

# BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

## GLOBAL OPININ REPORT 160

Week: February 20-26, 2011

Presentation: March 02, 2011

M. Zubair

---

<b>Introductory Note</b>	02
<b>Summary of Polls</b>	02
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	
• Palestinians Supportive of Youth Revolutions in Arab World	06
• Before Uprising, Egyptians Lacked Faith in Honesty of Elections	22
• Iraqi Kurds More Optimistic Than Rest of Their Countrymen	24
• Ahead of Protests, Many Libyans Discontent With Freedom, Jobs	25
<b>WEST ASIA</b>	
• Pakistanis Hopes For The Next Generation	27
<b>SOUTH EAST ASIA</b>	
• 9 Out Of 10 Want TV Coverage Of The Maguindanao Massacre Case	28
<b>EAST EUROPE</b>	
• 2010 - The Year Of Disasters In Poland And Across The World	32
• Poles Working Abroad	34
• Low Terror Fear Among Poles	37
• Terrorism Threat And Ways To Combat It	39
• Olympic Mascot: More Russians In Favor Of Father Frost	42
<b>WEST EUROPE</b>	
• Uk Financial Providers Fail To Earn Trust Of Their Customers	42
• Higher Public Support For Changing The Voting System To Alternative Vote	43
• Britons Start to Turn Against Cameron's Big Society Policy	44
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	
• Mississippi Rates as the Most Conservative U.S. State	45
• Reagan, FDR Top Greatness Poll of Presidents Since WWII	47
• Obama Approval Now 45%; GOP Voters Help Congressional Approval Rise to 32%	50
• Trust In Government – Not!	51
• The Tea Party, Religion and Social Issues	54
• Global Trouble Spots Top Public's News Interests	60
• Labor Unions Seen as Good for Workers, Not U.S. Competitiveness	68
• Public Favors Tougher Border Controls and Path to Citizenship	76
• Religion in the News: 2010	82
• Issues Divide Republicans' Views of Potential 2012 Contenders	84
• Americans' Economic Confidence Worsens in Mid-February	88
• Growing Minority Wants Minimal U.S. Role in World Affairs	91
• Number of Solidly Democratic States Cut in Half From '08 to '10	93
• Scaling Back State Programs Is Least of Three Fiscal Evils	97
<b>MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS</b>	

- Economy and Living Conditions In Poland, The Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary 101
  - Measuring the State of Muslim-West Relations: Assessing the “New Beginning” 103
- CYBER WORLD**
- New Research Shows Mobile Internet Usage a Daily Habit 107

**Introductory Note**

This week report consists of 31 surveys. Three of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 28 are national surveys.

**Topic of the week:**

**160-32 Restless Arab World**

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

**Ahead of Protests, Many Libyans Discontent With Freedom, Jobs**

*Residents in Benghazi less satisfied than Tripoli residents*

February 25, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Gallup surveys in **Libya's** two largest cities -- part of a wider effort -- offer a glimpse into the lives of Tripoli and Benghazi residents before protests erupted. Wellbeing was low in each city in late 2010, but residents of Benghazi, the epicenter of the demonstrations, were less satisfied than Tripoli residents in two areas: the freedom to choose what they do with their lives and efforts to create good jobs.

While distance and history divide residents in Libya's capital, Tripoli, and its second-largest city, Benghazi, equally low percentages of their residents were thriving last year. The **13%** in Tripoli and **15%** in Benghazi who rated their lives well enough to be considered thriving is on the low side, compared with other populations in the Middle East and North Africa.

High unemployment and underemployment plague residents in both cities, particularly young people. Fewer residents in Benghazi (**31%**) than in Tripoli (**44%**) were satisfied with efforts to increase the number of quality jobs in their country. They found more

*Libyan Life Before the Unrest*

Based on surveys in Tripoli and Benghazi

	Tripoli	Benghazi
Percentage "thriving"	13%	15%
Freedom in your life		
Satisfied	50%	34%
Dissatisfied	29%	33%
Don't know/Refused	21%	32%
Efforts to increase number of quality jobs in your country		
Satisfied	44%	31%
Dissatisfied	13%	50%
Don't know/Refused	44%	20%
Availability of good jobs in your community		
Satisfied	37%	32%
Dissatisfied	36%	33%
Don't know/Refused	27%	35%

September-October 2010

GALLUP®

accord when reflecting on the situation at the local level: roughly one-third were satisfied with the availability of good jobs in their communities and one-third were dissatisfied.

### Implications

Libyans in both cities faced significant economic and social challenges before the protests erupted and will face even greater tests in the still uncertain future. It will be important for all Libyans to meet these challenges together.

**Source:** [http://www.gallup.com/poll/146399/Ahead-Protests-Libyans-Discontent-Freedom-Jobs.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146399/Ahead-Protests-Libyans-Discontent-Freedom-Jobs.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends%20-%20Wellbeing)

## Before Uprising, Egyptians Lacked Faith in Honesty of Elections

Nearly all in 2009 said they would in theory support freedom of speech as a constitutional right  
February 24, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- As **Egypt's** constitutional reform committee works to craft the legal

*In this country, do you have confidence in each of the following, or not? How about the honesty of elections?*

Asked of Egyptian adults

	2009	2010
Yes	28%	28%
No	61%	49%
Don't know/Refused	11%	23%

March 2009, September-October 2010

GALLUP

one-fifth of the Egyptian parliament in the hands of candidates associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, the country's most organized opposition movement at the time. But the 2010 elections that resulted in a landslide victory for Mubarak's National Democratic Party were mired with widespread fraud allegations.

While the current constitutional committee's focus -- ahead of the approaching deadline to amend the constitution--is election reform, guaranteeing personal freedoms will likely remain a priority for **Egyptians**. In the coming pre-election months, the legal and political atmosphere regarding such freedoms will likely serve as a litmus test for Egyptians' confidence in the current military

framework for free and transparent presidential elections later this year, Gallup data shows fewer than **3 in 10** Egyptians were confident in the honesty of elections in the country before the end of the Mubarak regime.

**Egypt's** recent election history has been mixed. Opposition groups made significant gains in 2005 that left

*Suppose that someday you were asked to help draft a new constitution for a new country. As I read you a list of possible provisions that might be included in a new constitution, would you tell me whether you would probably agree or not agree with the inclusion of each of these provisions?*

Asked of Egyptian adults

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/Refused
Freedom of speech -- allowing all citizens to express their opinion on the political, social, and economic issues of the day	96%	2%	1%
Freedom of religion -- allowing all citizens to observe any religion of their choice and to practice its teachings and beliefs	75%	24%	1%
Freedom of assembly -- allowing all citizens to assemble or congregate for any reason or in support of any cause	52%	46%	2%

March 2009

GALLUP

rulers' stated intentions to quickly move the country to democratic civilian rule.

### Implications

As protesters spark uprisings in neighboring **Libya** as well as **Yemen, Bahrain**, and other Arab countries, leaders and residents across the Arab world will closely watch what happens in **Egypt's** post-revolution era. While the transitional government's ability to institute appropriate reforms in time for new presidential elections toward the end of 2011 remains to be seen, the committee's initial recommendations, and to what degree they are enforced, will be the first crucial steps toward widespread hope for political reform. Egyptians' lack of confidence in the honesty of elections in previous years highlights the need for quick constitutional guarantees to set the stage for free and transparent elections. The high priority Egyptians put on freedom of speech and religion demonstrates a clear desire for a more politically vibrant and pluralistic future.

**Source:** [http://www.gallup.com/poll/146309/Uprising-Egyptians-Lacked-Faith-Honesty-Elections.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Politics%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146309/Uprising-Egyptians-Lacked-Faith-Honesty-Elections.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Politics%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends)

## Palestinians Supportive of Youth Revolutions in Arab World

24-26 February 2011

Following are the results of a Palestinian Public Opinion Poll conducted by the Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies at An-Najah National University during the period from 24-26 February 2011.

### The General Results:

Do you think that the USA's veto against the Security Council draft resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem is an American encouragement of the Israeli policies in the Palestinian Territories?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	81.0	85.9	72.4
No	12.5	9.0	18.6
No opinion/I do not know	6.5	5.1	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you supported or reject the revolutions that took place in some Arab countries such as Tunisia and Egypt?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	80.1	85.5	70.8
I reject	16.0	12.2	22.6
No opinion/I do not know	3.9	2.3	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

80.1% of respondents supported the revolutions that took place in some Arab countries such as Tunisia and Egypt. 89% of respondents believed that other youth revolutions similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt will be replicated in some other Arab countries. 77.3%

of respondents expected the success of youth revolutions if they happen in some other Arab countries. 56.5% of respondents believed that the youth revolutions that succeeded in some Arab countries will implement fair and democratic rules.

The reasons behind the youth revolutions in some Arab Countries according to respondents were as follows:

23.8% attributed them to the absence of democracy,

18.3% attributed them to the misdistribution of wealth,

33.5% attributed them to the absence of social justice, and

21.7% attributed them to foreign meddling in the affairs of these countries.

52.7% of respondents believed that the youth revolutions that happened in some Arab countries will lead to an increase in the Arab support of the Palestinian cause.

Do you think that it is possible to reach a lasting solution for the Palestinian Israeli conflict in view of the current circumstances?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	18.0	17.3	19.2
No	75.3	78.0	70.6
No opinion/I do not know	6.7	4.7	10.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If elections are conducted in the Palestinian Territories at the present time, do you expect that they will be fair and unbiased?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	55.1	60.0	46.8
No	33.4	30.1	39.0
No opinion/I do not know	11.5	9.9	14.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Are you pessimistic or optimistic towards the general Palestinian situation at this stage?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Optimistic	42.1	49.7	29.0
Pessimistic	54.1	48.7	63.4
No opinion/I do not know	3.8	1.6	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: [http://www.najah.edu/index.php?news\\_id=8167](http://www.najah.edu/index.php?news_id=8167)

## Iraqi Kurds More Optimistic Than Rest of Their Countrymen

February 24, 2011

### **Basic Services and Security**

The December 2010 survey of the Kurdistan region tested Iraqis' opinions regarding a range of issues, with the intent of helping improve government's understanding of the issues that concern citizens.

In this survey of the Kurdistan region, the responses indicate a significant increase in concern and desire for improved basic services. When asked, what in your opinion is the biggest problem facing the region as a whole, basic services such as water and electricity ranked third

with **34 %** out of a list of eight choices, with government corruption at **39 %** and unemployment at **48 %**. When asked which service issues had gotten better or worse over the last year, **27 %** of respondents said electricity had become somewhat or much worse, a **19 %** increase from the October 2010 national survey. When asked in an open ended question what practical advice the respondent could give to improve public services in the area, provide more electricity/generators finished second, only 1 % point behind improve road/traffic flow/checkpoints.

Regarding security—the main nationwide concern in IRI’s October 2010 nationwide poll—respondents were asked what is the largest and second largest problem facing the region, only **6%** responded that security was the first or second biggest problem, placing it last in the list of eight choices. This reflects an increased confidence from the October poll, in which **18 %** of the Kurdistan region listed security as the single biggest problem. It also stands in stark contrast to national responses in both the December 2009 IRI poll, in which **43 %** responded that security was the biggest problem, and the October 2010 poll, in which security ranked first with 36 %.

### ***Kurdish Optimism***

There is a general optimism expressed by respondents about their situation and region not seen anywhere else in Iraq. When asked whether their household financial situation had gotten better or worse over the past year, respondents in all three provinces had significant majorities choosing better over worse: Duhok - **62 %** better **19 %** worst; Erbil - **53 %** better **28 %** worse; Sulaymaniyah - **54 %** better **21 %** worse.

This economic optimism held true for the future as well, with **48 %** of respondents in Erbil expecting their household financial situation to improve, **52 %** in Sulaymaniyah expected improvement and in Duhok, **41 %**.

When asked whether the region as a whole is going in the right direction or wrong direction, the numbers stayed very positive. In Duhok, **67 %** responded right direction, In Erbil, **55 %** and in Sulaymaniyah, **52 %**.

Again, this regional optimism contrasts a national pessimism as indicated by the October 2010 national poll, in which **63 %** of the Kurdistan region said that they thought the country of Iraq was going in the wrong direction, while only **33 %** said that it was going in the right direction.

### ***Government Responsiveness and Corruption***

When asked if they thought their representatives in the Kurdistan Regional Parliament were listening to the needs of the people, the results were mixed. While **50%** in Duhok responded yes, **32 %** responded negatively. In Sulaymaniyah, **62 %** said that the parliament is not listening to the needs of the people. Meanwhile the response was statistically tied in Erbil.

### ***Other Findings***

When asked if they would prefer that politics be based on religion or on secularism, respondents overwhelmingly chose religion: **87 %** in Erbil, **80 %** in Sulaymaniyah and **58 %** in Duhok. These numbers are consistent with results from the Kurdistan region found in IRI’s October 2010 national poll, and are significantly higher than the national average.

**Source:**<http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%2024%20IRI%20Index,%20December%208-15,%202010.pdf>

## **SUMMARY OF POLLS**

### **MIDDLE EAST**

Palestinians Supportive of Youth Revolutions in Arab World

A recent An Najah University survey shows that Palestinians are supportive of youth revolutions in various parts of the world Arab. They see the roots of revolutions in social justice system. On the other hand majority oppose negotiations with Israel during construction of new settlements. They also condemn U.S. veto of a motion against Israel in Security Council. (An Najah University)

February 26, 2011

#### Before Uprising, Egyptians Lacked Faith in Honesty of Elections

Egypt's constitutional reform committee works to craft the legal framework for free and transparent presidential elections later this year, Gallup data show fewer than 3 in 10 Egyptians were confident in the honesty of elections in the country before the end of the Mubarak regime. (Gallup USA)

February 24, 2011

#### Iraqi Kurds More Optimistic Than Rest of Their Countrymen

A recent IRI survey shows that Kurds are more optimistic about the direction of the country than rest of their countrymen. They cite unemployment, corruption and services as their most important concerns. (IRI)

February 24, 2011

#### Ahead of Protests, Many Libyans Discontent With Freedom, Jobs

Gallup surveys in Libya's two largest cities -- part of a wider effort -- offer a glimpse into the lives of Tripoli and Benghazi residents before protests erupted. Wellbeing was low in each city in late 2010, but residents of Benghazi, the epicenter of the demonstrations, were less satisfied than Tripoli residents in two areas: the freedom to choose what they do with their lives and efforts to create good jobs. (Gallup USA)

February 25, 2011

### **WEST ASIA**

#### Pakistanis Hopes For The Next Generation

According to a survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, one fifth of all Pakistanis (20%) are hopeful that the next generation will have a more safe and secure life and 27% are optimistic for a more prosperous life for the next generation. (Gallup Pakistan)

February 25, 2011

### **SOUTH EAST ASIA**

#### 9 Out Of 10 Want TV Coverage Of The Maguindanao Massacre Case

Nine out of ten adult Filipinos call for television coverage of the Maguindanao Massacre case, according to the Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, fielded from November 27-30, 2010. (SWS)

23 February 2011

### **EAST EUROPE**

#### The Year Of Disasters In Poland And Across The World

Over half of respondents (54%) claimed that in 2010 the most significant event that happened in Poland was the death of President Lech Kaczynski and other eminent members of society in an air crash in Smolensk, Russia. Presidential elections and elections to local government, which also took place in 2010, were mentioned definitely less frequently (13% in all). For 8% of Poles, the crucial events of 2010 were natural disasters, mainly floods that occurred during summer. (CBOS Public Opinion Research Center Poland)

December 2010

### Poles Working Abroad

The rate of Poles' migrating abroad in search of work remained largely the same as in the previous year. Presently, in almost every tenth household (9%) there is a person working abroad. (CBOS Public Opinion Research Center Poland)

December 2010

### Low Terror Fear Among Poles

The fear of terrorism in Poland is rather low. A vast majority of respondents (72%) declare that they are not afraid of terrorist attacks and a quarter of the surveyed people (25%) admitted they do fear the attacks may happen. (CBOS Public Opinion Research Center Poland)

December 2010

### Terrorism Threat And Ways To Combat It

According to a recent survey 80% of Russians are afraid of being the victims of terrorist attack. Every third believes that terrorism cannot be defeated in Russia. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

February 11, 2011

### Olympic Mascot: More Russians In Favor Of Father Frost

Father Frost is the most successful Olympic mascot, Russians say. It evokes positive emotions and conveys the atmosphere of holiday. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

February 10, 2011

## **WEST EUROPE**

### Uk Financial Providers Fail To Earn Trust Of Their Customers

A new poll by global research and technology firm Vision Critical® shows that Britons do not trust the financial providers they use. According to the representative sample of 6,000 British adults, just 40 per cent say they completely trust the financial providers they use. (Vision Critical)

February 24, 2011

### Higher Public Support For Changing The Voting System To Alternative Vote

A recent Mori survey shows that among those who are certain to vote, half support adopting the Alternative Vote system (49%) while a third are against (37%). The remaining 13% are not sure which way they would vote.

February 25, 2011

### Britons Start to Turn Against Cameron's Big Society Policy

Seven months after the introduction of the "Big Society" policy by Prime Minister David Cameron, people in Britain are seeing the program as a failure, a new Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll has found. (Angus Reid)

23 February 2011

## **NORTH AMERICA**

### Mississippi Rates as the Most Conservative U.S. State

Mississippi is home to the largest percentage of conservatives among U.S. states, with a slim majority identifying their political views as conservative. Several other states, including Idaho, Alabama, Wyoming, and Utah approach 50% conservative identification.

February 25, 2011

### Reagan, FDR Top Greatness Poll of Presidents Since WWII



Ronald Reagan and Franklin D. Roosevelt stand atop a Presidential Greatness Zogby Interactive survey of all U.S. Presidents since World War II. At the opposite end of the spectrum, ranked highest as failures are Jimmy Carter, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. (Zogby Interactive)

February 21, 2011

Obama Approval Now 45%; GOP Voters Help Congressional Approval Rise to 32%

President Barack Obama's job approval among likely voters rating is now 45%, holding steady since the New Year. Approval of Congress, especially among Republican voters, continues to rise. (Zogby Interactive)

February 23, 2011

Trust In Government – Not!

The Economist/YouGov Poll has tracked trust in government from the start of Barack Obama's Administration. There was little gain in the weeks following his Inauguration, and trust has continued to decline. In the latest poll, the results are anemic. Only 7% of adults say they trust the government to do what's right most of the time or more often. 41% say they trust it "almost never." But that's not much different from the results from March of 2009, weeks after Barack Obama was sworn in as President. (Yougov)

February 22, 2011

The Tea Party, Religion and Social Issues

A new analysis by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life finds that Tea Party supporters tend to have conservative opinions not just about economic matters, but also about social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage. In addition, they are much more likely than registered voters as a whole to say that their religion is the most important factor in determining their opinions on these social issues. (Pew Research Center)

February 23, 2011

Global Trouble Spots Top Public's News Interests

The public expresses far more interest in news from global hot spots, including Iraq, Afghanistan and North Korea, than in news from many less troubled countries. And while most Americans express interest in what happens in Canada and Great Britain, far fewer are interested in developments from other traditional U.S. allies -- notably France. (Pew Research Center)

February 24, 2011

Labor Unions Seen as Good for Workers, Not U.S. Competitiveness

The favorability ratings for labor unions remain at nearly their lowest level in a quarter century with 45% expressing a positive view. Yet the public expresses similar opinions about business corporations – 47% have a favorable impression – and this rating is also near a historic low. (Pew Research Center)

February 17, 2011

Public Favors Tougher Border Controls and Path to Citizenship

The public continues to favor tough measures to crack down on illegal immigration. Yet Americans see no contradiction in supporting both stepped-up border security and a way for people already in the United States illegally to gain citizenship. (Pew Research Center)

February 24, 2011

Religion in the News: 2010

Events and controversies related to Islam dominated U.S. press coverage of religion in 2010, bumping the Catholic Church from the top spot. Much of the coverage focused on the plan to build a mosque and Islamic center near ground zero in New York City, a Florida pastor's threat to organize a public burning of the Koran and commemorations of the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. (Pew Research Center)

February 24, 2011

#### Issues Divide Republicans' Views of Potential 2012 Contenders

Although Mike Huckabee, Mitt Romney, and Sarah Palin lead the field of potential Republican presidential candidates among all Republicans nationwide, there are significant differences in candidate preferences when Republicans are divided by the issue they think is most important. Those focused on government spending and power are most likely to favor Huckabee or Romney, while those focused on the economy favor Romney or Palin. Republicans who say social and moral values are most important favor Huckabee or Palin. (Gallup USA)

February 24, 2011

#### Americans' Economic Confidence Worsens in Mid-February

Gallup's Economic Confidence measure worsened to its lowest weekly level of 2011, -26, in the week ending Feb. 20. This essentially matches the -27 of the same week a year ago, giving up improvement seen earlier this year. (Gallup USA)

February 22, 2011

#### Growing Minority Wants Minimal U.S. Role in World Affairs

By a 2-to-1 margin, 66% to 32%, Americans would prefer that the United States be a major rather than a minor player on the world stage in trying to solve international problems. Support for the United States' having a leading or major role in this has diminished over the past two years, falling from 75% in 2009, while the percentage favoring a more isolationist stance has increased from 23%. (Gallup USA)

February 21, 2011

#### Number of Solidly Democratic States Cut in Half From '08 to '10

Gallup's analysis of party affiliation in the U.S. states shows a marked decline in the number of solidly Democratic states from 2008 (30) to 2010 (14). The number of politically competitive states increased over the same period, from 10 to 18, with more limited growth in the number of leaning or solidly Republican states. (Gallup USA)

February 21, 2011

#### Scaling Back State Programs Is Least of Three Fiscal Evils

As Wisconsin and numerous other states struggle to reduce untenable budget deficits, a new *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds that not one of three major fiscal strategies available to state lawmakers is very popular. The least objectionable to Americans is "reducing or eliminating certain state programs," with about equal numbers in favor as opposed. A slight majority, 53%, opposes reducing pay and benefits for state workers, and a larger majority, 71%, opposes raising state taxes. (Gallup USA)

February 22, 2011

### **MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS**

#### Economy and Living Conditions In Poland, The Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary

In Poland, the assessment of the country's economy is noticeably more positive than in other countries belonging to the so called Visegrád Group. Poles most frequently describe the state of the Polish economy as average and the number of positive and negative

opinions on this subject is comparable. Negative opinions are dominant particularly in Hungary but also in the Czech Republic. The Slovaks are also critical of their country's economy but to a lesser degree than the Czechs and Hungarians. (CBOS Public Opinion Research Center Poland)

December 2010

Measuring the State of Muslim-West Relations: Assessing the “New Beginning”

This book builds up on the Who Speaks for Islam and underscores three main themes in Muslims’ perceptions of Muslim-West tensions: the salience of politics as opposed to religion, the importance of respect, and the role of conflicts in Muslim lands that involve Western powers. (Abu Dhabi Gallup Center)

November 28, 2010

## **CYBER WORLD**

New Research Shows Mobile Internet Usage a Daily Habit

A recent report finds U.S. mobile Internet usage up 17 percent from the 2010 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report. Nearly half of respondents said they would use the mobile Internet each day to stay in touch with friends through instant messaging (21 percent in the UK and 22 percent in the US) and social networking (27 percent in both countries). (Yougov)

February 22, 2011

## **MIDDLE EAST**

### ***160-1. Palestinians Supportive of Youth Revolutions in Arab World***

Results of Palestinian Public Opinion Poll

No. 42

24-26 February 2011

#### **Background**

The Arab states handed to the Security Council a draft resolution that condemns the Israeli settlement-building in the West Bank and East Jerusalem but the United States vetoed the resolution.

A series of youth revolutions occurred in some Arab countries calling for replacing the dominating regimes with new democracies, and for promoting social justice among all the citizens of their societies.

President Mahmoud Abbas entrusted Salam Fayyad with forming a new government after the resignation of his previous government.

The Palestinian Government revealed an intention to conduct presidential, legislative and city council elections without specifying a new date for conducting them.

The division between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip persists and each side adheres to its precepts without any signs for an imminent end of this division.

#### **The Results**

Following are the results of the Palestinian Public Opinion Poll no. 42 conducted by the Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies at An-Najah National University during the period from 24-26 February 2011. **The University sponsors all polls conducted by its Center.**

Palestinian Public Opinion Poll no. 42 undertakes Palestinian public opinion in the emerging political realities on the Palestinian scene, especially the intention to conduct presidential, legislative and city council elections, the formation of a new Palestinian Government led by Dr. Salam Fayyad, the consequences of the American veto against the Security Council draft resolution submitted by Arab states that condemns the Israeli settlement building in the West

Bank and East Jerusalem, the performance of the Governments of Salam Fayyad and Ismail Haniyeh in addition to political affiliations

The sample included 1360 persons whose age group is 18 and above and who have the right to vote. The enclosed questionnaire was distributed on 860 persons from the West Bank and 500 persons from the Gaza Strip. The sample was drawn randomly and the margin of error is about  $\pm 3\%$ ; still 1.7% of the members of the sample refused to answer the questionnaire.

---

### **The General Results:**

- 77.6% of respondents rejected holding talks between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Israeli Government in case Israel continues building settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem; 19.6% supported.
- 8.8% of respondents considered the United States an impartial broker in the peace process between the PA and Israel.
- 15.7% of respondents believed that the USA is pursuing every possible way that is within its reach to salvage the peace process.
- 81% of respondents considered the USA's veto against the Security Council draft resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem an American encouragement of the Israeli policies in the Palestinian Territories.
- 85.4% of respondents considered the USA's veto against the Security Council draft resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem an American encouragement for Israel to build more settlements in the Palestinian Territories.
- 80.1% of respondents supported the revolutions that took place in some Arab countries such as Tunisia and Egypt.
- 89% of respondents believed that other youth revolutions similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt will be replicated in some other Arab countries.
- 77.3% of respondents expected the success of youth revolutions if they happen in some other Arab countries.
- 56.5% of respondents believed that the youth revolutions that succeeded in some Arab countries will implement fair and democratic rules.
- The reasons behind the youth revolutions in some Arab Countries according to respondents were as follows:
  - 23.8% attributed them to the absence of democracy,
  - 18.3% attributed them to the misdistribution of wealth,
  - 33.5% attributed them to the absence of social justice, and
  - 21.7% attributed them to foreign meddling in the affairs of these countries.
- 52.7% of respondents believed that the youth revolutions that happened in some Arab countries will lead to an increase in the Arab support of the Palestinian cause.
- 40.6% of respondents believed that the youth revolutions that happened in some Arab countries will accelerate the settlement of the Palestinian cause.
- 22.8% of respondents believed that a youth revolution similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt will happen in the West Bank.
- 28.8% of respondents believed that a youth revolution similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt will happen in the Gaza Strip.
- 74.7% of respondents supported a peaceful revolution in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to end the state of Palestinian division.

