. on imported energy	--	--	--	67	64
Combat inter. drug trafficking	--	67	64	59	56
Reduce illegal immigration	--	42	--	51	46
Deal with global climate change**	--	--	44	43	40
Strengthen the United Nations	41	30	42	40	37
Promote human rights abroad	22	27	29	37	29
Improve living standards in poor nations	19	23	25	31	26
Promote democracy abroad	22	22	29	24	21

PEW RESEARCH CENTER America's Place in the World surveys.

* 2001 surveyed completed Sept. 5.

** In 2001, the item was worded "dealing with global warming."

In the most recent "America's Place in the World" survey, conducted in November 2009, just 21% said promoting democracy abroad should be a top long-range priority for U.S. foreign policy. Democracy promotion ranked last on a list of 11 long-term foreign policy objectives. The most widely shared goals -- protecting the nation against terrorist attacks and protecting the jobs of American workers -- were cited by 85% each.

In 2005, during the Bush administration, 24% said promoting democracy abroad should be a top priority. Comparable percentages expressed this view in the "America's Place in the World" surveys conducted in early September 2001, shortly before the 9/11 attacks (29%), 1997 (22%), and 1993 (22%).

There frequently are wide partisan differences over some long-term U.S. foreign policy objectives. But democracy promotion has historically rated as a relatively low priority for Republicans, Democrats and independents alike. In the most recent "America's Place in the World" survey, 25% of Republicans, 22% of Democrats and 15% of independents rated this as a top priority.

The public does not oppose the goal of attempting to bring democracy to other nations. In July 2005, 60% said the United States should work to promote democracy around the world; 31% said the United States should not do this. Still, the public's priorities have changed little since before the two wars or even before the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks on New York and Washington.

Promoting Democracy as Way to Stop Terrorism

When the public was asked by the Pew Research Center in August 2006 to rank the importance of certain actions intended to help stem terrorism, nearly four-in-ten (38%) said it was very important "to encourage more democracy in Mideast countries like Egypt and Saudi Arabia." Many more (67%) said it was very important to decrease American dependence on oil from the Middle East, while half (52%) said it was very important to boost defense spending to maintain military preparedness.

In that survey, about as many viewed not getting involved with other nations' problems (41%) as encouraging Middle East democracy as a very important way to reduce future terrorism.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1883/historically-public-has-given-low-priority-to-promoting-democracy-overseas>

158-19. Rethinking Budget Cutting

Fewer Want Spending to Grow, But Most Cuts Remain Unpopular

February 10, 2011

The public's views about federal spending are beginning to change. Across a range of federal programs, Americans are no longer calling for increased spending, as they have for many years. For the most part, however, there is not a great deal of support for cutting spending, though in a few cases support for reductions has grown noticeably. The survey also shows that the public is reluctant to cut spending -- or raise taxes -- to balance state budgets.

Fewer Say Spend More, But Most Cuts Find Little Favor

<i>Would you increase, decrease or keep spending the same for...</i>		2009 2011 Change		
		%	%	%
Education	Increase	67	62	-5
	Decrease	6	11	+5
Veterans' benefits and services	Increase	63	51	-12
	Decrease	2	6	+4
Health care	Increase	61	41	-20
	Decrease	10	24	+14
Medicare	Increase	53	40	-13
	Decrease	6	12	+6
Combating crime	Increase	45	39	-6
	Decrease	10	18	+8
Energy	Increase	41	36	-5
	Decrease	15	23	+8
Scientific research	Increase	39	36	-3
	Decrease	14	23	+9
Environmental protection	Increase	43	36	-7
	Decrease	16	26	+10
U.S. anti-terrorism defenses	Increase	35	33	-2
	Decrease	17	21	+4
Agriculture	Increase	35	32	-3
	Decrease	12	23	+11
Military defense	Increase	40	31	-9
	Decrease	18	30	+12
Unemployment assistance	Increase	44	27	-17
	Decrease	15	28	+13
Global poverty assistance	Increase	26	21	-5
	Decrease	34	45	+11

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Percent saying "keep spending the same" not shown.

Since June 2009, there have been double-digit declines in the proportions favoring increased federal spending for health care (by 20 percentage points), government assistance for the unemployed (17 points), Medicare (13 points) and veterans' benefits and services (12 points). Fewer Americans also favor increased spending on military defense (down nine points) and environmental protection (seven points).

In two areas in particular -- aid for the unemployed and national defense -- the public's attitudes toward federal spending have changed dramatically. Currently, as many favor decreasing spending as increasing spending for assistance to the unemployed and national defense. In 2009, far more supported funding increases than decreases for these programs.

Despite these changing views, however, majorities or pluralities favor increased spending in five of 18 areas. Fully 62% favor increased funding for education -- the highest percentage for any program tested and little changed from 2009 (67%). In all, there is only one area -- economic assistance to needy people around the world -- for which a plurality favors cutting federal spending.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Feb. 2-7 among 1,385 adults, finds that President Obama's overall job rating has ticked up: 49% approve of Obama's job performance while 42% disapprove. From September through January, roughly as many approved as disapproved of Obama's job performance.

Most Say Obama Could be Doing More on the Economy

<i>President's efforts on the economy...</i>	Could be doing more	Is doing as much as he can	DK
Obama	%	%	%
Feb 2011	56	39	5=100
Feb 2010	50	43	7=100
March 2009	30	60	10=100
Bush			
Feb 2004	65	30	5=100
Jan 2003	61	33	6=100
Jan 2002	46	48	6=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q36F2.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Most Americans (56%) say President Obama could be doing more to improve economic conditions while 39% say he is doing as much as he can. A year ago, somewhat fewer (50%) said Obama could be doing more on the economy and in March 2009, just 30% expressed this view.

Still, views of former President Bush's efforts to improve the economy at a comparable stage in his presidency were slightly more negative than they are for Obama today, though the economy was in much better shape. In January 2003, 61% said Bush could be doing more to improve economic conditions while 33% said he was doing all he could.

The survey finds somewhat more positive -- or at least, less negative -- views of the nation's economy. Only about one-in-ten (12%) says economic conditions are excellent or good, a figure that has changed little over the past three years, but the proportion saying the economy is "poor" has edged lower. Currently 42% rate economic conditions as poor, which is virtually unchanged from December (45%), but down nine points from October (54%).

More Say Economy is Recovering, But Inflation Casts a Shadow

	Sept 2010	Dec 2010	Feb 2011
<i>National economic outlook</i>	%	%	%
The economy is recovering	10	17	24
Not yet recovering, but will soon	37	33	33
Will be a long time before it recovers	52	48	42
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Economic issue that worries you most</i>			
Job situation	49	47	44
Rising prices	15	15	23
Budget deficit	19	19	19
Financial/housing markets	12	14	10
Other/Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q25, Q29F1.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

—A plurality (42%) continues to say it will be a long time before the economy recovers, but that is 10 points lower than in September. The percentage saying the economy is recovering has more than doubled -- from 10% to 24% -- over this period.

Yet there has been no improvement in people's assessments of their own finances. And while economists say that the recession has ended, more than a third (36%) say that the recession had a major effect on their finances and they have yet to recover.

Jobs remain the public's dominant economic concern, but a new threat has emerged. The proportion citing rising prices as the national economic issue that most worries them has risen from 15% in December to 23% currently. Over the same period, the proportion citing the deficit as the most worrisome economic problem is flat (19% in December, 19% today).

As state budget problems worsen, most say that the states themselves should be responsible for addressing these problems, without the help of the federal government. Six-in-ten (60%) say the states should deal with budget shortfalls by raising taxes or cutting services, while just 27% favor the federal government giving more money to the states. These opinions are virtually unchanged from last June.

Public Rejects State Budget Cuts, Tax Increases

<i>If state needs to balance its budget...</i>	Yes	No	DK
<i>State should decrease...</i>	%	%	%
Pensions plans of government employees	47	47	6=100
Funding for roads and public transportation	31	67	2=100
Funding for public colleges and universities	31	66	3=100
Health care services	21	76	4=100
Funding for K through 12 public schools	18	79	3=100
<i>State should increase...</i>			
Taxes on businesses	41	55	4=100
Sales taxes	30	67	2=100
Personal income taxes	28	68	4=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q41.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

But there continues to be far more opposition than support for nearly all specific proposals to balance state budgets. Large majorities say their state should not decrease funding for primary and secondary education, health services, higher education and road maintenance and public transportation. Most also oppose raising personal income and sales taxes, as well as taxes on business as ways to balance their state's budget.

There is greater willingness to decrease funding for the pension plans of government employees. Even so, as many oppose this option as support it as a way to balance their state's budget (47% each).

The survey finds little change in opinions about both political parties over the past few months. Currently, 47% have a favorable impression of the Democratic Party while 46% express an unfavorable view. For the GOP, 43% have a favorable opinion and slightly more (48%) have an unfavorable view.

