BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Global Opinion Report No. 165

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 25 surveys. Four of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of twenty one are national surveys from across the world.

165-26. TOPIC OF THE WEEK-

Half Of Global Citizens Think The Arab Spring Will Only Lead To Governments That Are As Bad As They Are Now

Published:31 March **Fieldwork:**2 - 14 March 2011

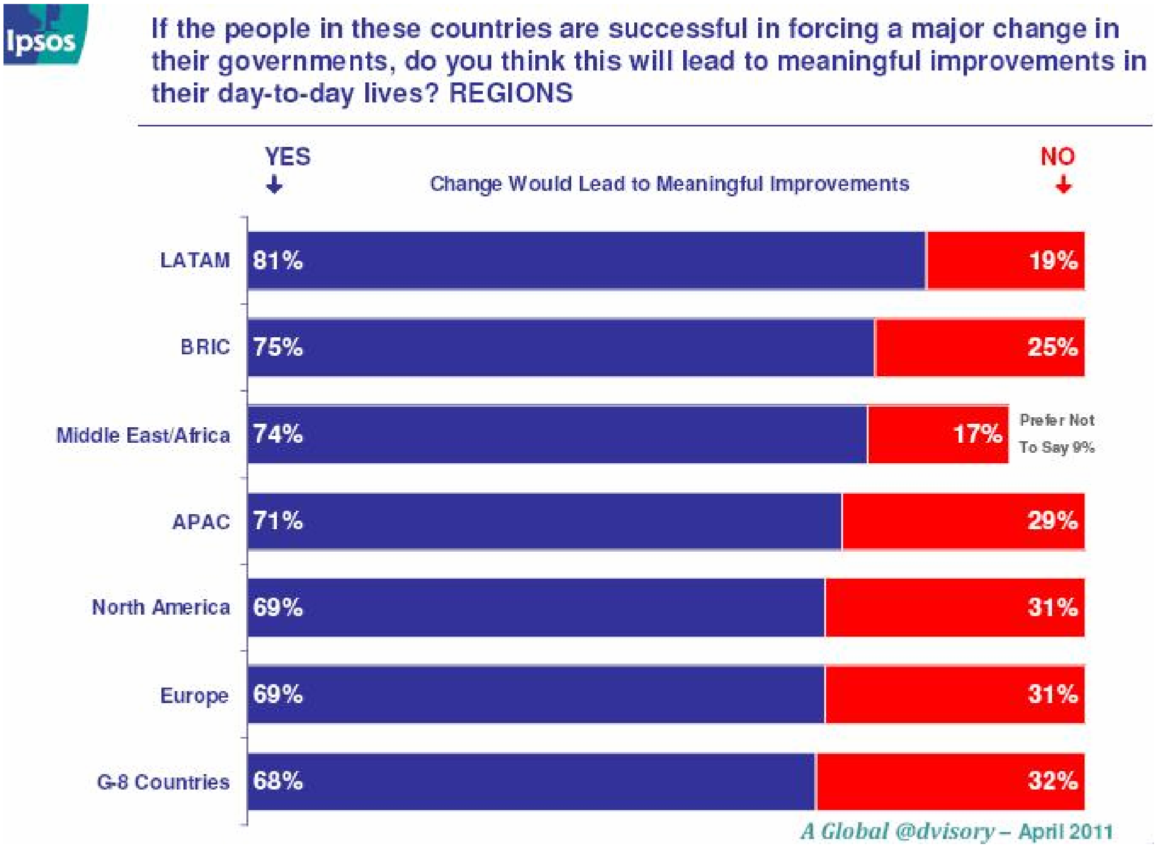
A new poll conducted by Ipsos MORI (*before the military action in Libya began*) indicates citizens in **23** countries around the world are not convinced that public uprisings in the Middle East and Africa will bring about better government.

If the public uprisings in these countries are successful in changing their government and/or their leader, half (**52%**) think it will create real democratic governments where their citizens can both vote and have a real say in their future. However, **47%** say the current government in each country will just be replaced by another government or leader that will be as bad, or worse, than the previous one.

Summary
Majority (72%) of global citizens agree that if the people in these countries force a major change in governments this will lead to meaningful improvements in their day-to-day lives…
However, the world is split on whether Middle East regime change
will (52%) or will not (47%) lead to democracy…
Half (47%) of global citizens say their government has responded
appropriately, half say not (51%)

The public in *Britain* are among the most cautious. Two in five (**41%**) Britons think the uprisings will bring about real democracies while three in five (**59%**) believe even if the protestors are successful in overturning their governments, an equally bad government will take its place. *US* citizens are equally wary, while the *French* – Britain and America's main ally in the air strikes on **Libya** – are more equally split (**49%** and 51% respectively).

Citizens in *South Korea* and *India* are more positive about the potential for democracy resulting from the Arab Spring, with three quarters in each country (**75%** and **74%** respectively) believing democratic governments will be created as a result of the uprisings.



Despite the caution over seeing democracies rise up from the Arab Spring movements, a majority of global citizens (**72%**) agree that regime changes due to public uprisings in the Middle East and Africa will lead to meaningful improvements in the lives of people living in those countries.

Managing Director of Ipsos MORI, Bobby Duffy, said:

"There are very different reactions to the situations in the Middle East. People across the world think that the uprisings will lead to an improvement in the day to day lives of many in the region. However, the jury is still out on whether it will lead to better governance but only time will tell." §

Global @dvisor is conducted monthly in 23 countries via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America.

Source: http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2752/Half-of-global-citizens-think-the-Arab-Spring-will-only-lead-to-governments-that-are-as-bad-as-they-are-now.aspx

Summary of Polls

MIDDLE EAST

Young Yemenis Face Employment Challenges

Like many countries in the region, Yemen is experiencing a "youth bulge," with nearly half of its population (46%) younger than age 15. Gallup's survey of 15- to 29-year-old Yemenis for the Silatech Index in 2009 and 2010 found that nearly half of these young people (49%) are neither students nor in the workforce. (Gallup USA)

March 29, 2011

WEST ASIA

Pakistanis Most Popular Foreign Destination To Relocate

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , 24% of all Pakistanis across the country are willing to settle abroad for good. Saudi Arabia (37%) is the most popular and America (11%) is the least popular choice to relocate. (Gallup Pakistan)

March 28, 2011

SOUTH ASIA

India: The Two-Headed Monster

A recent Cvoter survey of Indian population show that Indians believe price rise and corruption are their most important concerns. But there is little faith in politicians to come up with solutions to these. (Cvoter)

March 2011

That's not cricket

Current format of the ICC World Cup have left several doubts in the minds of the Indians. More than three in ten believe that the current format is more prone to match fixing in International Cricket. (Cvoter)

March 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Filipinos Remained Satisfied With Their Political Leaders

The satisfaction ratings of the Vice-President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the top government institutions are in the positive territory in the first quarter of the 2011. (SWS)

April 01, 2011

Thais are Far Less Polarized Than Suggested

A recent survey suggests that Thais are not as politically divided as politicians, analysts, and the media frequently suggest. In reality, the mainstream Thai population (76%) professed no color attachment to either Yellow or Red movements. The data also reveals that there was considerable internal diversity or factionalism within these movements, with no consensus in citizen understanding of the primary objectives of the Yellow and Red movements. (Asia Foundation)

March 27, 2011

North East Asia

Hong Kong: Silver Hair Generation Is More Social Media Savvy Than Most Think

Results of a survey in Hong Kong showed that the Silver Hair generation is experiencing the most rapid growth among all age groups engaging with social media. This group has seen a 42% growth in contributing to blogs and forums from 2009 to 2010. (Synovate)

March 30, 2011

EAST EUROPE

Japan Viewed By Russians

The attitudes of Russians toward Japan and Japanese people are ambiguous: 42% are indifferent toward them, whereas the same share of respondents (41%) expresses positive emotions such as interest (27%) and liking (14%). The share of those with positive emotions has decreased over the recent thirteen years (from 47 to 41%); more Russians feel indifference toward Japanese (from 35 to 42%). Those who feel suspicion (from 6 to 8%) or even fear (6%) are still in minority. (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

March 16, 2011

Olympic Mascot-2014: Results Of Official Voting And Public Opinion Poll

Surveys in Russia show that White bear, leopard and dolphin are the winners of the alternative voting. The unconditional winner of Sochi Olympic mascot competition is white bear "Polyus" (Poll) (27%), followed by dolphin and leopard which is one of the winners of the official competition (17% for each). Hare which was among official winners took only fifth place (8%). (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

March 14, 2011

Restrictions During The Season Of Lent

Twenty one percent of Russians are planning to fast this year in a varying degree (32% a year ago); however, most of them would restrict themselves only partially (13%). The share of Russians which do not plan to fast has increased again after continuous decrease (from 62% in 2010 to 75% this year). (Russian Public Opinion Research Center)

March 10, 2011

WEST EUROPE

U.K: Awareness And Understanding Of The Ivory Trade

A new Ipsos MORI poll commissioned by International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), finds more than four in 10 (44%) British adults are unaware that elephants have to die before their ivory can be obtained. (Ipsos Mori)

March 31, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Americans Less Likely to View Obama as a Strong Leader

Americans have grown increasingly less likely to view President Obama as a strong and decisive leader since he took office. Roughly half now believe this aptly describes him, compared with 60% a year ago and 73% in April 2009. (Gallup USA)

March 30, 2011

Republicans Remain Focused on Government Power, Spending

Republicans continue to say government spending and power is the issue of greatest political importance to them (38%), followed closely by business and the economy (32%). Social and moral issues and foreign policy each have constituencies, but are far less important within the party. (Gallup USA)

March 28, 2011

Voters' Split on Government Shutdown Concern and Merits

An IBOPE Zogby interactive poll has exposed extreme partisan divides on the impact of a possible federal government shutdown due to failure to pass a funding resolution and on whether Congress should raise the debt limit. (Ibope Zogby)

March 30, 2011

Most Fear Future Quagmire in Libya

A survey shows that more than 70% are concerned that Gaddafi will not be deposed, the U.S. will get bogged down in a long conflict and that a new government that might replace Gaddafi will be hostile to the U.S., yet 63% agree that military intervention by the U.S. and allies prevented the deaths of large numbers of Libyans by Gaddafi forces. (Ibope Zogby)
March 29, 2011

Water Issues Worry Americans Most, Global Warming Least

With Earth Day about a month away, Americans tell Gallup they worry the most about several water-related risks and issues among nine major environmental issues. They worry least about global warming and loss of open spaces. (Gallup USA)
March 28, 2011

Americans Resist a Major U.S. Role in Libya

Prior to President Barack Obama's speech to the U.S. on Libya Monday night, 10% of Americans said the U.S. should take the lead role in the multinational military campaign in Libya and 29% said it should have a major role. The plurality, 36%, favors a minor role for the U.S., while 22% think the country should withdraw entirely. (Gallup USA)
March 29, 2011

Hillary Clinton Favorable Near Her All-Time High

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's favorable rating from Americans is now 66%, up from 61% in July 2010 and her highest rating to date while serving in the Obama administration. The current rating is just one percentage point below her all-time high rating of 67%, from December 1998. (Gallup USA)
March 30, 2011

Canadian Consumers Unwilling to Pay for News Online

According to a collaborative survey conducted recently by the Canadian Media Research Consortium (CMRC) and Vision Critical, 92 per cent of Canadians who get news online say they would find another free site if their favourite news sites started charging for content. Four-in-five (81%) say they definitely will not pay to continue reading their favourite online news site. (Vision Critical)
March 29, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Housing Shortage Stands Out Among Bahrain's Woes

As anti-government protests continue in Bahrain, recent Gallup surveys indicate a lack of affordable housing is among the most prominent sources of economic concern for the country's population. In October 2010, 41% of nationals and Arab expatriates surveyed in Bahrain said there had been times in the past 12 months when they did not have enough money to pay for adequate shelter -- a sharp rise from 24% in March 2009. (Gallup USA)
March 31, 2011