- 76.2% of respondents supported a peaceful revolution in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to end the Israeli occupation.
- 18% of respondents believed that it is possible to reach a lasting settlement for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict under the current circumstances.
- 71.1% of respondents saw that the USA and the European countries have a duplicity of standards when they support the demands of the popular revolutions in the Arab countries and do not support similar Palestinian demands.
- 66.3% of respondents believed that the surrounding Arab and international circumstances necessitate concluding a national reconciliation agreement between Fateh and Hamas.
- 55.6% of respondents believed that it is possible to reach a national reconciliation agreement between Fateh and Hamas in the near future.
- 32.9% of respondents believed that signing a national reconciliation agreement will lead to speeding up the peace process; 18.7% believed that signing of a reconciliation agreement will entangle and stop the peace process.
- 48.2% of respondents supported conducting presidential elections despite the Palestinian division; 47.6% rejected
- 77.2% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming presidential elections. From among those who said they will participate, 37.4% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidate; 11.2% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidate.
- 49.5% of respondents supported conducting legislative elections despite the Palestinian division; 46% rejected.
- 77.9% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming legislative elections. From among those who said they will participate, 39.1% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidates; 11.6% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidates.
- If PLC elections are to be conducted, 43.2% of respondents expected the winning of Fateh movement; 13.4% expected the winning of Hamas.
- 53.1% of respondents supported conducting municipality and local council elections despite the Palestinian division; 40.9% rejected
- 85% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming municipality and local council elections. From among those who said they will participate, 30.4% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidate, 11.3% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidate and 10.7% said they will give their votes to the representative of their family or clan.
- 25.6% of respondents supported Hamas' boycott of the Palestinian elections; 63.1% rejected
- 55.1% of respondents believed that if elections are conducted in the Palestinian Territories at the present time, they will be fair and unbiased.
- 69.4% of respondents supported the formation of a new Palestinian government after the resignation of the government of Salam Fayyad; 21.4% rejected
- Respondents arranged the priorities that the new Palestinian government must adopt as follows:
  - Ending the Palestinian division 89.4%
  - Creating job opportunities for the youth 90.1%
  - Exerting more effort to stop settlement activities 86.3%
  - Reinforcing economic and social development 84.4%
  - Exposing the Israeli practices in the Palestinian Territories 84.9%

- Fighting corruption 90.6%
- Fighting poverty 89.8%
- Increasing investment opportunities in the Palestinian Territories 82.8%
- Paying more attention to the health sector 88.3%
- Paying more attention to education 88.8%
- 56.5% of respondents saw that the government of Salam Fayyad is the most capable of managing the Palestinian internal affairs; 19.2% saw that the government of Ismail Haniyeh is the most capable.
- 55.8% of respondents assessed the performance of the government of Salam Fayyad as “good”.
- 32.6% of respondents assessed the performance of the government of Ismail Haniyeh as “good”.
- 52.1% of respondents expressed fear for their lives under the present circumstances.
- 54.1% of respondents said that they are pessimistic of the general Palestinian situation at this stage.
- 61.8% of respondents said that they neither feel safe for themselves nor for their families and properties under the current circumstances.
- As for political affiliation, respondents gave the following results:

People’s Party	0.3%
Democratic Front	0.4%
Islamic Jihad	2.1%
Fateh	36.1%
Hamas	12.4%
Fida	0.2%
Popular Front	3.0%
Palestinian National Initiative	0.7%
I am an independent nationalist	7.1%
I am an independent Islamist	2.8%
None of the above	34.1%
Others	0.9%

### **The General Results of the Poll**

**Do you support or reject holding talks between the PA and the Israeli government if Israel continues its settlement activities in the West Bank and East Jerusalem?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
I support	19.6	17.7	23.0
I reject	77.6	80.0	73.6
No opinion/I do not know	2.7	2.3	3.4

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
-------	-------	-------	-------

**Do you think that the USA is an impartial broker in the peace process between the PA and Israel?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	8.8	6.3	13.0
No	87.6	90.5	82.6
No opinion/I do not know	3.7	3.3	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the USA will pursue every possible way that is within its reach to salvage the peace process?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	15.7	12.9	20.4
No	79.3	83.6	71.8
No opinion/I do not know	5.1	3.5	7.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the USA's veto against the Security Council draft resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem is an American encouragement of the Israeli policies in the Palestinian Territories?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	81.0	85.9	72.4
No	12.5	9.0	18.6
No opinion/I do not know	6.5	5.1	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you consider the USA's veto against the Security Council draft resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem an American encouragement for Israel to build more settlements in the Palestinian Territories?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
Yes	85.4	89.8	77.8
No	9.1	5.9	14.6
No opinion/I do not know	5.5	4.3	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you supported or reject the revolutions that took place in some Arab countries such as Tunisia and Egypt?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
I support	80.1	85.5	70.8
I reject	16.0	12.2	22.6
No opinion/I do not know	3.9	2.3	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you believed that other youth revolutions similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt will take place in some other Arab countries?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
Yes	89.0	93.7	80.8
No	6.8	3.1	13.0
No opinion/I do not know	4.3	3.1	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**If youth revolutions similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt happen in some other Arab countries, do you expect that they will succeed?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
I expect success	77.3	79.9	72.8
I expect failure	11.6	9.0	16.2
No opinion/I do not know	11.1	11.2	11.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the youth revolutions that succeeded in some Arab countries will implement democratic and fair rules?**



	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	56.5	59.8	50.8
No	28.2	25.3	33.2
No opinion/I do not know	15.3	14.9	16.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**In your opinion what was the reason for the rise of youth revolutions in some Arab Countries? (choose the most important)**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
The Absence of democracy in these countries	23.8	23.3	24.6
The misdistribution of wealth	18.3	20.6	14.4
The absence of social justice	33.5	37.1	27.2
Outside meddling	21.7	17.6	28.8
No opinion/I do not know	2.8	1.5	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the youth revolutions that happened in some Arab countries will lead to an increase in the support of the Palestinian cause?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	52.7	59.3	41.4
No	36.7	33.5	42.2
No opinion/I do not know	10.6	7.2	16.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the youth revolutions that happened in some Arab countries will speed the solution of the Palestinian question?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	40.6	45.0	33.0
No	48.4	46.7	51.2
No opinion/I do not know	11.0	8.3	15.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you expect a youth revolution in the West Bank Similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt?**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
Yes	22.8	20.8	26.2
No	32.6	30.7	36.0
The Palestinian conditions in the West Bank do not allow for a revolution	14.5	15.2	13.2
The Palestinian conditions are different from those in the Arab countries	27.2	31.3	20.2
No opinion/I do not know	2.9	2.0	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you expect a youth revolution in the Gaza Strip Similar to those that happened in Tunisia and Egypt?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	28.8	27.6	30.8
No	31.3	29.2	35.0
The Palestinian conditions in the Gaza Strip do not allow for a revolution	14.4	13.7	15.6
The Palestinian conditions are different from those in the Arab countries	21.7	26.4	13.6
No opinion/I do not know	3.8	3.1	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you support or reject a peaceful revolution in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to end the Palestinian division?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	74.7	78.6	68.0
I reject	19.6	18.0	22.4
No opinion/I do not know	5.7	3.4	9.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you support or reject a peaceful revolution in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to end the Israeli occupation?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	76.2	76.9	75.0
I reject	19.3	20.6	17.2
No opinion/I do not know	4.5	2.6	7.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that it is possible to reach a lasting solution for the Palestinian Israeli conflict in view of the current circumstances,?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	18.0	17.3	19.2
No	75.3	78.0	70.6
No opinion/I do not know	6.7	4.7	10.2

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
-------	-------	-------	-------

**Do you think that the USA and the European countries have a duplicity of standards when they support the demands of the popular revolutions in the Arab countries and do not support similar Palestinian demands?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	71.1	76.3	62.2
No	19.0	16.6	23.2
No opinion/I do not know	9.9	7.1	14.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that the surrounding Arab and international circumstances necessitate concluding a national reconciliation agreement between Fateh and Hamas?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	66.3	75.2	51.0
No	27.7	20.9	39.4
No opinion/I do not know	6.0	3.8	9.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you think that it is possible to reach a national reconciliation agreement between Fateh and Hamas in the near future?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	55.6	63.6	41.8
No	35.3	30.6	43.4
No opinion/I do not know	9.1	5.8	14.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**In case a national reconciliation agreement is signed, what do you think the consequences will be?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Speeding the Peace process	32.9	36.5	26.6
Entangling and stopping the peace process	18.7	17.7	20.4
It will not have any effect	39.0	38.3	40.2
No opinion/I do not know	9.5	7.6	12.8

know			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you supported conducting presidential elections despite the Palestinian division?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	48.2	51.2	43.0
I reject	47.6	47.2	48.4
No opinion/I do not know	4.2	1.6	8.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**If presidential elections are held in the present time, to whom from among the following do you give your vote?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent candidate	6.5	6.6	6.2
A candidate from the left	2.2	1.0	4.2
A candidate from Hamas	8.7	4.7	15.6
A candidate from Fateh	29.1	24.7	36.8
A national independent candidate	6.0	6.7	4.6
An Islamic independent candidate	3.0	3.0	3.0
I will not participate in the elections	22.8	27.0	15.6
I have not decided yet	21.8	26.3	14.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you supported conducting legislative elections despite the Palestinian division?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	49.5	51.3	46.4
I reject	46.0	45.8	46.4
No opinion/I do not know	4.5	2.9	7.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**If new PLC elections are conducted, whom do you vote for?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent ticket	6.1	6.5	5.4

A ticket from the left	2.3	1.0	4.4
A ticket from Hamas	9.0	5.1	15.8
A ticket from Fateh	30.4	25.9	38.2
A national independent ticket	5.7	5.9	5.2
An Islamic independent ticket	3.3	2.8	4.2
I will not participate in the elections	22.1	26.7	14.0
I have not decided yet	21.1	25.9	12.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If new legislative elections are to be held today, which of the following would win?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Independent Islamists bloc	4.3	4.4	4.2
Independent Nationalist bloc	9.8	10.0	9.4
Fateh bloc	43.2	43.8	42.2
Hamas bloc	13.4	11.6	16.4
A bloc from leftist organizations	2.3	1.2	4.2
No opinion/I do not know	27.0	29.0	23.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you supported conducting municipality and local council elections despite the Palestinian division?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	53.1	62.3	37.2
I reject	40.9	34.8	51.4
No opinion/I do not know	6.0	2.9	11.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**If municipality and local council elections are to be held, who do you vote for?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
A block that represents the family or clan	9.1	13.6	1.4
An independent ticket	6.5	6.7	6.0
A ticket from the left	2.1	1.4	3.4
A ticket from Hamas	9.6	5.1	14.2
A ticket from Fateh	25.8	18.7	38.0
A national independent ticket	6.9	7.7	5.6
An Islamic independent ticket	2.9	2.2	4.0

I will not participate in the elections	15.0	16.3	12.8
I have not decided yet	22.1	28.3	11.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you support or reject Hamas' boycott of the elections?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	25.6	26.2	24.6
I reject	63.1	64.5	60.6
No opinion/I do not know	11.3	9.3	14.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**If elections are conducted in the Palestinian Territories at the present time, do you expect that they will be fair and unbiased?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	55.1	60.0	46.8
No	33.4	30.1	39.0
No opinion/I do not know	11.5	9.9	14.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Are you in favor of forming a new Palestinian government after the resignation of Salam Fayyad's government?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	69.4	76.0	58.0
No	21.4	17.4	28.2
No opinion/I do not know	9.2	6.5	13.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**What are the priorities, in your opinion, that the new Palestinian government must adopt?**

(on a 0-10 scale, please give the top priority a 10 and the lowest a 0)

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Ending the Palestinian division	8.9360	9.0523	8.7360
Creating job opportunities for the youth	9.0066	9.2593	8.5720
Exerting more effort to	8.6250	8.8000	8.3240

stop settlement activities			
Reinforcing economic and social development	8.4426	8.6453	8.0940
Exposing the Israeli practices in the Palestinian Territories	8.4919	8.5977	8.3100
Fighting corruption	9.0596	9.2965	8.6520
Fighting poverty	8.9750	9.1733	8.6340
Increasing investment opportunities in the Palestinian Territories	8.2831	8.5151	7.8840
Paying more attention to the health sector	8.8272	8.9860	8.5540
Paying more attention to education	8.8831	9.0349	8.6220

**As you know, there is a government in the West Bank led by Salam Fayyad and another government in the Gaza Strip led by Ismail Haniyeh. In your opinion which government is more capable of managing the internal Palestinian affairs?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
The government of Salam Fayyad	56.5	58.5	53.2
The Government of Ismail Haniyeh	19.2	16.9	23.2
No opinion/I do not know	24.3	24.7	23.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**How do you assess the performance of the government of Salam Fayyad?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Good	55.8	59.3	49.8
Bad	30.4	27.2	36.0
No opinion/I do not know	13.8	13.5	14.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**How do you assess the performance of the government of Ismail Haniyeh?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Good	32.6	35.2	28.2
Bad	42.7	34.3	57.2
No opinion/I do not know	24.6	30.5	14.6



know			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Are you worried about your life under the present circumstances?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	52.1	47.1	60.8
No	45.6	52.2	43.2
No opinion/I do not know	2.3	0.7	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Are you pessimistic or optimistic towards the general Palestinian situation at this stage?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Optimistic	42.1	49.7	29.0
Pessimistic	54.1	48.7	63.4
No opinion/I do not know	3.8	1.6	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Under the present circumstances, do you feel that you, your family and your properties are safe?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	24.2	28.6	16.6
May be	37.6	39.3	34.6
No	37.4	31.9	46.8
No opinion/I do not know	0.9	0.2	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Which of the following political affiliations do you support?**

PARTY	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
People's Party	0.3	0.3	0.2
Democratic Front	0.4	0.3	0.6
Islamic Jihad	2.1	0.6	4.6
Fateh	36.1	33.8	40.0
Hamas	12.4	9.5	17.2
Fida	0.2	0.0	0.6
Popular Front	3.0	2.6	3.8

Palestinian National Initiative	0.7	0.9	0.2
I am an independent nationalist	7.1	6.9	7.4
I am an independent Islamist	2.8	2.6	3.2
None of the above	34.1	41.7	21.0
Others	0.9	0.7	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: [http://www.najah.edu/index.php?news\\_id=8167](http://www.najah.edu/index.php?news_id=8167)

### **160-2. Before Uprising, Egyptians Lacked Faith in Honesty of Elections**

Nearly all in 2009 said they would in theory support freedom of speech as a constitutional right

February 24, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- As Egypt's constitutional reform committee works to craft the legal framework for free and transparent presidential elections later this year, Gallup data show fewer than 3 in 10 Egyptians were confident in the honesty of elections in the country before the end of the Mubarak regime.

*In this country, do you have confidence in each of the following, or not? How about the honesty of elections?*

Asked of Egyptian adults

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Yes	28%	28%
No	61%	49%
Don't know/Refused	11%	23%

March 2009, September-October 2010

#### GALLUP

Egypt's recent election history has been mixed. Opposition groups made significant gains in 2005 that left one-fifth of the Egyptian parliament in the hands of candidates associated with the Muslim Brotherhood, the country's most organized opposition movement at the time. But the 2010 elections that resulted in a landslide victory for Mubarak's National Democratic Party were mired with widespread fraud allegations.

While the current constitutional committee's focus -- ahead of the approaching deadline to amend the constitution -- is election reform, guaranteeing personal freedoms will likely remain a priority for Egyptians. In the coming pre-election months, the legal and political atmosphere regarding such freedoms will likely serve as a litmus test for Egyptians' confidence in the current military rulers' stated intentions to quickly move the country to democratic civilian rule.

When Gallup asked Egyptians in 2009, hypothetically, about the inclusion of various freedoms in a new country's constitution, nearly all Egyptians (96%) said they would "probably agree" with the inclusion of free speech as a guaranteed right in a new country's constitution. A majority of them (75%) also said they would probably agree with constitutional guarantees of

freedom of religion and freedom of assembly (52%) or the right to congregate for any reason or in support of any cause.

*Suppose that someday you were asked to help draft a new constitution for a new country. As I read you a list of possible provisions that might be included in a new constitution, would you tell me whether you would probably agree or not agree with the inclusion of each of these provisions?*

Asked of Egyptian adults

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/Refused
Freedom of speech -- allowing all citizens to express their opinion on the political, social, and economic issues of the day	96%	2%	1%
Freedom of religion -- allowing all citizens to observe any religion of their choice and to practice its teachings and beliefs	75%	24%	1%
Freedom of assembly -- allowing all citizens to assemble or congregate for any reason or in support of any cause	52%	46%	2%

March 2009

GALLUP

### Implications

As protesters spark uprisings in neighboring Libya as well as Yemen, Bahrain, and other Arab countries, leaders and residents across the Arab world will closely watch what happens in Egypt's post-revolution era. While the transitional government's ability to institute appropriate reforms in time for new presidential elections toward the end of 2011 remains to be seen, the committee's initial recommendations, and to what degree they are enforced, will be the first crucial steps toward widespread hope for political reform. Egyptians' lack of confidence in the honesty of elections in previous years highlights the need for quick constitutional guarantees to set the stage for free and transparent elections. The high priority Egyptians put on freedom of speech and religion demonstrates a clear desire for a more politically vibrant and pluralistic future.

### About the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center

Building on Gallup's seminal work in the field of Muslim studies, the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center offers unmatched research on the attitudes and aspirations of Muslims around the world. [Learn more.](#)

### Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults each year, aged 15 and older, conducted in March 2009 and September and October 2010 in Egypt. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/146309/Uprising-Egyptians-Lacked-Faith-Honesty-Elections.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=more-link&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Politics%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146309/Uprising-Egyptians-Lacked-Faith-Honesty-Elections.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=more-link&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Politics%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends)

---

### ***160-3. Iraqi Kurds More Optimistic Than Rest of Their Countrymen***

February 24, 2011

#### ***Basic Services and Security***

The December 2010 survey of the Kurdistan region tested Iraqis' opinions regarding a range of issues, with the intent of helping improve government's understanding of the issues that concern citizens.

In IRI's most recent nationwide survey, conducted in October 2010, Iraqis showed mixed feelings regarding Iraq's future, with 57 percent of respondents describing Iraq as headed in the wrong direction. Although responses from the Kurdistan region in the October poll tracked with national sentiment as a whole, they demonstrated a more optimistic view in regards to basic services such as electricity, water and sewage.

However, in this survey of the Kurdistan region, the responses indicate a significant increase in concern and desire for improved basic services. When asked, what in your opinion is the biggest problem facing the region as a whole, basic services such as water and electricity ranked third with 34 percent out of a list of eight choices, with government corruption at 39 percent and unemployment at 48 percent. When asked which service issues had gotten better or worse over the last year, 27 percent of respondents said electricity had become somewhat or much worse, a 19 percent increase from the October 2010 national survey. When asked in an open ended question what practical advice the respondent could give to improve public services in the area, provide more electricity/generators finished second, only one percentage point behind improve road/traffic flow/checkpoints.

Regarding security—the main nationwide concern in IRI's October 2010 nationwide poll—respondents were asked what is the largest and second largest problem facing the region, only six percent responded that security was the first or second biggest problem, placing it last in the list of eight choices. This reflects an increased confidence from the October poll, in which 18 percent of the Kurdistan region listed security as the single biggest problem. It also stands in stark contrast to national responses in both the December 2009 IRI poll, in which 43 percent responded that security was the biggest problem, and the October 2010 poll, in which security ranked first with 36 percent.

#### ***Kurdish Optimism***

There is a general optimism expressed by respondents about their situation and region not seen anywhere else in Iraq. When asked whether their household financial situation had gotten better or worse over the past year, respondents in all three provinces had significant majorities choosing better over worse: Duhok - 62 percent better 19 percent worst; Erbil - 53 percent better 28 percent worse; Sulaymaniyah - 54 percent better 21 percent worse.

This economic optimism held true for the future as well, with 48 percent of respondents in Erbil expecting their household financial situation to improve versus 13 percent expecting it to worsen, and 52 percent in Sulaymaniyah expected improvement versus 11 percent expecting a worsening situation. In Duhok, 41 percent of respondents believe their financial situation will improve versus eight percent expecting a worsening situation.

When asked whether the region as a whole is going in the right direction or wrong direction, the numbers stayed very positive. In Duhok, 67 percent responded right direction, 22 percent responded wrong direction. In Erbil, 55 percent responded right direction, 38 percent

wrong direction. And in Sulaymaniyah, 52 percent responded right direction 43 percent wrong direction.

Again, this regional optimism contrasts a national pessimism as indicated by the October 2010 national poll, in which 63 percent of the Kurdistan region said that they thought the country of Iraq was going in the wrong direction, while only 33 percent said that it was going in the right direction.

#### ***Government Responsiveness and Corruption***

When asked if they thought their representatives in the Kurdistan Regional Parliament were listening to the needs of the people, the results were mixed. While 50 percent in Duhok responded yes, 32 percent responded negatively. In Sulaymaniyah, 62 percent said that the parliament is not listening to the needs of the people. The response was statistically tied in Erbil.

Although many respondents believe the Kurdistan region's parliament is unresponsive to the needs of citizens, the majority are optimistic about the performance of their provincial council and regional government. When asked how likely it is that the provincial council or regional government would improve conditions, 80 percent in Erbil, 65 percent in Duhok and 74 percent in Sulaymaniyah believe conditions would improve. Respondents also overwhelmingly support their provincial councils to handle basic services instead of the regional government.

Government corruption was the second biggest problem cited, behind unemployment but before basic services. In Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, 27 percent of the respondents admitted to having to do a favor, give a gift or pay a bribe to a government official in order to get services or documents that should be provided for free, a revealing finding given the sensitivity that the question poses for Iraqis. When asked a similar, but less personal, question, 83 percent of all respondents said that bribes and kick-backs are a significant problem in the Kurdistan region. However, when asked whether or not the respondents believed the Kurdistan Regional Government was making progress in ending corruption, the results reflected optimism with 52 percent answering yes in Duhok, 60 percent in Erbil and 56 percent in Sulaymaniyah.

#### ***Other Findings***

When asked if they would prefer that politics be based on religion or on secularism, respondents overwhelmingly chose religion: 87 percent in Erbil, 80 percent in Sulaymaniyah and 58 percent in Duhok. These numbers are consistent with results from the Kurdistan region found in IRI's October 2010 national poll, and are significantly higher than the national average.

Source: <http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20February%2024%20IRI%20Index,%20December%208-15,%202010.pdf>

---

#### ***160-4. Ahead of Protests, Many Libyans Discontent With Freedom, Jobs***

Residents in Benghazi less satisfied than Tripoli residents  
February 25, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Gallup surveys in Libya's two largest cities -- part of a wider effort -- offer a glimpse into the lives of Tripoli and Benghazi residents before protests erupted. Wellbeing was low in each city in late 2010, but residents of Benghazi, the epicenter of the demonstrations, were less satisfied than Tripoli residents in two areas: the freedom to choose what they do with their lives and efforts to create good jobs.

## Libyan Life Before the Unrest

Based on surveys in Tripoli and Benghazi

	Tripoli	Benghazi
Percentage "thriving"	13%	15%
Freedom in your life		
Satisfied	50%	34%
Dissatisfied	29%	33%
Don't know/Refused	21%	32%
Efforts to increase number of quality jobs in your country		
Satisfied	44%	31%
Dissatisfied	13%	50%
Don't know/Refused	44%	20%
Availability of good jobs in your community		
Satisfied	37%	32%
Dissatisfied	36%	33%
Don't know/Refused	27%	35%

September-October 2010

### GALLUP®

While distance and history divide residents in Libya's capital, Tripoli, and its second-largest city, Benghazi, equally low percentages of their residents were thriving last year. Gallup classifies respondents worldwide as "thriving," "suffering," or "struggling" based on how they rate their current and future lives on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving ladder scale. The 13% in Tripoli and 15% in Benghazi who rated their lives well enough to be considered thriving is on the low side, compared with other populations in the Middle East and North Africa.

Benghazi's distance from the capital and its history, however, may play a role in residents' lower reported satisfaction with their freedom to choose what they do in life. Residents in the eastern coastal city have chafed under Moammar Gadhafi's leadership in the past. The 34% in Benghazi who were satisfied was lower than the percentages in other large cities in the region, including Tunis (54%). It's important to note that one in five or more in each Libyan city said they didn't know or refused to answer, which could indicate a degree of sensitivity to the question.

High unemployment and underemployment plague residents in both cities, particularly young people. Fewer residents in Benghazi (31%) than in Tripoli (44%) were satisfied with efforts to increase the number of quality jobs in their country. They found more accord when reflecting on the situation at the local level: roughly one-third were satisfied with the availability of good jobs in their communities and one-third were dissatisfied.

### Implications

Libyans in both cities faced significant economic and social challenges before the protests erupted and will face even greater tests in the still uncertain future. It will be important for all Libyans to meet these challenges together.

#### **About the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center**

Building on Gallup's seminal work in the field of Muslim studies, the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center offers unmatched research on the attitudes and aspirations of Muslims around the world. [Learn more.](#)

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 540 adults in Tripoli and 300 adults in Benghazi, aged 15 and older, conducted in September and October 2010. For results based on the sample of adults in Tripoli, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points. For results based on the sample of adults in Benghazi, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 6.1$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/146399/Ahead-Protets-Libyans-Discontent-Freedom-Jobs.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146399/Ahead-Protets-Libyans-Discontent-Freedom-Jobs.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Religion%20and%20Social%20Trends%20-%20Wellbeing)

### **WEST ASIA**

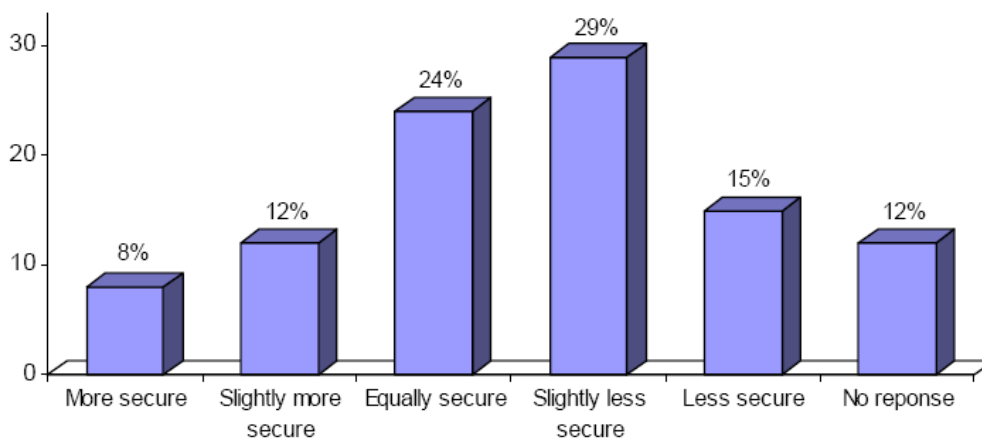
#### **160-5. Pakistanis Hopes For The Next Generation**

20% Feel Positive But 44% Are Fearful And Apprehensive  
Gilani Poll/Gallup Pakistan, Islamabad, February 25, 2011

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, one fifth of all Pakistanis (20%) are hopeful that the next generation will have a more safe and secure life and 27% are optimistic for a more prosperous life for the next generation.

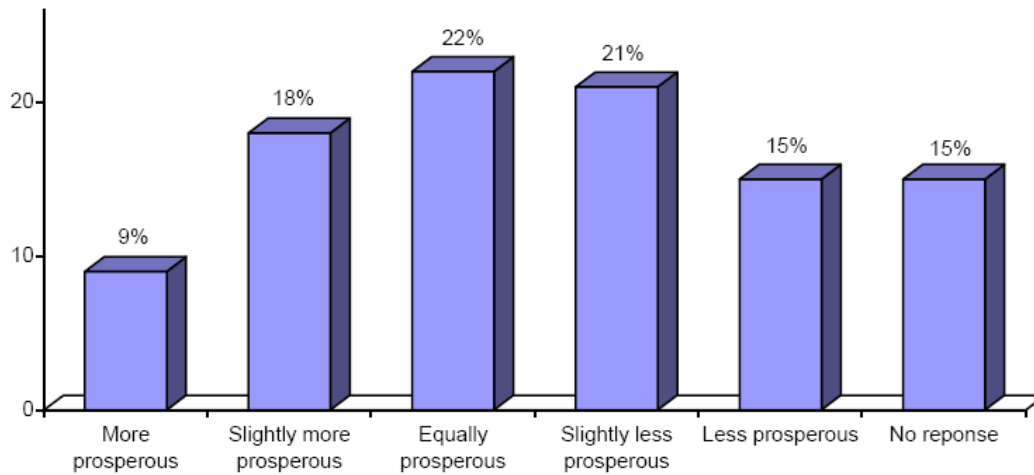
In a survey, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: *“In your opinion will the next generation be more safe and secure than us or less?”* Eight percent (8%) said more and 12% said the next generation will have a slightly more secure life, 24% were of the opinion that the next generation will be equally secure, 29% slightly less secure and 15% less secure. 12% gave no response. Another question was asked regarding the prosperity of the next generation and similar results were generated.

*“In your opinion will the next generation be more safe and secure than us or less?”*





“In your opinion will the next generation be more prosperous than us or less prosperous?”



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/25-02-11.pdf>

---

## **SOUTH EAST ASIA**

### ***160-6. 9 Out Of 10 Want TV Coverage Of The Maguindanao Massacre Case***

*First reported in Business World, 21 February 2011*

Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey:

*Social Weather Stations*

*23 February 2011*

Nine out of ten adult Filipinos call for television coverage of the Maguindanao Massacre case, according to the Fourth Quarter 2010 Social Weather Survey, fielded from November 27-30, 2010.

To the question, "May mga nagmumungkahi na para mabantayang maigi ng mga kamag-anak ng mga biktima ng Maguindanao Massacre ang kaso, dapat lang na i-televise ang paglilitis kay Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama niyang akusado. Ayon naman sa iba, ang pagtetelevise ay hindi makatarungan sa interes ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at sa mga kasama niyang akusado. Sa tingin po ninyo, DAPAT O HINDI DAPAT PO BANG I-TELEWISE ang paglilitis ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama nitong akusado sa Maguindanao Massacre? [Some people propose that in order for relatives of the victims of the Maguindanao Massacre to closely monitor the case, the trial of Andal Ampatuan Jr. and his co-accused should be televised. Others say that televising it is unjust towards the interest of Andal Ampatuan Jr. and his co-accused. In your opinion, Should The Trial Of Andal Ampatuan Jr. And His Co-Accused In The Maguindanao Massacre Be Televised, Or Should It Not Be Televised?], 90% said it should be televised and 10% said it should not be televised [Chart 1].

The widespread call for media coverage of the Maguindanao Massacre case is consistent with the high public attention to the said case, with 70% following the news about the Maguindanao Massacre *very/somewhat closely*.



The November 2010 survey also found 41% satisfied and 46% dissatisfied with what the government had done up to that point to resolve the Maguindanao massacre case with justice, for a *neutral* net satisfaction rating of -5 (% satisfied minus % dissatisfied), recovering from the *poor* net -12 (47% satisfied, 35% dissatisfied) in September 2010 [Chart 2].

#### **Strong calls for TV coverage of the Maguindanao Massacre case across the board**

The November 2010 survey found 92% in Mindanao, 91% in the Visayas, 89% in Balance Luzon, and 88% in Metro Manila saying that the Maguindanao Massacre case should be televised [Chart 3].