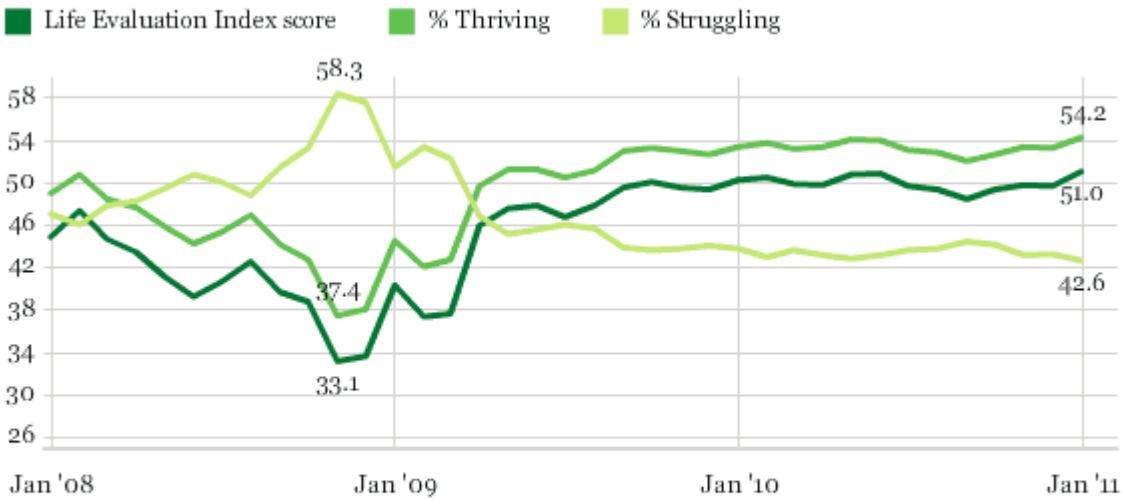
The shift in the balance of power on Capitol Hill has not changed the public's view about the level of discord between the president and Congress. Fully 65% say Obama and GOP leaders are not working together on the important issues facing the country; an almost identical percentage (67%) expressed this view at the beginning of last year. As was the case a year ago, far more of those who say the two sides are not working together blame Republican leaders (31%) than the president (19%).

158-20. Americans' Life Evaluation Climbs to Three-Year High

More Americans "thriving" in January than in any other month on record
February 10, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans rated their lives better in January than in any other month since Gallup and Healthways began tracking life evaluation. The percentage of Americans who were "thriving" rose to 54.2%, the highest on record, far surpassing the 42.6% who were "struggling," and driving the Life Evaluation Index score to a new high of 51 in January.

U.S. Life Evaluation Ratings



January 2008-January 2011
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

The Life Evaluation Index score in January is 17.9 points higher than the all-time low of 33.1 recorded in November 2008, as the housing and banking crisis pummeled the economy. Throughout the end months of 2008, the Life Evaluation Index score remained low as the percentage of Americans who were struggling eclipsed those who were thriving.

One of six sub-indexes that make up the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, the Life Evaluation Index classifies Americans as either "thriving," "struggling," or "suffering" according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale.

The new high number of Americans who are thriving in January also coincides with a three-year high in Gallup's measure of economic optimism. The 41% of Americans who said the economy is getting better in January ties for the highest since Gallup Daily tracking began in January 2008. Gallup has also previously found that Americans' life evaluation ratings tend to mirror their perceptions of their standard of living. While life evaluation has in the past moved in tandem with declining and improving economic conditions, the extent to which the current new high scores in life evaluation reflect real changes in the U.S. economy is unclear. Americans' improving life ratings, however, may be an indicator that they are feeling better about their personal situations and the nation's financial position including the jobs outlook.

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-Jan. 31, 2011, with a random sample of 29,199 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.

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.

The Life Evaluation Index is based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, which asks respondents to evaluate their present and future lives on a scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10, where "0" is the worst possible life and "10" is the best possible life. Those who rate today a "7" or higher and the future an "8" or higher are considered to be "thriving." Those who rate today and the future a "4" or lower on the scale are considered to be "suffering." The overall Life Evaluation Index score is calculated as the percentage of thriving Americans minus the percentage of suffering Americans.

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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146072/Americans-Life-Evaluation-Climbs-Three-Year-High.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

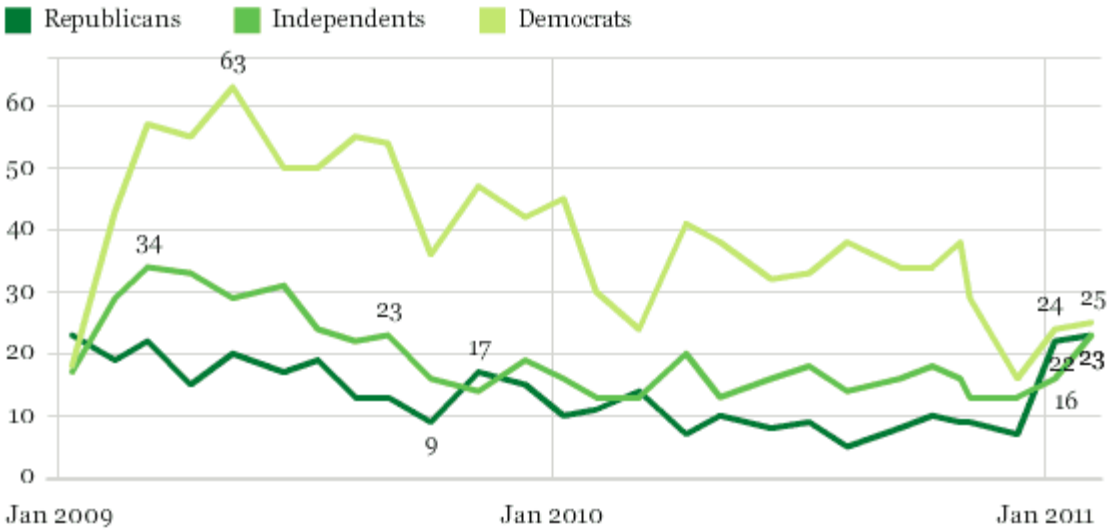
158-21. Republicans Remain Reticent to Approve of New Congress

Independents' approval is up, essentially matching approval of other two party groups
February 10, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Republicans give Congress lackluster approval ratings -- as do the rest of Americans -- despite their party's increased share of power. At 23%, Republicans' approval is essentially the same as independents' (23%) and Democrats' (25%) approval -- making the three groups more closely aligned in their views of Congress than at any time in the past several years, and resulting in a 23% approval rating overall.

Congressional Job Approval, by Political Party Affiliation

% Approve, trend since January 2009



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While all party groups give Congress similar approval ratings, independents now give Congress their highest ratings since the summer of 2009. Approval among Democrats and Republicans is essentially unchanged from last month.

Republicans may be reticent to approve of the new Congress partly because Democrats still control the Senate. Republicans' current approval of Congress is well below the level seen in previous Februaries for a party newly in control of the House of Representatives. Compared with today's 23% approval rating among Republicans, 58% of Republicans approved of Congress in February 1995 -- a month after their party gained control of the House and Senate for the first time in decades -- and 44% of Democrats approved in February 2007, shortly after the Democrats recaptured control of both houses.

Congressional Job Approval Ratings

by Party in February After Recent Transfers of Power

% Approve

	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
	%	%	%
Feb 3-5, 2011	23	23	25
Feb 1-4, 2007	31	33	44
Feb 3-5, 1995	58	31	27

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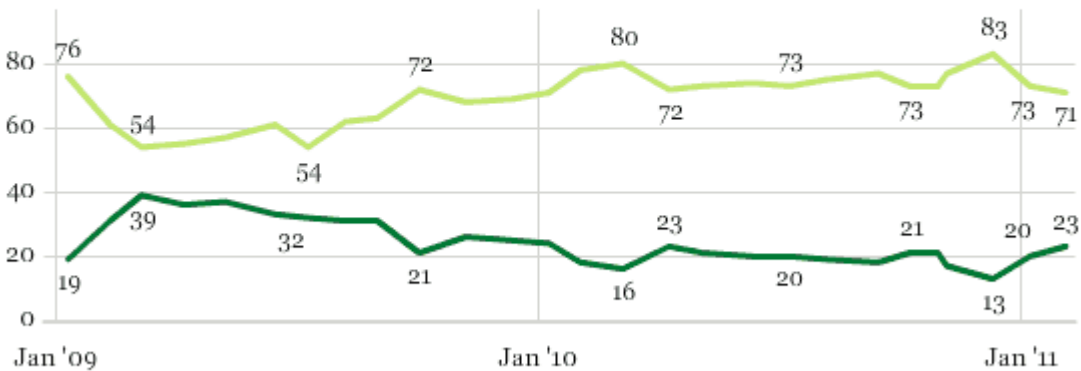
Americans' approval of Congress remains low overall at 23%, but is up 10 percentage points from December, as the 111th Congress worked to complete its session. The 112th Congress has yet to pass any major legislation, with efforts to repeal the healthcare reform law, pass a budget-

cutting initiative to retrieve money paid to the United Nations, and extend provisions of the Patriot Act all failing to advance.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

Trend since January 2009

■ % Approve ■ % Disapprove



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Implications

Americans appear to be in a wait-and-see mode in terms of rating the new divided Congress. Republicans' approval has not increased to the extent one would expect for a party now enjoying more power and influence. Democrats are less approving than they were for the bulk of the time their party controlled both houses, though slightly more approving than they were during the lame-duck session in December. Independents are currently alone in their slightly improved views of Congress since January, perhaps hoping divided control will result in more moderate or bipartisan legislation.