3D Home Television Falls Flat with Buyers in U.S., Britain, Canada

Most Americans, Britons and Canadians are unlikely to purchase a 3D television any time soon, according to a recent Vision Critical poll. The online survey of representative national samples shows that a negligible number of respondents in each country currently own 3D TVs. Five per cent of Americans, two per cent of Britons and only one per cent of Canadians have a 3D television at home. (Vision Critical)
March 31, 2011

Rising Concern about China’s Increasing Power: Global Poll

A recent multi-country poll in 27 countries reveals that the numbers who say that China becoming more powerful economically is a bad thing have increased substantially across a number of China's key trading partners—and especially in G7 countries. (GlobeScan/PIPA)

March 27, 2011

Half Of Global Citizens Think The Arab Spring Will Only Lead To Governments That Are As Bad As They Are Now

A new poll conducted by Ipsos MORI (before the military action in Libya began) indicates citizens in 23 countries around the world are not convinced that public uprisings in the Middle East and Africa will bring about better government. (Ipsos Mori)

March 31, 2011

CYBER WORLD

TNS Study Reveals Penalty For Not Keeping Up In Relentlessly Changing Mobile Category

The findings highlight that as "static" functionality such as SMS and still imaging become commoditised, growth will be driven through further demand for social functionality and new demands for video calling, streaming and sharing services. (TNS)

March 29, 2011

Australia: Understanding Health, Wellbeing and Fitness products - Internet vs. Print

Australians now say Internet is the most useful media for information about Health, Wellbeing and Fitness products. Magazines and newspapers more valued amongst the older population, according to Roy Morgan research studies. (Roy Morgan)

March 29, 2011

MIDDLE EAST

165-1. Young Yemenis Face Employment Challenges

Young men show greater dissatisfaction than young women

March 29, 2011

ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES -- Like many countries in the region, Yemen is experiencing a "youth bulge," with nearly half of its population (46%) younger than age 15. Gallup's survey of 15- to 29-year-old Yemenis for the Silatech Index in 2009 and 2010 found that nearly half of these young people (49%) are neither students nor in the workforce.

Work Status of Young Yemenis

Based on surveys of Yemeni nationals aged 15 to 29

	All young people	Young men	Young women
Working full time	20%	41%	4%
Working part time	13%	17%	10%
Student	18%	24%	15%
Not in workforce, not a student*	49%	18%	71%

Based on aggregated data from surveys conducted between March 2009 and February 2010

*This category represents everyone who is not a student and not employed, including the unemployed.

GALLUP

The combination of a struggling economy and scarce jobs presents a stark challenge for a country with one of the highest fertility rates in the world, where each woman averages 5.4 children and the population is expected to double by 2033. These challenges are likely compounded as the fear of violence rises while months-old protests escalate in Yemen.

Young Yemenis aged 15 to 29 have a particularly negative outlook on the economy and employment opportunities in their country compared with young people in other Arab League countries. When asked about the city or area where they live, 84% of young Yemenis at the time of the survey said it was a bad time to find a job. Seventy percent said the current local economic conditions were not good and half of them feel their local economy is getting worse.

Among young Yemenis, young men are much more likely than young women to be involved in the workforce: 58% of young men work full or part time, while 71% of young women are neither in the workforce nor students. Their more direct involvement in and exposure to the tribulations of an economy under strain may explain why Gallup data reveal young men in Yemen to be markedly more pessimistic than young women on many topics related to jobs and the economy.

Eight in 10 young men deem local economic conditions unfavorable, compared with 6 in 10 young women. Young men are also much more likely to say local economic conditions are worsening (64%) than are young women (41%). When asked about all the things they are able to buy and do, half of young men (53%) say they are dissatisfied with their standard of living, compared with 37% of young women.

Young Yemenis' Perceptions of the Economy and Jobs

Based on surveys of Yemeni nationals aged 15 to 29

	All young people	Young men	Young women
Economy in local area is not good	70%	79%	62%
Local economy is getting worse	51%	64%	41%
It is a bad time to find a job in local area	84%	89%	80%
Dissatisfied with standard of living	44%	53%	37%

Based on aggregated data from surveys conducted between March 2009 and February 2010

GALLUP

The prospect of finding a job is universally considered to be difficult, but young men (89%) are slightly more likely to say it is a bad time to find a job than are young women (80%).

Despite their increased pessimism relative to young women about economic conditions and the availability of jobs, young Yemeni men demonstrate a strong willingness to change their lives and employment situations in the face of adversity. If they were unemployed and looking for work for more than six months, young men are much more likely than young women to say they would take a job beneath their skill level (77% vs. 50%), retrain for a different career (74% vs. 54%), start their own business (74% vs. 58%), or relocate to another country (65% vs. 23%). However, young women are more likely (78%) than young men (64%) to say they would perform home-based work.

Overall, an overwhelming majority express a willingness to make the efforts needed to bring about change in their employment status, possibly leading to improved standards of living and increased hope.

This *Silatech Index* analysis is conducted by Gallup scientists and researchers pursuant to the Silatech-Gallup partnership. In addition to systematically measuring the perceptions of young people across the region on the challenges related to employment and entrepreneurship, Gallup analysts lead the effort in disseminating the findings of the Silatech Index to regional and global leaders and institutions engaged in addressing the challenges surrounding young people and employment in the region.

Survey Methods

Results are based on multiple surveys involving face-to-face interviews with a total of 1,500 Yemeni nationals, aged 15 to 29, between March 2009 and February 2010. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±3.1 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.

Work status definitions note: The "not students, not in the workforce" group represents the percentage of young people who are not students and who are not employed, including the unemployed.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146834/Young-Yemenis-Face-Employment-Challenges.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World

WEST ASIA

165-2. Pakistanis Most Popular Foreign Destination To Relocate

Most Popular Foreign Destination To Relocate: America Down From 25% To 11% While Saudi Arabia Rises From 35% To 37%, UAE Up From 9% To 12%, UK Climbs From 10% To 12% During The Last Ten Years:

GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN

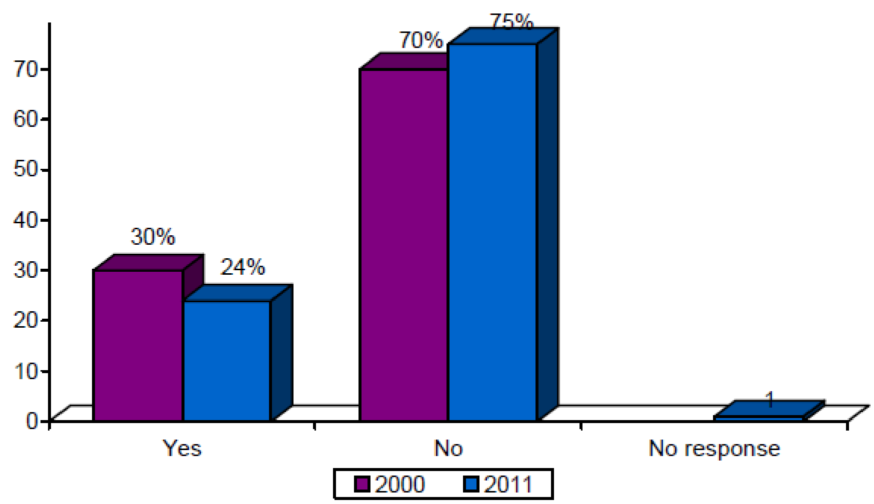
Islamabad, March 28, 2011

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan , 24% of all Pakistanis across the country are willing to settle abroad for good. Saudi Arabia (37%) is the most popular and America (11%) is the least popular choice to relocate.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: "*Would you like to settle down in any country other than Pakistan ?*" Recently in 2011, 24% have replied in affirmative as opposed to 75% are not keen in settling abroad. The comparable figures in response to the same question in 2000 were: 30% were eager to live outside Pakistan where as 70% were not.

A detailed analysis of the recent data shows that proportionately more urbanites (32%) would like to settle abroad as compared to their rural counterparts (20%). The survey data also reveals that willingness to settle abroad is relatively higher in males (31%) than females (17%).

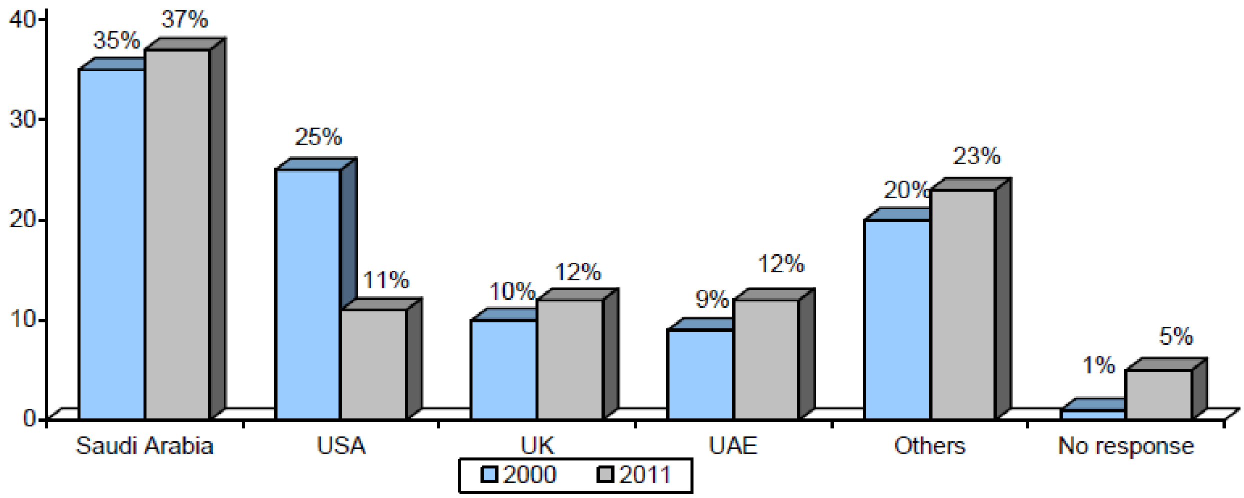
"*Would you like to settle down in any country other than Pakistan ?*"



In a follow up question, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked the following question: "*If yes, then which country?*" 37% among those who replied in affirmative chose Saudi Arabia , 11% America , 12% UK , 12% UAE and 23% gave other responses. The corresponding values for 2000 were Saudi Arabia (35%), America (25%), UK (10%), UAE (9%) and 20% gave other responses.

It is interesting to note that willingness to reside in all countries has increased except for America , which has drastically declined over the past ten years.

"If yes, then which country?"



Source: 30 Years of Gallup and Gilani Surveys (1980-2010)
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan , the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2718 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://gallup.com.pk/Polls/28-03-11.pdf

SOUTH ASIA

165-3. The Two-Headed Monster

Price rise and corruption are the most pressing issues in India today, say a majority of voters in a CVOTER survey. But there is little faith in politicians to come up with solutions to these.

How should a country's development be measured? Is GDP growth such a reliable indicator of the robustness of an economy, and more importantly, of the health of its people. After all, whatever the numbers reflect, it is really human beings who matter at the end of the day and at the end of all economic, social and political processes. And if we keep this simple truth in mind and go beyond the currently prevalent, self-laudatory jargon of development today, we will see for ourselves that despite claims of rapid upsurge, the India development story is not so rosy after all and that is something increasingly worrying India's masses.

Despite the awe-inspiring GDP growth rate that is routinely touted and despite the increase in buying capacities of consumers, the biggest cause for worry in India today remains high inflation and especially inflation in food prices. According to some economists, the lack of food security and the fact that we have a dismal nutrition record, with a huge percentage of our population denied access to even the staples, is a big shortcoming to our brand of development. But instead of alleviating this, as the country now moves towards an even higher projected GDP growth rate of 9 per cent, there is the threat of high food prices which impact the people terribly and directly.

Food prices in India have risen by as much as 40 per cent in the last two years. Despite policymakers promising us that they will come down "very soon", they haven't substantially.