By class, the proportion of those who want television coverage of the Maguindanao Massacre case is 97% in class ABC, 90% in class E, and 89% in class D or the masa [Chart 4].

#### **70% closely followed the news on the Maguindanao massacre**

Seven out of ten (70%) adults had been following *very/somewhat closely* the news about "Events regarding the Maguindanao massacre" ("Mga kaganapan tungkol sa Maguindanao massacre"), unchanged since September 2010 [Chart 5].

Compared to September 2010, those following the news about the Maguindanao massacre case *very/somewhat closely* rose by 4 points both in Metro Manila, from 73% to 77%, and in the Visayas, from 68% to 72%.

However, it hardly changed from 68% to 66% in Balance Luzon, and went from 77% to 72% in Mindanao.

#### **Dissatisfaction with National Administration eased in the Visayas and Metro Manila**

Compared to September 2010, the net satisfaction rating of the National Administration in handling the Maguindanao massacre case switched from *poor* to *neutral* in the Visayas, up by 22 points from -27 to -5 [Chart 6].

It rose by 10 points but stayed *poor* in Metro Manila, from -23 to -13.

It stayed *neutral* in Balance Luzon, from +1 to +3, and stayed *poor* in Mindanao, from -17 to -16.

#### **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 past Social Weather Surveys cited in this report all used face-to-face interviews of at least 1,200 adults nationwide.

The Social Weather Survey items on the Maguindanao Massacre case are non-commissioned. These items were included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

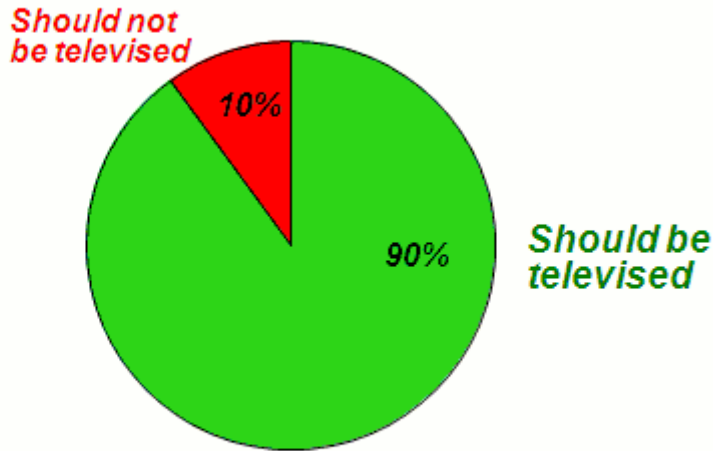
SWS employs its own staff for questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork, data-processing, and analysis, and does not outsource any of its survey operations.

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

#

**Chart**

**OPINION WHETHER THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE TRIAL SHOULD BE TELEVISED OR NOT, PHILIPPINES, NOV 2010**



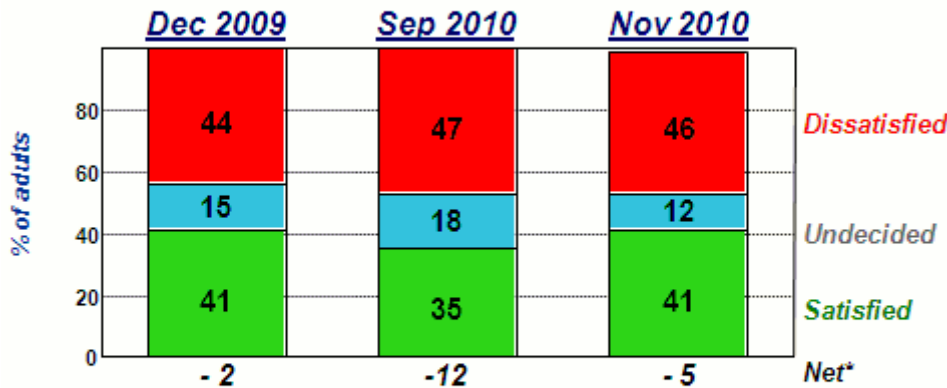
Note: Don't Know and Refused responses (0.2%) are not shown.  
 Q120A: May mga namumungkahi na para mabaitayang maigi ng mga kamag-anak ng mga biktima ng Maguindanao Massacre ang Raso, dapat itag na i-televisé ang paglilitis kay Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama niyang akusado. Ayon naman sa iba, ang pag-i-televisé ay hindi makatarungan sa interes ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at sa mga kasama niyang akusado. Sa tingin po ninyo, DAPAT O HINDI DAPAT PO BANG I-TELEVISÉ ang paglilitis ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama nitong akusado sa Maguindanao Massacre?



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

**Chart**

**SATISFACTION WITH WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE, UP TO NOW, TO RESOLVE THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE CASE WITH JUSTICE, DEC 2009 TO NOV 2010**



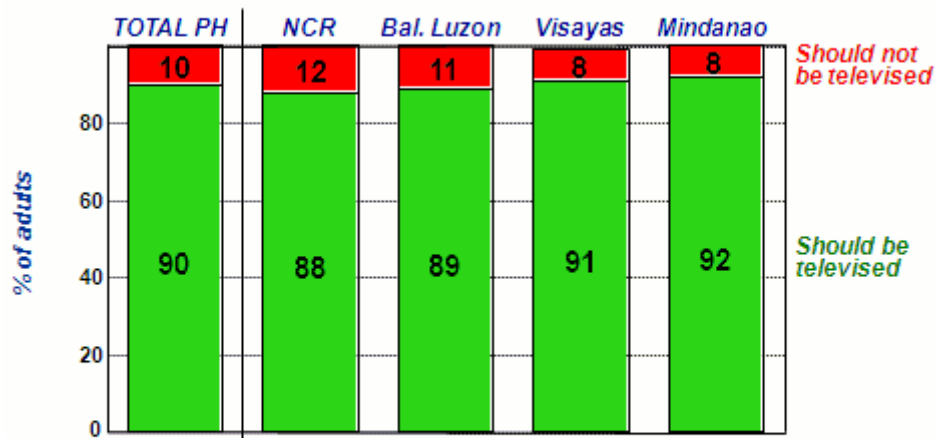
\* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded. Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.  
 Q. Noong Nobyembre 23, 2009, na-masaker ang 57 tao sa Maguindanao, kasama ang ilang miyembro ng pamilyang Mangudadatu, maraming mamamahayag at iba pang mga sibilyan. Ayon sa pamilyang Mangudadatu, ang nag-urog ng masaker na ito ay ang pamilyang Ampatuan, ang kanilang pu litikal na katunggali. Gaano po ba kayo NASISYAHAN o HINDI NASISYAHAN sa mga ginawa ng gobyerno harigang sa ngayon upang makatarungang maresolba ang kasong ito? Kayo po ba ay... (SHOWCARD)?



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

Chart

**OPINION WHETHER THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE TRIAL SHOULD BE TELEVISED OR NOT, BY LOCATION, NOV 2010**



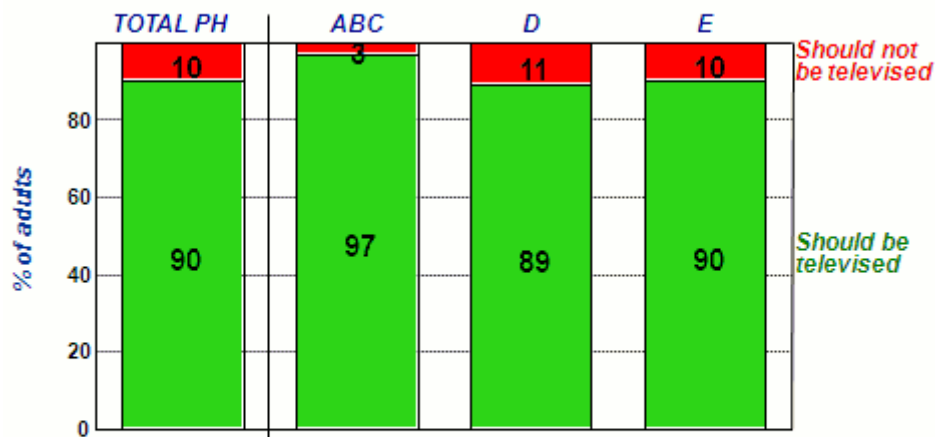
Note: Don't Know and Refused responses (0.2%) are not shown.  
 Q120A: May mga namumungkahi na para mabaitayang maigi ng mga kamag-anak ng mga biktima ng Maguindanao Massacre ang kaso, dapat iting na i-televisé ang paglilitis kay Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama niyang akusado. Ayon naman sa iba, ang pagtetelevisé ay hindi makatarungan sa interes ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at sa mga kasama niyang akusado. Sa tingin po niinyo, **DAPAT O HINDI DAPAT PO BANG I-TELEWISE** ang paglilitis ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama nitong akusado sa Maguindanao Massacre?



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

Chart

**OPINION WHETHER THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE TRIAL SHOULD BE TELEVISED OR NOT, BY CLASS, NOV 2010**



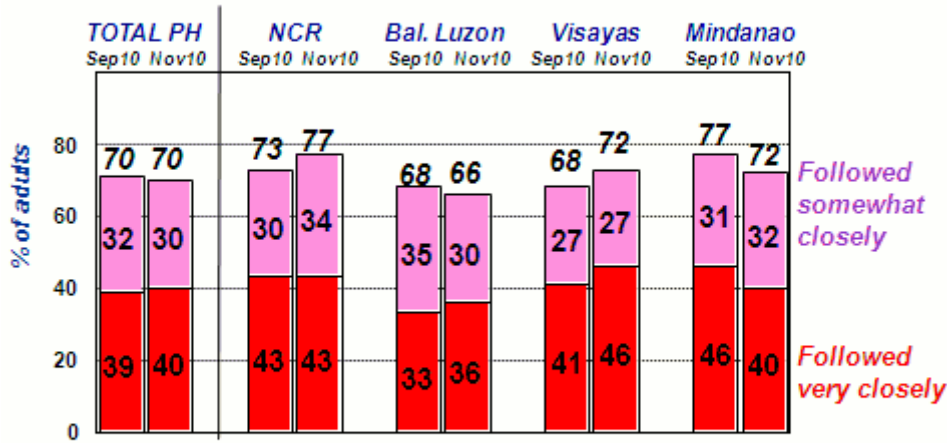
Note: Don't Know and Refused responses (0.2%) are not shown.  
 Q120A: May mga namumungkahi na para mabaitayang maigi ng mga kamag-anak ng mga biktima ng Maguindanao Massacre ang kaso, dapat iting na i-televisé ang paglilitis kay Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama niyang akusado. Ayon naman sa iba, ang pagtetelevisé ay hindi makatarungan sa interes ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at sa mga kasama niyang akusado. Sa tingin po niinyo, **DAPAT O HINDI DAPAT PO BANG I-TELEWISE** ang paglilitis ni Andal Ampatuan Jr. at ang mga kasama nitong akusado sa Maguindanao Massacre?



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

Chart

**FOLLOWING NEWS ON THE EVENTS REGARDING THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE, BY AREA, SEP 2010 AND NOV 2010**  
 (% who followed Very Closely/Somewhat Closely)



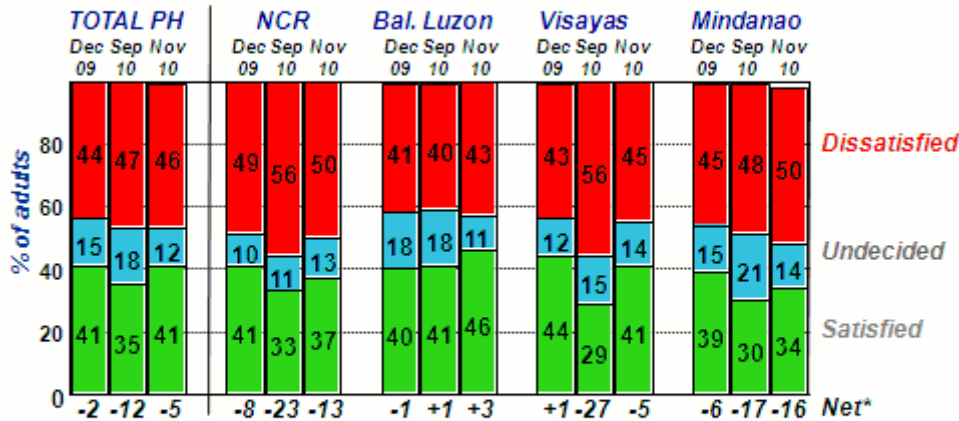
Q17. Nanto po ang ilang pangyayari na inilalar sa midya sa nakaraang tatlong buwan. Sa bawat isa, pakisabi lamang po kung ang mga ulat dito ay inyong sinundan nang mabuti, Medyo sinundan, Sinundan nang kaunti lamang, Hindi sinundan, o Ngayon lang kayo may narinig tungkol dito? [MGA KAGANAPAN TUNGKOL SA MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE]



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

Chart

**SATISFACTION WITH WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE, UP TO NOW, TO RESOLVE THE MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE CASE WITH JUSTICE, BY AREA, DEC 2009 TO NOV 2010**



\* Net ratings = % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded. Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.  
 Q108. Noong Nobyembre 23, 2009, na-masaker ang 57 tao sa Maguindanao, kasama ang ilang miyembro ng pamilyang Mangudadatu, maraming mamamahayag at iba pang mga sibilyan. Ayon sa pamilyang Mangudadatu, ang nag-utos ng masaker na ito ay ang pamilyang Ampatuan, ang kanilang pulitikal na katunggali. Gaano po ba kayo NASISIVAHAN o HINDI NASISIVAHAN sa mga ginawa ng gobyerno nanggang sa ngayon upang makatarungang maresolba ang kasong ito? Kayo po ba ay... (SHOWCARD)?



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

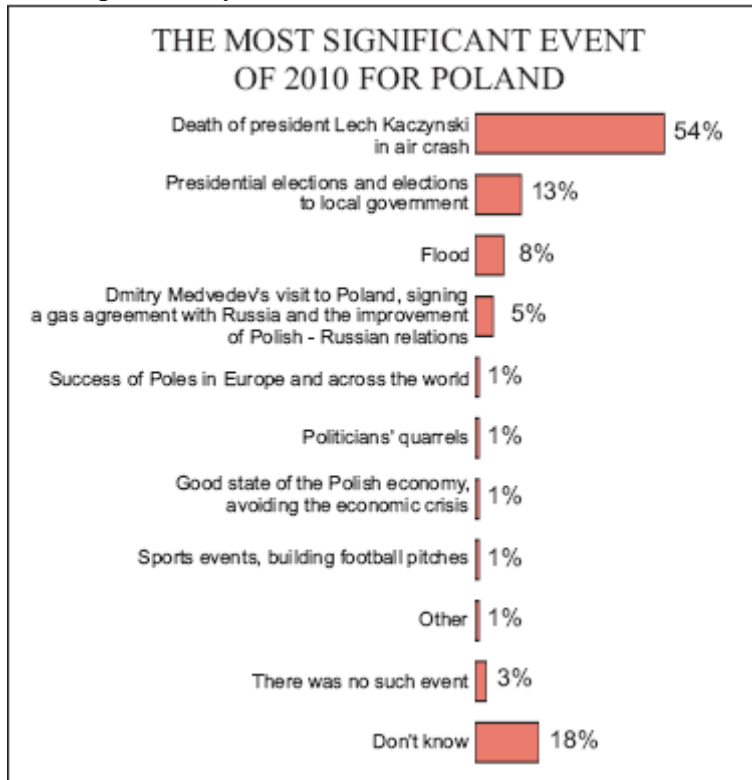
Source: <http://www.sws.org.ph/>

**EAST EUROPE**

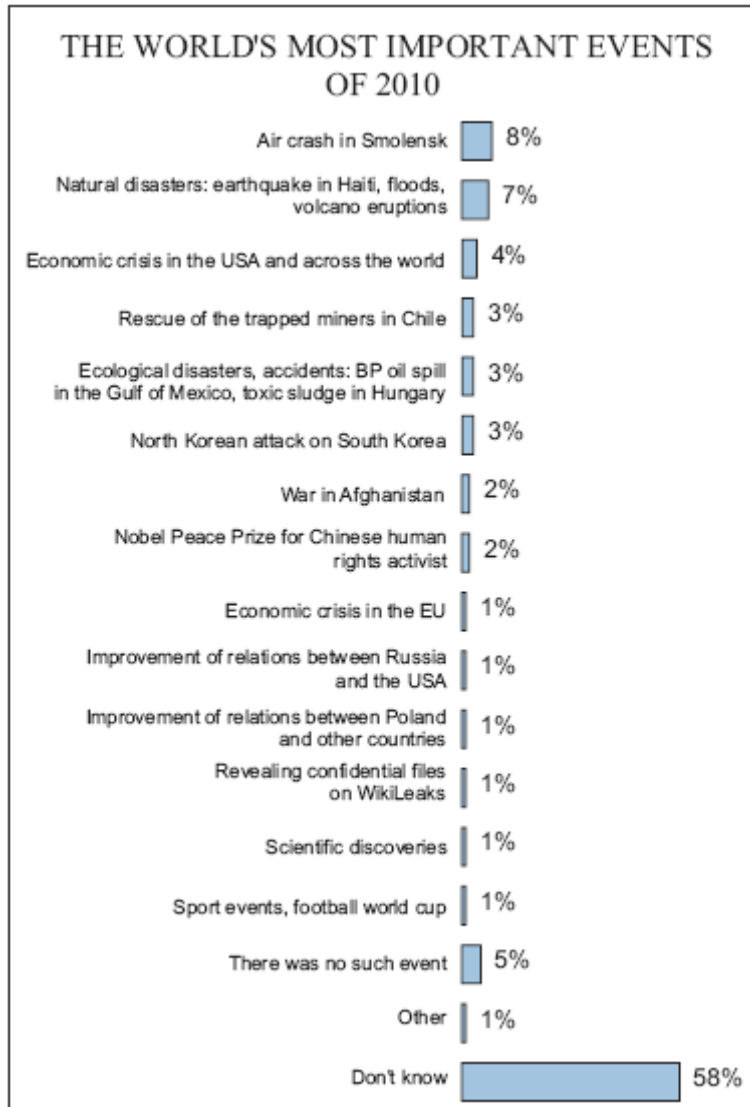
**160-7. 2010 - The Year Of Disasters In Poland And Across The World**

December 2010

Over half of respondents (54%) claimed that in 2010 the most significant event that happened in Poland was the death of President Lech Kaczynski and other eminent members of society in an air crash in Smolensk, Russia. Presidential elections and elections to local government, which also took place in 2010, were mentioned definitely less frequently (13% in all). For 8% of Poles, the crucial events of 2010 were natural disasters, mainly floods that occurred during summer. The respondents also said that Dmitry Medvedev's visit to Poland and the improvement of Polish - Russian relations were of key importance (5%). Other events were mentioned sporadically.



The high-profile victims of the air crash in Smolensk appear to be the reason why the tragedy appeared on the respondents' list of the world's most important events of 2010 (8% of Poles mentioned it). In comparison to the list of the events important for Poland, the first place of the air crash on the list of the world's most significant events of 2010 is not so overwhelming. Poles also frequently mentioned natural disasters and accidents that happened around the world, e.g. the earthquake in Haiti, volcano eruptions - mainly the eruption in Iceland in early 2010 and serious floods across the world (7%). The respondents mentioned also the accident that happened in a Chilean gold mine, where miners were trapped underground in an aftermath of an earthquake. However, this event served primarily as an example of successful human actions to combat the effects of natural disasters (3%). Among other tragic events that were also said to be most significant ones in the previous year, Poles mentioned ecological disasters resulting from human action. The most frequently quoted accidents were the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the breach of a reservoir in an alumina plant in Hungary releasing a toxic sludge (3%).



A considerable percentage of respondents included the economic crisis as a crucial event of the previous year. The effects of the crisis are felt by most countries around the world according to 4% of the respondents and 1% believe that they are felt in Europe. Poles also mentioned armed conflicts, such as the North Korean attack on South Korea (3%) and the conflict in Afghanistan (2%). The fact that the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Liu Xiaobo - a Chinese human rights activist was claimed by 2% of Poles to be the key event of the previous year.

**Source:** [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2010/12\\_2010.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/12_2010.pdf)

#### ***160-8. Poles Working Abroad***

December 2010

The rate of Poles' migrating abroad in search of work remained largely the same as in the previous year. Presently, in almost every tenth household (9%) there is a person working abroad.

In Poland there are about 14 million households. Hence, if we assume that only one person from each household left Poland in search of work and we disregard those households whose all

members left Poland we can estimate that there are over 1 million 200 thousand Poles working now abroad.



In the last ten years, every tenth adult Pole worked abroad. One in a hundred declare that they are currently employed abroad - these are either people who happened to be in Poland while the surveys was conducted or live in Poland but commute to work outside the country. Naturally, the research did not include people who presently live and work abroad. The percentage of people who declare they worked abroad in the last ten years is comparable to the percentages recorded in previous years.



A vast majority of people who worked abroad in the last decade worked outside Poland at the time when the country was already a member of the European Union. Two thirds of them went abroad after the accession into the EU and more than a sixth started to work outside their country before 1st May 2004 but remained there after Poland joined the EU. A fifth of respondents admitted they came back before Polish accession into the EU.



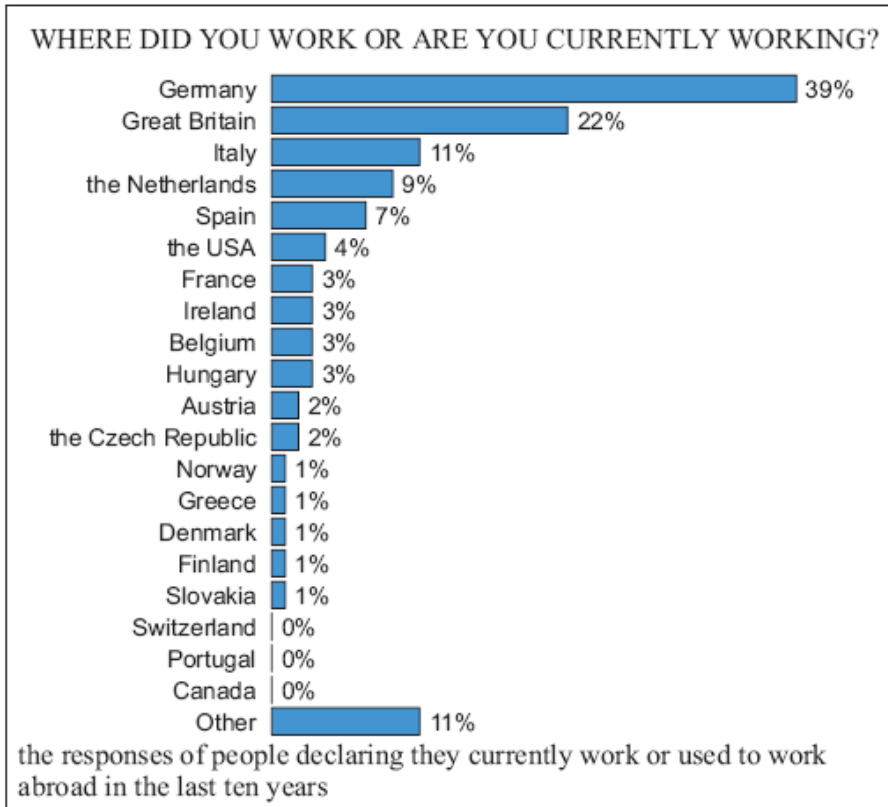


Taking into account the fact that 1% of the surveyed sample equals about 280 thousand people, we may estimate that in the last ten years over 3million Poles worked abroad. Those who were absent because they work abroad and for this reason could not take part in the survey were not included in the estimate. The number of Poles working abroad when Poland was already a member of the EU is nearly 2.5 million, but nearly 2 million left Poland after the accession took place.

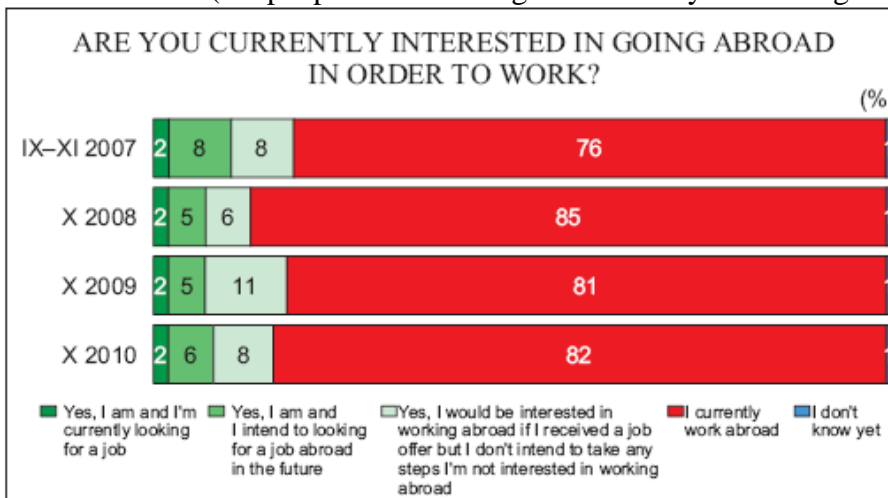
If we look at the profile of people working abroad, we may conclude that two factors seem to determine whether a person chooses to leave the country in search of work or not. The first one is the need of a person to undertake a job due to the lack of employment in his/her home country or being under-paid here. The second factor is the potential to undertake a job outside ones country - being fairly young and educated above the basic level.

A vast majority of Poles who worked abroad in the last decade or are currently employed abroad found a job in Germany. The second most popular destination is Great Britain, where more than a fifth found a job in the last ten years or are currently working there. Relatively many people worked or are still working in Italy, the Netherlands and Spain.





There are 16% of adult Poles interested in working abroad in the future. Half of them (8% of all respondents) took or are going to take concrete steps in order to get a job outside Poland. Others declare that they would be interested in such work if they received a job offer but they do not intend to take any steps to obtain it. In the previous year, the number of respondents interested in working abroad did not change significantly - only the percentage of Poles who are rather undetermined (i.e. people who would go abroad only after being offered a job) fell.



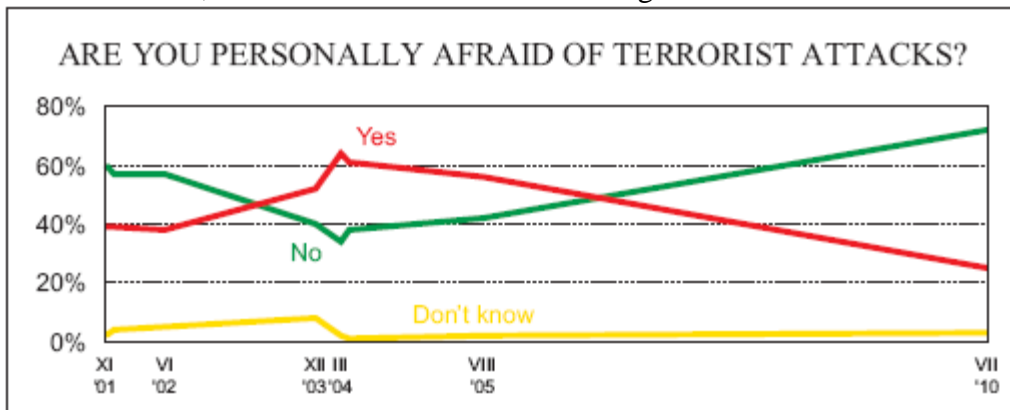
Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2010/12\\_2010.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/12_2010.pdf)

**160-9. Low Terror Fear Among Poles**

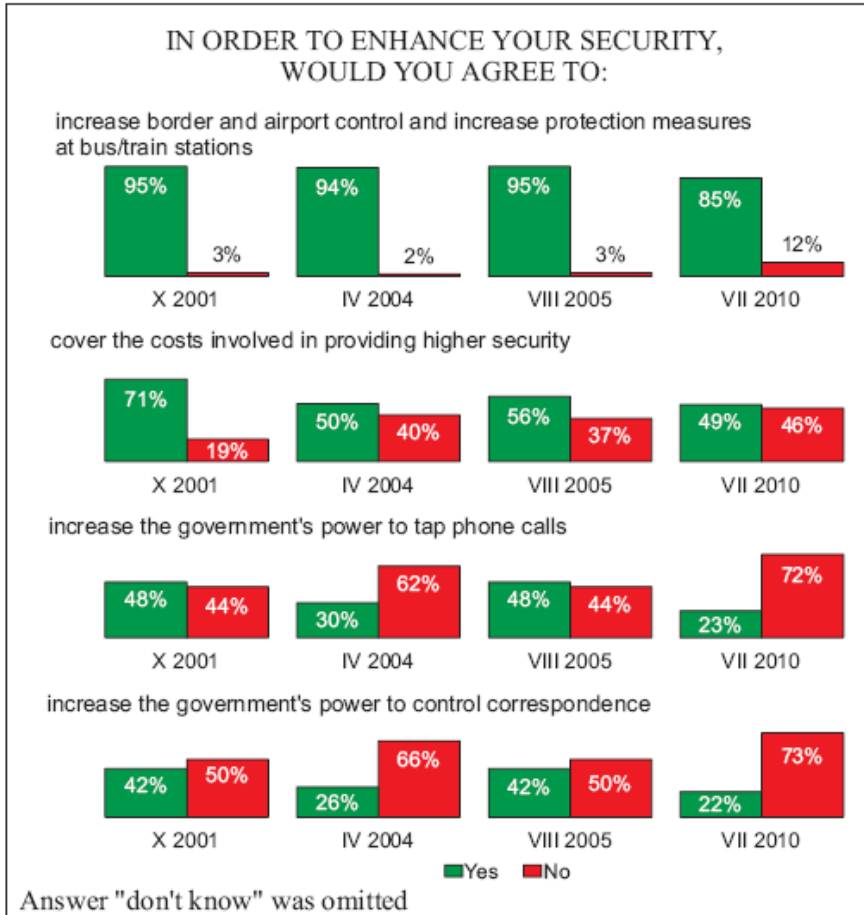
December 2010

The fear of terrorism in Poland is rather low. A vast majority of respondents (72%) declare that they are not afraid of terrorist attacks and a quarter of the surveyed people (25%) admitted they do fear the attacks may happen.