Other than this month and last month, the previous two times the three party groups rated Congress similarly -- within 11 points -- were times of legislative flurry: prior to the passage of comprehensive healthcare reform in March 2010 and during the lame-duck session in December.

Taking into account Americans' concerns about the federal budget deficit and the economy and jobs, Congress' best bet to gain the approval of the American public likely lies in its ability to successfully cut federal spending and spur economic growth.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146075/Republicans-Remain-Reticent-Approve-New-Congress.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-22. Unemployment Solidifies Position as Most Important Problem

Thirty-five percent mentioning it is highest since 1983
February 11, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Thirty-five percent of Americans name unemployment as the most important problem facing the U.S., the highest percentage since the economic slowdown began and higher than at any point since October 1983 (41%). Unemployment is the most important problem for the second month in a row, with the economy ranking second and healthcare third.

Most Important Problem Facing the Nation, 1980-2011: Jobs and Unemployment

■ % Mentioning jobs or unemployment



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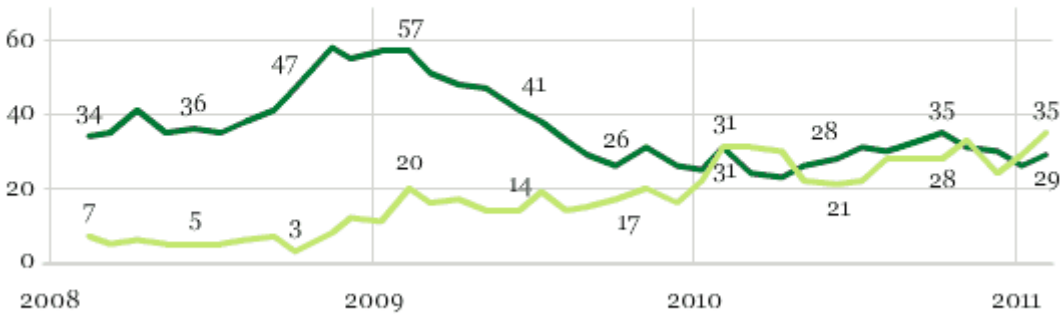
From the beginning of the economic slowdown through 2009, mentions of "the economy" in general were consistently the top issue. In the past year, as the government's unemployment rate has stayed in the 9% range, the economy and specific mentions of unemployment have traded the

top spot several times. This month, mentions of unemployment increased to 35%, and it now leads mentions of the economy by a significant margin.

Mentions of the Economy and Unemployment as the Most Important Problem

Trend since February 2008

■ % Economy ■ % Unemployment



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In addition to unemployment and the economy, three other issues are mentioned by at least 10% of Americans in the Feb. 2-5 poll -- healthcare, dissatisfaction with government, and the federal budget deficit. Although it has dominated the news lately, the situation in Egypt is mentioned by only a small number of respondents and does not rank among the top 10 problems.

What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

Issues mentioned by at least 3% of respondents

	% Mentioning
Unemployment	35
Economy in general	29
Healthcare	16
Dissatisfaction with government	12
Federal budget deficit	11
Education	6
Moral/Ethical decline	4
Lack of money	4
War (nonspecific)	4
Lack of respect for each other	4
Immigration	4
Foreign aid	3

Gallup, Feb. 2-5, 2011

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The top five problems overall are also the top five among each party group, though with some minor differences. Democrats are more likely than independents and Republicans to mention unemployment and are about twice as likely to mention healthcare. Republicans are more likely than independents or Democrats to mention the federal budget deficit, which ranks as the No. 3 issue among Republicans. Republicans are about equally likely to mention the economy and unemployment.

Most Important Problem, by Political Party

	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
	%	%	%
Unemployment	41	32	31
Economy in general	29	27	32
Healthcare	24	13	13
Dissatisfaction with government	9	11	12
Federal budget deficit	8	10	16

Gallup, Feb. 2-5, 2011

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Implications

All told, 7 in 10 Americans mention some economic issue when asked to name the most important problem facing the country, and the top two problems Americans cite as the most important ones facing the country directly reflect on the economic situation in the United States.

Until the economy improves significantly, that trend is likely to continue, since Americans usually rate the economy, or specific aspects of it such as unemployment or inflation, as the most important problem over other issues whenever the country is in a recession or economic slump.

The economy's health over the next 20 months will be important in determining whether President Obama will be re-elected. One key to Obama's winning a second term could be whether mentions of unemployment continue to go up or decline. Unemployment ranked high as a most important problem in 1976, 1984, and 1992 -- all years in which an incumbent president was trying to win an election. The general trend in mentions of unemployment rose over the course of 1976 and 1992, prior to Gerald Ford's and George H.W. Bush's defeats, but declined in the months leading up to Ronald Reagan's 1984 victory.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146081/Unemployment-Solidifies-Position-Important-Problem.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-23. Iran, North Korea Still Americans' Least Favorite Countries

Ratings of Mexico continue to decline; Pakistan and Afghanistan at new lows
February 11, 2011

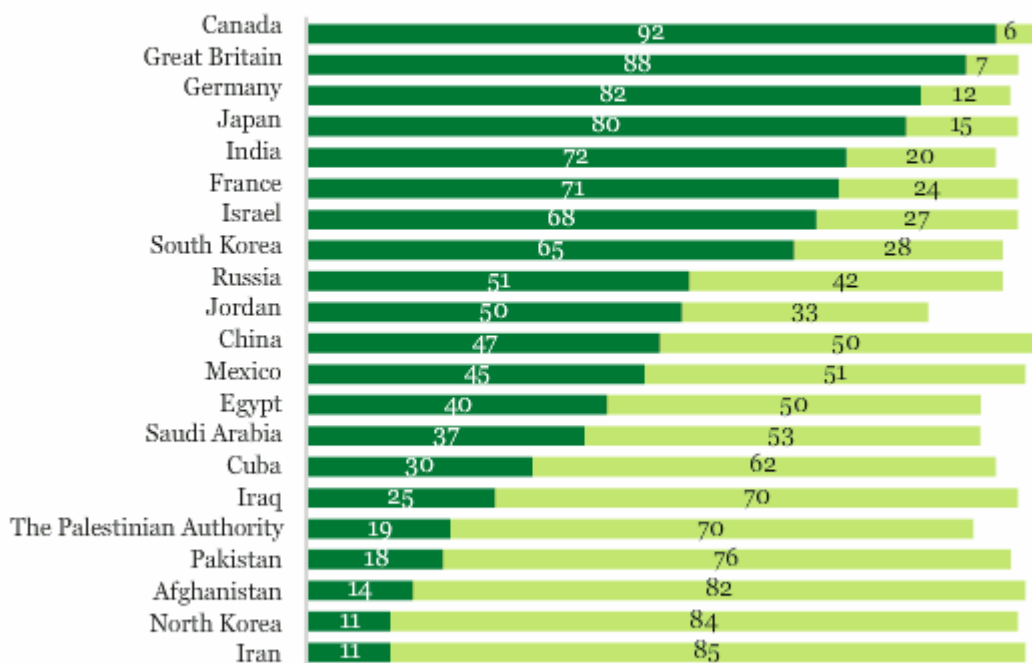
PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have a more positive view of Canada than they do of any of 20 other countries rated in Gallup's annual World Affairs poll. Great Britain is a close second at 88%, while Americans have the most negative opinions of Iran, North Korea, and Afghanistan.

2011 Country Favorability Ratings

Next, I'd like your overall opinion of some foreign countries. What is your overall opinion of _____?

Is it very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

■ Total % favorable ■ Total % unfavorable



Gallup, Feb. 2-5, 2011

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The top- and bottom-rated countries have been fairly consistent in the 11-year history of Gallup's World Affairs poll. Canada has been the top ranked, or statistically tied for the top, in all but one year (2005, when Great Britain had the highest favorable rating). Iran has generally been the lowest-rated country each year since 2005, though it was tied with North Korea in two of those years. In 2004, North Korea was the lowest. From 2001-2003, prior to the beginning of the U.S. war in Iraq, Iraq was the lowest-rated country.