The last couple of days saw just a marginal fall in food inflation from 9.52 to 9.42 per cent. But periodically, as we have all witnessed, there are major spikes in the prices of one commodity after the other, resulting from temporary short supplies, bottlenecks and pure hoarding. Add to this, the high inflation in power and fuel, and you will realize that the situation cannot really get worse. The recent budget did nothing to address these pressing issues, which have such a huge and direct impact on the lives of the people.

What is the single most important issue that exercises your mind, the one challenge that the nation faces in its starkest form?

		Valid Percent
Valid	Rising prices	25.7
	Corruption	20.8
	Unemployment	14.3
	Family income/Poverty	13.3
	Can't Say	6.1
	Others	5.2
	Terror attack	3.3
	Electricity/Road/Water	2.8
	Crime	2.2
	Population growth	1.9
	Educational system	1.6
	Naxalism	1.2
	Drug or alcohol abuse	0.3
	Natural disasters	0.3
	My country's relationship to its neighbors	0.3
	Health facilities & Hospitals	0.1
	Total	100.0

Price rise and corruption are widely seen as the most pressing concerns of India today. Yet, there is a shocking lack of political will to tackle either of these. As one scam after the other tumbles out of the closet, the ruling UPA at the centre has just blamed these on the compulsions of coalition politics.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh expressed this while talking to television journalists and general secretary of the Congress Rahul Gandhi reiterated this stance while talking to students.

But does the coalition dharma absolve the government of its duty? That is a question the people of India need to answer.

Worse, the last few days have seen a storm unleashed by wikileaks that questions the government's, Sonia Gandhi's, and the prime minister's integrity even further. According to the published cables, the UPA in the last Lok Sabha paid huge sums of money to buy votes when a no-trust motion was passed in Parliament on the issue of the nuclear power bill. This was reported by a US embassy official, though official US sources have been maintaining a "no comments" policy ever since this revelation. The PM, on the other hand, has thought it fit to not comment on any such communications and said that the subsequent elections proved that the public trusts the government.

But the past cannot be brushed away with electoral results as the famous Allahbad High Court ruling against Indira Gandhi proves.

"Who, in your view, is the politician who is fit to lead the country towards a new dawn?

		Valid Percent
Valid	Can't Say	45.5
	Rahul Gandhi	8.0
	Atal Bihari Vajpayee	5.8
	Sonia Gandhi	5.1
	Narender Modi	5.0
	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	4.8
	Dr.Manmohan singh	4.5
	Nitish Kumar	2.9
	Mayawati	2.4
	L. K. Advani	2.3
	Buddhadeb Bhattach-arya	1.6

A recent CVOTER survey across 21 states highlights the concerns of the Indian masses. As expected price rise and corruption have been voted as the starkest challenges facing the nation.

While more than 25 per cent of the respondents said that price rise was the most worrying concern, more than 20 per cent of the people polled zeroed in on corruption. Unemployment (14 per cent) and poverty (13 per cent) were the other major issues highlighted by the people. With a majority of the masses clearly distressed economically, how can the ruling dispensation of economists go on singing about India's GDP achievements? It is time they answered the people.

The people's disappointment with and distress against politicians was brought to fore with more than 65 per cent complaining that it was politicians who were hampering India's growth.

But fact is that people are uncertain about what course to take to reform the politics and economics of the country and give its citizens better lives. While a majority of more than 41 per cent said "can't say" to what is the most important step to reform in the country, 12.5 per cent said that corruption should be removed, while 9.8 per cent said that leaders should work more honestly. A further 4.9 per cent said that youngsters should enter politics to change the system from within.

The lack of faith with the current lot of politicians was expressed again when about two thirds of the people polled said that they believed politicos will subvert the development process

for their own gain as seen by the fate of big companies like Posco, decisions regarding whom were left hanging in the fire for so long.

But there is no clear alternative to the present leaders. While 45.5 per cent of the respondents replied with a “can’t say” when asked to name a leader who can lead India to a new dawn, the rest named Rahul Gandhi (8 per cent), A B Vajpayee (5.8 per cent), Sonia Gandhi and Narender Modi in that order. Both Manmohan Singh and LK Advani came in much further down in the choice index. With there being no clear alternative to the present, it seems unlikely that much will change when it comes to political will to tackle these pressing issues. On the other hand, the increasingly frustrated electorate may just decide to give a much needed jolt to the rulers. That is what they should watch out for.

Methodology

National representative sample of 1169 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 21 states in India during 10 to 12th March. 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +\-3% at national level.

Source: http://teamcvoter.com/2011/newsletter3i2/newsletter_3issue2_2011.pdf

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165-4. That’s not cricket

Is the World Cup vulnerable to match-fixing? A CVOTER survey asks Indians across board.......

Match-fixing in cricket is hardly a new phenomenon. While it saw some very tumultuous times in the late 1990s when players like Mohammed Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Sharma and Nayan Mongia lost their careers to allegations which they never admitted, the phenomenon itself has been around for more than two decades now. In fact, while many of the players, including Kapil Dev, the iconic captain who led India to its first and only World Cup win at Lords, faced much humiliation when these allegations surfaced, the only player to have ever admitted to a role in deliberately throwing away matches was the South African great Hansie Cronje, who subsequently died in an air crash but was nevertheless voted as the 11th greatest South African by his countrymen regardless of his tarnished reputation.

Is Rashid Latif right in alleging that the format of the current World Cup makes the matches vulnerable to spot-fixing by players?

	Valid Percent
Can'tsay	44.2
Yes	31.1
No	24.7
Total	100
Total	100

Betting is an all pervasive phenomenon in the world of competitive sport, whether it be soccer or F1 racing. But while that a form of gambling may or may not be legal depending on each country’s laws, what is certainly criminal is match fixing, an outcome of betting, where bookies typically make deals with at least two-three players from both the sides and in return for money ask them to deliberately underperform so that the fate of a match could be overturned and the bookies themselves make handsome gain. Speculation of not just individual players but different teams, and even managers having sold out to the bookies have been doing the rounds for years, especially in the face of unexpected outcomes to a game. And there have been sporadic arrests too like last year in London, when a man called Mazar Majeed was arrested and who later claimed to have had links with the Pakistani team.

On the other hand, the world of betting in cricket has always remained shadowy with little conclusive proof ever coming into the public domain. The ICC World Cup, currently underway, is as big as it gets in the world of international cricket. So apart from nail biting matches and sporting action, it is perhaps inevitable that some controversy surface too. A national daily, for instance, claimed that the group match between Australia and Zimbabwe was fixed and that the ICC's anti corruption squad was probing it. However, ICC chief executive Haroon Lorgat rubbished the report calling it entirely fictional.

”Do you believe that the early part of Australia's innings against Zimbabwe might have been fixed, as is being alleged by certain quarters?	
	Valid Percent
Can'tsay	40
Yes	24.4
No	35.6
Total	100

The speculation of a corrupted match was fueled when the Mumbai Police's crime branch had allegedly burst into a hotel room in Ahmedabad to apprehend three Dawood men. The gangsters were staying in the same hotel as the cricket teams and were involved in illegal betting. But while the ICC may have dismissed match-fixing claims, fact is that the decisive and much-awaited quarter final clash between India and Australia was also played on the same venue no doubt fuel for further speculation.

Regardless of what those in authority say and whether or not players themselves come clean as to the rot in cricket, in public mind the game of gentlemen has been compromised forever, it's image gravely tarnished. A recent CVOTER survey across the country tracked this cloud of suspicion amongst the cricket- watching public.

And the ambivalence regarding the sport came through quite clearly. For instance, when asked whether they agreed with Rashid Latif who has said that the current format of the World Cup renders it more prone to match-fixing, more than 31 per cent of the respondents said a clear "yes" with just around a quarter saying a firm "no". The rest were undecided. Of those who said "yes", the maximum were in the youngest 18-25 age segment, with 37.9 per cent agreeing.

To the controversial issue of whether they believed that the match between Australia and Zimbabwe was fixed, at least as far as the earlier half went, while a majority of 40 per cent refused to speculate and said "can't say", as many as a quarter (24 per cent) of the respondents believed that it had been fixed. Of these the youngsters, between 18 and 25, were the most vociferous, with more than 30 per cent of them believing that this was a case of match fixing!

The split in the public mind over game verdicts once again came through in the answers to the query whether they believed that the England-India group match that ended in a tie was also influenced by outside forces. Shane Warne had apparently predicted this several hours before the game ended. While 30 per cent of the respondents agreed with the suggestion, almost the same per cent (29.1) were inclined to dismiss it but the majority 40 per cent said that they couldn't comment. Of those who said yes, the majority were in the young segments with more than 36 and 31 per cent respectively of those in the 25-45 and 18-25 segment believing that this was a case of match fixing.

On another contentious matter of the UDRS the umpire referral system that Indian captain Mahender Singh Dhoni spoke out against during the ongoing world cup, what does the Indian public feel? Dhoni had contended that unless there was 100 per cent accuracy using this system, it was a waste of money.

Shane Warne had predicted seven hours before the India-England group game that it would end in a tie. Do you suspect that the outcome of the match was 'influenced' by external forces?	
	Valid Percent
Can'tsay	40.9
Yes	30
No	29.1
Total	100

Sachin Tendulkar had earlier also come out against the system and the BCCI has been opposing it ever since the Indian tour of Sri Lanka in 2008, when they first got a taste of it.

So is the BCCI justified in opposing it and backing Dhoni? A majority of Indians would think so. More than 45 per cent of the respondents responded in an affirmative to this question, with as many as 58.2 per cent of youngsters who made up the yes-sayers, supporting Dhoni and the BCCI.

Methodology

National representative sample of 1110 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 21 states in India during 4th March to 6th March 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +\-3% at national level.

Source: http://teamcvoter.com/2011/newsletter3i2/newsletter_3issue2_2011.pdf

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SOUTH EAST ASIA

165-5. Filipinos Remained Satisfied With Their Political Leaders

Net Satisfaction Ratings of the First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey: Vice-Pres. Binay +74, Senate Pres. Enrile +43, Speaker Belmonte +17, and Chief Justice Corona -4

1 April 2011

The satisfaction ratings of the Vice-President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the top government institutions are in the April 1, 2011 issue of *BusinessWorld*. The supporting charts and tables are posted below.

BusinessWorld (BW) is the media partner of SWS in polling, for exclusive first publication by BW, the *SWS Indicators of Governance and the Economy*. The original SWS report will be posted in the SWS website two days following the BW publication.

Survey Background

The March 2011 Social Weather Survey was conducted from March 4-7, 2011 using face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults in Metro Manila, the Balance of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao (sampling error margins of ±3% for national percentages, ±6% for area percentages).

The area estimates were weighted by National Statistics Office medium-population projections for 2011 to obtain the national estimates.