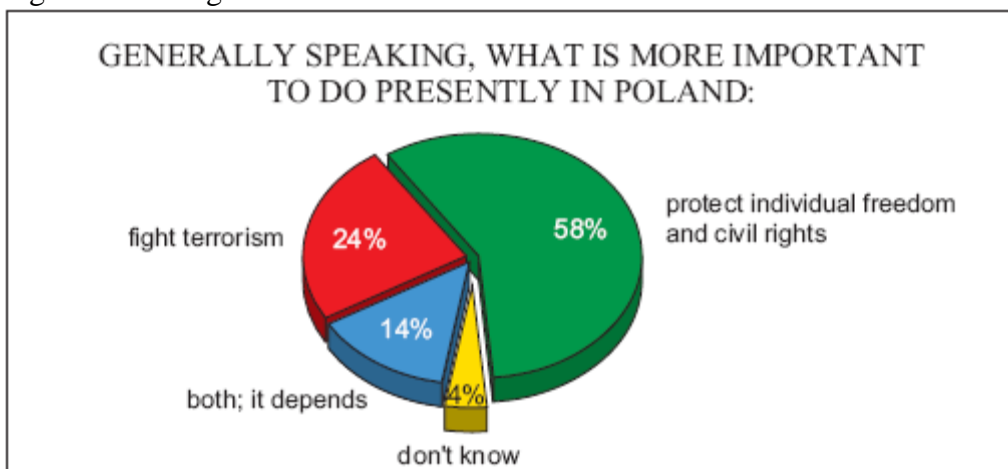
Presently, people are less afraid of terrorism than in the period immediately after major terrorist attacks. Previous CBOS surveys concerning this issue were conducted between November 2001 and June 2002 (after World Trade Centre attacks), between December 2003 and April 2004 (after the attacks in Bali and the theatre in Moscow, Russia), in August 2005 (after the Beslan massacre and attacks on tourist targets in Egypt) and, primarily, after the attacks in Madrid and London, where Polish citizens were among the victims.



In order to enhance their security, an overwhelming number of Poles (85%) would accept increased boarder and airport control as well as higher protection measures at bus/train stations. However, when it comes to costs involved in providing higher security almost as many respondents would be willing to cover them (49%) as would be against additional payments (46%). Definitely, a vast majority of Poles oppose the idea to increase the government's power to control correspondence (73%) and to tap phone calls (72%). In comparison to 2001, 2004 and 2005 the public support for covering additional costs to increase safety measures and the support to limit citizen rights to fight terrorism evidently fell. It seems to be the result of the fact that in recent years people started to feel less afraid of terrorist attacks.



The majority of respondents claim that presently in Poland it is more important to protect civil rights than to fight terrorism.



Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2010/12\\_2010.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/12_2010.pdf)

**160-10. Terrorism Threat And Ways To Combat It**

80% of Russians are afraid of being the victims of terrorist attack. Every third believes that terrorism cannot be defeated in Russia.

**MOSCOW, February 11, 2011.** Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing whether Russians are afraid of being the victims of terrorist attacks, as well as what they propose to do to combat terrorist threat.

**Today eight out of ten Russians are afraid to become a victim of terrorist attacks (80%).** The same level of anxiety was recorded in April 2010 - right after the terrorist attacks took place in Moscow metro. However, the highest level of anxiety was expressed by only 31% versus 36% today (highest record). Those who are mostly concerned about the safety are women (44%), middle aged Russians (43%), metropolitan residents (52%). Only every tenth is confident in his/her security (10%); almost the same share of respondents did not think about that (9%).

**One of the most effective ways to combat terrorism is toughening the migration legislation and control over the movement of migrants (6%).** Five percent (for each group) mention the following measures: improving the work of special services, increasing the level of competence among their workers, raising public vigilance, strengthening the protection of state borders, vital facilities and public places on the territory of Russia. Other 4% propose to strongly toughen the anti-terrorism legislation up to introducing death penalty. Eradication of corruption in enforcement bodies was proposed by 3% of Russians. To compare, the most effective measures proposed by respondents after Moscow metro terrorist attack in April 2010 were introduction of death penalty and toughening the legislation (7%). Nevertheless, one-third of Russians (35%) still believe that terrorism in Russia cannot be defeated.

*The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 5-6 February, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.*

<b>Are you afraid that you or a member of your family can become a victim of terrorist attack</b> (close-ended question, one answer)							
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>April2010</b>	<b>September2010</b>	<b>February 2011</b>
<i>Somewhat afraid</i>	52	52	<b>54</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>
<i>Afraid a lot</i>	26	25	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>
<i>I am confident that nothing will happen to me or my relatives</i>	12	8	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>I did not think about that</i>	8	13	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>Hard to say</i>	2	1	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

<i>tell</i>								
<b>In your opinion, what should be done to gain a victory over terrorism in Russia?</b> (open-ended question, any number of answers)								
							<b>2009</b>	<b>2011</b>
<i>Stricter control over migration process, over migrants living in Russia</i>							3	6
<i>Improve the work of special services, increase competence of such workers</i>							5	5
<i>Increase public vigilance</i>							4	5
<i>Strengthen the protection of state borders, vital facilities, public places on Russian territory</i>							1	5
<i>Toughen anti-terrorism legislation, introduce death penalty</i>							7	4
<i>Eradicate corruption in enforcement bodies</i>							3	3
<i>Set the order in the country</i>							2	2
<i>Everyone has to fulfill his/her duties and comply with laws</i>							1	2
<i>Raise new generation which would be intolerant to violence and terror</i>							1	2
<i>Change the power and heads of bodies</i>								2
<i>Total control in the country, strong leader</i>							1	2
<i>Increase the living standards, eradicate poverty and unemployment</i>							4	1
<i>Destroy all terrorists</i>							1	1
<i>Other</i>							1	1
<i>Eradicate ethnic hatred, intolerance</i>							1	1
<i>Put more attention to solving this issue</i>							1	2
<i>Act together; government, people and special services should be united against this threat</i>							2	1
<i>Change policy</i>							-	1
<i>Perform intelligence activities to locate terrorists, use preventive strikes against their bases</i>							-	2
<i>Use new equipment, introduce innovations</i>							-	1
<i>Punish the relatives of terrorists</i>							-	1
<i>Solve the problem peacefully, conduct negotiations</i>							1	1
<i>Make terrorism non-profitable</i>							1	-
<i>To combat terrorism using force only, toughen policy in Caucasus</i>							1	-
<i>Increase salaries for workers employed in enforcement bodies</i>							1	-

<i>Terrorism cannot be destroyed in Russia</i>	34	<b>35</b>
<i>Hard to tell</i>	30	<b>23</b>

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

**Source:** <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111350.html>

### **160-11. Olympic Mascot: More Russians In Favor Of Father Frost**

*Father Frost is the most successful Olympic mascot, Russians say. It evokes positive emotions and conveys the atmosphere of holiday.*

**MOSCOW, February 10, 2011.** Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing which symbols Russians would choose to be the Sochi Olympics mascot, and which ones they would not.

According to Russians, top three mascots **reflecting the culture of the host country** are Father Frost (24% versus 12% in November previous year), Dolphin (16% versus 4% respectively) and Brown Bear (16%).

The leading mascot that **conveys the atmosphere of the winter holiday** is Father Frost (28%). Russians also mentioned Dolphin (15%), Brown Bear (12% versus 3% in 2010) and Hare (12%).

In terms of **big advertising potential** the most popular mascots are regarded to be Dolphin (19%), Father Frost (17% versus 10% in November previous year), and Brown Bear (16%).

Assessing the positive emotions the mascot should evoke, top three leaders remain the same: Father Frost (18% versus 10% in November), Dolphin (17% versus 6% respectively) and Brown Bear (17%).

And finally, in terms of the ability to be remembered the leaders are Father Frost (20% versus 13% in November 2010) and Dolphin (20% versus 5% respectfully). They are followed by Brown Bear being mentioned rarer than before (14% versus 18% respectfully).

**Russians would never choose Snowflake to be the Sochi Olympics mascot (24%).** This is followed by Leopard on the second place (20%), and Sun on the third (15%).

**More Russians would join the public movement to support the Father Frost to be the winner in the competition of the Olympic mascots:** the share of Russians who approve of this symbol has increased from 51 to 57%.

**According to Russians, Father Frost almost fully matches such criterion, as the ability to evoke kind and positive emotions (68%).** The second place is held by the ability to convey the atmosphere of the winter holiday (61%). More than half of respondents recognize the Father Frost to have the ability to be remembered and reflect the culture of the host country (54% for each), big advertising potential (51%). Forty-four percent of Russians believe this symbol is the most successful in terms of reflecting the values of the Olympic movement.

*The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on 5-6 February, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.*

Source: <http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111349.html>

## **WEST EUROPE**

### **160-12. Uk Financial Providers Fail To Earn Trust Of Their Customers**

PUBLISHED ON FEB 24, 2011

A new poll by global research and technology firm Vision Critical® shows that Britons do not trust the financial providers they use. According to the representative sample of 6,000 British adults, just 40 per cent say they completely trust the financial providers they use.

One-in-six respondents (17%) actively distrust the financial institutions they currently use. Nearly one quarter do not trust their providers to behave honestly and transparently. One third (32%) do not trust their banks, insurance or card providers not to sell them things they do not need.

Men are less trusting of financial providers than women with 20 per cent of men responding that they actively distrust their providers, compared to just 15 per cent of women. Affluence plays a role in distrust of financial organizations. One-in-five (20%) of those earning over £40k distrust their financial companies, compared to less than 15 per cent of those earning less than £20k.

Only a handful of financial brands are succeeding at generating meaningful trust. Smile / Co-operative Bank and First Direct are the most trusted brands on all individual aspects: security of personal data, ethical practices, mis-selling, transparency and delivering on advertising promises. The least trusted brands are “completely trusted” by fewer than one-in-four of their customers.

“Given the role that financial brands play in the lives of consumers, you would hope to see higher levels of trust; but overall trust is scarce, and once you scratch the surface it gets even worse,” said Mike Stevens, Senior Vice President of Research at Vision Critical. “This isn’t a generic reputation issue; financial companies aren’t trusted by their customers on the tangible things like safeguarding personal data, not selling inappropriate products, and keeping implied promises made in advertising. Only a handful of brands are actually delivering. Smile / Co-operative Bank have managed to generate good trust from a clear ethical brand positioning; as has First Direct from its commitment to customer service. But most other brands face a serious challenge if they want to become genuinely trusted.”

Methodology: Between January 7 and January 12, 2011, Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 6,000 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panellists ([www.springboarduk.com](http://www.springboarduk.com)). The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current age, gender, region data and newspaper readership data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source: <http://www.visioncritical.com/newsroom/uk-financial-providers-fail-to-earn-trust-of-their-customers/>

---

### ***160-13. Higher Public Support For Changing The Voting System To Alternative Vote***

Although Many People Are Still To Make Up Their Minds

Reuters/Ipsos MORI Political Monitor - AV Questions

Published:25 February 2011

Fieldwork:18 - 20 February 2011

Theme:Political Institutions/Constitution/Local Government

The Reuters/ Ipsos MORI Political Monitor, shows that among those who are certain to vote, half support adopting the Alternative Vote system (49%) while a third are against (37%). The remaining 13% are not sure which way they would vote.

At this stage, just under half of the public say they are absolutely certain to vote at the referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May (46%) – compared to 59% who say they are certain to vote at an immediate general election.

Among the population as a whole, two in five (42%) support the change to AV while a third (35%) are against it. However, two and a half months before the referendum, one in five (21%) of the population do not know which way they would vote.

The question was based on the referendum wording and read as follows:

*“As you may know, there will be a referendum on 5th May on whether to change the system used to elect Members of Parliament to the House of Commons or keep the current system. At present, the UK uses the ‘first past the post’ system to elect MPs to the House of Commons. Should the ‘alternative vote’ system be used instead?”*

Party support is a key differentiator of attitudes towards AV. Support for AV is strongest among Liberal Democrats (60%) and Labour supporters (53%), while just 22% of Conservatives support the change of electoral system.

Young people are most in favour of electoral reform, with 49% of those aged 18-24 saying they would vote ‘Yes’. Older people are the most opposed, with half (48%) of those aged 65+ preferring to keep first-past-the-post.

People in social grades DE are most likely to vote ‘No’ (39%).

“There are still plenty of votes to be won for both the Yes and No campaigns,” said Helen Cleary, Head of Political Research at Ipsos MORI. “Even among those who are certain to vote, one in ten are undecided. People don’t yet know much about the referendum and we could well see public opinion shift during the campaign”

The February Political Monitor also looked at voting intention, views of the leaders, and views on the economy and spending cuts.

Technical note

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1,004 adults across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone 10-12 Sept 2010. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Source:<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2726/ReutersIpsos-MORI-Political-Monitor-AV-Questions.aspx>

---

### **160-14. Britons Start to Turn Against Cameron’s Big Society Policy**

Since July 2010, the proportion of respondents who disapprove of the proposed course of action has increased by 11 points.

[LONDON – 23 February 2011] – Seven months after the introduction of the “Big Society” policy by Prime Minister David Cameron, people in Britain are seeing the program as a failure, a new Vision Critical / Angus Reid poll has found.

Prime Minister David Cameron presented the “Big Society” in July 2010. The policy calls for communities across the United Kingdom to take over responsibility for specific services and duties, such as local transport and libraries. The Government would establish the “Big Society Bank” and rely on funds from dormant bank accounts to finance community groups and charities.



Big Society		
As you may know, Prime Minister David Cameron presented his “Big Society” policy last year. The policy calls for communities across the country to take over responsibility for specific services and duties, such as local transport and libraries. The Government would establish the “Big Society Bank” and rely on funds from dormant bank accounts to finance community groups and charities. Overall, do you agree or disagree with this policy?		
	Trend	
	February 2011	July 2010
Agree	37%	47%
Disagree	46%	35%
Not sure	17%	18%

In the online survey of a representative sample of 2,010 British adults, 37 per cent of respondents agree with the implementation of the “Big Society” policy, down 11 points since July. Disagreement with the policy is up by 11 points (46%).

Big Society		
From what you have seen, read or heard about the “Big Society” policy, do you agree or disagree with each one of the following statements? –		
<i>The “Big Society” policy will allow people to help themselves instead of relying on officials</i>		
	Trend	
	February 2011	July 2010
Agree	43%	53%
Disagree	37%	29%
Not sure	19%	18%

In July 2010, more than half of Britons expected the “Big Society” policy to allow people to help themselves instead of relying on officials. That proportion has dropped by ten points and now stands at 43 per cent. A majority of respondents (58%, +4) continue to expect the policy to lead to more service cuts and jobs lost.

Last year, at least three-in-ten Britons thought that the “Big Society” policy would be a success for the voluntary sector, charity workers, and the Conservative Party. Now, only one-in-five respondents (21%) expect the voluntary sector to benefit from the policy, while two-in-five regard it as a failure for the Tories (42%), the Liberal Democrats (44%), and people in the UK (46%).

Source:

---

## NORTH AMERICA

### ***160-15. Mississippi Rates as the Most Conservative U.S. State***

Vermont, Rhode Island, District of Columbia have highest percentages of liberals

February 25, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Mississippi is home to the largest percentage of conservatives among U.S. states, with a slim majority identifying their political views as conservative. Several other states, including Idaho, Alabama, Wyoming, and Utah approach 50% conservative identification. Vermont, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia have the greatest percentages of self-identified liberals.

### *Top 10 Conservative States*

<b>State</b>	<b>% Conservative</b>
Mississippi	50.5
Idaho	48.5
Alabama	48.3
Wyoming	47.4
Utah	47.3
South Dakota	46.9
Louisiana	46.8
North Dakota	46.7
South Carolina	45.8
Arkansas	45.0

Gallup Daily tracking, 2010

GALLUP®

### *Top 10 Liberal States*

<b>State</b>	<b>% Liberal</b>
District of Columbia	41.1
Vermont	30.5
Rhode Island	29.3
Massachusetts	28.0
Connecticut	26.7
New York	26.6
Oregon	26.3
Colorado	26.0
Washington	25.9
New Jersey	24.2

Gallup Daily tracking, 2010

GALLUP®

Mississippi is the first state to exceed 50% conservative identifiers in the three years Gallup has compiled ideological identification at the state level.

The top 10 rankings make clear that conservative identification is much more common than liberal identification, with each of the top 10 conservative states at or above 45% identification and only the District of Columbia exceeding 31% liberal identification. In the nation as a whole, Americans are about twice as likely to identify as conservative as they are to identify as liberal, a pattern that has persisted for many years. Americans are also more likely to say they are conservative than moderate.

Not surprisingly, then, conservatives outnumber liberals in every U.S. state. Only in the District of Columbia do liberal identifiers exceed conservative identifiers (41% to 18%). Vermont (30.7% conservative to 30.5% liberal), Rhode Island (29.9% to 29.3%), and Massachusetts (29.9% to 28.0%) have the closest state-level division between conservatives and liberals. (The full data on ideology by state can be found on page 2 of this report.)

The most conservative states are typically in the South and West. The least conservative states are in the Eastern part of the country and on the West Coast.

Generally speaking, ideological self-identification tends to be stable over time. As a result, the most and least conservative states have not changed much in recent years. Of the top 10 conservative states in 2010, 8 have been in the top 10 in all three years Gallup has compiled these data at the state level. Of the top 10 liberal states in 2010, 7 have been in the top 10 in all three years.

On average, states saw a one-percentage-point change in their conservative or liberal identification between 2008 and 2010. In contrast, over the same period, party affiliation (as measured by the percentage identifying or leaning Republican) shifted by an average of three points per state, resulting insignificant shifts in the competitive positioning of the parties in many states.

### **Implications**

The conservative political label continues to prevail by a significant margin in most of the U.S. states. Additionally, ideological identification has been largely stable in recent years even though there has been greater change in party affiliation at the state level. The 2010 elections brought more politicians who are conservative into office at the state level, and some of the results are evident in the approaches state governments are taking to deal with their biggest challenges, such as attempts to cut pay or benefits of unionized state workers to address revenue shortfalls and budget deficits.

**Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2010, with a random sample of 182,538 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  $\pm 1$  percentage point.

The margins of error are no greater than  $\pm 6$  percentage points for any state, and are  $\pm 3$  points or less for most states. The margin of error for the District of Columbia is  $\pm 7$  percentage points.

The questions reported here were asked of a random half-sample of respondents on the Gallup Daily tracking survey.

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/146348/Mississippi-Rates-Conservative-State.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146348/Mississippi-Rates-Conservative-State.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

***160-16. Reagan, FDR Top Greatness Poll of Presidents Since WWII***

Zogby Interactive  
(2/21/2011)

**Carter, G.W. Bush & Obama Rated Greatest Failures**

UTICA, New York - Ronald Reagan and Franklin D. Roosevelt stand atop a Presidential Greatness Zogby Interactive survey of all U.S. Presidents since World War II. At the opposite end of the spectrum, ranked highest as failures are Jimmy Carter, George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

The poll, conducted from February 14-16, asked likely voters to rate each of these 13 presidents as being Great, Near Great, Average, Below Average or a Failure.

Here are the results for rankings of Great, Near Great and the total of both.

President	Great	Near Great	Total
<b>Ronald Reagan</b>	37%	20%	<b>57%</b>

<b>Franklin Roosevelt</b>	32%	25%	<b>57%</b>
<b>John F. Kennedy</b>	16%	35%	<b>51%</b>
<b>Harry Truman</b>	9%	35%	<b>44%</b>
<b>Bill Clinton</b>	18%	24%	<b>42%</b>
<b>Dwight Eisenhower</b>	10%	32%	<b>41%</b>
<b>Barack Obama</b>	8%	19%	<b>27%</b>
<b>George W. Bush</b>	4%	17%	<b>21%</b>
<b>Lyndon Johnson</b>	5%	15%	<b>20%</b>
<b>George H.W. Bush</b>	3%	13%	<b>16%</b>
<b>Jimmy Carter</b>	4%	9%	<b>13%</b>
<b>Richard Nixon</b>	1%	8%	<b>9%</b>
<b>Gerald Ford</b>	1%	4%	<b>5%</b>

*Total may not add up evenly due to rounding.*

The table below shows the totals for each for ratings of Failure.

<b>President</b>	<b>Failure</b>
<b>Jimmy Carter</b>	43%
<b>George W. Bush</b>	38%
<b>Barack Obama</b>	38%
<b>Richard Nixon</b>	28%
<b>Lyndon Johnson</b>	16%
<b>George H.W. Bush</b>	11%
<b>Ronald Reagan</b>	10%
<b>Franklin Roosevelt</b>	10%
<b>Gerald Ford</b>	9%
<b>Bill Clinton</b>	5%
<b>Harry Truman</b>	2%
<b>John F. Kennedy</b>	2%
<b>Dwight Eisenhower</b>	1%

[Link to past years results](#)

Results from this Zogby Interactive Presidential Greatness poll are very similar to those of 2010. The most notable changes are Reagan tying Roosevelt on the combined greatness scale after trailing him last year, 58%-55%. On the Failure scale, George W. Bush was highest last year at 43%, followed by Carter 40% and Obama 35%.

Zogby International has asked these same questions since 1997. Through 2008, these were asked by phone. Results for 1997-2008 can be seen [here](#).

Through the years, Reagan made the most significant gains. In 1997, only 39% rated him Great or Near Great. He rose to third by 2005 and second in 2010.

Clinton has also gained in standing, moving from seventh in 1997, when only 32% in that poll rated him Great or Near Great, to now being fifth.

The difference in Failure ratings by party affiliation was greater than 10 percentage points for eight of these presidents. Here are those differences in order of highest disparity between Democratic and Republican voters:

<b>% Rating Failure</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Jimmy Carter</b>	9%	80%	71%
<b>Barack Obama</b>	5%	72%	67%
<b>George W. Bush</b>	68%	6%	62%
<b>Richard Nixon</b>	39%	12%	27%
<b>Lyndon Johnson</b>	5%	27%	22%
<b>Ronald Reagan</b>	22%	1%	21%
<b>George H.W. Bush</b>	21%	2%	19%
<b>Franklin Roosevelt</b>	1%	19%	18%

Pollster John Zogby: "Since we began polling this question, FDR has been at the top or tied every year but one, when JFK led. FDR may have fallen from his lone position in the top spot because there are very few Americans left who remember him. However, the Great Depression and World War II are epic events in text books, and Roosevelt is now rated about equally by voters of all ages. Ronald Reagan has become an iconic figure for Republicans. Our poll found 94% of Republicans rating him Great or Near Great. Clinton seems now to be remembered for presiding over a strong economy, as even Republicans have come to temper their dislike for him. History remains unkind to Nixon, and Ford is at the bottom in greatness because he is viewed mainly as Average. Obama and George W. Bush suffer very low ratings due to intense dislike for them by members of the other party."

The interactive poll of 1,823 likely voters has a margin of error of +/-2.3%. 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=1949>

**160-17. Obama Approval Now 45%; GOP Voters Help Congressional Approval Rise to 32%**

Zogby Interactive

(2/23/2011)

**Percentage Saying U.S. Headed in Wrong Direction Up to 62%**

UTICA, NY - President Barack Obama's job approval among likely voters rating is now 45%, holding steady since the New Year. Approval of Congress, especially among Republican voters, continues to rise.

These results are from a Zogby Interactive poll conducted from February 18-21, 2011.

*Overall, do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's job as president?*

<b>Obama Job Performance</b>	<b>Feb. 21</b>	<b>Feb. 18</b>	<b>Jan. 31</b>	<b>Jan. 4</b>	<b>Dec. 10</b>	<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Nov. 22</b>	<b>Nov. 15</b>	<b>Nov. 10</b>	<b>Nov. 1</b>	<b>Oct. 27</b>	<b>Oct. 25</b>	<b>Oct. 18</b>
<b>Approve</b>	45%	44%	44%	43%	39%	32%	39%	42%	44%	45%	43%	47%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	55%	56%	56%	57%	61%	68%	60%	58%	56%	55%	57%	53%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%

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

Approval for Congress is now 32%, which is 10 percentage points higher than July of last year. Approval of Congressional Republicans is now 41%, 16 points higher than July 2010. Approval of Congressional Democrats is now 34%, a three-point drop from July 2010.

These changes are due primarily to Republican voters. From July 2010 to now, their approval of Congress has leaped from 3% to 44% and their approval of Congressional Republicans has gone from 44% to 73%. Approval of Congress and its Republicans is also up from last July among independents, going from 18% to 27% for Congress and from 22% to 36% for Congressional Republicans.

The percentage saying the nation is headed in the right direction lost three points from Feb. 8 and is now 29%.

Pollster John Zogby: "Republican voters are getting what they wanted from the new GOP majority they elected last year. The votes in the House to repeal health care reform and to cut more than \$60 billion from the budget are obvious reasons for the big bump in Congressional approval from Republican voters. These actions by the House Republicans also seem to be helping among some independent voters. Any Democrats who assume voters will find the Republicans guilty of overreach without some prodding had better think again."

The interactive poll of 2,017 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=1951>

---

### ***160-18. Trust In Government – Not!***

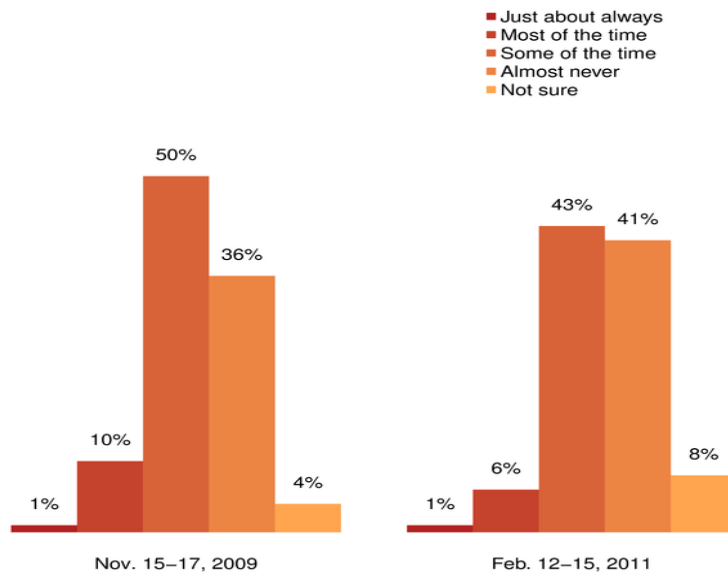
Tue February 22, 11:38 a.m. PST by YouGov Staff in Economist Poll

For decades, Americans have doubted their government in Washington – the combination of unpopular wars from Vietnam to Iraq, corruption scandals like Watergate, and just general dissatisfaction have hurt perceptions. And while there have been occasional gains (following some elections and after the attacks of September 11, 2001), most of those gains have been short-lived, as Americans settle back into their negative assessments of what's happening in the nation's capital.

The Economist/YouGov Poll has tracked trust in government from the start of Barack Obama's Administration. There was little gain in the weeks following his Inauguration, and trust has continued to decline. The Economist/YouGov Poll asks the following version of trust in government: "How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, Most of the time, Some of the time, Almost never?"

In the latest poll, the results are anemic. Only 7% of adults say they trust the government to do what's right most of the time or more often. 41% say they trust it "almost never." But that's not much different from the results from March of 2009, weeks after Barack Obama was sworn in as President.

**How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?**



**YouGov**  
today.yougov.com

Americans usually think more highly of the government when their party controls the Presidency. But in the last two years, both Democrats and Republicans have become more negative about Washington. In March 2009, one in five Democrats admitted they trusted the government at least most of the time, about the same percentage as said “almost never.” Now, just 14% trust the government that much. But it’s Republicans who changed the most -- 50% of them trusted it “almost never” in March 2009. That number is now 62%. Democratic trust rose to 28% in the summer of 2009, while Republican trust remained stable. But by early 2010, more than six in ten Republicans decided they almost never trusted what happened in D.C.