Germany and Japan this year join Great Britain and Canada with favorable ratings of at least 80%, while India's and France's ratings exceed 70%. In addition to Iran, North Korea, and

Afghanistan, four other countries -- Pakistan, the Palestinian Authority, Iraq, and Cuba -- have negative ratings at least twice as large as their positive ratings.

Notable Trends in Country Ratings

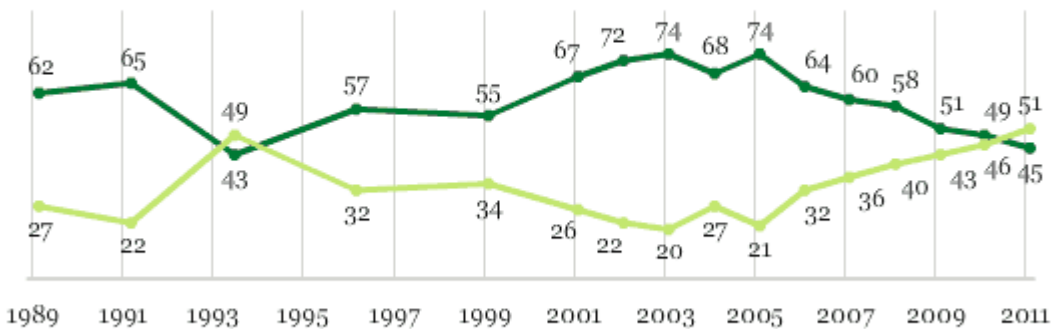
The largest change in any single country's ratings compared with last year is Egypt's 18-point decline. Country ratings are generally stable from one year to the next unless some significant event -- like the anti-government protests in Egypt -- occurs.

However, several longer-term changes in the way Americans view certain countries are apparent in the trend data. (The full trend for all countries measured this year is available in the document link provided in the Survey Methods section.)

For example, ratings of Mexico continue to decline, from a high of 74% in 2005 to 45% this year, just two points above the low measured in 1993. This is only the second time Gallup has found more Americans with a negative than positive view of Mexico. The decline is likely attributable to the ongoing illegal immigration issue and perhaps violence associated with Mexican drug dealers, which at times has led to incidents within the United States.

Americans' Opinions of Mexico

■ % Favorable ■ % Unfavorable



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Americans' favorable ratings of Afghanistan and Pakistan, which have generally been low over the past decade, have hit new lows this year. The increasing negativity likely results from those countries' associations with international terrorism, which, in the case of Afghanistan, has resulted in a protracted U.S. military engagement in that country. Ratings of those two countries peaked in 2005, more than three years into U.S. military involvement in Afghanistan and shortly after that country held democratic elections.

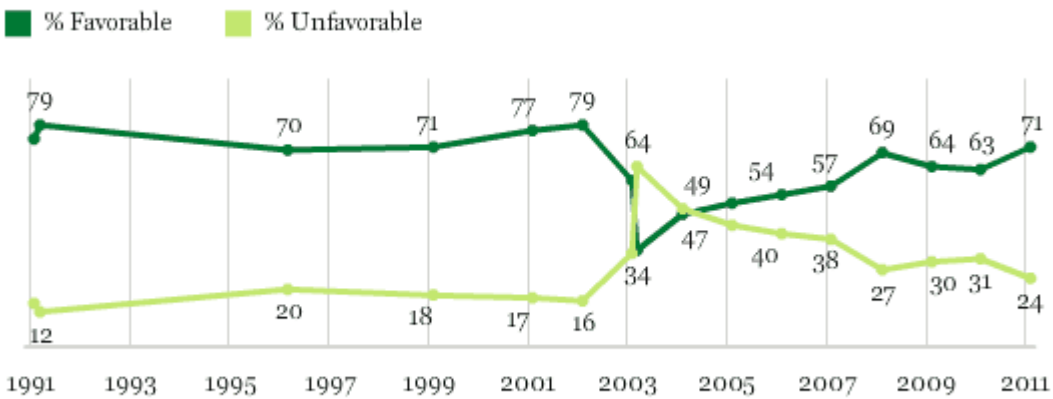
Favorable Opinions of Afghanistan and Pakistan



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Several other countries have seen notable gains in their approval ratings this year. Opinions of France are back above 70% for the first time since 2002. Americans' views of France soured in the lead-up to the war in Iraq, which France opposed. In March 2003, Americans were about twice as likely to view France negatively (64%) as positively (34%), but their views of the country have gradually improved since then.

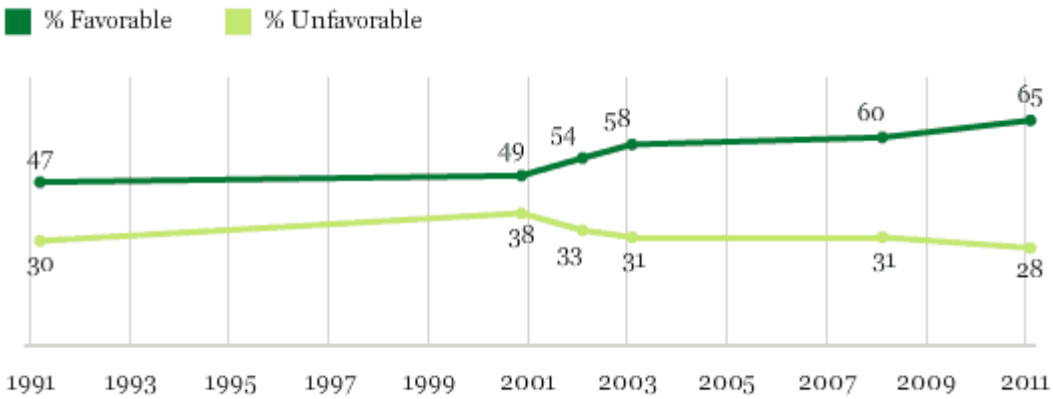
Americans' Opinions of France



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Sixty-five percent of Americans have a favorable opinion of South Korea, up five points from the prior measurement in 2008, and the highest Gallup has found since it first asked about the country in 1991. The United States and South Korea worked out a free trade agreement late last year, which is pending approval from both countries' legislatures.

Americans' Opinions of South Korea



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Implications

Americans' ratings of foreign countries suggest Americans are aware of what is occurring internationally. Countries that are friendly to the United States and supportive of its foreign policy are generally rated positively, while countries that are unfriendly to the United States and oppose its policies are rated negatively.

Americans' ratings of foreign countries generally are stable from year to year, but when changes occur, they typically are in response to significant events that affect the nature of U.S. relations with that country. For example, the protests in Egypt made Americans more aware of that country's autocratic government, even though Egypt has generally been a U.S. ally. And though Mexico and the United States have largely been friendly, some of the challenges Mexico is dealing with -- such as emigration and drug violence -- have had a direct impact on the United States.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 2-5, 2011, with a random sample of 1,015 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146090/Iran-North-Korea-Americans-Least-Favorite-Countries.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

158-24. Americans And Canadians More Likely To Observe Valentine's Day Than Britons

PUBLISHED ON FEB 11, 2011

Canadians and Americans are more likely than Britons to give their spouse or partner a card or gift this Valentine's Day, according to a recent Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll.

The online survey of representative national samples shows that seven-in-ten respondents in Canada (72%) and the United States (76%) and just over half in Britain (56%) plan to give something on February 14.

In addition to giving gifts and cards to their spouse or partner, nearly a quarter of respondents in Canada (22%) and the U.S. (24%) plan to give something to their own child or children. In Britain, 10 per cent will celebrate Valentine's Day by giving to their boyfriend or girlfriend. Four-in-five married Americans (80%) will give their spouse a gift or greeting card on Monday.

In general, giving to one's spouse or partner is equally common between men and women, except in Britain where more women than men will gift their significant other this year (44% female, 38% male).

When it comes to the types of gifts they would most like to receive, respondents in all three countries prefer to spend time with their partner, opting for a dinner out at a restaurant (28% in Canada, 24% in the U.S. and 26% in Britain). Flowers come second in Canada (12%) and Britain (14%)—mostly a gift desired by women. However, nine per cent of Canadian men would be happy with blooms. Chocolates and candy rate lower in terms of desirability as a gift (12% in the U.S., 6% in Canada and 5% in Britain).

Candy and chocolates rate highest as the gift that respondents are considering giving in the U.S. at 24 per cent. Nearly the same proportion of Canadians (23%) plan to give chocolates or sweets this Valentine's Day.