#

Table *1*

PUBLIC SATISFACTION WITH THE VICE-PRESIDENT, SENATE PRESIDENT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, SEP 2010 TO MAR 2011

	Satisfied			Dissatisfied			Net *		
	Sep 24-27, '10	Nov 27-30, '10	Mar 4-7, '11	Sep 24-27, '10	Nov 27-30, '10	Mar 4-7, '11	Sep 24-27, 10	Nov 27-30, 10	Mar 4-7, '11
Jejomar Binay *Vice-President*	70%	69%	81%	12%	13%	7%	+58	+57	+74
Juan Ponce Enrile *Senate President*	57	55	62	18	21	18	+39	+34	+43
Sonny Belmonte *House Speaker*	34	33	40	25	26	22	+ 9	+ 7	+17
Renato Corona *Chief Justice*	26	26	28	32	33	32	- 5	- 7	- 4

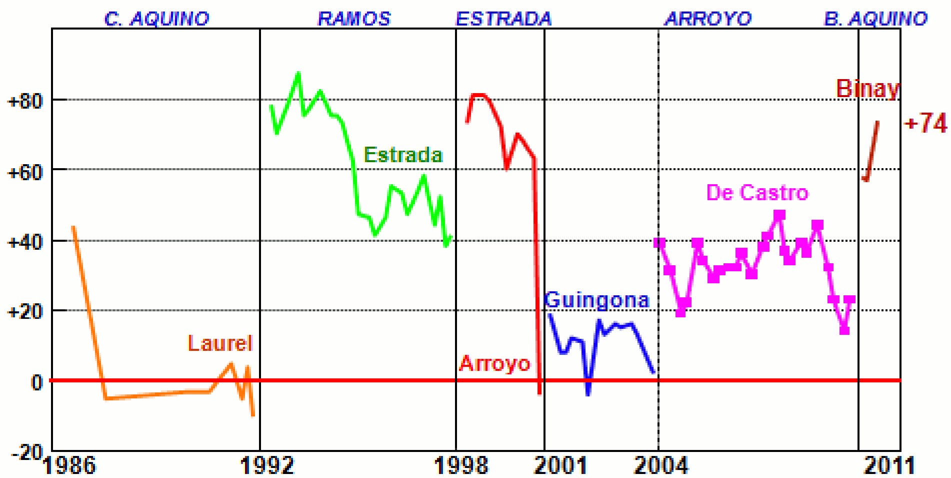
*Net figures (% Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied) are correctly rounded.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Chart *1*

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, OCT 1986 TO MAR 2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
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Table **2**

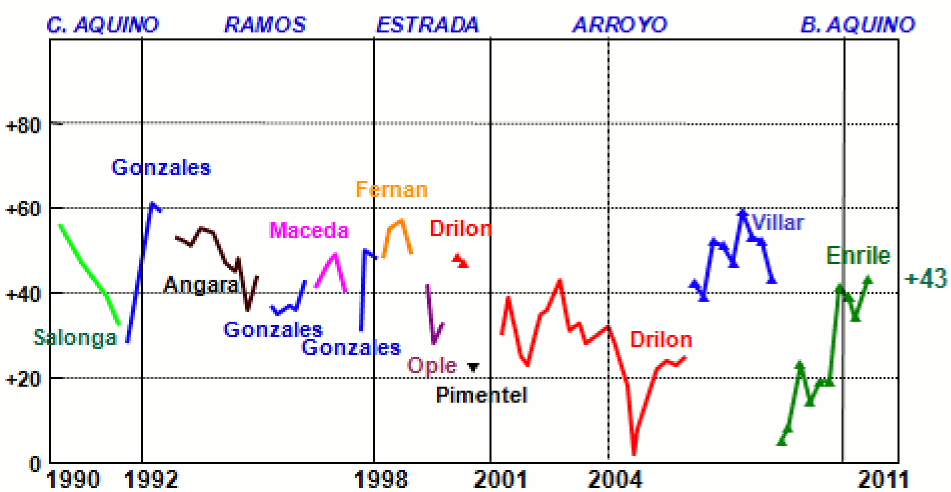
NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, OCT 1986 TO MAR 2011

	NET*		NET*		NET*		NET*
LAUREL		ESTRADA (cont.)		GUINGONA		DE CASTRO (cont.)	
OCT 86	+44	DEC 95	+41	MAR 01	+19	SEP 06	+32
OCT 87	- 5	APR 96	+46	JUL 01	+ 8	NOV 06	+32
APR 90	- 3	JUN 96	+55	SEP 01	+ 8	FEB 07	+36
NOV 90	- 3	SEP 96	+53	NOV 01	+12	JUN 07	+30
JUL 91	+ 5	DEC 96	+47	MAR 02	+11	SEP 07	+38
NOV 91	- 5	APR 97	+54	MAY 02	- 4	DEC 07	+41
FEB 92	+ 4	JUN 97	+58	SEP 02	+17	MAR 08	+47
APR 92	-10	SEP 97	+44	NOV 02	+13	JUN 08	+37
ESTRADA		DEC 97	+52	MAR 03	+16	SEP 08	+34
SEP 92	+78	FEB 98	+38	JUN 03	+15	DEC 08	+39
DEC 92	+70	MAR 98	+41	SEP 03	+16	FEB 09	+36
APR 93	+78	ARROYO		NOV 03	+13	JUN 09	+44
JUL 93	+87	SEP 98	+73	JUN 04	+ 2	SEP 09	+32
SEP 93	+75	NOV 98	+81	AUG 04	+39	DEC 09	+23
DEC 93	+77	MAR 99	+81	DEC 04	+31	MAR 10	+14
APR 94	+82	JUN 99	+79	MAR 05	+19	JUN 10	+23
AUG 94	+75	OCT 99	+72	DE CASTRO		BINAY	
SEP 94	+75	DEC 99	+60	MAY 05	+22	SEP 10	+58
NOV 94	+73	MAR 00	+70	SEP 05	+39	NOV 10	+57
MAR 95	+62	APR 00	+68	DEC 05	+34	MAR 11	+74
JUN 95	+47	SEP 00	+63	MAR 06	+29		
OCT 95	+46	DEC 00	- 4	JUN 06	+31		

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

Chart **2**

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SENATE PRESIDENTS, APR 1990 TO MAR 2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010
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First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
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Table **3**

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SENATE PRESIDENTS, APR 1990 TO MAR 2011

	NET*
SALONGA	
APR 90	+56
NOV 90	+47
JUL 91	+39
NOV 91	+32
GONZALES	
JAN 92	+28
SEP 92	+61
DEC 92	+59
ANGARA	
APR 93	+53
JUL 93	+52
SEP 93	+51
DEC 93	+55
APR 94	+54
AUG 94	+47
NOV 94	+45
DEC 94	+48
MAR 95	+36
JUN 95	+44
GONZALES	
OCT 95	+37
DEC 95	+35
APR 96	+37
JUN 96	+36
SEP 96	+43
MACEDA	
DEC 96	+41
APR 97	+47
JUN 97	+49
SEP 97	+40
GONZALES	
FEB 98	+31
MAR 98	+50
JUL 98	+48
FERNAN	
SEP 98	+48
NOV 98	+55
MAR 99	+57
JUN 99	+49
OPLE	
OCT 99	+42
DEC 99	+28
MAR 00	+33
DRILON	
JUL 00	+48
SEP 00	+47
PIMENTEL	
DEC 00	+22
DRILON	
SEP 01	+30
DRILON (cont.)	
NOV 01	+39
APR 02	+25
MAY 02	+23
SEP 02	+35
NOV 92	+36
MAR 93	+43
JUN 93	+31
SEP 93	+33
NOV 93	+28
JUN 04	+32
AUG 04	+28
DEC 04	+18
FEB 05	+ 2
MAR 05	+ 8
SEP 05	+22
DEC 05	+24
MAR 05	+23
JUN 06	+25
VILLAR	
SEP 06	+42
DEC 06	+39
MAR 07	+52
JUN 07	+51
VILLAR (cont.)	
SEP 07	+47
DEC 07	+59
MAR 08	+53
JUN 08	+52
SEP 08	+43
ENRILE	
DEC 08	+5
FEB 09	+8
JUN 09	+23
SEP 09	+14
DEC 09	+19
MAR 10	+19
JUN 10	+41
SEP 10	+39
NOV 10	+34
MAR 11	*+43*

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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010
25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
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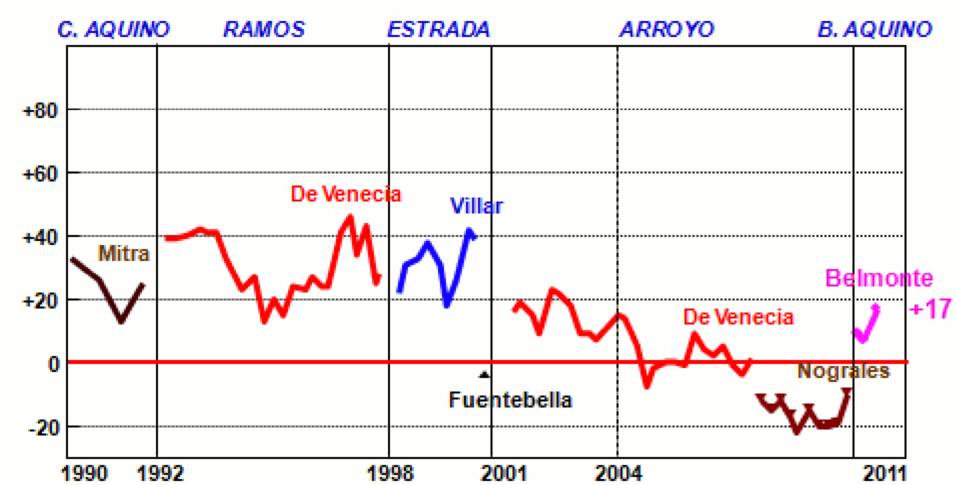
Chart **3**

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE, FEB 1990 TO MAR 2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010
25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
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Table 4

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE, FEB 1990 TO MAR 2011

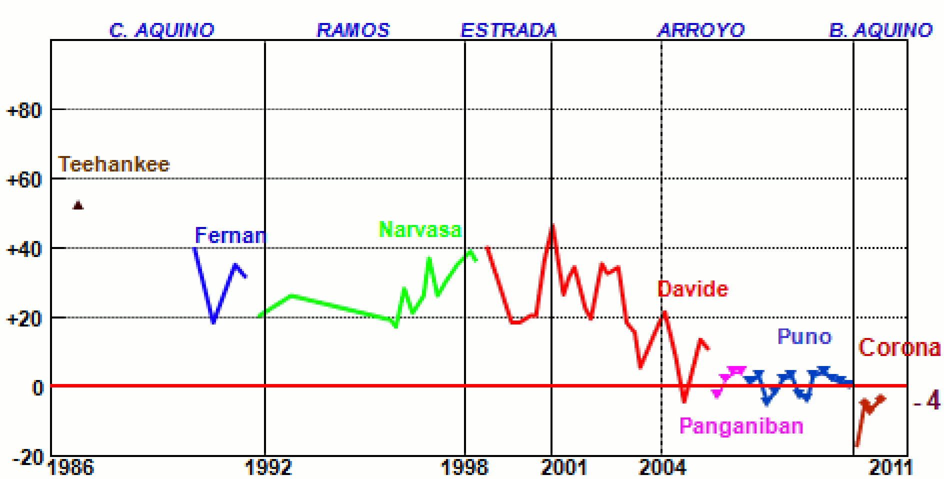
	NET*		NET*		NET*		NET*
MITRA		DE VENECIA (cont.)		DE VENECIA (cont.)		NOGRALES	
FEB 90	+33	NOV 96	+24	MAY 02	+9	MAR 08	-12
NOV 90	+26	MAR 97	+41	SEP 02	+23	JUN 08	-15
JUN 91	+13	JUN 97	+46	NOV 02	+22	SEP 08	-12
OCT 91	+20	AUG 97	+34	MAR 03	+18	DEC 08	-17
JAN 92	+25	NOV 97	+43	JUN 03	+9	FEB 09	-22
DE VENECIA		FEB 98	+25	SEP 03	+9	JUN 09	-15
AUG 92	+39	MAR 98	+28	NOV 03	+7	SEP 09	-20
NOV 92	+39	VILLAR		JUN 04	+15	DEC 09	-20
MAR 93	+40	SEP 98	+22	AUG 04	+14	MAR 10	-19
JUL 93	+42	NOV 98	+31	DEC 04	+5	JUN 10	-10
SEP 93	+41	MAR 99	+33	MAR 05	-8	BELMONTE	
DEC 93	+41	JUN 99	+38	MAY 05	-2	SEP 10	+9
MAR 94	+33	OCT 99	+31	SEP 05	0	NOV 10	+7
AUG 94	+23	DEC 99	+18	DEC 05	0	MAR 11	+17
NOV 94	+26	MAR 00	+26	MAR 06	-1		
DEC 94	+27	JUL 00	+42	JUN 06	+9		
MAR 95	+13	SEP 00	+39	SEP 06	+4		
JUN 95	+20	FUENTEBELLA		DEC 06	+2		
SEP 95	+15	DEC 00	-4	MAR 07	+5		
DEC 95	+24	DE VENECIA		JUN 07	-1		
APR 96	+23	SEP 01	+16	SEP 07	-4		
JUN 96	+27	NOV 01	+19	DEC 07	+1		
SEP 96	+24	MAR 02	+15				

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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 — First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Chart 4