2/21/2011

	Dem	Rep	Ind
<i>Just about always</i>	2	0	0
<i>Most of the time</i>	12	3	4
<i>Some of the time</i>	59	34	42
<i>Almost never</i>	19	61	61
<i>Not sure</i>	7	2	5

2/7/2010

	Dem	Rep	Ind
<i>Just about always</i>	2	3	0
<i>Most of the time</i>	18	5	6
<i>Some of the time</i>	54	31	31
<i>Almost never</i>	20	61	61
<i>Not sure</i>	6	0	0

7/19/2009

	Dem	Rep	Ind
<i>Just about always</i>	4	0	0
<i>Most of the time</i>	14	5	10
<i>Some of the time</i>	46	42	40
<i>Almost never</i>	33	50	44
<i>Not sure</i>	5	4	6
3/22/2009			

	Dem	Rep	Ind
<i>Just about always</i>	1	2	0
<i>Most of the time</i>	20	6	3
<i>Some of the time</i>	59	41	47
<i>Almost never</i>	18	50	49
<i>Not sure</i>	2	2	1

**How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?**

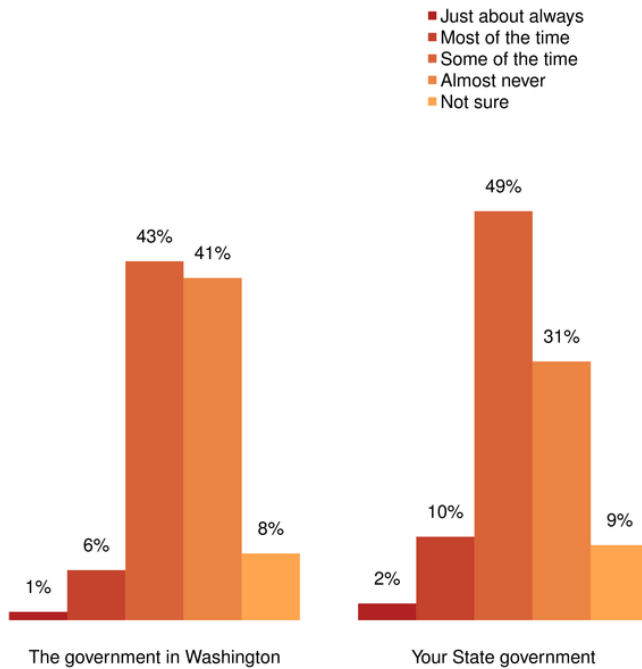
Independent voters are closer to Republicans than Democrats in their opinion about D.C. – and in this week’s poll, Tea Party identifiers are especially negative: two out of three say they trust the government in Washington “almost never.” Just 2% admit they trust it “most of the time.”

**DO STATES (NOW WITH MORE REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS) DO BETTER?**

If, in fact, party matters, state government should fare somewhat better than the national government. Republicans now control a majority of state houses. And perceptions about states should also benefit from their being physically closer to the people. The latest Economist/YouGov Poll suggests both of these claims may be true. Overall, Americans do feel better about their state government than they do about the government in Washington.



**How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington / your state government to do what is right?**



**YouGov**  
today.yougov.com

And Republicans and Democrats look pretty similar in their state assessments: Republicans think somewhat better of state government than they do of government in D.C., while Democrats move in the other direction.

	Dem	Rep	Ind
<i>Just about always</i>	4	1	1
<i>Most of the time</i>	10	14	7
<i>Some of the time</i>	51	50	53
<i>Almost never</i>	27	33	34
<i>Not sure</i>	9	2	6

**How much of the time do you think you can trust your state government to do what is right?**

Still, states may not have a lot to be proud of. Not when only 12% of Americans trust them to do the right thing “most of the time.”

Source: <http://today.yougov.com/news/2011/02/22/trust-government-not/>

**160-19. The Tea Party, Religion and Social Issues**

Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life  
February 23, 2011

The Tea Party movement clearly played a role in rejuvenating the Republican Party in 2010, helping the GOP take control of the House of Representatives and make gains in the Senate. Tea Party supporters made up 41% of the electorate on Nov. 2, and 86% of them voted for

Republican House candidates, according to exit polls. But the precise nature of the Tea Party has been less clear. Is it solely a movement to reduce the size of government and cut taxes, as its name -- some people refer to it as the Taxed Enough Already party -- implies? Or do its supporters share a broader set of conservative positions on social as well as economic issues? Does the movement draw support across the religious spectrum? Or has the religious right "taken over" the Tea Party, as some commentators have suggested?<sup>1</sup>

A new analysis by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life finds that Tea Party supporters tend to have conservative opinions not just about economic matters, but also about social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage. In addition, they are much more likely than registered voters as a whole to say that their religion is the most important factor in determining their opinions on these social issues.<sup>2</sup> And they draw disproportionate support from the ranks of white evangelical Protestants.

The analysis shows that most people who agree with the religious right also support the Tea Party. But support for the Tea Party is not synonymous with support for the religious right. An August 2010 poll by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life found that nearly half of Tea Party supporters (46%) had not heard of or did not have an opinion about "the conservative Christian movement sometimes known as the religious right"; 42% said they agree with the conservative Christian movement and roughly one-in-ten (11%) said they disagree.<sup>3</sup> More generally, the August poll found greater familiarity with and support for the Tea Party movement (86% of registered voters had heard at least a little about it at the time and 27% expressed agreement with it) than for the conservative Christian movement (64% had heard of it and 16% expressed support for it).

In addition to the August poll, this analysis draws on other Pew Research Center polling from September 2010 through February 2011. The polls included a variety of questions about the Tea Party, social and economic issues, and the role of religion in forming people's opinions on these issues. The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press has additional resources on the Tea Party. See, for example, the analyses from February 2011 and April 2010.

**Conservative and Critical of Government**

**Tea Party: Conservative on Economic Issues**

	<b>All Registered Voters</b>	<b>Rep/Lean Rep</b>	<b>Tea Party</b>	<b>Tea Party-Reg Voter Diff</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	
Prefer smaller government	56	80	88	+32
Prefer bigger government	37	16	9	-28
Gov't almost always wasteful	61	79	87	+26
Gov't does better job than it gets credit for	35	18	10	-25
Corporations make a fair and reasonable profit	39	55	62	+23
Corporations make too much profit	54	37	30	-24
<b>N</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>887</b>	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Among Registered Voters. Aug. 25-Sept. 6, 2010. Figures read down.

As previously reported by the Pew Research Center, the Tea Party is much more Republican and conservative than the public as a whole. Indeed, Tea Party supporters are more conservative on economic issues and the size of government than either Republicans in general or all registered voters.<sup>4</sup> According to a September 2010 survey by the Pew Research Center, almost nine-in-ten registered voters who agree with the Tea Party (88%) prefer a smaller government with fewer services, compared with 80% of all Republicans and Republican-leaning independents and 56% of all registered voters.

In the same survey, fully 87% of Tea Party supporters said government is almost always wasteful, eight points more than Republicans overall (79%) and 26 points more than all registered voters (61%). And while more than half of registered voters (54%) said that corporations make too much money, Tea Party supporters were inclined to see corporations as making a fair and reasonable amount of profit. Indeed, Tea Party supporters took this position by a two-to-one margin (62% fair profit vs. 30% too much profit). A somewhat smaller percentage of all Republicans and Republican-leaning independents (55%) said corporations make a fair and reasonable profit.

### **Conservative on Social Issues, Too**

In addition to adopting a conservative approach to the economy, Tea Party supporters also tend to take socially conservative positions on abortion and same-sex marriage. While registered voters as a whole are closely divided on same-sex marriage (42% in favor, 49% opposed), Tea Party supporters oppose it by more than two-to-one (64% opposed, 26% in favor). Similarly, almost six-in-ten (59%) of those who agree with the Tea Party say abortion should be illegal in all or most cases, 17 percentage points higher than among all registered voters. Tea Party supporters closely resemble Republican voters as a whole on these issues.

### **Tea Party: Also Conservative on Social Issues**

	<b>All Registered Voters</b>	<b>Rep/Lean Rep</b>	<b>Tea Party</b>	<b>Tea Party-Reg Voter Diff</b>
<i>Same-sex marriage...</i>	%	%	%	
Favor	42	24	26	-16
Oppose	49	67	64	+15
<i>Abortion should be...</i>				
Legal in all/most cases	52	38	34	-18
Illegal in all/most cases	42	56	59	+17
<i>Illegal immigration priority...</i>				
Better border security	31	45	51	+20
Path to citizenship	22	13	10	-12
Both equally	44	41	37	-7
<i>More important to...</i>				
Protect gun rights	51	72	78	+27
Control gun ownership	45	24	18	-27

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Among Registered Voters. Same-sex marriage, gun rights and illegal immigration data from survey conducted Aug. 25-Sept. 6, 2010. Abortion data from survey conducted July 21-Aug. 5, 2010.

On immigration, Tea Party supporters are 20 percentage points more likely than registered voters overall to say better border security is the most important priority in dealing with illegal immigration (51% vs. 31%). About half as many Tea Party supporters (10%) as registered voters on the whole (22%) see the establishment of a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants as the top priority.

Tea Party backers also heavily favor the rights of gun owners. The September survey found that those who agree with the Tea Party favor protecting gun rights over controlling gun ownership by more than four-to-one (78% vs. 18%). Registered voters overall divide almost evenly on this issue (51% give priority to gun rights, 45% give priority to gun control). A January 2011 survey, conducted by the Pew Research Center in the wake of the Tucson shootings, showed no significant change in public views on the issue of gun control and gun rights.

### **Influence of Religion**

#### **Religion is Top Influence on Views of Abortion, Homosexuality Among Tea Party Backers**

*% citing religion as most important influence on opinion*

	<b>All Registered Voters</b>	<b>Rep/Lean Rep</b>	<b>Tea Party</b>	<b>Tea Party-Reg Voter Diff</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	
Same-sex marriage	37	52	53	+16
Abortion	28	40	46	+18

Among Registered Voters. July 21-Aug. 5, 2010. Other possible influences include a personal experience, the views of friends and family, what one has seen or read in the media, education and "something else."

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

According to an August 2010 survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, Tea Party supporters are much more likely than the public overall to cite "religious beliefs" as the biggest influence on their views of same-sex marriage and abortion.

Roughly half of Tea Party backers said their religious beliefs are the most important influence on their views of gay marriage (53%) and abortion (46%). Furthermore, Tea Party supporters who cited religion as a top factor were overwhelmingly opposed to same-sex marriage and legal abortion. By contrast, 37% of registered voters overall cited their religious beliefs as the most important influence on their views of same-sex marriage and 28% cited religion as the primary influence on their views of abortion.

## Strong Support from Evangelicals

---

### Support for Tea Party Among Religious Groups

#### *Opinion of Tea Party*

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>No Opinion/Haven't Heard/Refused</b>	<b>N</b>
Protestant	31	21	48	2,523
White evangelical	44	8	48	994
White mainline	30	26	44	941
Black Protestant	7	37	56	371
Catholic	29	23	48	1,011
White non-Hispanic	33	22	45	798
Jewish	15	49	35	103
Unaffiliated	15	42	43	720
Atheist/Agnostic	12	67	20	206
Nothing in particular	16	32	52	514

Among Registered Voters. Combined surveys from November 2010 through February 2011.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

---

Support for the Tea Party varies dramatically across religious groups. Surveys from November 2010 through February 2011 show that white evangelical Protestants are roughly five times as likely to agree with the movement as to disagree with it (44% vs. 8%), though substantial numbers of white evangelicals either have no opinion or have not heard of the movement (48%). Three-in-ten or more of white Catholics (33%) and white mainline Protestants (30%) also agree with the Tea Party, but among these two groups at least one-in-five people disagrees with the movement.

Among Jews, the religiously unaffiliated and black Protestants, however, there is more opposition than support for the Tea Party. Nearly half of Jews (49%) say they disagree with the Tea Party movement, compared with 15% who agree with it. Among the unaffiliated, more than four-in-ten (42%) disagree with the movement while 15% agree with it. About two-thirds of atheists and agnostics (67%) disagree with the movement. Most black Protestants polled (56%) say they have not heard of the Tea Party or have no opinion about it. But among black Protestants who offer an opinion, those who disagree with the movement outnumber those who agree with it by more than five-to-one (37% disagree vs. 7% agree).

## The Tea Party and the Conservative Christian Movement

### Tea Party and the Conservative Christian Movement

*Of those who agree with the conservative Christian movement...*

69%	Agree w/Tea Party
4%	Disagree w/Tea Party
27%	Have no opinion/haven't heard of Tea Party

*While of those who agree with the Tea Party...*

42%	Agree w/conservative Christian movement
11%	Disagree w/conservative Christian movement
46%	Have no opinion/haven't heard of conservative Christian movement

Among Registered Voters. Data from survey conducted July 21-Aug. 5, 2010.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Americans who support the conservative Christian movement, sometimes known as the religious right, also overwhelmingly support the Tea Party. In the Pew Research Center's August 2010 poll, 69% of registered voters who agreed with the religious right also said they agreed with the Tea Party. Moreover, both the religious right and the Tea Party count a higher percentage of white evangelical Protestants in their ranks (45% among the religious right, 34% among the Tea Party and 22% among all registered voters in the August 2010 survey). Religiously unaffiliated people are less common among Tea Party or religious right supporters than among the public at-large (3% among the religious right, 10% among the Tea Party and 15% among all registered voters in the August poll).

While most people who agree with the conservative Christian movement support the Tea Party, many people who support the Tea Party are unfamiliar with or uncertain about the religious right. In the August poll, almost half of Tea Party supporters said they had not heard of or did not have an opinion on the conservative Christian movement (46%). Among those who did offer an opinion, however, Tea Party supporters agreed with the religious right by a roughly four-to-one margin (42% agreed with the religious right, 11% disagreed).

Overall, the Tea Party appears to be more widely known and to garner broader support than the religious right. The August survey found that 86% of registered voters had heard of the Tea Party, compared with 64% who had heard of the conservative Christian movement; among Republican and Republican-leaning voters, 91% had heard of the Tea Party compared with 68% who were familiar with the conservative Christian movement. About half of Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters (51%) agreed with the Tea Party in the August poll, as did more than a quarter (27%) of all registered voters. By contrast, about three-in-ten Republican and Republican-leaning voters (31%) said they agreed with the conservative Christian movement, as did one-in-six registered voters overall (16%).



For more on the role of religion in politics, social issues, candidates and political parties, see the "[Religion & Politics 2012](#)" page at [pewforum.org](#).

---

1. See, for example, "[Is the Religious Right Taking Over the Tea Party?](#)"; Huffington Post, Oct. 27, 2010. Also, "[Tea Party Closely Linked to Religious Right, Poll Finds](#),"; ABC News, Oct. 5, 2010.

2. All analyses in this report are based on registered voters.

3 Respondents were asked "How much, if anything, have you heard about the conservative Christian movement sometimes known as the religious right? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?" Those who said they had heard at least a little were then asked "In general, do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the conservative Christian movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?"

4 Throughout this analysis, Tea Party supporters are defined as those who say they "strongly agree" or "agree" with the Tea Party movement. Most, but not all, Tea Party supporters identify with or lean toward the Republican Party. In a [February 2011 Pew Research Center poll](#), for example, 82% of registered voters who agree with the Tea Party say they identify with or lean toward the Republican Party.

Source:<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1903/tea-party-movement-religion-social-issues-conservative-christian>

---

### ***160-20. Global Trouble Spots Top Public's News Interests***

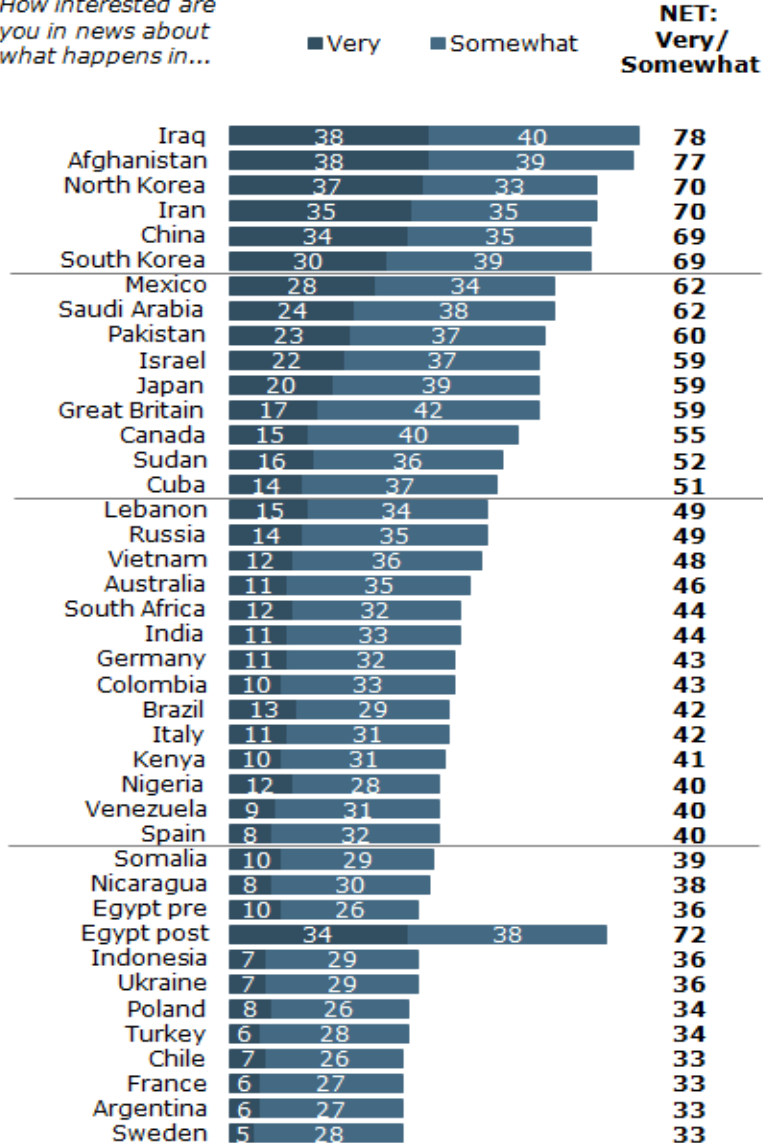
Strong Focus on Asia, Less Interest in Europe

February 24, 2011

The public expresses far more interest in news from global hot spots, including Iraq, Afghanistan and North Korea, than in news from many less troubled countries. And while most Americans express interest in what happens in Canada and Great Britain, far fewer are interested in developments from other traditional U.S. allies -- notably France.

## High Interest in News from Asia, Middle East

How interested are you in news about what happens in...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Surveys conducted Dec. 2-5, 2010, Dec. 9-12, 2010, Dec. 16-19, 2010, Jan. 6-9, 2011, Jan. 13-16, 2011, Jan. 20-23, 2011, Feb. 17-20, 2011. Egypt pre figures from Dec. 16-19, 2010, post figures from Feb. 17-20, 2011.

These are the findings from surveys conducted over the past few months by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press.

The surveys asked people to gauge their general level of interest -- not tied to any particular event -- in what happens in 40 different countries.

Recent events in Egypt demonstrate that public interest in news from a country can rise quickly. In mid-December, prior to the wave of popular protests in Egypt, just 36% said they were very (10%) or somewhat (26%) interested in news about that country. In mid-February, following the resignation of Hosni Mubarak, twice as many (72%) said they were either very (34%) or somewhat (38%) interested in news about what happens in Egypt.



In general, the public expresses the most interest in news from Iraq and Afghanistan, where thousands of U.S. forces have been stationed for years.

Nearly eight-in-ten say they are very or somewhat interested in what happens in Iraq (78%) and Afghanistan (77%).

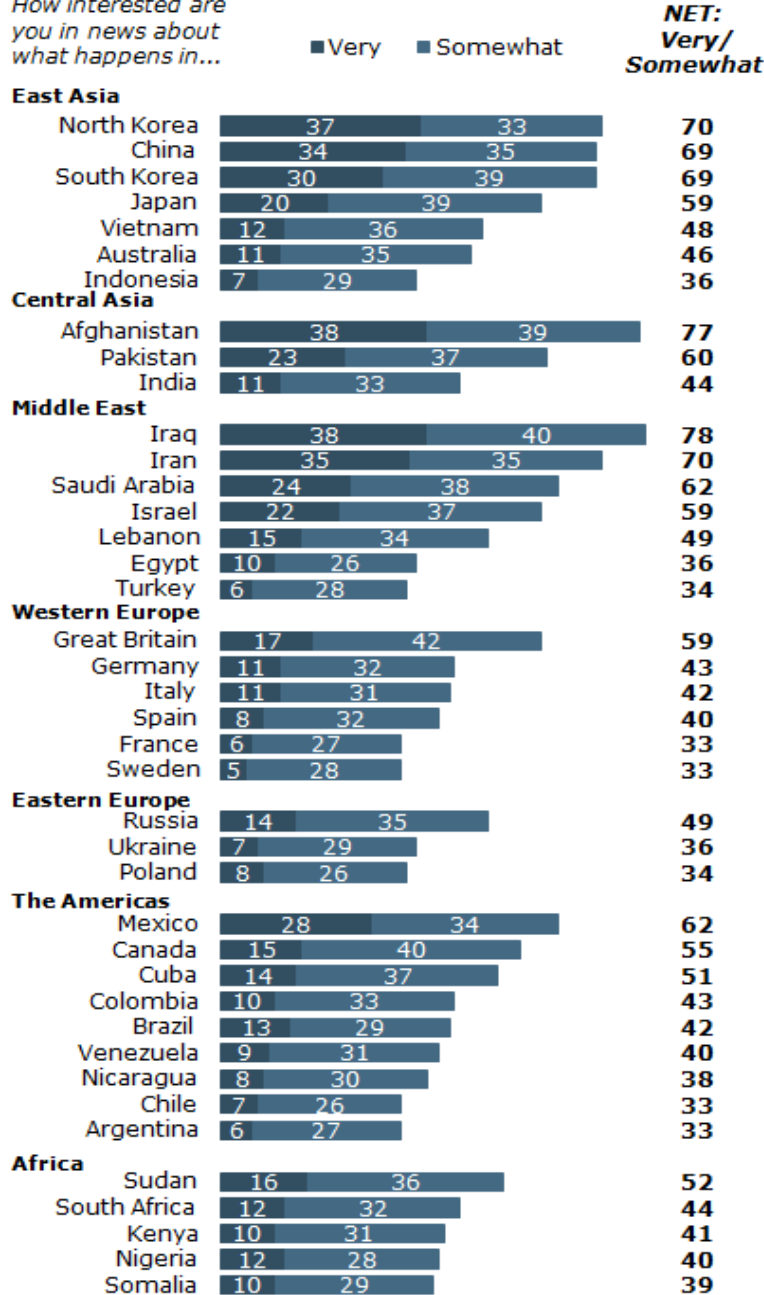
However, there also is considerable public interest in news from North Korea (70% very/somewhat interested) and Iran (70%). And, reflecting the public's growing focus on Asia, nearly as many say they are interested in news from China (69%) and South Korea (69%).

In a Pew Research survey last month, 47% said that Asia is most important to the United States, while 37% considered Europe to be the most important region.

In 1993, the balance of public opinion was reversed: 50% considered Europe most important, 31% Asia.

## Modest Interest in News from Western Europe

How interested are you in news about what happens in...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Surveys conducted Dec. 2-5, 2010, Dec. 9-12, 2010, Dec. 16-19, 2010, Jan. 6-9, 2011, Jan. 13-16, 2011, Jan. 20-23, 2011, Feb. 17-20, 2011. Egypt figures are from Dec. 16-19, 2010.

### East Asia Top Region

Most of the nations near the top of the list are in Asia, particularly East Asia or the Middle East. One notable exception is Mexico, a U.S. neighbor plagued by drug violence and a focal point for the domestic debate over immigration policy. Six-in-ten (62%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news out of Mexico.

Among the nine countries in the Americas included in the surveys, Mexico, Canada (55% very/somewhat interested) and Cuba (51%) are the only ones in which half or more express at least some interest. There is less interest in news from other countries in the Americas, including Colombia (43%), Brazil (42%) and Argentina (33%).

Looking at East Asia, majorities are very or somewhat interested in what happens in North Korea, China, South Korea and Japan (59%). About half express that level of interest in news about Vietnam (48%) or Australia (46%). Slightly more than a third (36%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news about what is happening in Indonesia.

Aside from Iraq and Iran, majorities show strong interest in news from two other nations in the Middle East critical to U.S. foreign policy: Saudi Arabia (62% very/somewhat interested) and Israel (59%). The public shows somewhat less interest in news out of two other nations that also play important roles in the region: Lebanon (49% very/somewhat interested) and Turkey (34%). And there was only modest interest in Egypt (36% very/somewhat closely) before the weeks of protests and change in power.

In Central/South Asia, the public expresses strong interest in news from Pakistan, a key player in the troubled region (60% very/somewhat interested), but less in news about India, a growing economic power (44%).

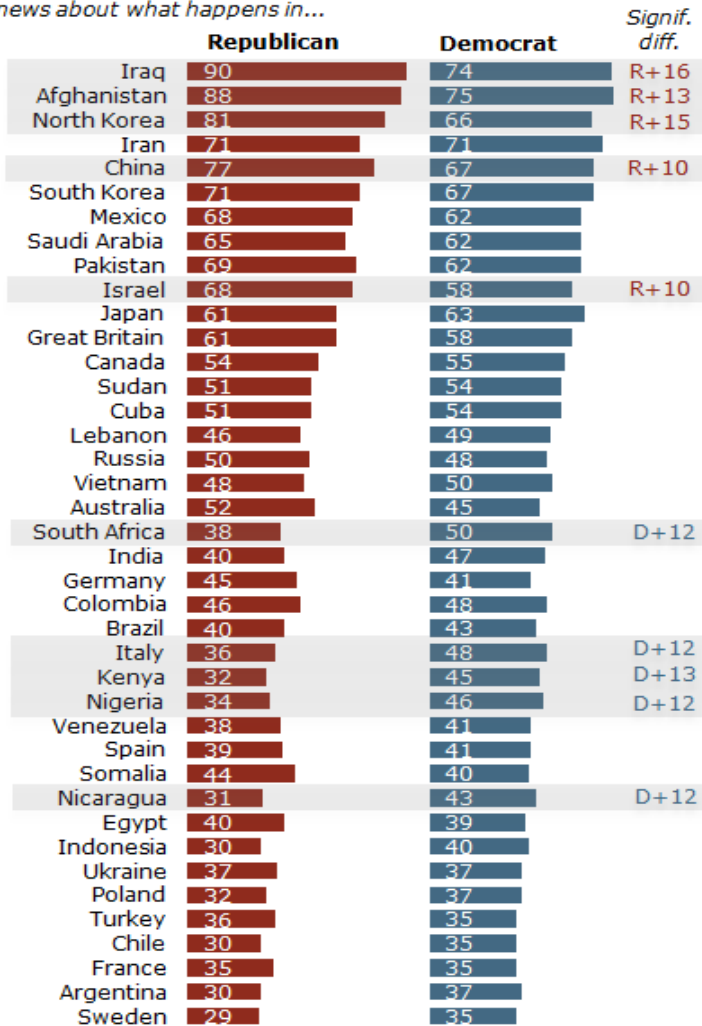
Americans express more interest in news from Great Britain (59% very/somewhat interested) than other Western European nations included in the surveys. Just 33% say they are very or somewhat interested in news about what is happening in France or Sweden. Interest in news from Germany (43%), Italy (42%) and Spain (40%) falls somewhere in between.

Nearly half (49%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news out of Russia. There is less interest in news about other former Soviet states that are less consistent players on the global stage. About a third say they are very or somewhat interested in news from Ukraine (36%) or Poland (34%). And among African countries, about half (52%) say they are very or somewhat interested in what happens in Sudan, while about four-in-ten say they are this interested in news out of South Africa (44%), Kenya (41%), Nigeria (40%) and Somalia (39%).

## Modest Partisan Differences

### Republicans More Interested in News from Iraq, Afghanistan

Very/somewhat interested in news about what happens in...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Surveys conducted Dec. 2-5, 2010, Dec. 9-12, 2010, Dec. 16-19, 2010, Jan. 6-9, 2011, Jan. 13-16, 2011, Jan. 20-23, 2011, Feb. 17-20, 2011. Egypt figures are from Dec. 16-19, 2010.

Republicans and Democrats show similar levels of interest in news about most of the countries included in the surveys. Republicans, though, show somewhat greater interest in several of the world's top trouble spots, while Democrats show greater interest in news about several developing nations.

About nine-in-ten Republicans say they are very or somewhat interested in news about what happens in Iraq (90%) or Afghanistan (88%). Three-quarters of Democrats say the same (74% for Iraq; 75% for Afghanistan). On the other hand, Republicans and Democrats are equally interested in news about Iran (71% very/somewhat interested).

Democrats, though, are more likely than Republicans to express interest in news from South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria and Nicaragua. Half of Democrats (50%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news out of South Africa, compared with 38% of Republicans.

## Conservative Reps Focus on Israel

<i>Interested in news about Israel...</i>	<b>Very</b> %	<b>Some-what</b> %	<b>Very/somewhat</b> %
Total	22	37	59
Republican	33	35	68
Cons Rep	41	34	75
Democrat	16	42	58
Lib Dem	20	36	56
Independent	21	37	58

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Dec. 9-12, 2010.