British men are more in tune with their partners' desire or disdain for chocolate than men in the US and Canada. 4 per cent of women in Britain would like to receive chocolate or sweets and 6 per cent of men plan to give them. In America, 14 per cent of women want chocolate and 22 per

cent of men plan to give chocolate. 18 per cent of Canadian men plan to give their spouse or partner chocolate, even though only 7 per cent of Canadian women want it.

More Canadians (24%) plan to give their partner the most-desired gift—dinner at a restaurant—than those in the US (21%) and Britain (11%).

Gift cards are an acceptable Valentine's Day gift according to half of Americans (47%). Three-in-five Canadians prefer to receive an actual gift; 71 per cent of Britons prefer not to receive a gift card for Valentine's Day.

Methodology: From February 1 to February 7, 2011 Vision Critical / Angus Reid conducted an online survey among 1,000 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,005 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,003 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1% for Canada and the United States and 2.2% for Great Britain. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada, the US and Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source: http://www.visioncritical.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/2011-02-11_Valentines_Day.pdf

158-25. Egypt Overwhelms News Agenda

Project for Excellence in Journalism

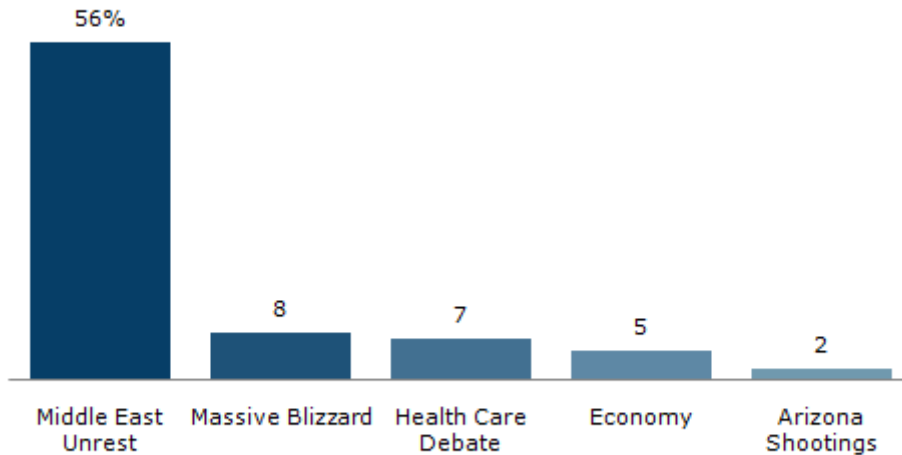
February 8, 2011

Last week's turmoil in the Middle East registered as the biggest international story in the past four years-- surpassing any coverage of the Iraq war, the Haiti earthquake and the conflict in Afghanistan.

From Jan. 31-Feb. 6, the Middle East saga, driven by televised images of the protests and power struggle in Egypt, filled 56% of the newshole studied by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. Not only was that easily the biggest overseas story in a single week since PEJ began its News Coverage Index in January 2007. It registered as the fourth-biggest story of any kind -- trailing only two weeks in the 2008 presidential campaign and the aftermath of the Jan. 8, 2011 Tucson shooting spree.

Egypt Overwhelms the News Agenda

Percent of Weekly Newshole



News Coverage Index, January 31 – February 6, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

Until now, the biggest international story of any single week (43%) was the Iraq war from Sept. 9-14, 2007. And most of that was driven by the domestic policy debate over the war -- including Gen. David Petraeus' progress report to Congress and a speech by President George W. Bush. The Haiti earthquake that killed as many as an estimated quarter million people filled 41% of the newshole from Jan. 11-17, 2010.

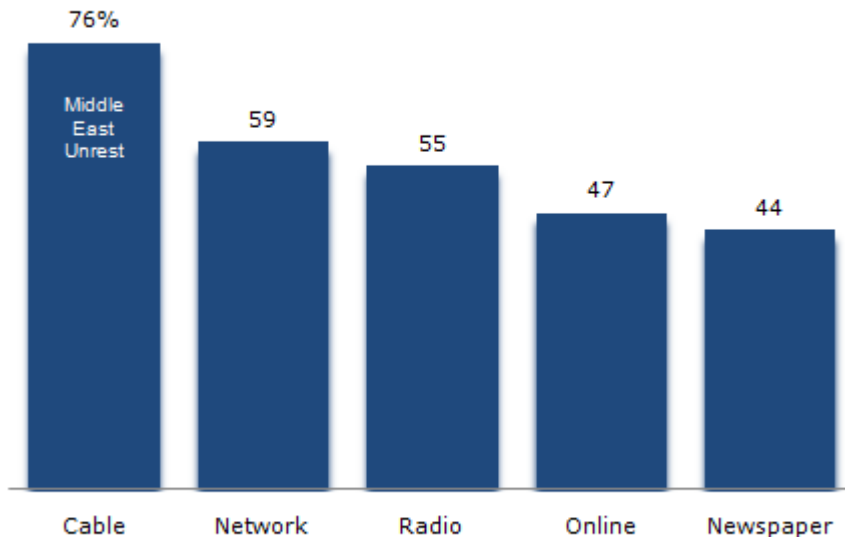
The closest parallel to the Egyptian unrest last week in the last four years were the widespread protests that followed the disputed Iranian elections -- and they accounted for only half as much coverage (28%) from June 15-21, 2009 as the Egyptian protests did last week. The biggest week of coverage of the war in Afghanistan in the past four years (27%) occurred from Nov. 30-Dec. 6, 2009 when President Obama announced a surge of 30,000 additional troops.

Why has an event that has not involved U.S. troops or directly imperiled U.S. citizens generated significantly more attention than the country's two wars? One major reason is the number of cameras and journalists (including network anchors) in the country transmitting such riveting scenes as last week's video of men on camels attacking crowds of protestors in Cairo. Another is the high stakes for the U.S. in one of the world's most volatile regions as it tries to balance a strategic alliance with President Hosni Mubarak and support of pro-democracy protestors. A third factor may be uncertainty -- will Mubarak resign and who will govern after him? And some of last week's coverage was driven by the fact that the media themselves became part of the story -- with journalists being harassed, attacked and detained amid the chaos.

Even though the Obama administration's handling of the situation to date has not produced a major partisan battle in Washington, the story still devoured 84% of the airtime studied on the ideological cable talk shows -- which are often crucial to keeping a story soaring at high altitude. Indeed some of those hosts last week were more willing than many public officials to voice strong opinions on the subject.

Middle East Unrest Biggest in Cable News

Percent of Newshole



News Coverage Index, January 31 – February 6, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

Every other news event last week was overwhelmed. The No. 2 story, well back at 8%, was the blizzard that pounded the Midwest, making this the second week in a row that bad winter weather was among the top five news stories. Next, at 7%, was coverage of the health care reform debate, fueled by the news that a Florida judge had ruled that the new legislation was unconstitutional. The economy followed, as the No. 4 story at 5%, followed by continuing coverage of the recent Arizona shootings, at 2%.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1885/news-coverage-egypt-protests-second-week>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

158-26. Young Egyptians Increasingly See Their Potential Untapped

Many young Arabs less likely to say leaders harness their talents

February 9, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Young people in several Arab countries became less likely in 2010 to believe their leadership fully uses their human capital. Young Egyptians' perceptions experienced one of the largest declines: fewer than 3 in 10 15- to 29-year-olds say Egypt's leadership maximizes youth potential, down from almost 4 in 10 in 2009. Young Egyptians have been an important force in ongoing demonstrations calling for the end of President Hosni Mubarak's rule.

Percentage of Young People Who Say Their Country's Leadership Maximizes Youth Potential

Among nationals aged 15 to 29

	2009	2010	Change in
	%	%	pct. pts.
United Arab Emirates	91	88	-3
Qatar	NA	72	-
Djibouti	60	65	+5
Jordan	72	63	-9
Libya	NA	61	-
Algeria	45	50	+5
Somaliland region	47	47	0
Mauritania	30	38	+8
Syria	NA	38	-
Morocco	36	37	+1
Sudan	43	35	-8
Palestinian Territories	39	34	-5
Comoros	25	30	+5
Yemen	27	30	+3
Egypt	39	29	-10
Lebanon	12	17	+5
Iraq	23	15	-8
Saudi Arabia	64	NA	-
Bahrain	74	NA	-
Kuwait	80	NA	-
Tunisia	NA	NA	-

2010 surveys conducted February-April and September-November

2009 surveys conducted February-April and July-October

NA = not available

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Young people's views of how their respective country's leadership taps their talents also fell significantly in Jordan, Sudan, and Iraq. In late January, demonstrators took to the streets in Jordan to demand political and economic reforms, which led to the dismissal of the government's cabinet. Mauritania is the only country where young people became statistically more likely last year to believe their country's leaders maximize their potential.

In all other countries surveyed, the year-over-year change as to whether leaders harness young people's human capital is not statistically significant. Although data for 2010 are not available in all countries, it is worth noting that young citizens of the richest Arab League states (Bahrain,

Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates) are among the most likely to say their country leaders maximize their potential.