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT, OCT 1986 TO MAR 2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 — First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Table 5

NET SATISFACTION RATINGS* OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT, OCT 1986 TO MAR 2011

	NET*		NET*		NET*
TEEHANKEE		*DAVIDE (cont)*		*PANGANIBAN (cont)*	
OCT 86	+52	SEP 00	+20	SEP 06	+4
FERNAN		DEC 00	+36	DEC 06	+4
APR 90	+40	MAR 01	+46	*PUNO*	
NOV 90	+18	JUL 01	+26	MAR 07	+1
JUL 91	+35	SEP 01	+31	JUN 07	+3
NOV 91	+31	NOV 01	+34	SEP 07	-5
NARVASA		MAR 02	+22	DEC 07	-2
APR 92	+20	MAY 02	+19	MAR 08	+2
APR 93	+26	SEP 02	+35	JUN 08	+3
APR 96	+19	NOV 02	+32	SEP 08	-3
JUN 96	+17	MAR 03	+34	DEC 08	-4
SEP 96	+28	JUN 03	+18	FEB 09	+3
DEC 96	+21	SEP 03	+15	JUN 09	+4
APR 97	+26	NOV 03	+ 5	SEP 09	+2
JUN 97	+37	JUN 04	+18	DEC 09	+1
SEP 97	+26	AUG 04	+21	MAR 10	0
DEC 97	+30	DEC 04	+ 8	*CORONA*	
APR 98	+35	MAY 05	-5	JUN 10	-18
SEP 98	+39	MAY 05	+1	SEP 10	-5
NOV 98	+36	SEP 05	+13	NOV 10	-7
MAR 99	+40	DEC 05	+10	MAR 11	-4
DAVIDE		*PANGANIBAN*			
DEC 99	+18	MAR 06	-3		
MAR 00	+18	JUN 06	+2		
JUL 00	+20				

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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Table 6

PUBLIC SATISFACTION WITH TOP GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS, SEP 2010 TO MAR 2011

	Satisfied			Dissatisfied			Net *		
	Sep 24-27, '10	Nov 27-30, '10	Mar 4-7, '11	Sep 24-27, '10	Nov 27-30, '10	Mar 4-7, '11	Sep 24-27, '10	Nov 27-30, '10	Mar 4-7, '11
Senate	62%	65%	65%	14%	14%	16%	+48	+51	+49
House of Rep.	49	51	50	19	18	20	+30	+33	+30
Supreme Court	51	55	52	18	19	26	+33	+36	+26
Cabinet	42	41	47	20	21	23	+22	+20	+24

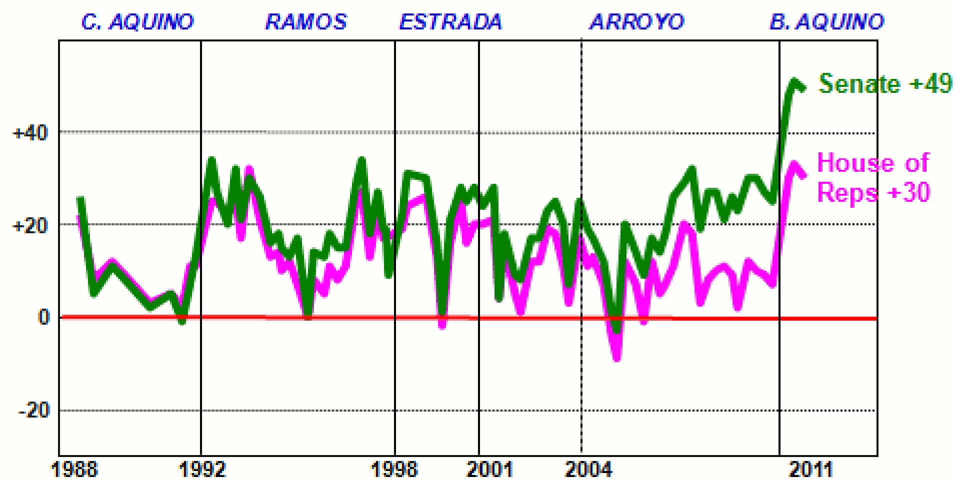
* % Satisfied minus % Dissatisfied correctly rounded. Ignores Don't Know and Refused to Answer responses.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 25 years of Statistics for Advocacy

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Chart 5

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEP 1988 – MAR 2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 — First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report, March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Table 7

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEP 1988 – MAR 2011

	Senate	House of Rep.
C. AQUINO		
SEP 88	+26	+22
FEB 89	+5	+8
SEP 89	+11	+12
NOV 90	+2	+3
JUL 91	+5	+5
NOV 91	-1	+2
FEB 92	+7	+11
APR 92	+13	+11
RAMOS		
OCT 92	+34	+25
DEC 92	+27	+25
APR 93	+20	+22
JUL 93	+32	+26
SEP 93	+21	+17
DEC 93	+30	+32
APR 94	+26	+21
AUG 94	+16	+13
NOV 94	+18	+14
DEC 94	+15	+10
MAR 95	+13	+12
JUN 95	+17	+7
OCT 95	0	0
DEC 95	+14	+8
RAMOS (cont)		
APR 96	+13	+5
JUN 96	+18	+11
SEP 96	+15	+8
DEC 96	+15	+11
APR 97	+29	+25
JUN 97	+34	+27
SEP 97	+18	+13
DEC 97	+27	+23
FEB 98	+19	+17
MAR 98	+19	+17
APR 98	+9	
ESTRADA		
SEP 98	+22	+19
NOV 98	+31	+24
JUN 99	+30	+26
OCT 99	+16	+13
DEC 99	+1	-2
MAR 00	+21	+16
JUL 00	+28	+25
SEP 00	+25	+16
DEC 00	+28	+20
ARROYO		
MAR 01	+24	+20
JUL 01	+28	+21
SEP 01	+4	+4
NOV 01	+18	+15
MAR 02	+9	+5
MAY 02	+8	+1
SEP 02	+17	+12
DEC 02	+17	+12
MAR 03	+23	+19
JUN 03	+25	+18
SEP 03	+20	+11
NOV 03	+7	+3
MAR 04	+25	+17
JUN 04	+19	+11
AUG 04	+17	+13
DEC 04	+12	+7
MAR 05	+1	-4
MAY 05	-3	-9
AUG 05	+20	+12
DEC 05	+14	+7
MAR 06	+9	-1
JUN 06	+17	+12
ARROYO (cont)		
SEP 06	+14	+5
NOV 06	+18	+7
FEB 07	+26	+11
JUN 07	+29	+20
SEP 07	+32	+18
DEC 07	+19	+3
MAR 08	+27	+8
JUN 08	+27	+10
SEP 08	+21	+11
DEC 08	+26	+9
FEB 09	+23	+2
JUN 09	+30	+12
SEP 09	+30	+10
DEC 09	+27	+9
MAR 10	+25	+7
B. AQUINO		
SEP 10	+48	+30
NOV 10	+51	+33
MAR 11	+49	+30

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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010 — First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report, March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

Chart 6

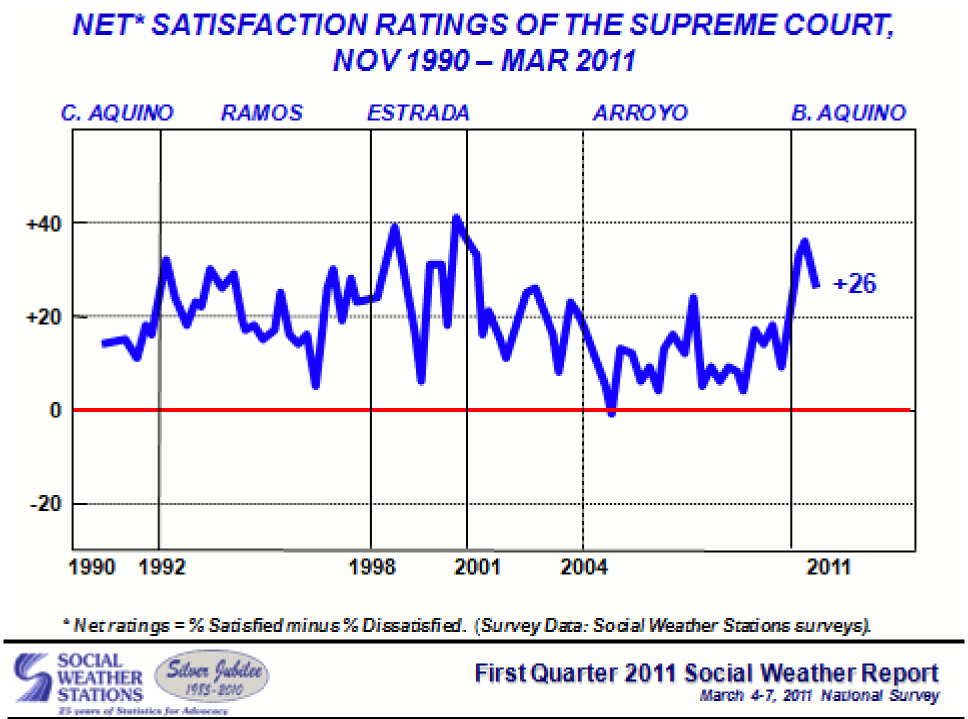


Chart 7

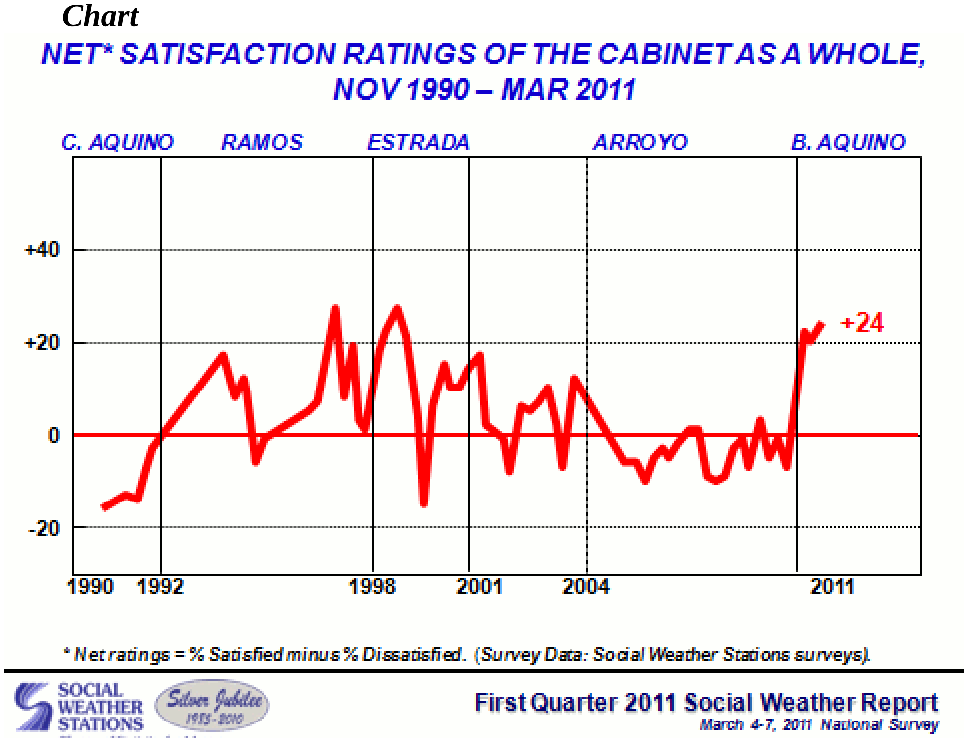


Table ***8***

NET* SATISFACTION RATINGS OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE CABINET AS A WHOLE, NOV 1990 – MAR 2011

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

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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS — 25 years of Statistics for Advocacy — Silver Jubilee 1985-2010

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
March 4-7, 2011 National Survey

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

165-6. Thais are Far Less Polarized Than Suggested

Asia Foundation's Thailand National Survey Explores The Depth Of Color Divisions

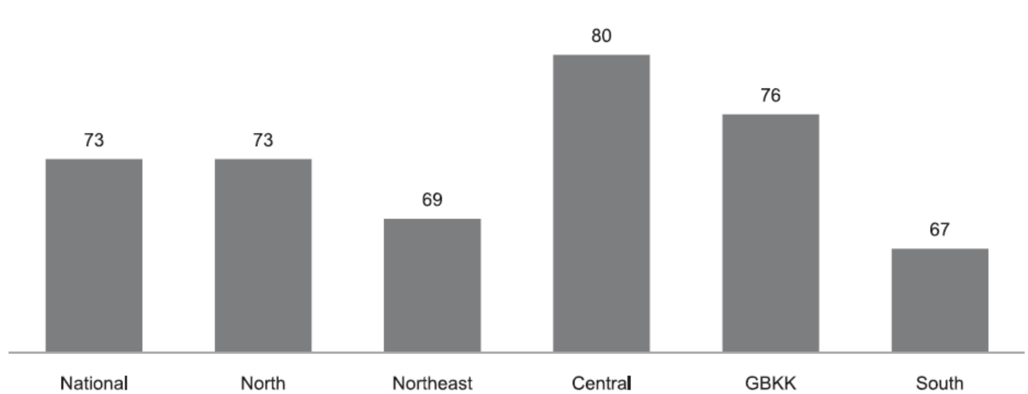
March 27, 2011

BANGKOK AND SAN FRANCISCO

First comprehensive poll on democracy and governance issues since political events of 2010

The Asia Foundation today released the findings of its second national survey of 1,500 Thai citizens. *2010 National Survey of the Thai Electorate: Exploring National Consensus and Color Polarization* is one of the most rigorous and comprehensive public perception surveys conducted since the tumultuous political events of April-May 2010. The survey explores the depth of color divisions in contemporary Thailand; key topics covered include the state of democracy in Thailand, elections, conflict and security, and options for reconciliation.