Republicans, especially conservative Republicans, are more likely than Democrats to say they are very or somewhat interested in news about Israel. Nearly seven-in-ten Republicans (68%) say this, compared with 58% of Democrats.

Three-quarters of conservative Republicans (75%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news about Israel. About four-in-ten (41%) say they are very interested, almost double the 22% of the public that says this. Among Democrats, only 16% say they are very interested in news about Israel.

There are no partisan differences in interest in news from Egypt. Before the recent uprising, 40% of Republicans and 39% of Democrats said they were very or somewhat interested in what is happening there. Shortly after Hosni Mubarak's resignation, that rose to 76% for Republicans and 73% for Democrats.

## Neighbors Draw Strong Interest Along the Borders

### Border States Highly Interested in Neighboring Countries

<i>Interested in news about...</i>	<b>Very</b> %	<b>Some-what</b> %	<b>Very/somewhat</b> %
<b>Mexico*</b>	28	34	62
Border states	45	37	82
Other states	24	33	57
<b>Canada**</b>	15	40	55
Border states	24	47	71
Other states	13	38	51

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. \*Survey conducted Dec. 16-19, 2010. Border states include: AZ, CA, NM & TX.

\*\*Survey conducted Jan 6-9, 2011. Border states include: ID, ME, MI, MN, MT, ND, NH, NY, VT & WA.

More than eight-in-ten (82%) of those living in states that border Mexico say they are very or somewhat interested in news about what is happening in that country. And that interest is strong: 45% say they are very interested in news out of Mexico. Among the rest of the country, 57% say they are very or somewhat interested in this news; 24% say they are very interested.

People along the northern border of the U.S. take a stronger interest than most Americans in news out of Canada. Seven-in-ten (71%) of those living in states along the Canadian border say they are very or somewhat interested in news about what is happening in Canada. That drops to 51% for the rest of the nation.

### Country Favorability vs. News Interest

Many of the countries that draw the highest interest -- such as Iran and Pakistan -- are viewed very unfavorably by the public.

For example, seven-in-ten (70%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news about Iran. A 2010 survey by the Pew Global Attitudes Project found that 67% of the public has an unfavorable opinion of Iran. (Data in the accompanying graphic are drawn from Pew Global Attitudes surveys in 2009 and 2010. A summary of these findings is here. Favorability ratings are available for 13 of 36 countries included in news interest surveys.)

### High Interest in Several Unpopular Countries



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Surveys conducted Dec. 2-5, 2010, Dec. 9-12, 2010, Dec. 16-19, 2010, Jan. 6-9, 2011, Jan. 13-16, 2011.  
Favorability ratings from Pew Global Attitudes Project surveys in 2009-2010.

A similar pattern holds true for Pakistan: 60% say they are at least somewhat interested in news from there, but 68% view the country unfavorably. By contrast, the public is generally interested in news about Great Britain and has a favorable opinion of that country. Nearly six-in-ten (59%) say they are very or somewhat interested in news about Great Britain; in a 2009 Global Attitudes survey, 77% said they had a favorable view of Great Britain. Similarly, 55% express interest in news from Canada, while 84% have a favorable opinion of Canada.

But there is far less interest in some other positively viewed countries. The 2009 Pew Global Attitudes Project survey found that 62% of Americans have a favorable opinion of France, up from just 29% in 2003, amid tensions between the U.S. and France over the Iraq war. Just a third (33%) say they are very or somewhat interested in what happens in France; that ranked France last in overall interest, along with Sweden, Argentina and Chile, among the 36 nations included.

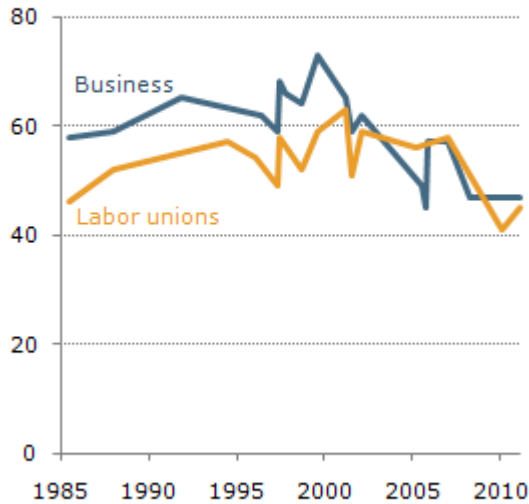
Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1906/public-interest-news-foreign-countries-iraq-afghanistan-mexico-israel>

**160-21. Labor Unions Seen as Good for Workers, Not U.S. Competitiveness**

February 17, 2011

Unions' Favorability Still Low, But Mirrors Business Rating

**Declining Favorability for Both Business and Labor**



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7, 2011.

The favorability ratings for labor unions remain at nearly their lowest level in a quarter century with 45% expressing a positive view. Yet the public expresses similar opinions about business corporations – 47% have a favorable impression – and this rating is also near a historic low.

Americans express mixed views of the impact of labor unions on salaries and working conditions, international competitiveness, job availability and productivity. About half (53%) say unions have had a positive effect on the salaries and benefits of union workers, while just 17% say they have had a negative effect. Views are similar about the impact of unions on working conditions for all workers (51% positive, 17% negative).

## Labor Unions Seen as Benefiting Workers, Not American Competitiveness

<i>Effect of labor unions on...</i>	<b>Pos- itive</b>	<b>Neg- ative</b>	<b>Not much effect</b>	<b>Other/ DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
Salary and benefits of union workers	53	17	22	9=100
Working conditions for all American workers	51	17	25	7=100
Workplace productivity	34	30	26	9=100
Availability of good jobs in America	32	33	28	7=100
Ability of American companies to compete globally	24	36	30	11=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q57a-e. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

But as many say unions have a negative effect as a positive effect on workplace productivity and on the availability of good jobs in America. And more say that unions have a negative (36%) than positive (24%) impact on the ability of U.S. companies to compete internationally.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Feb. 2-7 among 1,385 adults, finds virtually no differences in opinions about private and public sector unions.

About half (48%) say they have a favorable opinion of unions that represent workers at private companies, while 37% have an unfavorable view. The figures are nearly identical for unions that represent people who work for state or local governments – 48% have a favorable impression of these unions while 40% have an unfavorable opinion.

## No Differences in Views of Private, Public Sector Unions

<i>Views of labor unions that represent...</i>	<b>Favor- able</b>	<b>Unfav- orable</b>	<b>Other/ DK</b>
	%	%	%
Workers for private companies	48	37	15=100
Workers for state/local governments	48	40	12=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q10. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

A previous Pew Research survey on proposals for balancing state budgets found more support for decreasing the pension plans of state government employees than for cutting programs or raising taxes. Even so, only about half (47%) favored decreasing government employee pensions to balance their state's budget; an identical percentage said their state should not do this. (See "Fewer Want Spending to Grow, But Most Cuts Remain Unpopular," Feb. 10, 2011.)

The new survey finds there has been little change since the mid-1990s in public support for labor unions in disputes with businesses. Currently, 43% say that when they hear of such a disagreement, their first reaction is to side with businesses; about the same number (40%) say



their first reaction is to side with the unions. In 1995, the balance of opinion was about the same (36% side with unions, 43% side with businesses).

### Continuing Divide in Views of Labor-Business Disputes

<i>Your first reaction to disagreement between...</i>	<b>Feb 1995*</b>	<b>Feb 2011</b>
<b>Labor unions and businesses</b>	%	%
Side with the unions	36	40
Side with the businesses	43	43
Both/Neither/Depends	12	9
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100
<b>Labor unions and state or local governments</b>		
Side with the unions	--	44
Side with the governments	--	38
Both/Neither/Depends	--	8
Don't know	--	<u>10</u>
		100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER February 2-7, 2011. Q55-56.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.  
 \* From CBS/New York Times.

Opinions also are divided when people are asked for initial reaction to a disagreement between unions and state and local governments: 44% say that when they hear of such a dispute they side with unions, compared with 38% who say they side with governments.

In general, Americans do not believe that union agreements give union workers unfair advantages over other workers. Slightly more than half (55%) say that labor agreements ensure that union workers are treated fairly, while only about a third (34%) say the agreements give union workers unfair advantages.

Government data show that labor unions have become less of a factor in the overall U.S. economy in recent decades – most notably in the private sector. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 11.9% of wage and salary workers in the United States belonged to unions in 2010. That is down slightly from the 12.3% in 2009, but much lower than the 20.1% that belonged to unions in 1983, the first year when comparable data are available. BLS also reports that now more public sector workers belong to a union than do private sector workers.

### Union Favorability Still Well Below 2007

## Broad Declines in Union Favorability

	Jan 2007		Feb 2010		Feb 2011	
	Fav %	Unfav %	Fav %	Unfav %	Fav %	Unfav %
<i>Overall opinion of labor unions?</i>						
Total	58	31	41	42	45	41
Men	57	34	40	49	45	45
Women	59	29	43	36	46	37
White	54	36	37	46	43	43
Black	75	19	59	26	62	29
18-29	66	24	53	33	58	29
30-49	57	32	36	45	43	46
50-64	50	38	45	42	43	41
65+	60	28	29	51	37	47
College grad+	55	38	37	47	43	47
Some college	61	30	42	40	46	42
HS or less	58	28	44	40	46	37
<i>Family income</i>						
\$75,000 or more	54	42	35	54	45	46
\$30,000-\$74,999	57	33	47	40	46	43
Less than \$30,000	65	22	43	36	49	36
Republican	47	45	29	58	30	56
Democrat	70	19	56	26	61	27
Independent	54	34	38	46	42	46
<i>Union household</i>						
Yes	77	19	74	22	69	24
No	54	33	36	45	42	44

PEW RESEARCH CENTER February 2-7, 2011. Q6a.

Americans' attitudes about labor unions changed only slightly over the past year, following a sharp downturn between early 2007 and early 2010. Currently, 45% say they have a favorable opinion about labor unions, while nearly as many (41%) say they have an unfavorable opinion.

In January 2007, 58% said they had a favorable opinion of unions; 31% had an unfavorable opinion.

Young people, Democrats and people who live in union households continue to hold the most favorable views of organized labor. About six-in-ten of those 18-29 (58%) say they have a favorable opinion of unions, compared with 37% of those 65 and older. In early 2007, a much larger percentage of older Americans (60%) had a favorable opinion of unions. The decline among younger people was modest (66% to 58%).

Six-in-ten Democrats (61%) say they have a favorable opinion, compared with 30% of Republicans and 42% of independents. In early 2007, 70% of Democrats, 47% of Republicans and 54% of independents said they had a favorable opinion of unions. There are similar partisan differences in opinions about private sector unions and public employee unions.

In the current survey, there is a little difference in opinions about labor unions based on

education level or household income. Among many groups – but not all – opinions dropped between 2007 and 2010 and then made up some of that decline over the past year.

African Americans continue to offer more favorable opinions about labor unions than do whites. Currently, 62% of African Americans say they have a favorable view, compared with 43% of whites. Last year, the numbers were similar (37% for whites, 59% for blacks). Favorable opinions of labor unions among both whites and blacks were higher in 2007 (54% for whites, 75% for blacks).

Not surprisingly, members of union households also continue to see unions more favorably. About seven-in-ten in union households (69%) offer a favorable opinion, compared with 42% in non-union households. That gap was somewhat wider one year ago: 74% for union households, 36% for non-union). In early 2007, more than three-quarters (77%) of those in union households expressed a favorable opinion, compared with 54% of non-union households.

**Business Favorability Also Lower**

**Republicans Have Less Favorable Views of Business**

<i>View of business corporations...</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>
<b>Feb 2011</b>	%	%	%	%
Favorable	47	58	47	41
Unfavorable	45	36	45	51
<b>April 2008</b>				
Favorable	47	64	42	42
Unfavorable	45	30	49	53
<b>Jan 2007</b>				
Favorable	57	70	52	54
Unfavorable	30	18	33	34
<b>07-11 change in favorable</b>	-10	-12	-5	-13

PEW RESEARCH CENTER February 2-7, 2011. Q6b.

Currently, 47% say they have a favorable opinion of business corporations while 45% have an unfavorable opinion. These views are unchanged since April 2008, but are substantially less positive than in January 2007 (57% favorable, 30% unfavorable). Since early 2007, the favorability ratings for business corporations have fallen by 10 points while favorable ratings for unions have fallen by 13 points.

Over the past four years, opinions about business corporations have turned more negative among Republicans, Democrats and independents. Currently, 58% of Republicans have a favorable opinion of business while 36% have an unfavorable opinion. In January 2007, 70% of Republicans viewed corporations favorably and only 18% said they had an unfavorable opinion – half the percentage as in the current survey.

The balance of opinion among independents toward business corporations moved from positive to negative between 2007 and 2008 and has changed little since then. Democrats’ views of business corporations also turned more negative between 2007 and 2008 before recovering slightly in the current survey.

**Democrats Most Likely to See Union Positives**

## Wide Partisan Gaps in Views of Labor Unions' Impact

<i>Labor unions' effect on...</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>
<b>Union workers' salary and benefits</b>	%	%	%	%
Positive	53	46	62	51
Negative	17	27	12	15
<b>Working conditions for all American workers</b>				
Positive	51	42	61	49
Negative	17	23	14	17
<b>Ability of American companies to compete globally</b>				
Positive	24	17	26	25
Negative	36	47	26	38
<b>Availability of good jobs in U.S.</b>				
Positive	32	24	40	31
Negative	33	42	25	34
<b>Workplace productivity</b>				
Positive	34	22	44	34
Negative	30	45	21	30
N=	1385	339	455	511

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7, 2011. Q57a-e. Chart does not show percent saying not much effect or don't know.

Democrats are much more likely to offer favorable opinions of unions than either Republicans or independents. Democrats also are less likely to say that unions have a negative impact on the ability of American companies to compete in a global marketplace and the availability of good jobs in the United States.

On balance, Republicans, Democrats and independents say that labor unions have had a positive effect on union workers' salaries and benefits, as well as working conditions for all Americans workers. However, Democrats view their impact as much more positive than either of the other groups. For example, 61% of Democrats said labor unions have had a positive effect on working conditions for all American workers; 49% of independents and 42% of Republicans agree.

Republicans, though, are much more negative than Democrats about unions' impact on America's ability to compete globally, workplace productivity and the availability of good jobs in the U.S. Independents tend to fall in between.

Nearly half of Republicans (47%) say unions hurt American companies' global competitiveness, compared with 26% of Democrats. Nearly four-in-ten independents (38%) say this. About four-in-ten Democrats (39%) say unions don't have much of an effect on this. Fewer than three-in-ten Republicans (28%) or independents (26%) agree.

### Higher-Income Americans See More Negative Effects

## Higher Income Workers Say Unions Improve Working Conditions, Hurt Competitiveness

<i>Labor unions' effect on...</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$75k+</b>	<b>\$30k- \$74,999</b>	<b>Less than \$30k</b>
	%	%	%	%
<b>Union workers' salary and benefits</b>				
Positive	53	58	52	51
Negative	17	20	20	12
<b>Working conditions for all American workers</b>				
Positive	51	51	55	49
Negative	17	21	16	17
<b>Ability of U.S. companies to compete globally</b>				
Positive	24	18	25	28
Negative	36	54	38	22
<b>Availability of good jobs in U.S.</b>				
Positive	32	27	32	37
Negative	33	37	34	29
<b>Workplace productivity</b>				
Positive	34	26	34	41
Negative	30	44	33	19
N=	1385	360	464	418

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7, 2011. Q57a-e. Chart does not include percentage saying Not much effect or Don't know.

People across income levels say that labor unions have had a positive effect on both union members' salaries and benefits and working conditions for all American workers. People with higher family incomes, however, are more critical of unions' impact on American competitiveness and workplace productivity.

More than half of those with annual family income of \$75,000 or more (54%) say that unions hurt companies' ability to compete in a global marketplace. About four-in-ten (38%) of those earning between \$30,000 and \$74,999 agree, as do 22% of those earning less than \$30,000. About a third in each of the lower income groups says unions do not have much of an effect on this (35% for those with income of less than \$30,000, 32% for those with income between \$30,000 and \$74,999). Just 22% of those earning at least \$75,000 a year say this.

Higher wage earners also are more likely to see a negative impact on productivity. More than four-in-ten (44%) say unions have a negative effect on workplace productivity, compared with 33% of those earning between \$30,000 and \$74,999 and just 19% of those earning less than \$30,000.

### Union Membership and Perceptions of Labor's Impact

## Current Union Members More Positive

<i>Labor unions' effect on...</i>	<i>Union membership*</i>			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Past</b>	<b>Never</b>
<b>Union workers' salary and benefits</b>	%	%	%	%
Positive	53	70	58	47
Negative	17	11	16	18
<b>Working conditions for all American workers</b>				
Positive	51	70	57	44
Negative	17	10	15	20
<b>Ability of U.S. companies to compete globally</b>				
Positive	24	33	20	23
Negative	36	26	40	36
<b>Availability of good jobs in America</b>				
Positive	32	52	31	28
Negative	33	18	36	34
<b>Workplace productivity</b>				
Positive	34	48	34	31
Negative	30	21	31	32
N=	1385	182	375	828

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb. 2-7, 2011. Q57a-e. Chart does not include percentage saying Not much effect or Don't know.  
\* Self or spouse.

Households with current union members offer much more positive views on the impact of unions than those made up of former union members or people who have never belonged to a union.

For example, about half of those who say they or their spouse (52%) is currently a member of a labor union say unions have had a positive effect on the availability of good jobs in the United States. That drops to 31% among former union members and 28% among those never in a union.

Current union households also are more likely to say that unions have a positive effect on workplace productivity. Nearly half (48%) say this, compared with 34% of those in former union households and 31% among those never in a union.

### **More Say Union Contracts Protect Than Give Unfair Edge**

---

## Most Say Unions Protect Workers; Fewer Say Unions Give Workers Unfair Advantages

	Ensure fair treatment for union workers	Give union workers unfair advantages	Both/ Neither/ DK
<i>Union agreements...</i>	%	%	%
Total	55	34	11=100
White	52	36	11=100
Black	75	19	6=100
Hispanic	53	35	11=100
<i>Family income</i>			
\$75,000 or more	47	45	8=100
\$30,000-\$74,999	56	34	10=100
Less than \$30k	63	27	10=100
Republican	42	48	11=100
Democrat	67	25	8=100
Independent	55	34	11=100
<i>Union membership*</i>			
Current member	77	19	4=100
Former member	56	35	9=100
Never in union	50	37	13=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Q64. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

\* Self or spouse.

A majority of the public sees union agreements as ensuring fair treatment for union workers (55%), rather than giving union workers unfair advantages (34%).

Asked which statement comes closer to their views, two-thirds of Democrats (67%) say the agreements protect union workers, while 25% say they give union workers unfair advantages. Independents show a similar balance, though not as large a divide (55% to 34%). Among Republicans, 48% say the agreements give union workers unfair advantages while 42% say they ensure fair treatment.

More than six-in-ten (63%) of those earning less than \$30,000 say the agreements ensure fair treatment for union workers. Nearly as many (56%) of those earning between \$30,000 and \$74,999 agree. Those earning at least \$75,000 are more evenly divided: 47% say unions ensure fair treatment for union workers, while 45% say they give union workers unfair advantages.

Looking at union membership, 63% of those with household members ever in a union say union agreements ensure fair treatment for union workers. Half of those in households where neither spouse has ever belonged to a union agree.

Source: <http://people-press.org/report/705/>

---

### **160-22. Public Favors Tougher Border Controls and Path to Citizenship**

Most Oppose Ending "Birthright Citizenship"

February 24, 2011

The public continues to favor tough measures to crack down on illegal immigration. Yet Americans see no contradiction in supporting both stepped-up border security and a way for people already in the United States illegally to gain citizenship.

### Immigration Views Little Changed From Last Summer

	<b>Aug 2010</b>	<b>Feb 2011</b>
<i>Priority for dealing with illegal immigration in the U.S. ...</i>	%	%
Better border security, stronger enforcement of immigration laws	33	35
Creating a way for illegal immigrants already here to become citizens	22	21
Both should be given equal priority	42	42
None/Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100
<i>Change constitution to bar citizenship for children of illegal immigrants ...</i>	<b>Jun 2010</b>	<b>Feb 2011</b>
Favor changing constitution	41	39
Leave constitution as is	56	57
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
<i>Arizona immigration law ...</i>		
Approve	64	61
Disapprove	32	34
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011.

The idea of changing the constitution to bar the children of illegal immigrants from becoming citizens also remains unpopular. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) oppose changing the Constitution for this purpose, a figure that has changed little since 2006.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Feb. 2-7 among 1,385 adults, finds that in dealing with illegal immigration 42% say the priority should be to tighten border security and more strictly enforce immigration laws, but at the same time also create a way for people here illegally to become citizens if they meet certain conditions. Somewhat fewer (35%) put priority only on better border security and stronger enforcement, while 21% say the priority should be to find a way for illegal immigrants to become citizens.

At the same time, the public remains supportive of Arizona's controversial immigration law. Roughly six-in-ten (61%) approve of the law, which would require police to verify the legal status of someone stopped or arrested, if the police suspect that person is in the country illegally. These opinions, like other attitudes about illegal immigration, are little changed from last summer.



---

## Top Immigration Concern: Impact On Gov't Services

	<b>Feb 2011</b>
<i>Biggest concern about illegal immigration..</i>	%
Burden on government services	40
Hurts American jobs	27
Contributes to crime	9
Hurts American customs/way of life	6
Other/No concerns (Vol.)	11
Don't know	7
	100

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

---

While the job situation remains the public's biggest economic worry, jobs are not people's top concern when it comes to illegal immigration. Four-in-ten (40%) say their biggest concern is that illegal immigration places a burden on government services; 27% say their biggest concern is that it hurts American jobs. Far fewer say their biggest concerns are that illegal immigration contributes to crime (9%) or hurts America's customs and its way of life.

Pew Research's annual policy priorities survey in January found that dealing with illegal immigration remains a middle-tier public concern. About half (46%) said it was a top policy priority, placing it far behind the economy (87%), jobs (84%) and a number of other issues.

Opinions about the importance of dealing with illegal immigration -- and attitudes toward immigration policies -- reflect deep partisan divisions. Fully 61% of Republicans cited dealing with illegal immigration as a top policy priority, compared with 47% of independents and just 33% of Democrats.

**Divided Over Immigration Priorities**  
**Priority in Dealing With Illegal Immigration ...**

	<b>Better border security</b>	<b>Creating path to citizenship</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>None/DK</b>	<b>N</b>
	%	%	%	%	
Total	35	21	42	3=100	1385
Men	38	17	41	3=100	635
Women	31	24	42	3=100	750
18-29	31	29	38	2=100	197
30-49	30	20	49	1=100	357
50-64	38	15	42	4=100	465
65+	43	20	33	5=100	343
College grad+	29	26	43	2=100	535
Some college	38	19	41	2=100	350
HS or less	37	18	42	4=100	493
Republican	55	11	33	1=100	339
Democrat	22	27	49	3=100	455
Independent	34	21	42	3=100	511
<i>Tea Party</i>					
Agree	63	8	26	3=100	333
Disagree/No opinion	28	24	47	2=100	1005

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

In the new poll, 55% of Republicans say that the priority in dealing with illegal immigration should be placed on better border security and stricter enforcement of laws against illegal immigration. This compares with 34% of independents and just 22% of Democrats.

By contrast, 49% of Democrats and 42% of independents say the priority should be both tougher border security and creating a way for illegal immigrants already in the U.S. to become citizens if they meet certain requirements. Fewer Republicans (33%) favor this approach.

There also are educational differences in these opinions. A plurality of college graduates (43%) say the priority should be both better border security and finding a way for illegal immigrants to become citizens. Among those with less education, about as many say the priority should be primarily on better border security as on both objectives.

## Opinions about "Birthright Citizenship"

### Tea Party Supporters Oppose Citizenship for Children of Illegal Immigrants

*Change constitution to bar citizenship for children of illegal immigrants...*

	<b>Change Constitution</b>	<b>Leave as is</b>	<b>DK</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Total	39	57	4=100
White	43	52	5=100
Black	38	59	3=100
Hispanic	23	73	4=100
18-29	25	73	2=100
30-49	39	57	4=100
50-64	45	50	5=100
65+	45	48	7=100
Republican	47	49	4=100
Democrat	32	66	3=100
Independent	39	56	5=100
<i>Tea Party</i>			
Agree	57	38	5=100
Disagree/No opinion	34	62	4=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

Conservatives in Congress and several state legislatures have proposed legislation to stop granting U.S. citizenship to children born to illegal immigrants, though many legal scholars say this will require a constitutional amendment. The poll finds that a 57%-majority of the public opposes such a constitutional amendment, while 39% favor it. This balance of opinion is essentially unchanged from last year or 2006, when 42% favored changing the constitution and 54% opposed doing so.

Opposition to a constitutional amendment is particularly strong among Hispanics (73%) and people younger than age 30 (also 73%). About half of whites (52%) oppose such a change (vs. 43% who favor it), and seniors are divided (45% in favor, 48% opposed).

A sizeable partisan split is also seen on the question, with Republicans about evenly split (47% in favor, 49% opposed) and Democrats mostly opposed (66% vs. 32% in favor). Independents divide in about the same way as the public overall (56% oppose changing the Constitution, 39% are in favor).

The strongest level of support for amending the Constitution is among Tea Party supporters, 57% of whom favor changing the constitution to eliminate birthright citizenship (38% oppose such a change).

---

## Most Whites Support Arizona Immigration Law

	Approve	Dis-approve	DK
	%	%	%
Total	61	34	5=100
White	72	24	5=100
Black	42	55	4=100
Hispanic	27	70	3=100
18-29	53	43	4=100
30-49	64	33	3=100
50-64	63	32	5=100
65+	63	30	7=100
Republican	88	10	2=100
Democrat	42	54	4=100
Independent	62	34	4=100
<i>Tea Party</i>			
Agree	91	7	2=100
Disagree/No opinion	53	42	5=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011.

Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

---

### Arizona Law Still Broadly Supported

A solid majority of Americans (61%) continues to approve of the immigration law passed last year in Arizona that requires police to verify the legal status of anyone they detain if they suspect that the person is in the country illegally; 34% disapprove of this law.

Approval of the Arizona law is essentially unchanged from June of last year.

The Arizona law is supported by 72% of whites, but only 42% of blacks and just 27% of Hispanics.

A majority of Democrats (54%) disapprove of the law, while an overwhelming proportion of Republicans (88%) approve of it. Among independents, 62% approve and 34% disapprove.

### Top Concerns about Illegal Immigration

Asked to choose among four options, 40% of the public say their biggest concern about illegal immigration is the burden it places on government services.

About a quarter (27%) say their biggest concern is the impact on jobs, while fewer cite the impact of illegal immigration on crime (9%) and America's customs and its way of life (6%).

## African Americans, Young People Worry about Illegal Immigration's Impact on Jobs

<i>Biggest concern about illegal immigration...</i>	<b>Burden on gov't services</b>	<b>Hurts U.S. jobs</b>	<b>Adds to crime</b>	<b>Hurts U.S. way of life</b>	<b>Other/None/DK</b>
	%	%	%	%	%
Total	40	27	9	6	18=100
White	45	27	9	4	15=100
Black	31	39	8	7	14=100
Hispanic	23	16	9	12	40=100
18-29	29	34	10	8	19=100
30-49	41	25	11	5	18=100
50-64	46	24	8	6	17=100
65+	41	26	9	5	19=100
College grad+	55	13	11	5	16=100
Some college	39	29	9	6	17=100
HS or less	31	34	9	7	19=100
Republican	47	30	12	4	7=100
Democrat	38	26	8	7	20=100
Independent	40	27	10	5	18=100
<i>Tea Party</i>					
Agree	52	23	9	5	11=100
Disagree/No opinion	37	28	10	6	19=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Feb 2-7, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

While there is broad concern about the burden that illegal immigration places on government services, African Americans, young people and people with less education are particularly concerned about the impact on jobs. In each of these groups at least as many cite jobs as the burden on government services as their biggest concern about illegal immigration.

**Source:** <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1904/poll-illegal-immigration-border-security-path-to-citizenship--birthright-citizenship-arizona-law>

### **160-23. Religion in the News: 2010**

Islam the No. 1 Media Topic

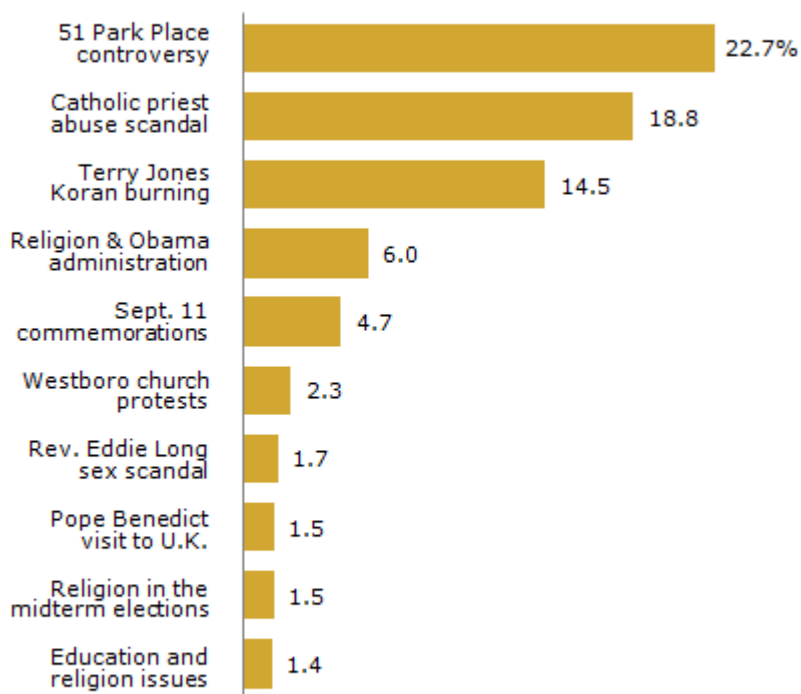
February 24, 2011

Events and controversies related to Islam dominated U.S. press coverage of religion in 2010, bumping the Catholic Church from the top spot, according to a new study by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life.