As policymakers face the challenges of creating jobs across Arab countries, young people's views about how leaders tap their potential reinforce the need to engage young Arabs as vital partners in the economic growth of their societies. The top predictor of their perception that leaders maximize their potential across the region is young people's satisfaction with efforts to increase the number of quality jobs. The other top two predictors are young Arabs' belief that children in their countries are treated with respect and dignity and that the government makes business paperwork easy enough for aspiring entrepreneurs. Previous Gallup research has shown that the belief that children are treated with respect strongly correlates with many economic and entrepreneurship measures. Such findings underscore the strong link between children's status and job-creation initiatives in building prosperous and stable societies.

These results are based on the latest research to appear in the fourth edition of "The Silatech Index: Voices of Young Arabs," which will be published in April. [The Silatech Index report](#), prepared in partnership with Gallup, measures and analyzes young Arabs' attitudes with respect to their hopes and desires, human capital, work, entrepreneurship, and obstacles to success.

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 and phone interviews with more than 16,000 country nationals, aged 15 to 29, conducted between February and November in 2010 and between February and October in 2009 in 20 countries that are members of the League of Arab States and the Somaliland region. For results based on the total sample of national youth, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of ± 3.3 percentage points in the Somaliland region to a high of ± 6.9 percentage points in Qatar in 2010. 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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146018/Young-Egyptians-Increasingly-Potential-Untapped.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World

158-27. About 1 in 7 Chinese Leave Communities for Healthcare

Residents in Northwest, Northeast more likely to report traveling for care
February 8, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- As China starts the final year of its aggressive three-year plan to provide "safe, effective, convenient, and affordable" healthcare to all Chinese, about one in seven (15%) residents say at least one member of their household needed to travel to another community for medical care in the past year. This percentage is lower than the median of 21% across 13 Asian countries Gallup surveyed.

In the past 12 months, have you or a member of your household had to travel to another city or area within this country to seek treatment for a medical condition?

	Yes	No
Nepal	54%	46%
Afghanistan	38%	62%
Bangladesh	33%	67%
Mongolia	30%	70%
Sri Lanka	25%	75%
Vietnam	24%	76%
MEDIAN	21%	78%
India	21%	78%
Philippines	20%	80%
Pakistan	20%	78%
Cambodia	17%	83%
China	15%	85%
Malaysia	12%	86%
Indonesia	4%	96%

Surveys conducted April to July 2010

GALLUP®

One of the primary goals of China's healthcare reform is that residents will not need to travel far for care. According to *Xinhua*, the government allocated \$2.9 billion -- out of the \$129 billion it was expected to spend on the reform between 2009 and 2011 -- for the construction of more than 5,000 hospitals in 2009. More than 10,000 health institutions and about 70,000 village clinics reportedly were built.

Healthcare services in rural areas of China typically lack the same level of access and quality present in urban areas. But perhaps reflecting recent investments in rural care, rural Chinese (16%) were no more likely than urban Chinese (14%) to report traveling outside their city or community for medical care. They are slightly less satisfied, however, with the availability of quality medical care in their communities. Fifty-six percent of rural residents are satisfied versus 61% of urban residents.

Healthcare Access in Urban and Rural China

	Urban	Rural
Traveled to another city in past 12 months to get medical treatment	14%	16%
Satisfied with the availability of quality healthcare in community	61%	56%

June-July 2010

GALLUP®

The need to travel for medical care is more common in some regions of China where access to quality care may be less likely. Chinese living in the Southwest (8%) and largely urban eastern coastal regions (10%) are least likely to travel outside their communities for medical care, while those living in the Northwest (23%) and Northeast (20%) are the most likely.

In the past 12 months, have you or a member of your household had to travel to another city or area within China to seek treatment for a medical condition?

	Yes	No
Northwest	23%	77%
Northeast	20%	80%
South Central	17%	81%
North	16%	83%
East	10%	91%
Southwest	8%	92%

June-July 2010

GALLUP®

Like in many other Asian countries, reported travel for medical care outside the country is low -- less than half of 1% of Chinese say they needed to do this in the past year -- across all regions. Adequate regional access to care in a nearby city or area, the high costs of obtaining visas, and transportation may be a few reasons behind this low figure. The lack of personal networks in other countries to assist with medical care arrangements may also be a deterrent. Many Chinese say they do not have relatives or friends living in another country on whom they feel they can rely if they needed help; about 2% of Chinese say they do have this type of social safety net.

Bottom Line

When a medical need arises, Gallup data show some Chinese are leaving their communities for treatment elsewhere. Perhaps reflecting gains in rural access, rural Chinese are no more likely to say they traveled for medical care than urban Chinese, but regional differences still pose a

challenge. As China continues on the path of major healthcare reforms that affect urban and rural populations, policymakers might consider the need for medical travel as one metric of success.

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 and land-line telephone interviews with 4,151 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted between June and July 2010 in China. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of error is ± 2.2 percentage points. The margin of error is higher for regional results. Surveys in other countries mentioned in this article were conducted between April and July 2010.

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.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/145994/Chinese-Leave-Communities-Healthcare.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia

158-28. Qatar's FIFA World Cup Bid Win Makes Middle East So Proud

December 16, 2010

These are the latest findings from YouGov Siraj's survey of over 2000 Arab residents of the Middle East.

2024 Arab Middle East residents, from 18 countries responded to the survey during December 2010.

Over two thirds (68%) of respondents agree they felt proud of the Middle East when they heard that Qatar had won the FIFA World Cup™. They believe it is a well deserved win for a nation with vision (68%) and a milestone in history (79%).

"It is not surprising to see such a strong result. Having recently moved to Qatar, it has been amazing to see the strength of feeling amongst locals and ex-pats alike". says Jane Wilson, Research Director for Qatar at YouGov Siraj. "Feelings are strong across the whole region, the initial thoughts people reported in the survey show this strength of pride from the GCC to North Africa and comments included": "Sure proud an Arab country won the FIFA World Cup™" (Egypt), "Good planning from Qatar" (Kuwait), "Thrilled" (KSA), "Amazing" (Syria).

The win by Qatar will be good for the whole of the Middle East. Over three quarters believe it will encourage tourism to the Middle East (81%) and open doors to trade to/from the Middle East (76%). They agree it is great for Middle Eastern economies and will help to improve understanding of the Middle East (both 74%). It is felt this has come at the right time (69%).

As well as being good for business it is also good for football with almost three quarters saying it will encourage football in the Middle East (73%) and over half agreeing they are now more interested in football (56%).

Winning the event will help to put Qatar on the map (72%) and help to increase business opportunities (75%). More agree than disagree that Qatar will become the sports and cultural capital of the region (48%) and the prime Middle East business hub (42%), but with the increase in business there is a concern rents in Qatar will go up (71%).

Qatar is a forward thinking nation (69%) and is expected to be able to prepare for the event well. It is agreed that they have the money to do what is needed in 2022 (80%) and the initiative and technology to be able to deliver (73%). Very few (15%) think that they have underestimated the size of the task. There are no concerns about being able to deliver the new transport that is required (79% agree they can), being equipped to handle the logistics of such an event (70%) and maintaining the temperature in the stadia (63%). In fact the greatest concern about the whole event is the temperature outside (26%).

This is truly a testament to the belief in Qatar's ability to manage everything within their control" adds Jane. „The strength of pride and support from across the region is truly amazing".

About YouGov Siraj

YouGov Siraj is a full-service market research company, specialising in qualitative research and online polling. YouGov Siraj acts as a research consultancy for clients on research projects of any size, with offices in the UAE, KSA, Iraq and Qatar. A member of YouGov Plc (based in the UK), YouGov Siraj applies the same online methodology, which has proven levels of accuracy. YouGov Siraj has the region's largest pure research panel of over 230,000 members, who respond to surveys. The company has particularly strong analytical skills, with research specialists who have many years regional experience.

Source: <http://www.zawya.com/story.cfm/sidZAWYA20101216053407>

CYBER WORLD

158-29. Social Media Transforming Dating

February 10, 2011

For Those 18-29, 94% Check Facebook After Meeting Potential Valentines & 43% Would Post About Their Breakups

UTICA, NY - Facebook has become a primary means of finding and expressing romance for millions of Americans. Nearly one-half of this nation's adults on Facebook use it to tell the world they are in a relationship with someone. Nearly three-fourths of all Facebook users who are not in a relationship log on to learn about people they want to date. Romance-related uses of Facebook for people ages 18-29 are even greater.