Leaning to No Color or Neutral



Designed and managed by the Foundation's office in Thailand, the survey presents findings from in-person interviews with a broad and nationally representative sample of 1,500 Thai citizens conducted between September 17 and October 23, 2010.

The survey results suggest citizens are not as politically divided as politicians, analysts, and the media frequently suggest. In reality, the mainstream Thai population (76%) professed no color attachment to either Yellow or Red movements. The data also reveals that there was considerable internal diversity or factionalism within these movements, with no consensus in citizen understanding of the primary objectives of the Yellow and Red movements.

Overall, the mood of the nation was slightly less pessimistic than it was in 2009. The survey reveals that 54% of Thai citizens in 2010 believed the country was moving in the wrong direction, down slightly from 58% in 2009. While 60% of respondents had cited the poor economy as the biggest problem facing Thailand in 2009, this perception decreased significantly to only 35% in 2010. Reflecting changes in the mood of Thai citizens between 2009 and the political turmoil that marked 2010, political conflict moved up the list of critical problems, cited by 42% of respondents versus 24% in 2009.

Decentralization was also a key focus of the survey. A solid majority of 61% believed that decentralization would improve governance and reduce tensions. A strong majority of respondents (62%) also believed that decentralization might reduce the Red-Yellow conflict. Between 2009 and 2010 there was a significant increase (from 48% to 58%) in the percentage of respondents who thought that decentralization would help resolve the long-term conflict in the three southern border provinces.

The *2010 National Survey of the Thai Electorate* builds on the original national survey conducted in 2009 that explored citizen views on national reconciliation and political reform, while also adapting the survey to capture opinions relevant to the political events in 2010.

The Foundation develops sophisticated empirical surveys for use across Asia in order to pinpoint citizen concerns and needs, to gauge public support for development initiatives, and to inform important policy debate and Foundation program design and refinement.

Source: http://www.asiafoundation.org/news/2011/03/asia-foundations-thailand-national-survey-explores-the-depth-of-color-divisions/

NORTH EAST ASIA

165-7. Silver Hair Generation Is More Social Media Savvy Than Most Think

Fifth annual Synovate Media Atlas study

30 March 2011

HONG KONG - Synovate, one of the top four global custom market intelligence firms, today released the latest findings from its Media Atlas Hong Kong study, revealing the lifestyles, attitudes, spending, media and digital habits of consumers in this ever changing metropolitan city. This marks the fifth complete year of the study, which showcases trends and changes in various aspects of the Hong Kong population.

One of this year's findings showed that the Silver Hair generation is experiencing the most rapid growth among all age groups engaging with social media. This group has seen a 42% growth in contributing to blogs and forums from 2009 to 2010.

Steve Garton, Managing Director of Media for Synovate in Greater China, commented: "This marks the fifth year anniversary of the Media Atlas study in Hong Kong and we are very excited. We have been helping marketers, advertisers, media owners and media specialists uncover the likes and preferences of Hong Kong consumers with now a five-year trend overview. Particularly on the digital media front, over these past few years we are seeing the rapid adoption of social media, even by the Silver Hair generation."

The Silver Hair generation

There are over 1.4 million people in the Silver Hair generation (ages 50 to 64) in Hong Kong. This group is larger than the popularly referenced Post 80s generation (995,000 of 20 to 29-year-olds), and more than double the size of the Post 90s (683,000 of 12 to 19-year-olds).

Said Susanna Lam, Director of Synovate in Hong Kong: "The Silver Hair generation has been overshadowed by the recent attention on the Post 80s group. However, marketers and companies alike have been thinking about how to tap into this segment of more mature consumers for some time. They are likely grandparents and/ or empty-nesters, with time to engage in any pursuits they choose and less discretion on how their money should be spent. We are seeing this as maybe one of the most interesting groups to study in the near future."

"See you on Facebook," said the Silver Hair

In the 2010 analysis of the Synovate Media Atlas findings, respondents with internet access in the past month can be grouped into four categories based on their habits of using social media. Those between the ages of 50 to 64 were found to have the most rapid growth in engaging with this medium.

The first group of social media engagers are called "Participants." They read blogs, but without commenting. This is the group that listens to podcasts and gleans information from reading forums and discussion groups. There has been a 17% growth of the Silver Hair generation in Hong Kong becoming "Participants" in social media, the highest growth among all age segments.

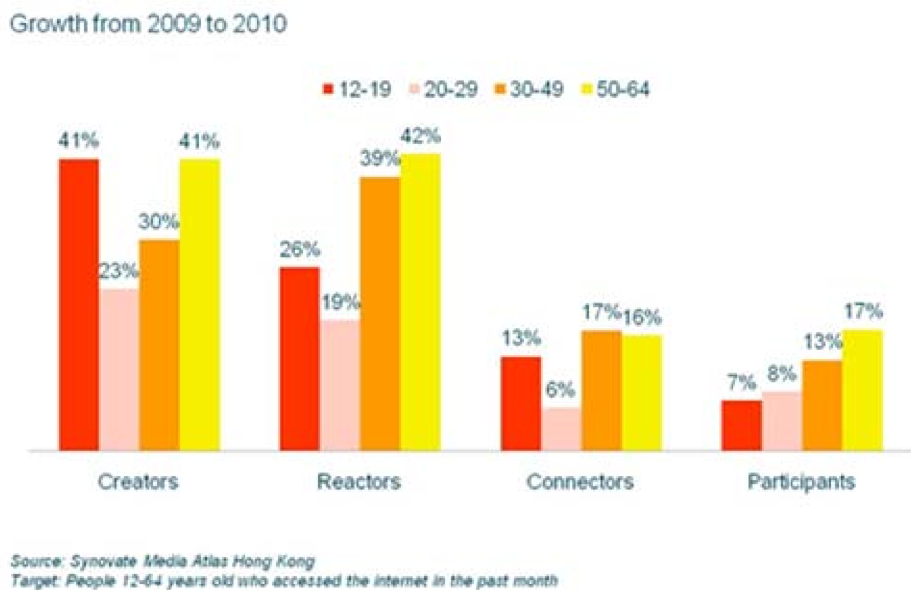
The second group is called "Connectors." This group befriends, follows, links up, and connects with others through social networks. Fifty-eight percent of internet users aged 50 to 64 were considered Connectors in 2009. In 2010, two of every three internet users in the Silver Hair generation in Hong Kong are connected in social networks (67%).

The third group is called "Reactors." They post their comments on blogs and other social media platforms, contribute their thoughts to forums, and edit articles in wiki. "From one in four silver-haired Reactors in 2009 to now 35%, this group shows the most rapid growth in contributing to the social media world. This is a 42% year on year growth, the highest across all age segments," commented Lam.

The fourth group is called "Creators," those who create their own blogs and personal pages, and share their self-produced videos and other creations on public sites. In 2010, one in four (25%) Silver Hair internet users are Creators, a 41% growth from the previous year and once again the top group among all ages.

Please see Figure 1 which shows the growth of these four groups among the different age segments in Hong Kong.

Figure 1 - Growth of four groups of social media engagement among different age segments in Hong Kong



"We are seeing a trend that more and more consumers in the Silver Hair generation are venturing into social media and being fearless creating content and sharing themselves through this medium. Over the next few years it is anticipated that even more of these mature consumers will interact with each other and with brands through social media. What are companies doing now to ensure they capture these opportunities?" said Garton.

Five year trend on Hong Kong consumers' habits and lifestyles

Since its inception in 2006, Synovate Media Atlas has captured the everyday lifestyles, habits, spending, and media consumption of the Hong Kong population. A five year analysis highlights trends that show certain product categories are continuing to grow while some are diminishing. The financial crisis during this period had also made an impact on consumers' attitudes, reflected in the Media Atlas findings.

Over the years, ownership of different gadgets has continued to grow, from laptops (81% growth in ownership from 2006 to 2010), portable electronic games (47% growth in ownership from 2006 to 2010), desktop computers (15% growth), to mobile phones (8% growth). And as it may be replacing the traditional tube, or adding more screens and entertainment at home, the most noticeable growth is with LCD/ Plasma TVs, which experienced a 139% growth in household ownership from 2006 to 2010.

Household ownership of DVD players (-6%), MP3 players (-4%), and digital still cameras (-2%) have seen a decline over the past five years. Commented Lam: "There are so many multifunctional gadgets out there that devices with only a singular use are slowly being phased out. People now can have one pocket holding just one gadget that does it all."

Please see Figure 2 on summary of ownership and growth in key product categories from 2006 to 2010.

Figure 2 - Summary of ownership and growth in key product categories from 2006 to 2010

It is also no surprise that Hong Kong consumers' attitudes have changed over the years.

"The depth of the financial crisis was between Q4 of 2008 to Q3 of 2009. We see from the attributes measured in Media Atlas that Hong Kong consumers' mentality on certain aspects of life has changed after this period. And until now it has not yet return to the pre-crisis level," said Garton.

From Q3 of 2007 to Q2 of 2008 - considered still the good times in the economy - over half (54%) of the Hong Kong respondents indicated that paying extra for quality is worthwhile, while 46% said sometimes they like to treat themselves to something special, even if it is expensive. In 2010 (Q1 2010 to Q4 2010), there has been a drop to 51% and 44% respectively saying the above.

Most noticeable for merchants and retailers alike, the impact of Hong Kong consumers' lifestyle changes is felt through the sales figures. From 56% of respondents indicating they go shopping at least once a week in the good financial times (between Q3 of 2007 to Q2 of 2008), this dropped most dramatically during the depth of the financial crisis (between Q4 of 2008 to Q3 of 2009) to 49%, while in 2010 it picked back up to 53%.

Commented Garton: "We have now probably seen the extent of the recovery as far as it will go in terms of the rebound in confidence. This implies there has been a lasting, although modest, downward reset in consumer attitudes. Memories of the global financial crisis and its impact on Hong Kong will remain in people's minds for some years to come."

Making history: The year when Hong Kong consumers spent more time going online than watching television

From five years of tracking by the Media Atlas study, Hong Kong consumers are seen to be spending increasingly more time on the internet, while time toward the television has been diminishing.

The 2010 analysis shows that this is the year when Hong Kong consumers spent more time online than watching television. In 2010, internet users have indicated spending 145 minutes a day online (about 2.42 hours), while TV viewers had spent 140 minutes a day watching television (about 2.33 hours). This was an increase from the year before in 2009 of 7% more time spent online, while television had maintained its level.