---

## Top Religion Stories in 2010

*Percent of mainstream religion coverage devoted to each subject*



PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM  
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE

---

Much of the coverage focused on the plan to build a mosque and Islamic center near ground zero in New York City, a Florida pastor's threat to organize a public burning of the Koran and commemorations of the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Stories related to these three events collectively accounted for more than 40% of all religion-related coverage studied in mainstream U.S. media (broadcast and cable television, newspapers, radio and major news websites).

Mainstream media devoted more attention to religion in 2010 than in any year since the Pew Research Center began measuring coverage of religion and other subjects in 2007. The amount of space or time media devoted to religion doubled between 2009 and 2010, going from about 1% of total coverage to 2%. And for the first time since tracking began in 2007, neither the Catholic Church nor religion's role in American politics were the No. 1 topic of religion coverage in major news outlets.

These are some of the findings of a new study that examined news stories from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2010.

Among other key findings:

- Although the volume of religion coverage in the mainstream media increased more than two-fold from a year earlier, it was still small compared with coverage of some other topics, especially elections and politics.
- The Tea Party replaced the religious right as the most talked about element of the Republican Party's grassroots support in coverage of the 2010 midterm elections.

Religious individuals, groups or institutions were mentioned in only about 1% of all mainstream media coverage of the elections. By contrast, the Tea Party movement was mentioned in nearly one-in-six midterm election stories (14.1%).

- In 2010, religion appeared as a major topic more often in the blogosphere than it did in traditional media. Religion was among the most-discussed topics on blogs in 12 of the 48 weeks studied by PEJ and the Pew Forum. In three of those weeks, the plan to build a mosque and Islamic center near ground zero was among the top subjects.

- Analysis of social media, produced with technology from Crimson Hexagon, indicates that people who were active on social media sites were deeply divided about the proposed New York City mosque. About a quarter of the comments about the mosque and Islamic center posted on blogs, Twitter and online forums were neutral in character; the remaining comments were roughly evenly divided between those ardently for and those ardently against construction of the proposed mosque and Islamic center, now known as Park51, for its location at 51 Park Place in Lower Manhattan.

The study of traditional news sources analyzed 50,508 stories from newspaper front pages, home pages of major news websites, the first half hour of network and cable television news programs and the first half hour of radio news and talk shows. (For details, see the full methodology.) The new media content was analyzed separately by aggregating and coding a sample of blogs, tweets and other sources monitored by Technorati and Icerocket, which track millions of blogs and social media entries. (For details, see the full New Media Index methodology.) In addition, PEJ and the Pew Forum used software provided by Crimson Hexagon to analyze a broader range of social media conversations about the New York City mosque controversy during the period when the debate was most intense, Aug. 16-Sept. 13, 2010. That analysis monitored the tone of the conversations on blogs, Twitter and public forums. (For details, see Crimson Hexagon's website.)

**Source:**<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1905/religion-news-media-2010-islam-mosque-ground-zero>

---

#### ***160-24. Issues Divide Republicans' Views of Potential 2012 Contenders***

Government, economy most important issues; social issues, national security least  
February 24, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Although Mike Huckabee, Mitt Romney, and Sarah Palin lead the field of potential Republican presidential candidates among all Republicans nationwide, there are significant differences in candidate preferences when Republicans are divided by the issue they think is most important. Those focused on government spending and power are most likely to favor Huckabee or Romney, while those focused on the economy favor Romney or Palin. Republicans who say social and moral values are most important favor Huckabee or Palin.

*Preferences for 2012 Republican Presidential Nominee, by Issue Set Chosen as Most Important in Thinking About Politics*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	<b>Huckabee</b>	<b>Romney</b>	<b>Palin</b>	<b>Gingrich</b>
	%	%	%	%
Gov't. spending and power	18	17	11	13
Business and the economy	13	20	17	8
Social issues and moral values	28	7	19	6
Nat'l. security and foreign policy	20	17	22	9

Gallup, Feb. 18-20, 2011

**GALLUP**

Most individuals view politics through many different lenses, usually relating to their party of choice. But in a nomination contest, when party labels are the same among candidates, voters need to look at other factors to decide whom they will support. Gallup isolated four issues Americans might take into account when thinking about politics in a poll conducted Feb. 18-20 and found a good deal of dispersion in Republicans' relative priorities across these issues -- as well as in the relationships to candidate choice.

**Former Arkansas Gov. Huckabee** wins among the social and moral values issues segment, as might be expected given his background as a Southern Baptist minister. He essentially ties Romney among the group most interested in government spending and power and ties Palin among the national security and foreign policy group, but does less well among those interested in business and the economy. This suggests Huckabee's possible weakness as a potential presidential candidate is views of his ability to deal with economic issues.

**Former Massachusetts Gov. Romney** wins among those focused on business and the economy, as befits his former experience as a businessman with a Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard. He ties Huckabee among those interested in government spending and power, but does less well among those focused on national security and particularly so among those focused on social issues. The latter positioning could reflect his switching positions on values issues such as abortion prior to his 2008 run for president.

**Former Alaska Gov. and vice presidential candidate Palin** does slightly better among those focused on national security and foreign policy than on values issues and business and the economy. She performs much less well among those focused on government spending and power, despite being one of the leading public supporters of the Tea Party movement.

**Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich** does better among Republicans focused on government spending and power, but this is the only set of issues on which his support among Republican segments is in double digits.

**Republicans Most Focused on Government and the Economy**

The basic segmentation question used in this analysis asked Republicans and Republican-leaning independents to choose which of four issues is most important to their political thinking. Government spending and power as well as business and the economy dominate the issues of importance in Republicans' minds. National security and foreign policy -- the primary concerns of Republicans at times in the past -- rank last as Republicans' issue concerns at this point, even



though interviewing was conducted amid the chaos and massive changes taking place in Egypt, Libya, and other Middle Eastern countries. A relatively small number of Republicans select social and moral issues as most important -- even though these two have been a key component of Republican political efforts in the past.

*When you think about politics, which of the following sets of issues is most important to you?*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	<b>% Choosing as most important</b>
	%
Gov't. spending and power	35
Business and the economy	31
Social issues and moral values	17
Nat'l. security and foreign policy	15

Gallup, Feb. 18-20, 2011

GALLUP

### **Republicans' Issues of Choice Are Related to Ideology, Tea Party Supporter Status**

Republicans' choice of issues relates to their underlying ideology. Conservative Republicans, who make up the majority of Republicans nationwide, are more focused on big government and spending than are liberal/moderate Republicans. The latter are somewhat more focused on business and the economy. Tea Party supporters, 53% of Republicans in this survey, are most focused on government spending and power, followed by business and the economy.

Other differences by demographic category appear in the accompanying table. Those disproportionately interested in government power and spending are college graduates, older Americans, and those living in the East. There is relatively little differentiation across demographic categories in interest in social issues and moral values, with the exception of somewhat higher interest among those living in the Midwest. Of all the age groups, older Americans are least interested in business and the economy, perhaps because they have less immediate concerns about the job market. There are no major differences across these categories in interest in national security and foreign policy.

*When you think about politics, which of the following sets of issues are most important to you?*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	<b>Social issues and moral values</b>	<b>Gov't. spending and power</b>	<b>Business and the economy</b>	<b>Nat'l. security and foreign policy</b>
	%	%	%	%
Republican identifiers	18	34	31	15
Republican-leaning independents	16	37	31	15
Conservative	19	38	27	15
Liberal or moderate	12	29	41	16
Tea Party supporter	15	41	28	15
Tea Party nonsupporter	19	29	34	15
College graduate	14	43	27	15
College nongraduate	19	31	33	15
Male	16	37	31	16
Female	19	33	31	14
18 to 49 years	17	31	35	16
50 to 64	18	37	31	12
65+	15	42	24	16
East	14	40	31	15
Midwest	22	32	34	11
South	16	34	29	19
West	17	36	32	12

Gallup, Feb. 18-20, 2011

GALLUP®

### **Implications**

There are many ways to segment the Republican voting population as next year's presidential primaries and caucuses draw closer. One of these is "issues voting groups" -- divisions based on the issues voters consider most important in their political thinking. Given four issue choices, Republicans at this point are most focused on two: the role of government and the economy. Fewer Republicans choose national security and moral issues at this point in the

2012 election cycle, even though international and moral issues have often defined the GOP's political platforms in previous years.

These issue segments do not totally determine candidate preferences at this point, but some strengths and weaknesses of the leading candidates among Republicans in each of these groups do emerge. Huckabee has his greatest strength among those focused on social and moral issues, and is weaker among business- and economy-focused voters. Romney does relatively well among each issue group except those most focused on moral issues. Palin is strongest among foreign policy-focused voters and is weaker among those interested in government power and spending. Gingrich is modestly stronger among Republicans interested in government power.

A successful candidate for the GOP nomination will not necessarily need to do well across all of these voter segments, but certainly will need to be aware of his or her positioning among those in each segment. Single-issue candidates can win primaries, but generally a broader appeal across issue groups can help a candidate win the multiple primaries necessary to gain a party's nomination.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 18-20, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,326 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, 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 Republicans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  percentage points.

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

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/146336/Issues-Divide-Republicans-Views-Potential-2012-Contenders.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146336/Issues-Divide-Republicans-Views-Potential-2012-Contenders.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

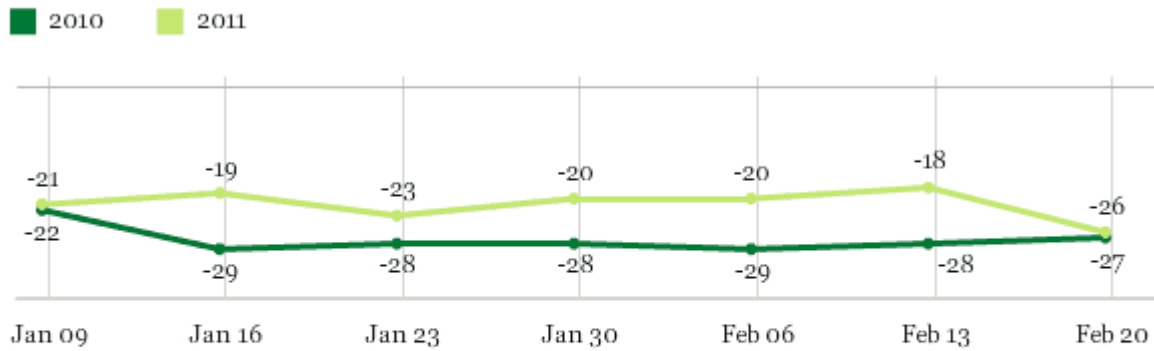
---

### ***160-25. Americans' Economic Confidence Worsens in Mid-February***

Economic Confidence Index at -26, essentially the same as the -27 of a year ago  
February 22, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup's Economic Confidence measure worsened to its lowest weekly level of 2011, -26, in the week ending Feb. 20. This essentially matches the -27 of the same week a year ago, giving up improvement seen earlier this year.

*Economic Confidence Index by Week, 2010 and 2011*



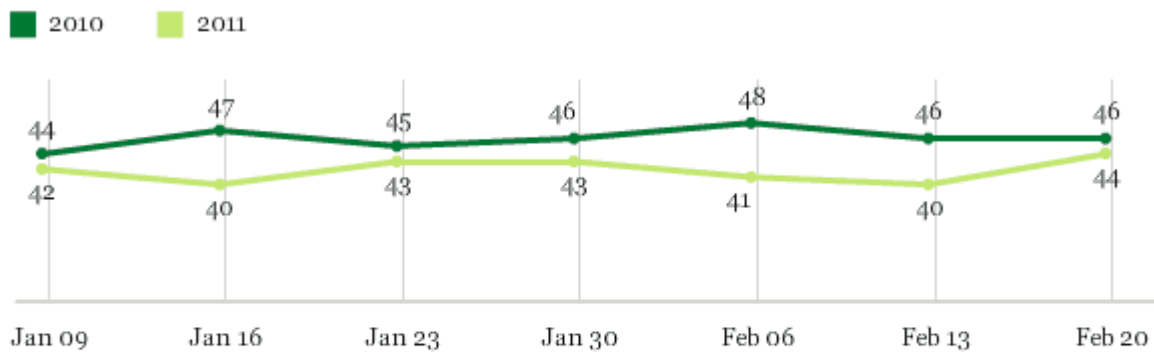
Note: Dates reflect last day of each week in 2011; parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Feb. 7, 14, and 21

Gallup Daily tracking

**GALLUP**

Both measures that make up Gallup's Economic Confidence Index deteriorated during the week ending Feb. 20. In rating current economic conditions, 44% of Americans said they are "poor," a slight worsening from 40% the prior week and about the same as the 46% of the same week in 2010.

*Percentage Saying Current Economic Conditions Are "Poor" by Week, 2010 and 2011*



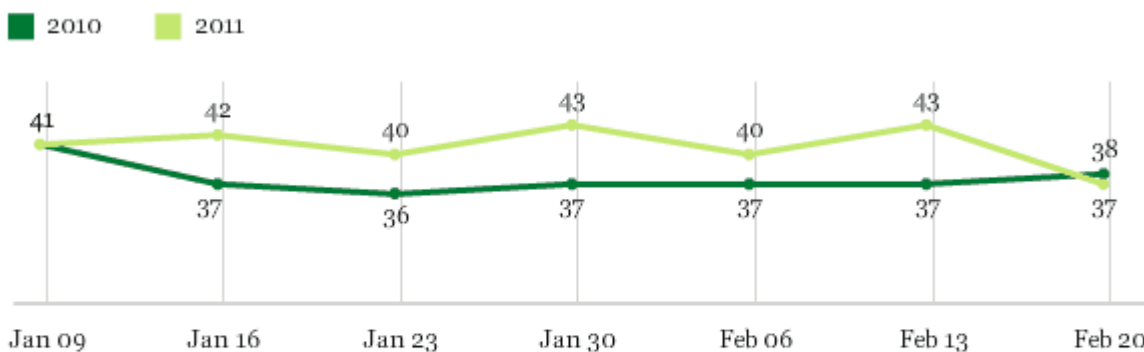
Note: Dates reflect last day of each week in 2011; parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Feb. 7, 14, and 21

Gallup Daily tracking

**GALLUP**

At the same time, 37% of Americans said future economic conditions are "getting better," down from 43% the previous week and matching the 38% of the same week in 2010.

Percentage Saying Economic Conditions Are "Getting Better" by Week, 2010 and 2011



Note: Dates reflect last day of each week in 2011; parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Feb. 7, 14, and 21

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

### Implications

Any number of factors could explain why consumers may be less optimistic about the future course of the economy. A deteriorating unemployment situation, increasing gas prices, expectations that food and energy prices may go higher, the battle over government spending in Washington, D.C., the confrontation over collective bargaining in Wisconsin, and the chaos in the Middle East could all be playing a role. Whatever the cause, Americans' decreased economic confidence last week reverses a more positive trend recorded earlier this year. It is worth noting that the Great Recession began with surging oil prices in early 2008.

Optimism is no better now than it was a year ago, also suggesting that little progress has been made economically over the past 12 months. Up to this point in 2011, there seems to have been a relatively great amount of optimism about the U.S. economy going forward. Whether last week's deterioration in consumer confidence is the beginning of a new trend or just a short-term aberration remains to be seen.

### Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted with 3,434 respondents, aged 18 and older, as part of Gallup Daily tracking during the week ending Feb. 20, 2011, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total weekly sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 2$  percentage points.

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged

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

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/146249/Americans-Economic-Confidence-Worsens-Mid-February.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=more-link&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146249/Americans-Economic-Confidence-Worsens-Mid-February.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=more-link&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

### **160-26. Growing Minority Wants Minimal U.S. Role in World Affairs**

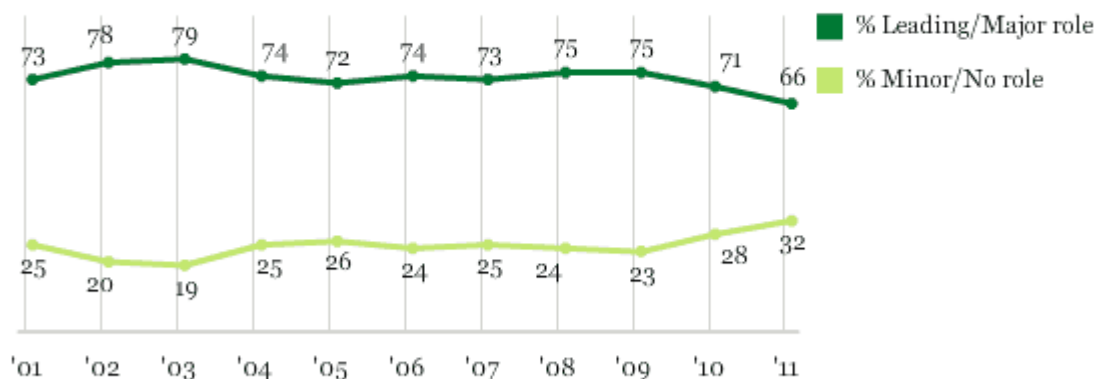
Republicans' support for heavy U.S. engagement is down from Bush years

February 21, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- By a 2-to-1 margin, 66% to 32%, Americans would prefer that the United States be a major rather than a minor player on the world stage in trying to solve international problems. Support for the United States' having a leading or major role in this has diminished over the past two years, falling from 75% in 2009, while the percentage favoring a more isolationist stance has increased from 23%.

#### *Americans' Preferred Role for U.S. in World Affairs*

Next we would like you to think about the role the U.S. should play in trying to solve international problems. Do you think the U.S. should -- [take the leading role in world affairs, take a major role, but not the leading role, take a minor role, (or) take no role at all in world affairs]?



#### GALLUP'

The results are from Gallup's annual World Affairs survey, conducted Feb. 2-5. The 66% favoring an active role for the United States consists of 16% saying the country should take the leading role in world affairs and 50% saying it should play a major role. Just 7% say the U.S. should not be involved, while 25% would prefer a minor role for it.

#### **Support for Heavy U.S. Involvement Down Among All Party Groups**

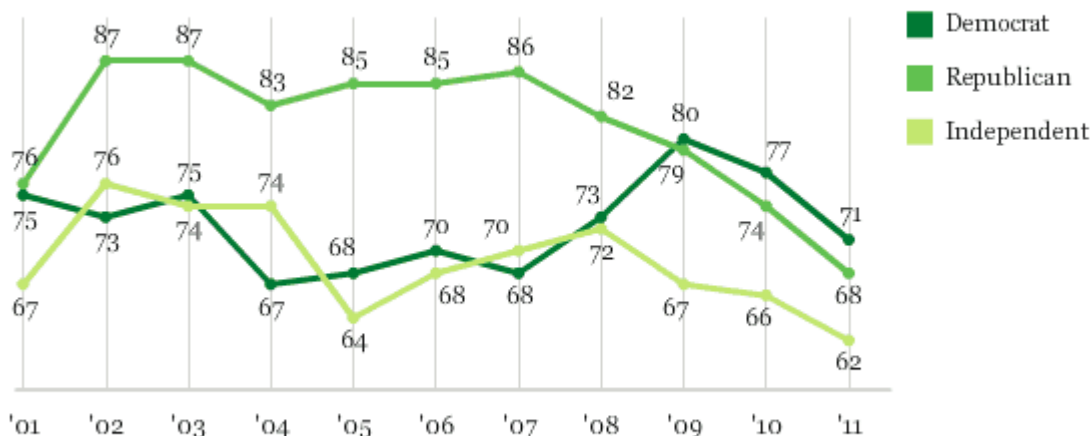
At 68%, Republicans' current support for an active U.S. role internationally is at its lowest level since the inception of this Gallup trend in 2001, after several years of decline. It was routinely above 80% from 2002 through 2008, spanning the post-9/11 period of George W. Bush's presidency.

Democrats' support for heavy U.S. engagement is lower than it was two years ago -- when it peaked at 80% at the start of Barack Obama's presidency -- but is now similar to the level seen for much of the prior decade.

Political independents continue to be the least inclined to want the U.S. heavily involved in solving world problems, as they were in each of the past two years. The 62% favoring this is a new low.

*Americans' Preferred Role for United States in World Affairs -- by Party ID*

% U.S. should play leading role/major role



GALLUP®

**Bottom Line**

Most Americans today want the United States to be highly engaged in world affairs, while those favoring a constrained role remain in the minority. However, the percentage of Americans preferring a more limited U.S. role has grown over the past two years, rising to the highest level since 2001. This has occurred at the same time that the United States has ceased combat operations in Iraq and experienced a prolonged period of economic difficulty, events that might be expected to shift Americans' focus from global concerns to the home front.

**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  $\pm 4$  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/146240/Growing-Minority-Wants-Minimal-Role-World-Affairs.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146240/Growing-Minority-Wants-Minimal-Role-World-Affairs.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

**160-27. Number of Solidly Democratic States Cut in Half From '08 to '10**

Maryland, Massachusetts, Vermont, D.C. most Democratic; Wyoming, Utah most Republican

February 21, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup's analysis of party affiliation in the U.S. states shows a marked decline in the number of solidly Democratic states from 2008 (30) to 2010 (14). The number of politically competitive states increased over the same period, from 10 to 18, with more limited growth in the number of leaning or solidly Republican states.

*Political Composition of U.S. States*

Based on annual state averages of party affiliation from Gallup Daily tracking

	2008	2009	2010	Change, 2008-2010
Solid Democratic	30	24	14	-16
Lean Democratic	6	10	9	3
Competitive	10	12	18	8
Lean Republican	1	1	5	4
Solid Republican	4	4	5	1

Notes:

- Solid states are defined as those in which one party has a 10-percentage-point or more advantage over the other in party affiliation (identification + leaning).
- Leaning states are those in which one party has a more than 5-point and less than 10-point advantage in party affiliation.
- Competitive states are those in which the parties are within 5 points of each other in party affiliation.

**GALLUP**

Even with Democratic Party affiliation declining during the past two years, Democratic states still outnumbered Republican states by 23 to 10 last year, and there were 14 solidly Democratic states compared with 5 solidly Republican states.

Still, the political map this year looks very different from the Democratic-dominated map in 2008.

Looking more closely at the changes in state party affiliation since 2008, only one state moved from a Democratic positioning to a Republican positioning -- New Hampshire, which was solidly Democratic in 2008 but now is considered leaning Republican. Alabama, Kansas, Montana, and South Dakota moved from a competitive designation to solidly or leaning Republican status. A total of 12 states -- Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin -- shifted from solidly or



leaning Democratic to competitive. No states have moved in a more Democratic direction since 2008. (A listing of each state's classification for 2008, 2009, and 2010 is available on page 2 of this report.)

Gallup has documented the decline in Democratic Party affiliation at the national level from its recent peak in 2008 and early 2009. After several years of increasing Democratic affiliation beginning in late 2005, the current political situation is similar to what it was in the mid-2000s, when the parties were more or less even.

In fact, every state and the District of Columbia had fewer residents identifying as Democrats, or identifying as independents but leaning Democratic, in 2010 than in 2008. The greatest declines were in Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, and Hawaii; the smallest were in North Dakota and Mississippi.

*Change in Percentage of State Residents Identifying as or  
Leaning Democratic, 2008-2010*

Based on Gallup annual state averages of party affiliation

	<b>Change, 2008-2010 (pct. pts.)</b>		<b>Change, 2008-2010 (pct. pts.)</b>
Rhode Island	-12.2	Oklahoma	-6.0
New Hampshire	-11.3	Utah	-6.0
Maine	-10.9	Colorado	-5.8
Hawaii	-10.1	Kentucky	-5.7
Wyoming	-9.6	Washington	-5.6
Wisconsin	-9.2	Florida	-5.5
Arkansas	-9.0	California	-5.4
Iowa	-8.9	Alabama	-5.3
Vermont	-8.5	Texas	-5.2
Illinois	-8.2	Idaho	-5.0
Montana	-7.9	Delaware	-4.8
Ohio	-7.8	Nevada	-4.8
Massachusetts	-7.8	Alaska	-4.7
Missouri	-7.2	Oregon	-4.5
South Dakota	-7.1	Louisiana	-4.4
Indiana	-6.9	Kansas	-4.2
District of Columbia	-6.8	Georgia	-4.0
Connecticut	-6.8	Maryland	-4.0
New York	-6.7	North Carolina	-4.0
Tennessee	-6.6	South Carolina	-3.7
New Jersey	-6.6	Nebraska	-3.2
Pennsylvania	-6.5	New Mexico	-2.9
Michigan	-6.3	Arizona	-2.8
West Virginia	-6.2	Mississippi	-2.3
Minnesota	-6.1	North Dakota	-2.1
Virginia	-6.1		

Gallup Daily tracking

**GALLUP®**

These results are based on Gallup Daily tracking, and include interviews with more than 350,000 Americans each year since 2008. In 2010, Gallup interviewed at least 1,000 adults in every state but North Dakota as well as the District of Columbia.

All respondents are asked whether they identify as Democrats, Republicans, or independents. Those who say they are independents or who express no party preference are asked whether they "lean" more to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party.

The data reported here for party affiliation take into account both party identification and leaning. This allows for a better comparison of party strength across states, given that the percentage of independents varies widely -- from a low of 28% in Kentucky in 2010 to a high of 58% in Rhode Island. Many of the states with higher proportions of independents are dominated electorally by one party, so leaned party identification gives a better sense of the true political orientation of each state. The full 2010 party affiliation data for each state are available on page 3.

The state classifications do not necessarily indicate how each state would vote in a given election, because the results are based on all state residents rather than the smaller voting electorate in each state. Usually, Democratic affiliation is higher in the general population than in the electorate, given generally higher rates of voter participation by Republicans.

**Wyoming, Utah Most Republican; D.C. and Several States Most Democratic**

In addition to the District of Columbia, the most solidly Democratic states are Maryland, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Hawaii, all showing at least 20-percentage-point advantages for the Democratic Party in the party preferences of their state residents. The most solidly Republican states are Wyoming, Utah, and Idaho, with at least 20-point Republican advantages.

In general, New England and Middle Atlantic states make up most of the 10 most Democratic states. Most of the top 10 Republican states are from the Mountain West or Plains regions.

*Top 10 Democratic States*

% Democratic/Lean Democratic minus  
% Republican/Lean Republican

State	Democratic advantage
	Pct. pts.
District of Columbia	67
Maryland	22
Massachusetts	21
Vermont	21
Hawaii	20
Rhode Island	19
New York	19
Delaware	17
Connecticut	17
California	14

Gallup Daily tracking, 2010

GALLUP®

*Top 10 Republican States*

% Democratic/Lean Democratic minus  
% Republican/Lean Republican

State	Democratic advantage
	Pct. pts.
Wyoming	-31
Utah	-30
Idaho	-24
Alaska	-17
Kansas	-11
Montana	-10
Nebraska	-10
South Dakota	-9
New Hampshire	-9
Alabama	-8

Gallup Daily tracking, 2010

GALLUP®

Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and Alaska have been the

four most Republican states in each of the last three years, with Utah topping the list in 2008 and Wyoming in 2009 and 2010.

Apart from the District of Columbia, Rhode Island ranked as the most Democratic state in 2008 and 2009, but is tied for sixth this year after showing one of the steepest declines in Democratic affiliation. Maryland has been in the top 10 each year but has moved steadily up the list, from eighth in 2008 to fourth in 2009 to second in 2010.

### **Implications**

The United States, both nationally and in every state, has moved in a more Republican direction during the last two years. Though the losses are not welcome news for the Democratic Party, the decline since 2008 is from a high point in the party's support, the highest in at least two decades. Thus, while the losses have clearly hurt the party's positioning compared with what it was as President Barack Obama was taking office, its strength is generally back to where it was in the mid-2000s, before a series of events including the Iraq war, high gas prices, and the recession eroded public confidence in George W. Bush and the Republican Party.

At the same time, the Democratic losses have not led to major gains in Republican affiliation. Rather, Gallup finds greater increases in the number of competitive states than in solid or leaning Republican states.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2010, 2011, with a random sample of 352,840 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Margins of error for individual states are no greater than  $\pm 4$  percentage points, and are  $\pm 3$  percentage points for most states.