Among those 18-29 who have Facebook pages:

- 94% of those not in a relationship will either immediately, or within a day or two, check out the page of someone they may want to date
- 43% would post information about breaking up a relationship
- 42% of those in a relationship look to see whom their partners' friends are on their partners' Facebook pages

Other results from this Zogby Interactive poll on romance and new technology conducted from January 27-31, 2011 found 43% of all adults and 60% of those 18-29 have told someone they love them through a text message. Only 2% of all adults and 5% of those 18-29 have broken off a relationship via text message.

People are much less public about using Twitter to talk about their relationships, as 7% of all adults who subscribe to Twitter have tweeted something romantic that involves them or their partners.

The survey did not find great differences in how men and women use these technologies in their romantic lives. The largest gender differences were: 49% of women use Facebook to indicate they are in a relationship compared to 41% of men, and 30% of women check out their partners' friends compared to 20% of men.

According to Facebook, about 30% of its 500 million active users worldwide (approximately 150 million) live in the U.S. Facebook does not provide an age breakdown of its users.

Results about Twitter and Facebook based only on users of Twitter or Facebook.

	<i>All adults</i>	<i>Ages 18-29</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
My Facebook page indicates I am 'in a relationship' with someone	46%	40%	41%	49%
If I broke up with someone, I would post the information on my Facebook page	20%	43%	22%	19%
I have tweeted information about something romantic that involves me & my partner	7%	3%	10%	3%
I have broken off a relationship through a text message	2%	5%	3%	1%
I have told someone I love them in a text message	43%	60%	41%	45%

When you meet someone you are interested in dating, how quickly would you check their Facebook page? (Results are for Facebook users who are not in a current relationship.)

<i>Answer</i>	<i>All adults</i>	<i>Ages 18-29</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Immediately	22%	24%	19%	25%
Within a day or two	51%	70%	51%	53%
I would not check his/her Facebook page	17%	5%	19%	15%
Not sure	9%	2%	11%	7%

I check my partner' Facebook page to see whom their friends are. (Results are Facebook users who are in a current relationship.)

<i>All Adults</i>	<i>Ages 18-29</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
25%	42%	20%	30%

The interactive poll of 2,100 likely voters has a margin of error of +/-2.2%. A sampling of Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population.

Source: <http://www.zogby.com/news/ReadNews.cfm?ID=1946>

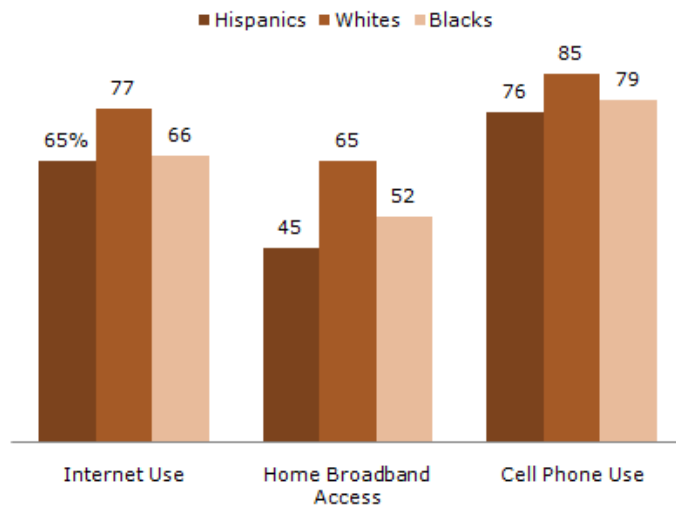
158-30. Latinos and Digital Technology

Pew Hispanic Center

February 9, 2011

Latinos are less likely than whites to access the internet, have a home broadband connection or own a cell phone, according to survey findings from the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center. Latinos lag behind blacks in home broadband access but have similar rates of internet and cell phone use.

Figure 1
Technology Use by Race and Ethnicity, 2010



Notes: N=1,375 for Hispanics, 1,664 for whites and 630 for blacks.

Sources: Pew Hispanic Center 2010 National Survey of Latinos, Pew Internet and American Life Project August 2010 Health Tracking Survey

PEW HISPANIC CENTER

While about two-thirds of Latino (65%) and black (66%) adults went online in 2010, more than three-fourths (77%) of white adults did so. In terms of broadband use at home, there is a large

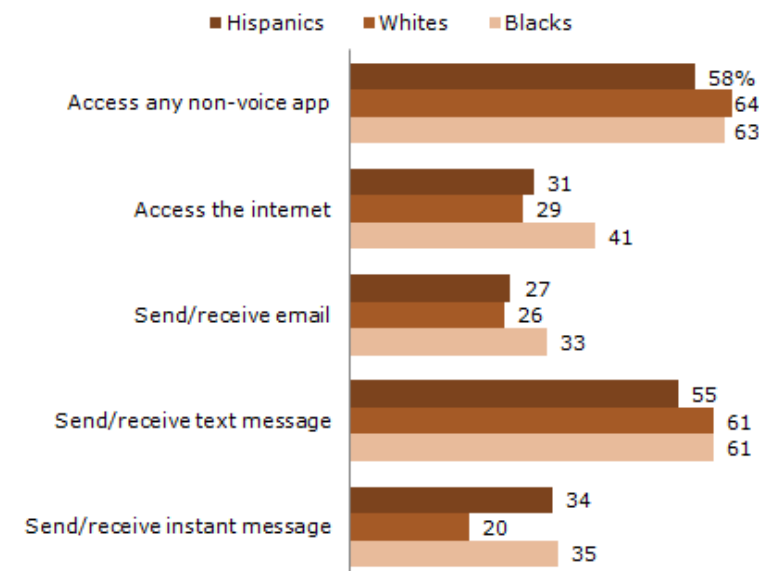
gap between Latinos (45%) and whites (65%), and the rate among blacks (52%) is somewhat higher than that of Latinos. Fully 85% of whites owned a cell phone in 2010, compared with 76% of Latinos and 79% of blacks.

Hispanics, on average, have lower levels of education and earn less than whites. Controlling for these factors, the differences in internet use, home broadband access and cell phone use between Hispanics and whites disappear. In other words, Hispanics and whites who have similar socioeconomic characteristics have similar usage patterns for these technologies.

Hispanics, on average, are also younger than whites. However, even within each age group, Hispanics show lower levels of technology use than do whites.

Figure 2
Cell Phone Activities by Race and Ethnicity, 2010

% who use a cell phone to...



Notes: N=1,375 for Hispanics, 1,664 for whites and 630 for blacks.

Sources: Pew Hispanic Center 2010 National Survey of Latinos, Pew Internet and American Life Project August 2010 Health Tracking Survey

PEW HISPANIC CENTER

Survey questions also probed for the use of non-voice applications on cell phones. Respondents were asked specifically about whether they access the internet and whether they use email, texting or instant messaging from a cell phone. The findings reveal a mixed pattern of non-voice cell phone application use across ethnic and racial groups. Hispanics are less likely than whites to use any non-voice applications on a cell phone (58% vs. 64%), and they are also less likely than whites to send or receive text messages (55% vs. 61%). However, Hispanics and whites are equally likely to access the internet and send or receive email from a cell phone. And Hispanics are more likely than whites to engage in instant messaging (34% vs. 20%). Compared with blacks, Hispanics are less likely to access the internet (31% vs. 41%) or send or receive email

(27% vs. 33%) from a cell phone, but rates of texting and instant messaging are similar for the two groups.

Though they are no more likely than whites to access the internet from a cell phone, Hispanics are more likely to do so in lieu of a home internet connection. Some 6% of Latinos report that they access the internet from a cell phone but have no internet access at home. This rate is the same for blacks, but notably higher than the rate for whites (1%). While controlling for educational attainment and income erases ethnic differences in internet use, broadband access and cell phone ownership, this is not entirely the case when it comes to the ethnic difference in dependency upon a cell phone for internet access. Controlling for income and education erases the differences for the highly educated and most affluent, but differences still persist for those with no college experience, and those earning less than \$50,000 annually.

This report is based on two national surveys. The first, the Pew Hispanic Center's 2010 National Survey of Latinos is a nationally representative bilingual telephone survey of 1,375 adults ages 18 and older. Interviews were conducted from Aug. 17 through Sept. 19, 2010. The margin of error for the full sample is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The second, the Pew Internet and American Life Project's August 2010 Health Tracking Survey is a national representative telephone survey of 3,001 adults, conducted from Aug. 9 through Sept. 13, 2010. The margin of error for the full sample is plus or minus 2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. For a full description of the methodology of both surveys, see [Appendix A in the full report \(PDF\)](#).