Compared to 2006, time spent engaged online grew 24% (from 117 minutes in 2006 to 145 minutes in 2010), while for television there has been a decrease of 6% (from 148 minutes in 2006 to 140 minutes in 2010).

Garton commented: "Media Atlas provides an accurate and timely gauge of consumers' habits and preferences, enabling marketers, advertisers, media owners and media specialists to spot opportunities ahead and seize them right as they happen. New attributes seen from trends we are spotting, such as the opportunities of the Silver Hair generation engaging with social media, are added to the study to stay ahead of the changing society. We look forward to propelling the success of Synovate Media Atlas Hong Kong from the last five years even further to the next five and beyond."

About Media Atlas

Synovate Media Atlas is a media consumption, lifestyle and attitudes study conducted in Malaysia, Hong Kong, The Philippines and Thailand. The data for Media Atlas is collected using a combination of face-to-face and telephone interviews to maximise reach and achieve higher accuracy versus traditional methods.

Source: http://www.synovate.com/news/article/2011/03/fifth-annual-synovate-media-atlas-study-reveals-the-silver-hair-generation-is-more-social-media-savvy-than-most-think.html

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EAST EUROPE

165-8. Japan Viewed By Russians

The dominating emotions Russians feel towards Japan are interest and liking.

MOSCOW, March 16, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing the attitudes of Russians towards Japan and Japanese. The opinion poll was conducted not long before the tragedy took place in the heat of the dispute over the Kuriles Islands.

The attitudes of Russians toward Japan and Japanese people are ambiguous: 42% are indifferent toward them, whereas the same share of respondents (41%) expresses positive emotions such as interest (27%) and liking (14%). The share of those with positive emotions has decreased over the recent thirteen years (from 47 to 41%); more Russians feel indifference toward Japanese (from 35 to 42%). Those who feel suspicion (from 6 to 8%) or even fear (6%) are still in minority.

Those who are **indifferent** towards Japanese are rural area residents (47%) and Russians with low level of education (53%). Those who are **interested** in this country are Fair Russia party (33%) and non-parliament parties (37%) supporters, Muscovites and St.Petersburgians (34%), 18-24-year-old Russians (31%) and Russians with high level of education (31%). Supporters of LDPR and Fair Russia parties (11% for ach), elderly respondents (10%) and respondents with education level above secondary (9-10%) express **suspicion** towards Japan. LDPR party adherents also tend to feel **fear** towards Japan (11%).

According to the VCIOM director general Valery V.Fedorov, "we should take into consideration the fact that the opinion poll was conducted before the tragedy, in the heat of the territorial dispute. The tragedy often evokes such feelings as sympathy and liking towards the stricken nation. In this case, the liking can be neutralized by the fear of the potential radioactive contamination".

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

What is your general attitude towards Japan and Japanese people? *(close-ended*

question, one answer)		
	1998	**2011**
Liking	18	**14**
Interest	29	**27**
Rather indifferent	35	**42**
With suspicion	6	**8**
Fear	6	**6**
Hard to tell	7	**4**

What is your general attitude towards Japan and Japanese people? *(close-ended question, one answer)*

	Total respondents	**Moscow and Saint-Petersburg**	**More than500thousand**	**100 - 500thousand**	**Less than100thousand**	**Rural area**
Liking	**14**	15	16	15	12	11
Interest	**27**	34	26	29	26	23
Rather indifferent	**42**	35	41	43	39	47
With suspicion	**8**	7	8	6	9	9
Fear	**6**	5	5	4	9	6
Hard to tell	**4**	4	3	3	4	4

What is your general attitude towards Japan and Japanese people? *(close-ended question, one answer)*

	Total respodnents	**Aged 18-24**	**Aged 25-34**	**Aged 35-44**	**Aged 45-59**	**Aged 60 and above**
Liking	**14**	8	16	15	13	15
Interest	**27**	31	28	29	26	22
Rather indifferent	**42**	43	42	39	43	42
With suspicion	**8**	7	5	8	9	10
Fear	**6**	7	6	7	6	6
Hard to tell	**4**	5	4	3	2	5

What is your general attitude towards Japan and Japanese people? *(close-ended question, one answer)*					
	Total respondents	**Elementary, or lower, incomplete secondary education**	**Secondary (school, technical college)**	**Secondary special (college)**	**Incomplete higher (not less than 3 years), higher**
Liking	**14**	15	12	13	17
Interest	**27**	20	27	25	31
Rather indifferent	**42**	53	46	41	33
With suspicion	**8**	4	6	10	9
Fear	**6**	3	6	8	6
Hard to tell	**4**	5	3	4	4

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111443.html

165-9. Olympic Mascot-2014: Results Of Official Voting And Public Opinion Poll

White bear and leopard are winners of both official voting and VCIOM`s opinion poll; the opinion poll participants liked dolphin more than hare.

MOSCOW, March 14, 2011. After the results of the official Olympic Mascot voting were published, Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) conducted the opinion poll revealing which mascots Russians are in favor of.

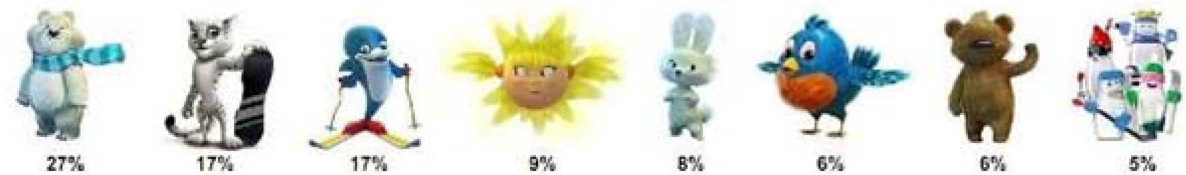
White bear, leopard and dolphin are the winners of the alternative voting.The unconditional winner of Sochi Olympic mascot competition is white bear "Polyus" (Poll) (27%), followed by dolphin and leopard which is one of the winners of the official competition (17% for each). Hare which was among official winners took only fifth place (8%). Nine percent voted for Sun; bullfinch and brown bear was chosen by 6% of respondents; 5% voted for Matreshka.

Respondents choose a certain mascot depending on their social and demographic characteristics. Respondents aged younger than 44 are in favor of leopard (18-24%); at the same time, those aged above 45 prefer Sun and Hare (10-11 and 9-12% respectively). Besides that, men tend to vote for masculine mascots such as white (28 versus 25%) or brown bears (8 versus 4%), whereas women are in favor of Sun (12 versus 6%) or bullfinch (7 versus 4%).

As to the Internet users, the top three mascots they vote for match the mascots chosen by offline respondents. Unlike any other mascots, white bear was less supported by the internet users (25 versus 27-34% among those who do not use the Internet or do it rarely). The same thing can be applied to hare which is the official competition winner; active internet users were less in favor of this mascot (6 versus 8-9%). Simultaneously, the regular Internet users often vote for leopard (20 versus 14-18%) and dolphin (18 versus 12-16%).

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

Which of the following candidates would you choose to be the Sochi Olympic mascot?



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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111441.html

165-10. Restrictions During The Season Of Lent

Every third woman and only every tenth man are going to fast this year.

MOSCOW, March 10, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing how many Russians are planning to observe fasting, and which restrictions they impose on themselves.

Twenty one percent of Russians are planning to fast this year in a varying degree (32% a year ago); however, most of them would restrict themselves only partially (13%). The share of Russians which do not plan to fast has increased again after continuous decrease (from 62% in 2010 to 75% this year).

Most of those who are willing to fast are women (30%), elderly respondents (29%) and metropolitan residents (33%). Twenty-six percent of the orthodox believers are going to fast. Men (85%) and Russians younger than 35 (82-84%) would eat normally.

Those who are planning to fast would restrict themselves to eating animal products (48%). The rest of respondents tend to reduce the consumption of certain products (13%).

The share of those who go to church, read the prayers and religious literature, refrain from drinking alcohol (6% for each), try to be tolerant, avoid bad thoughts and using bad language (5% for each), reduce entertainment activities (4%) and help the needy (2%) during the lent has considerably decreased.

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

How do you nourish yourself during the season of lent? *(close-ended question, one answer)*

	1998	**2002**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**
Eat normally	79	76	83	**70**	**62**	**75**
Observe fasting during the last week of the Lent	5	4	4	**5**	**6**	**4**
Observe fasting partially	11	15	9	**15**	**22**	**13**

Completely observe fasting	4	3	3	**6**	**4**	**4**
Hard to tell	1	2	1	**4**	**7**	**4**

w do you nourish yourself during the season of Lent? *(close-ended question, one answer)*

	Total respondents	**Orthodox**	**Muslims**	**Other religion**	**Vacillation between belief and disbelief**
Eat normally	**75**	72	69	96	88
Observe fasting during the last week of the Lent	**4**	5	2	1	2
Observe fasting partially	**13**	16	4	2	5
Completely observe fasting	**4**	5	1		
Hard to tell	**4**	2	25	1	6

If you plan to fast, which restrictions will you impose on yourself during the season of Lent?
(open-ended question, any number of answers, % of those who plan to observe fasting in a varying degree)

I do not eat animal products	**48**
I reduce the consumption of certain products	**13**
I go to church, pray, read religious literature	**6**
I do not use alcohol	**6**
I try to be calm, reserved and avoid bad thoughts	**5**
I do not use bad language	**5**
I restrict my entertaining activities	**4**
I observe fasting partially (as long as my health allows)	**4**
I help the needy, try to be kind	**2**
Other	**2**
Hard to tell	**24**

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111436.html

WEST EUROPE

165-11. Awareness And Understanding Of The Ivory Trade

Published:31 March 2011

Fieldwork:17 March 2011

A new Ipsos MORI poll commissioned by International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), finds more than four in 10 (44%) British adults are unaware that elephants have to die before their ivory can be obtained.

The poll also finds that 8% of adults own items made of ivory, which equates to almost four million* British residents.

Now I'd like to ask you a question about items made of natural materials.

Which if any of the following do you own? You can just read out the letter or letters that apply.

SHOWCARD. REVERSE ORDER OF A-D ON SHOWCARD. MULTICODE

	%
A) Items made of leather (eg shoes, handbags, wallets etc)	90
D) Items made of wood (eg furniture, ornaments etc)	89
B) Items made of ivory (eg souvenirs, ornaments etc)	8
C) Items made of animal bone (eg souvenirs, ornaments etc)	6
Own ivory / animal bones *(combination)*	11
None of these	3
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Technical details

Ipsos MORI interviewed a nationally representative quota sample of 2,023 adults in GB aged 15+. Interviews were carried out face-to-face, in home, using CAPI (Computer Aided Personal Interviewing Laptops), as part of the Ipsos MORI Omnibus (Capibus). Fieldwork was conducted from 11-17 March 2011. The results have been weighted to reflect the known profile of the adult GB population. They are weighted on age, social grade, region and work status-within gender. The data are also weighted on housing tenure and ethnicity.

Thinking now in particular about ivory from elephant tusks. How do you think is this obtained? Please read out the one letter that you think best fits.

SHOWCARD. REVERSE ORDER OF A-E ON SHOWCARD.
SINGLE CODE

	%
A) An elephant's ivory can only be obtained once the animal dies	56
E) An elephant's tusks can be removed, but this will harm (but not kill) the elephant	17
D) An elephant's tusks can be removed (without harming the elephant) but it does not grow back	5
C) An elephant's tusks can be removed (without harming the elephant) and it grows back	2
B) An elephant's ivory sheds naturally (while the animal is still alive) and people pick it up	2
Other	2
Ivory removed while animal alive *(combination of E, D & C)*	24
Don't know	12
None of these	4

* Using ONS 2009 mid-year estimates, the GB population aged 15+ is 49,564,800. A total of 8% say they own items made of ivory, equating to nearly 4 million people. Based on a confidence interval of approx +/- 1.3% and the sample size of 2,023 the actual number could vary between c3.3 and 4.6 million adults aged 15+.