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 to be representative of each state's adult population 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/146234/Number-Solidly-Democratic-States-Cut-Half.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146234/Number-Solidly-Democratic-States-Cut-Half.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

---

### ***160-28. Scaling Back State Programs Is Least of Three Fiscal Evils***

Less objectionable than reducing state worker pay or benefits, increasing taxes

February 22, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- As Wisconsin and numerous other states struggle to reduce untenable budget deficits, a new *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds that not one of three major fiscal strategies available to state lawmakers is very popular. The least objectionable to Americans is "reducing or eliminating certain state programs," with about equal numbers in favor as opposed. A slight majority, 53%, opposes reducing pay and benefits for state workers, and a larger majority, 71%, opposes raising state taxes.

*As you may know, many U.S. state governments are facing large budget deficits this year. Please say whether you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose each of the following ways state officials could reduce their budget deficits. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?*

	<b>Total % favor</b>	<b>Total % oppose</b>
Reducing or eliminating certain state programs	47	48
Reducing pay or benefits the state provides for government workers	44	53
Increasing state sales, income or other taxes	27	71

USA Today/Gallup, Feb. 21, 2011

#### GALLUP

Americans' general opposition to these options comes despite the widespread belief that states are in fiscal trouble. About two-thirds of Americans (64%) perceive their own state is facing a budget crisis based on what they have read or heard, though 31% are unsure. Five percent say their state is not in crisis.

Additionally, the new poll finds Americans opposed to their own state adopting a deficit-reduction proposal, like the one that has triggered a legislative standoff in Wisconsin, that eliminates some of the collective bargaining rights of most public unions, including the teachers' union. One-third of Americans say they would favor such a bill in their own state, while 61% would oppose it.

### *Eliminating Collective Bargaining Rights for State Unions*

As you may know, one way the legislature in Wisconsin is seeking to reduce its budget deficit is by passing a bill that would take away some of the collective bargaining rights of most public unions, including the state teachers' union. Would you favor or oppose such a bill in your state?

	<b>Favor</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
National adults	33	61	6
Democrats	18	78	4
Independents	31	62	8
Republicans	54	41	5

USA Today/Gallup, Feb. 21, 2011

#### **GALLUP'**

As state budgets are hammered out across the country, leaders may find it more difficult to find solutions that are acceptable to rank-and-file Democrats than to Republicans. That's because majorities of Democrats (approximately 6 in 10) oppose each of the three main strategies tested for reducing deficits. By contrast, more than three-fourths of Republicans (78%) oppose raising taxes, but majorities favor eliminating or reducing certain state programs (65%) and reducing worker pay and benefits (51%).

Independents show solid opposition to tax increases, but are about evenly divided in their reactions to reductions in state programs and worker pay.

*Support for Three Alternatives to Reduce State Budget Deficits, by Party ID*

	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>	<b>Republicans</b>
	%	%	%
<b>REDUCE/ELIMINATE CERTAIN STATE PROGRAMS</b>			
Favor	36	46	65
Oppose	60	48	32
<b>REDUCE PAY/BENEFITS FOR STATE WORKERS</b>			
Favor	33	46	51
Oppose	63	52	45
<b>INCREASE STATE SALES/INCOME TAXES</b>			
Favor	37	24	22
Oppose	62	74	78

USA Today/Gallup, Feb. 21, 2011

**GALLUP'**

State employees have emerged as the focal point of Republicans' deficit-reduction proposals in Wisconsin. The new poll broadly suggests that Americans are not anxious to see state workers take the brunt of the pain -- either in terms of reducing their pay or eliminating their collective bargaining rights. At the same time, Americans are evenly divided over whether state worker unions are generally more helpful or more harmful to their states. Underscoring the divisive nature of this issue, two-thirds of Democrats consider unions helpful, while two-thirds of Republicans call them harmful.

*In states in which government workers belong to unions, do you think those unions are generally more helpful or more harmful to those states?*

	<b>% More helpful</b>	<b>% More harmful</b>	<b>% No opinion</b>
National adults	45	46	9
Democrats	65	27	8
Independents	42	49	9
Republicans	26	67	7

USA Today/Gallup, Feb. 21, 2011

**GALLUP'**

**Bottom Line**

As long as state governments can't print money, and their debt ratios are too high to continue borrowing, state lawmakers will be forced to consider raising taxes, cutting state programs, and

reducing worker costs as three primary ways to balance their books. Americans don't love any of these choices, but cutting programs garners the least opposition, mainly because a solid majority of Republicans favor it. Raising taxes is the most unpopular, and is opposed by majorities of all party groups. Crafting budget policies that affect state workers may be especially difficult. The public isn't eager to see these fellow residents lose pay and benefits or union rights, but they aren't convinced unions are good for states either.

One aspect of public opinion on state employees not tested in the poll is whether Americans would rather see reduced pay and benefits for state workers or state program cuts that lead to major layoffs. This seems to be where the showdown in Wisconsin is heading, and may preview how budget battles will soon play out in state capitols across the country.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Feb. 21, 2011, with a random sample of 1,000 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  $\pm 4$  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/146276/Scaling-Back-State-Programs-Least-Three-Fiscal-Evils.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/146276/Scaling-Back-State-Programs-Least-Three-Fiscal-Evils.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

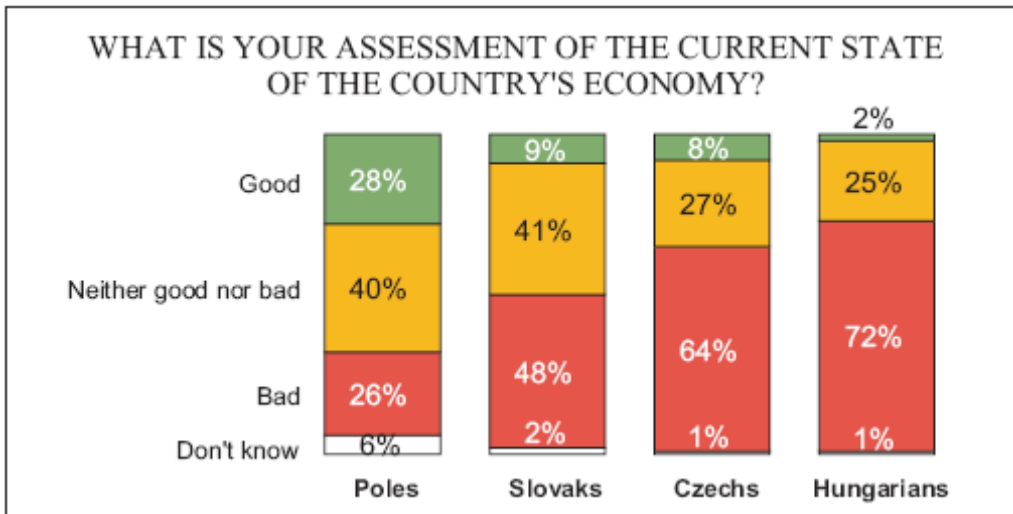
---

## **MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS**

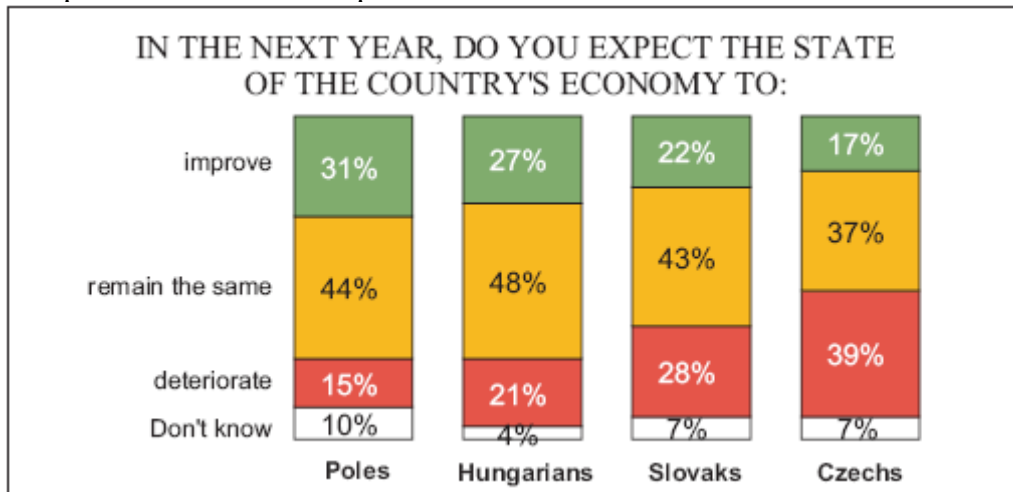
### ***160-29. Economy and Living Conditions In Poland, The Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary***

In Poland, the assessment of the country's economy is noticeably more positive than in other countries belonging to the so called Visegrád Group. Poles most frequently describe the state of the Polish economy as average and the number of positive and negative opinions on this subject is comparable. Negative opinions are dominant particularly in Hungary but also in the Czech Republic. The Slovaks are also critical of their country's economy but to a lesser degree than the Czechs and Hungarians.

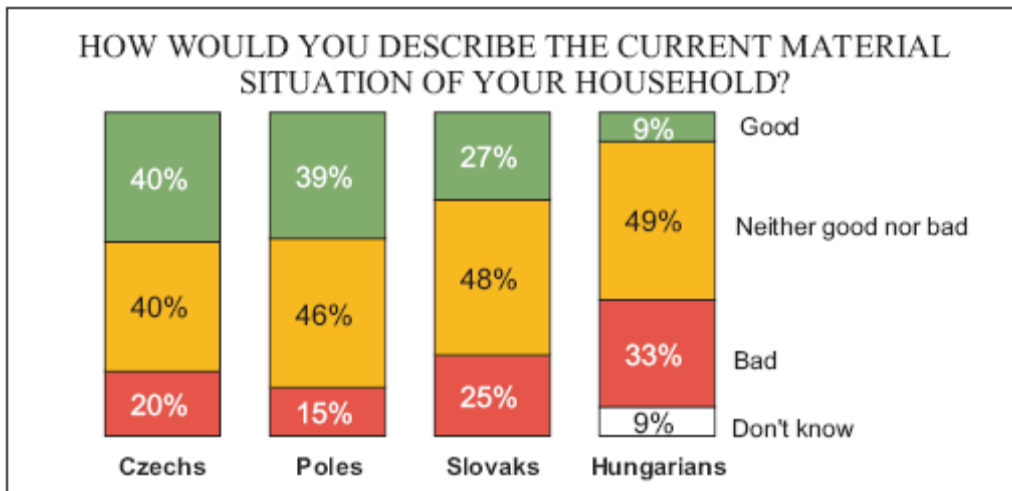




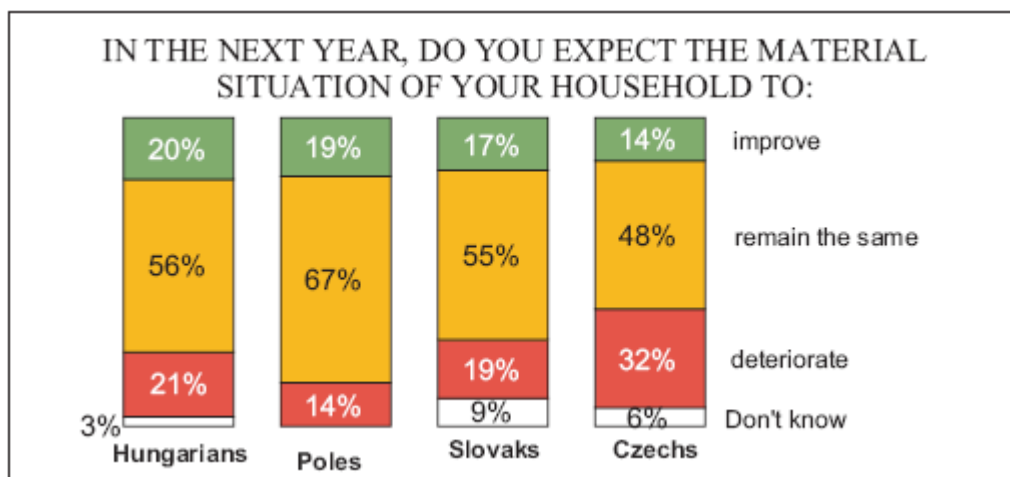
In comparison to other nationalities from the Visegrád Group, Poles declare more frequently that they expect the situation of their country's economy to improve in the next year and fewer people believe the situation will deteriorate. The pessimists are predominant primarily in the Czech Republic but also in Slovakia. In Hungary - like in Poland - the prevailing number of people expect the situation to improve.



Citizens of all the surveyed countries declare that their financial situation is average. Positive opinions are relatively more frequent among Poles and Czechs and negative views among Hungarians. The number of Slovaks claiming their financial situation is good is almost the same as the number of those who claim it is bad.



Two thirds of Poles and over half of Hungarians and Slovaks believe that their material situation will not change next year. Less than a half of Czechs think the same. This last nationality group is relatively more afraid that the financial situation of their households will deteriorate.



Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2010/12\\_2010.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2010/12_2010.pdf)

**160-30. Measuring the State of Muslim-West Relations: Assessing the “New Beginning”**

November 28th 2010

Executive Summary

*Measuring the State of Muslim-West Relations: Assessing the “New Beginning”* presents an in-depth analysis of Muslims’ and Westerners’ attitudes toward interactions between their societies. This report not only explores in greater detail key findings from *Who Speaks for Islam? What a Billion Muslims Really Think*, but also delves into new dimensions of the Muslim-West relationship.

More specifically, the book underscored three main themes in Muslims’ perceptions of Muslim-West tensions: the salience of politics as opposed to religion, the importance of respect, and the role of conflicts in Muslim lands that involve Western powers. Since the book’s publication in March 2008, a new U.S. administration has explicitly committed to engaging with Muslims around the world in a positive and respectful manner.

Against this backdrop, *Assessing the New Beginning* looks at how Muslims' and Westerners' attitudes toward the Muslim-West relationship have changed over time, including how Muslims view the job performance of U.S. leadership. The report, which is based on survey research Gallup conducted between 2006 and early 2010, delves into the meaning of respect and the source of tensions between Western and majority Muslim societies. It also compares and contrasts individuals who express an interest in Muslim-West engagement and those who do not. Furthermore, the report summarizes public attitudes in three conflict areas: Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Palestinian Territories.

Drawing from the key findings, the report presents six policy recommendations that aim to inform the debate based on the many facets of Muslim-West relations in the U.S. and beyond.

### **Section 1: Change Over Time: Muslims' Views of Muslim-West Relations**

Compared with residents in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, those living in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region place the highest level of importance on Muslim-West relations. In 2009, 61% of MENA residents — compared with 52% of those living in Asia and 49% of those in sub-Saharan Africa — said the quality of the interaction between the Muslim and Western worlds is important to them. In addition, MENA residents are the most likely to believe majority Muslim communities are committed to improving interactions with Western societies. But when asked whether the West is committed to improving relations with majority Muslim societies, minorities of residents in these three regions believe the West is committed.

However, majorities of Western residents also place great importance on the quality of Muslim-West relations. Americans (78%) are the most likely of all Westerners surveyed to say the quality of Muslim-West relations is important to them.

Between 2008 and 2009, approval of U.S. leadership remained flat in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, but it increased from 12% to 32% in MENA. However, findings from subsequent surveys reveal the momentum was not sustained in MENA. In fact, approval of U.S. leadership in several Arab countries decreased in early 2010. The drop was most pronounced in Egypt. In 2008, 6% of Egyptians said they approved of U.S. leadership while in early 2009, 25% said the same. Egyptians' approval reached 37%, just two months after President Obama's speech in Cairo, in August 2009. But in February 2010, Egyptians' approval of U.S. leadership dropped to 19%.

### **Section 2: Perceptions of Muslim-West Interactions as a Threat Versus a Benefit**

In the vast majority of countries surveyed, individuals are more likely to say greater interaction between the two sides is a benefit rather than a threat. Across 48 countries where Gallup fielded the question, an average of 59% say it is a benefit, 21% say it is a threat, and 20% do not express an opinion. Furthermore, the results reveal that positive attitudes toward increased contact are not exclusive to either side. In the U.S., 76% of individuals say greater interaction is a benefit, 21% view it as a threat, and 3% say they do not know. In Iran, 63% of the public view greater contact as a benefit, 19% say it is a threat, and 18% say they do not know.

In terms of demographic characteristics, individuals between the ages of 15 and 29, men, and those with at least a high school degree are the most likely to view greater interaction as a benefit, regardless of whether they live in a majority Muslim society or Western country. An average of 62% of Muslims with at least a high school degree compared with 49% of those with an elementary education say greater contact is a benefit. The relationship between education and positive views on increased contact with the other side is even more pronounced in Western countries surveyed.

Eighty-five percent of those with at least a high school degree compared with 54% of individuals with an elementary education say greater interaction with the other is a benefit.

### **Section 3: Exploring the Fault Lines – Politics, Culture, Religion**

Europe and MENA residents are the most likely to view political differences as the cause of Muslim-West tensions – an average 40% in both regions. More specifically, individuals in Lebanon (74%), Iran (58%), Syria (53%), and the Palestinian Territories (52%) are among the most likely to cite politics as the source of Muslim-West tensions. At the same time, 40% of individuals in MENA believe such tensions stem from religious differences. Those who perceive political differences as the cause of such tensions are, in general, more likely to believe violent conflict between majority Muslim and Western societies can be avoided. This is particularly true in MENA (46%) and the U.S. and Canada (average: 40%), where residents believe conflict is avoidable (compared with 40% and 30%, respectively, who believe a conflict is unavoidable). By contrast, individuals who view tensions as grounded in religious differences are less hopeful about avoiding conflict. Among those who believe a conflict is inevitable, an average of 44% in the U.S. and Canada and 51% in MENA cite religious factors as the basis of tensions.

Sub-Saharan African residents are, by far, the most likely to perceive religion as the main reason for Muslim-West tensions (48%). In the U.S. and Canada, residents are equally split over whether political (35%) or religious (36%) differences best explain tensions between predominantly Muslim and Western societies. While Asians are most likely to cite matters related to political differences (33%), they are also the most likely to not express an opinion on this issue.

Across all regions, the perception that cultural differences are the cause of Muslim-West tensions is a minority view.

Residents in the U.S. and Canada (26%) are the most likely to believe such tensions are based in culture.

### **Section 4: Engagement Readiness: Who is Looking for Improved Relations?**

Across countries, individuals are classified as either “Ready” or “Not Ready” for Muslim-West engagement. This classification is based on individuals’ attitudes toward the importance of the quality of Muslim-West relations, commitment to improving relations, perceptions of being respected by the other side, perceptions of the outcome of having greater interaction, as well as perceptions of future conflict. Overall, Ready individuals perceive their own side (either Western or majority Muslim society) is committed to greater contact with the other. They are positive about greater interaction and believe conflict is avoidable. Not Ready individuals are doubtful of their communities’ commitment and respect for the other side. They also reject greater interaction and view a Muslim-West conflict as inevitable.

For Not Ready individuals, irrespective of whether they live in majority Muslim or Western societies, religion is the factor most likely to be cited as being at the root of Muslim-West tensions. Fifty-five percent of Not Ready individuals in majority Muslim societies and 46% of Not Ready individuals in Western societies say such tensions stem from religious differences. However, for individuals classified as Ready, the key factor is not religion but politics. Almost one-half of Ready Muslims (46%) and 39% of Ready Westerners believe tensions stem from political differences.

Ready individuals living in majority Muslim societies are more likely than those classified as Not Ready to report having attended a religious service in the past week. However, in Western societies, Ready individuals are less likely than those in the Not Ready group to report religious attendance. Additionally, Ready individuals in both majority Muslim and Western societies are more likely than Not Ready individuals to be optimistic about having a better life in the future.

### **Section 5: Muslims’ Voices on the Meaning of Respect**

On one hand, Muslims (63%) believe predominantly Muslim communities respect the West, and on the other, fewer than 3 in 10 Muslims (28%) believe the West respects them. Interestingly, significant proportions of non-Muslims share this sentiment as 42% say they do not believe the West respects predominantly Muslim societies. Perceptions of disrespect are highest among residents of the MENA region (65%) and lowest among residents living in Europe (35%) and sub-Saharan Africa (37%). In the U.S., 53% of the American public say the West does not respect majority Muslim communities.

When asked what the West could do to improve relations with predominantly Muslim societies, Muslims say “respect Islam.” The most meaningful action to display respect revolves around religious symbols. Seventy-two percent of Muslims say abstaining from desecrating Islam’s holy book and Muslim religious symbols would be very meaningful to them. Muslims also report respect as being treated fairly in policies that affect them (54%) and portraying Muslim movie characters in an accurate manner (49%).

### **Section 6: Perceptions in Acute Conflicts**

#### *Afghans on the War in Afghanistan*

Afghans’ top-of-mind concerns underscore economic issues. In October 2009, 21% cited bad local economy, 20% referred to unemployment, and 15% said high costs of goods are the single most important problem their families face today. Although poor personal economics is the thread linking most Afghans across the country, their attitudes on other issues vary greatly across regions. For example, when asked to assess the current security situation, 37% of Afghans overall say it has worsened compared to six months ago. However, in Nangarhar and Helmand, 79% and 59%, respectively, said the same. Perceptions of the influence of the government also reveal much regional variation: 79% of residents in Helmand and 54% in Herat say the central government does not have a great deal of influence in their communities. As a point of comparison, 41% of all Afghans say the same.

While many Afghans (46%) express dissatisfaction with the way democracy is working in their country, it does not translate into support for Taliban rule (5%). When asked about how to best rule Afghanistan, no form of government elicits majority views. About one-third of Afghans (31%) say they prefer having a strong leader who does not need to bother with parliament and elections and 22% say a group of experts should make decisions according to what they think is best for the country. Yet more than one-quarter of Afghans (27%) say having a democratic political system is the best way to govern the country.

#### *Iraqis on the War in Iraq*

While Iraqis are more likely to view the coalition invasion of their country as having done more harm (44%) than good (27%), their opinions on the net effect of the invasion vary greatly depending on their ethnic and sectarian affiliation. Residents in predominantly Shia and Kurdish areas are more likely to believe the invasion did more good than harm, while those living in Sunni areas are more likely to view it as having done more harm than good. Iraqis, regardless of religious affiliation or province, said they preferred coalition forces to leave immediately (61%) or in the next few months (28%).

The role in which Iraqis appear to welcome the U.S. is that of a partner. In 2008, 67% of Iraqis said they believe the U.S. is serious about improving economic conditions in Iraq, up from 54% in 2004. Similarly, 63% expressed confidence the U.S. is serious about the establishment of democracy in their country (up from 51% in 2004) and 71% said they believe the U.S. would allow Iraq to fashion its own future without interference, up from 37% in 2004.

Iraqis reported facing challenges toward meeting basic needs, but the trend shows some improvement. In 2008, 25% of Iraqis said there were times in the past year when they did not have enough money to buy food. In early 2010, 18% reported lacking money to buy food. Over the same time period, Iraqis' perceptions that economic conditions in the country were either "good" or "excellent" increased from 23% to 39%. Iraqis were also slightly more likely to report it was a good time to find a job in early 2010 (33%) compared to 28% who said the same in 2008.

#### *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Through the Eyes of Those Who Live It*

In the late summer and early fall of 2008, majorities of Israelis and Palestinians expressed some level of support for the peace process. Non-Jewish/secular Israelis (57%) were, by far, the most likely group to say they *strongly* support it compared with 13% of Israeli Jews. Among Palestinians, 35% expressed *strong* support for the peace process. However, the perceived prospects for an enduring peace between Israelis and Palestinians looked dim as 66% of Israeli Jews and 75% of Palestinians did not believe a permanent peace would ever be achieved. Non-Jewish/secular Israelis appeared less gloomy about the conflict, with 45% doubtful about achieving peace.

When asked about the means to reach self-determination and security for their respective populations, Palestinians were more likely to say non-violent means (53%) than armed struggle (30%). But Israeli Jews were almost equally divided between non-violence (44%) and armed struggle (40%). Pacifist attitudes were most prevalent among non-Jewish/secular Israelis as 61% said they believe mostly in non-violent means to achieve self-determination and security.

In 2008, with Ehud Olmert as Israel's Prime Minister, similar levels of Israeli Jews (36%) and non-Jewish/secular Israelis (38%) approved of the job performance of their country's leadership. By the fall of 2009, with Binyamin Netanyahu serving as Prime Minister, perceptions of Israel's leadership between the two groups of Israelis diverged:

52% of Israeli Jews said they approved of their country's leadership while approval among non-Jewish/secular Israelis dipped to 25%. In 2008, Palestinians in the West Bank (45%) were more likely than those in Gaza (34%) to say they approved of the job performance of their own leadership. In September 2009, Palestinians' opinions of their leadership were virtually unchanged (43% in the West Bank and 38% in Gaza). In early 2010, however, public approval of the leadership in the West Bank increased to 57%, while approval of the leadership in Gaza remained flat (39%).

Source: <http://www.abudhabigallupcenter.com/144563/REPORT-Measuring-State-Muslim-West-Relations-Assessing-New-Beginning.aspx>

---

## **CYBER WORLD**

### ***160-31. New Research Shows Mobile Internet Usage a Daily Habit***

2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report from Antenna Shows Mobile Internet Adoption on the Rise but Poor User Experience a Deterrent

JERSEY CITY, N.J. – Feb. 22, 2011– One in five Americans use the mobile Internet every day, according to the 2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report from Antenna Software. The second annual survey conducted by YouGov measured the attitudes, preferences and behaviors of adult consumers in the United States and United Kingdom, finding U.S. mobile Internet usage up 17 percent from the 2010 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report. Nearly half of respondents said they would use the mobile Internet each day to stay in touch with friends through instant

messaging (21 percent in the UK and 22 percent in the US) and social networking (27 percent in both countries).

While mobile Internet usage is steadily on the rise, driven by the demand and popularity of social media and networking tools, many feature-phone users cite poor user experience as a barrier to further adoption. Of the representative sample of 4,375 consumers polled, almost half of Americans (44 percent) failed to use the mobile Internet, despite having access to it on their mobile phone.

Antenna, which acquired Volantis, a mobile internet specialist, in February 2011 commissioned YouGov to poll the views of a representative sample of 2,296 consumers, aged 18+ in the UK and 2,079 in the US.

### **British Mobile Internet Users Overtake US Trailblazers**

The 2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report found British consumers are more active on the mobile Internet than their transatlantic counterparts. One in three British (34 percent) and American (33 percent) consumers are now accessing the Internet using their mobile phone at least once a week, up from 27 and 28 percent respectively in 2010.

“The mobile Internet has become an important part of daily life for consumers on both sides of the Atlantic,” said Jim Hemmer, President and CEO of Antenna Software. “The desire for convenience and advancements in technology mean more people than ever before can enjoy good mobile Internet experiences regardless of their handset. However, as results of the 2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report indicate, there’s still much improvement to be made by operators and enterprises.”

### **Consumers Demand Better Mobile Internet Experience**

Nearly half of U.S. consumers (44 percent) with mobile Internet access are more likely to use it if the experience offered was similar to using the Internet on their personal computer. With comparable speed, functionality and appearance of websites, the 2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report concludes that there is significant opportunity for operators and enterprises to improve the mobile experience on the wide range of handset models used by the public.

According to the 2011 Mobile Internet Attitudes Report, 27 percent of American and 27 percent of British consumers are discouraged from using the mobile Internet by websites that don’t display properly on their mobile screens. A further 28 percent of U.S. and 32 percent of British consumers cite difficulty in navigating websites on a mobile device as a reason for not accessing the mobile Internet.

“Operators and enterprises must do more to ensure a compelling and rewarding Internet and application experience is had by consumers on all mobile devices – not just smartphones,” adds Hemmer. “Today’s consumer expects a rich, high-quality Internet experience whether surfing on their PC or on their mobile device. Operators and enterprises must ensure their mobile Internet websites and applications can be rendered optimally across the broadest range of handsets – or risk lost revenue opportunities and impaired customer satisfaction and brand loyalty.”

Despite the promotion of flat-rate data packages, cost also remains a barrier to greater mobile Internet usage. The Mobile Internet Attitudes Report found 33 percent of American and 39 percent of British consumers still believe that using their mobile phone to access the Internet is too expensive.

“While operators have made great strides to promote flat-rate data, there is a lingering perception in both markets that accessing the Internet through a mobile phone is expensive,” adds Hemmer. “In many cases, unlimited mobile data packages can be substantially cheaper than

monthly fixed line broadband costs demonstrating we still have a way to go in educating consumers.”

**Research methodology**

The Mobile Internet Attitudes Report 2011 was commissioned by Antenna and conducted by YouGov, polling a nationally representative sample of 2,296 UK and 2,079 US adults aged 18+ in January 2011. All figures unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc.

**About Antenna**

Antenna Software provides a complete solution for mobile web, apps and content that addresses the needs of all users, across all Internet-connected devices, from anywhere in the world. Only Antenna’s mobile solutions enable business transformation by delivering a consistent and compelling experience for everyone – from employees in the mobile workforce to millions of consumers on myriad devices. Antenna’s advanced mobile technology makes all the hard stuff like security, integration, performance, scalability and management look easy (even though it’s not). That’s why leading Global 1000 companies rely on Antenna to be their trusted mobility partner. Founded in 1998, Antenna is headquartered in Jersey City, N.J., with offices around the world.

Source: <http://www.antennasoftware.com/new-research-shows-mobile-internet-usage-a-daily-habit>

---