Other key findings include:

Ethnicity

- Latinos are significantly less likely than whites to have a home internet connection (55% vs. 75%); this difference persists even if the sample is limited to internet users (85% vs. 96%). The likelihood of having a home internet connection among blacks (58%) does not differ much from that of Hispanics.
- Among internet users, Hispanics are less likely to have a home broadband connection (69%) than are whites (84%) or blacks (78%).
- Among cell phone owners, Hispanics are as likely as whites or blacks to utilize at least one of the four non-voice cell phone applications -- more than three-fourths (77%) of Hispanics do so while 75% of whites and 79% of blacks do the same.
- However, Hispanic cell phone owners are more likely than white cell phone owners to access the internet (40% vs. 34%), email (36% vs. 31%) or instant message (45% vs. 24%) from their cell phone. Meanwhile, Hispanic cell phone owners are less likely than black cell phone owners to access the internet from their cell phone (40% vs. 51%).

Nativity

- Native-born Latinos are more likely than foreign-born Latinos to be online (81% vs. 54%), to have a home internet connection (71% vs. 45%), to have a home broadband connection (60% vs. 35%) and to own a cell phone (86% vs. 70%).

- From 2009 to 2010, cell phone ownership among the native born increased six percentage points (from 80% to 86%). This increase was driven primarily by increased cell phone ownership among Latinos who are the children of immigrants, or the so-called second generation (from 79% to 88%).
- The native born are more likely than the foreign born to use non-voice applications on a cell phone-74% vs. 48%.

Language

- Spanish-dominant Hispanics trail bilingual and English-dominant Hispanics in internet use, home internet access, home broadband access and cell phone ownership.
- Some 47% of Spanish-dominant Latinos use the internet, compared with 74% of bilingual Latinos and 81% of English-dominant Latinos.
- Some 37% of Spanish-dominant Latinos have a home internet connection, compared with 61% of bilingual Latinos and 77% of English-dominant Latinos.
- About one-fourth (26%) of Spanish-dominant Latinos have home broadband access, compared with about half (52%) of bilingual Latinos, and two-thirds (66%) of English-dominant Latinos.
- Some 68% of Spanish-dominant Hispanics have a cell phone, compared with 78% of bilingual Hispanics and 86% of English-dominant Hispanics.
- While the overall internet usage rate among Spanish-dominant Latinos remains low, the share using the internet has increased rapidly -- from 36% in 2009 to 47% in 2010.
- More than three-fourths (76%) of English-dominant Latinos use cell phones for something other than traditional calls, while 62% of bilingual Latinos and 44% of Spanish-dominant Latinos report as much.

Age

- Among Latinos, internet use, home internet use, home broadband access and cell phone ownership are less prevalent at older ages.
- From 2009 to 2010, the share of Latinos ages 18 to 29 who were online jumped from 75% to 85%, and the share with cell phones rose from 81% to 90%.
- The likelihood of using any type of non-voice cell phone application declines with age for Latinos.

Education and Income

- Among Hispanics, higher levels of educational attainment and household income are linked to higher rates of internet use, home internet access, having a home broadband connection and cell phone ownership.
- The same is true when looking at non-voice cell phone applications -- Hispanics with more education and more income are generally more likely to use these mobile applications.

Place of Residence

- Rates of internet use, home internet access and broadband access are similar for Latinos living in urban, suburban and rural areas.
- Cell phone ownership is significantly less prevalent in suburban areas than in urban or rural areas.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1887/latinos-digital-technology-internet-broadband-cell-phone-use>

158-31. Generations and Gadgets

Pew Internet & American Life Project

February 3, 2011

Many devices have become popular across generations, with a majority of adults now owning cell phones, laptops and desktop computers. Younger adults are leading the way in increased mobility, preferring laptops to desktops and using their cell phones for a variety of functions, including internet, email, music, games and video.

Among the findings:

- Cell phones are by far the most popular device among American adults, especially for adults younger than age 65. Some 85% of adults own cell phones. Taking pictures (done by 76% of cell owners) and text messaging (done by 72% of cell owners) are the two non-voice functions that are widely popular among all cell phone users.
- Desktop computers are the most popular with adults ages 35-65, with 69% of Gen X, 65% of Younger Boomers and 64% of Older Boomers owning these devices.
- Millennials are the only generation that is more likely to own a laptop computer or netbook than a desktop: 70% own a laptop, compared with 57% who own a desktop.
- While almost half of all adults own an mp3 player like an iPod, this device is by far the most popular with Millennials, the youngest generation -- 74% of adults ages 18-34 own an mp3 player, compared with 56% of the next oldest generation, Gen X (ages 35-46).
- Game consoles are significantly more popular with adults ages 18-46, with 63% owning these devices.
- Just 5% of all adults own an e-book reader; they are least popular with adults ages 75 and older, with only 2% owning this device.
- Tablet computers, such as the iPad, are most popular with American adults ages 65 and younger. Only 4% of all adults own this device.
- Additionally, 9% adults do not own any of the devices we asked about, including 43% of adults ages 75 and older.

In terms of generations, Millennials are by far the most likely group not only to own most of the devices we asked about, but also to take advantage of a wider range of functions. For instance, while cell phones have become ubiquitous in American households, most cell phone owners use only two of the main non-voice functions on their phones: taking pictures and text messaging.

Among Millennials, meanwhile, a majority use their phones also for going online, sending email, playing games, listening to music and recording videos.

Gen X, however, is very similar to Millennials in ownership of certain devices, such as game consoles. Members of Gen X are also more likely than Millennials to own a desktop computer.

% of American adults in each generation who own each device

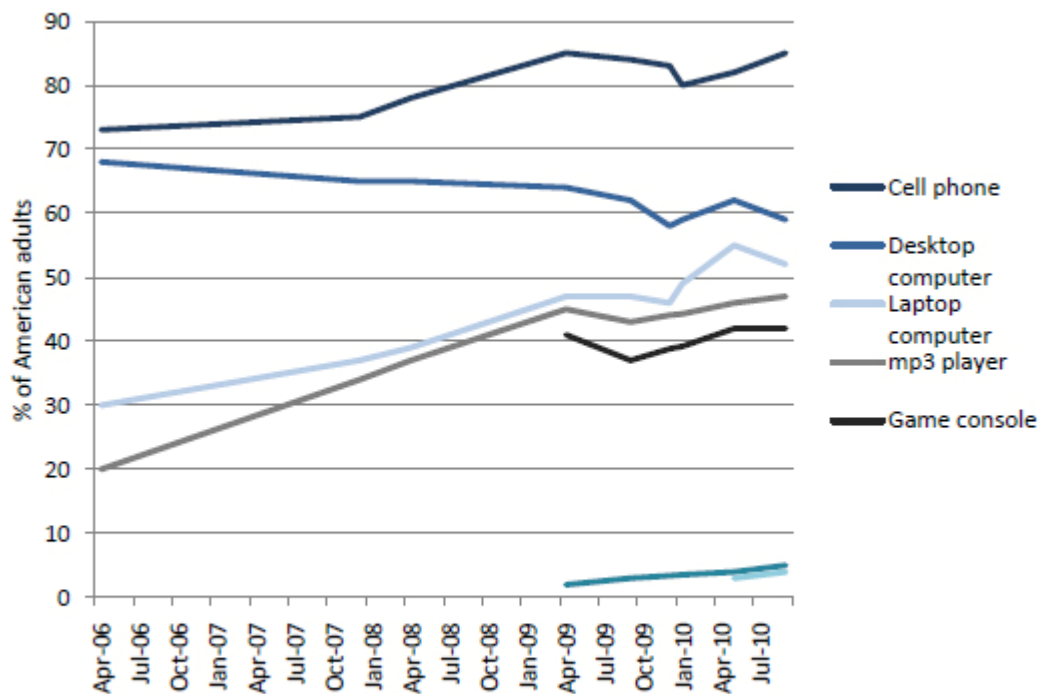
	Millennials (Ages 18-34)	Gen X (35-46)	Younger Boomers (47-56)	Older Boomers (57-65)	Silent Gen. (66-74)	G.I. Gen. (75+)	All adults (18+)
Cell phone	95	92	86	84	68	48	85
Desktop computer	57	69	65	64	48	28	59
Laptop computer	70	61	49	43	30	10	52
iPod/MP3 player	74	56	42	26	16	3	47
Game console	63	63	38	19	8	3	42
e-Book reader	5	5	7	3	6	2	5
Tablet, like iPad	5	5	4	3	1	1	4
None of these	1	3	8	8	20	43	9

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

e-Book readers and tablet computers so far have not seen significant differences in ownership between generations, although members of the oldest generation (adults ages 75 and older) are less likely than younger generations to own these devices.

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

Gadget ownership by American adults, 2006-2010



Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project surveys, April 2006 - September 2010.

In this chart, the dips in tech ownership registered in the September 2010 survey are mostly a result of the fact that Spanish interviews were added to the survey. Most of the Pew Internet surveys before 2010 were only conducted in English. The Project has added Spanish to this survey which had the effect of reducing the overall tech-ownership numbers in some instances because respondents who chose to be interviewed in Spanish were somewhat less likely than others to be tech non-users.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1879/gadgets-generations-cell-phones-laptops-desktop-computer>