Source: http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2748/IFAW-ivory-poll.aspx?oUniqueId=7980

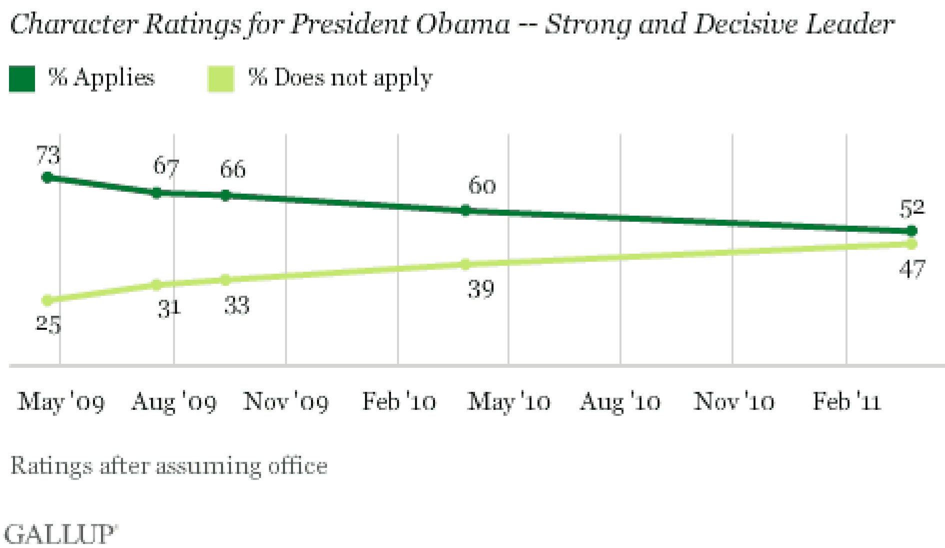
NORTH AMERICA

165-12. Americans Less Likely to View Obama as a Strong Leader

Six in 10 believe he is honest and trustworthy

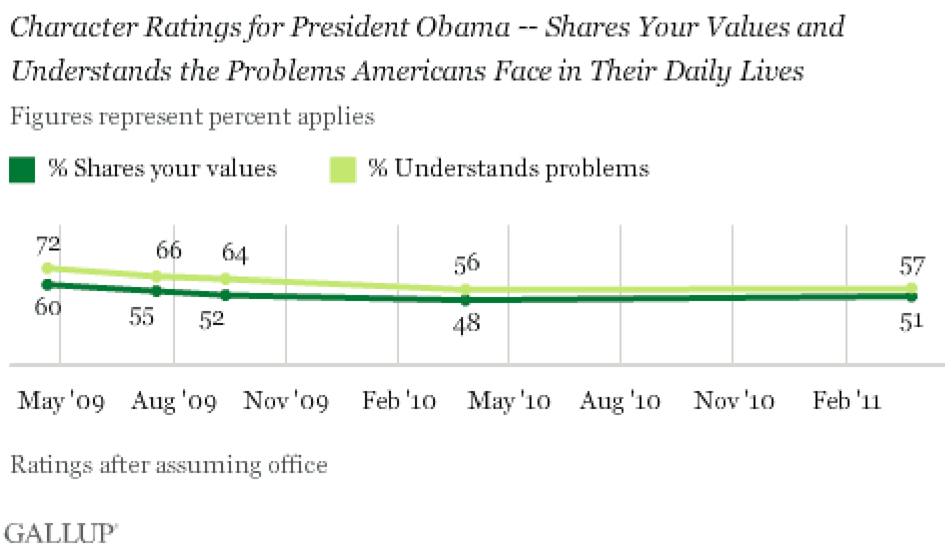
March 30, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have grown increasingly less likely to view President Obama as a strong and decisive leader since he took office. Roughly half now believe this aptly describes him, compared with 60% a year ago and 73% in April 2009.



These results are based on a March 25-27 Gallup poll, conducted just before Obama's widely covered speech on U.S. military action in Libya on Monday night.

The decline in Obama's leadership rating stands in contrast to the stability in the trend for two other personal dimensions. Fifty-seven percent of Americans believe the president understand the problems Americans face in their daily lives, essentially unchanged from 56% in March 2010. And 51% of respondents believe Obama shares their values, similar to 48% last year. Both ratings are down from early 2009.



Altogether, Obama's ratings on being a strong and decisive leader are down a total of 21 percentage points since taking office, compared with a 15-point decline on understanding Americans' daily problems and a 9-point decline in sharing their values. Obama's overall job approval rating declined 16 points over the same time period.

The March 25-27 poll also asked Americans to rate Obama on two other dimensions not yet tested since he took office. Sixty-one percent believe Obama is honest and trustworthy, while 36% say he has a clear plan for solving the country's problems -- marking the high and low scores of the five characteristics tested in the poll.

Thinking about the following characteristics and qualities, please say whether you think each applies or doesn't apply to Barack Obama. How about –[RANDOM ORDER]?

	% Applies	% Does not apply
Is honest and trustworthy	61	36
Understands the problems Americans face in their daily lives	57	42
Is a strong and decisive leader	52	47
Shares your values	51	47
Has a clear plan for solving the country's problems	36	60

Gallup, March 25-27, 2011

GALLUP

During the 2008 presidential campaign, honesty was a relatively strong suit for him and having a clear plan was a weaker area.

Obama Leadership Ratings Down Among All Party Groups

All party groups are less likely to consider Obama a strong leader than they were a year ago. Now, under half of independents (49%) believe Obama is a strong and decisive leader, compared with 56% in 2010. The vast majority of Democrats continue to believe he is a strong leader, but that, too, is down from 89% to 81%. Republicans' views of Obama's leadership, the least positive of the three groups, are down the most since last year (32% to 19%).

Honesty is Obama's strongest attribute among all party groups in the current survey, and the only trait ascribed to Obama by a majority of independents. Majorities of Democrats attribute each of the four other positive characteristics to Obama, but they are notably less likely to believe Obama has a clear plan for solving the country's problems.

Obama Character Ratings, by Political Party

Figures represent percent applies

	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Is honest and trustworthy	88	56	36
Understands the problems Americans face in their daily lives	82	50	36
Is a strong and decisive leader	81	49	19
Shares your values	83	47	18
Has a clear plan for solving the country's problems	62	30	13

Gallup, March 25-27, 2011

GALLUP

Implications

Throughout this year in office, President Obama's ratings on several dimensions, including job approval and most personal characteristics, trended downward, but have since more or less stabilized. One notable exception to that general pattern is perception of the president as a strong and decisive leader, which has continued to drop, and now only a slim majority of Americans rate him positively in this regard.

Given the timing of the two most recent ratings on Obama as a strong and decisive leader (March 2010 and 2011), it is not clear how much the recent events in the Middle East have contributed to this perception. Obama's overall job approval rating in Gallup Daily tracking has fluctuated since mid-March, roughly coinciding with the military campaign in Libya. For the week of March 21-27, though, Obama averaged 45% approval and 47% disapproval, his worst since December.

Moreover, Obama's ratings for handling the situations in Libya and Egypt have not been stellar but also not poor. In any case, much of the 2011 news coverage has focused on major international events and President Obama's response to these events has been a key element of that coverage.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted March 25-27, 2011, with a random sample of 1,027 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

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

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/146876/Americans-Less-Likely-View-Obama-Strong-Leader.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

165-13. Republicans Remain Focused on Government Power, Spending

Despite news focus on international events, foreign policy least important to Republicans
March 28, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Republicans continue to say government spending and power is the issue of greatest political importance to them (38%), followed closely by business and the economy (32%). Social and moral issues and foreign policy each have constituencies, but are far less important within the party. Republicans' ratings of these priorities are not substantially changed from a month ago. The lack of change in the perceived importance of foreign affairs is notable given the recent high-profile U.S. military involvement in Libya.

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

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Feb 18-20, 2011	Mar 18-22, 2011
	%	%
Government spending and power	35	38
Business and the economy	31	32
Social issues and moral values	17	17
National security and foreign policy	15	12
No opinion	2	2

GALLUP

Gallup initially divided Republicans into these four "issue voting groups" in mid-February, and updated the procedure in interviewing with 1,082 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents March 18-22.

Huckabee Maintains Strength Across Issue-Based Voter Segments

As was the case in February, Republicans' choice of most important political issue is related to their support for potential Republican presidential candidates.

Mike Huckabee, who is the overall leader among Republicans for the 2012 nomination at this point, leads or ties for the lead among three of the four issue-based GOP groups. He slightly lags Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin among national security- and foreign policy-focused Republicans.

Romney, second overall in GOP 2012 preferences, ties for or is in first place among two out of the four groups, and is in second place among another group.

Support for Potential 2012 Republican Presidential Candidates, by Most Important Issue

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Social issues	Gov't spending and power	Business and economy	Nat'l security and foreign policy
	%	%	%	%
Mike Huckabee	24	22	15	14
Mitt Romney	9	18	15	17
Sarah Palin	14	9	13	16
Newt Gingrich	9	12	7	13
Ron Paul	9	6	6	4
Michele Bachmann	3	3	5	8
Mitch Daniels	3	6	5	1
Tim Pawlenty	4	3	2	4
Haley Barbour	1	2	5	*
Jon Huntsman	2	3	*	4
Rick Santorum	4	2	1	1
Gary Johnson	0	1	2	3

* Less than 0.5%

March 18-22, 2011

GALLUP

Among the large group of Republicans whose main political focus is on **government spending and power**, Huckabee and Romney get the most support, followed by Newt Gingrich and then Palin.

Republicans who choose **business and the economy** as their top issue are most likely to support Romney or Huckabee, followed closely by Palin. Romney, who has a Harvard MBA and significant business experience, would be expected to do well in this category.

Republicans who care the most about **social and moral issues** are most likely to support Huckabee and Palin. All other candidates gain only single-digit support among these voters. Romney, who is in first or second place among all other groups, does no better than tie Gingrich and Ron Paul among social issues voters.

Despite some observers' claims that Michele Bachmann and Rick Santorum have a special following among social conservatives, these two politicians do not have an unusual appeal among Republicans who care most about social and moral issues.

The smaller group of Republicans whose main focus is on **foreign affairs** spread their support across the four candidates who lead overall -- Romney, Palin, Huckabee, and Gingrich. Bachmann receives her highest support (8%) among this group.

Implications

As was the case in mid-February, the two biggest issues for Republican voters nationwide are government power and spending, and the economy -- in that order. The rank-order of these issue segments appears to be generally stable, with only minor shifts since last month's update.

Republican front-runner Huckabee maintains his relative position of strength across all four issue groups. He dominates among social issues voters and leads or ties other potential candidates in the two biggest Republican issue groups -- those focused on government spending and power, and those focused on the economy.

Romney maintains a first- or second-place position among all segments except social issues voters. Palin appears to have a relative weakness among the largest segment of Republicans -- those who are focused on the government.

Bachmann, who has the second-highest Positive Intensity Score of any potential Republican candidate at this point, does slightly better among that small group of Republicans most focused on foreign affairs. Tim Pawlenty, in the news last week after he established a presidential exploratory committee, does not do exceptionally well among any of the four issue groups. Haley Barbour, who is also reportedly giving serious consideration to a run for the GOP nomination, does best among Republicans focused on business and the economy.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted March 18-22, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,082 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 ±4 percentage points.

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

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

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

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146831/Republicans-Remain-Focused-Government-Power-Spending.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

165-14. Voters' Split on Government Shutdown Concern and Merits; Partisan Battle Lines Clearly Drawn

60% Oppose Raising Debt Ceiling

IBOPE Zogby Interactive

UTICA, NY - An IBOPE Zogby interactive poll has exposed extreme partisan divides on the impact of a possible federal government shutdown due to failure to pass a funding resolution and on whether Congress should raise the debt limit.

These results come from a March 25-28, 2011 IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of 1,930 likely voters.

Voters are split on whether they are concerned about a possible government shutdown, and if they agree that a temporary shutdown would be a good thing because it will force spending cuts. Democrats, however, are much more likely than Republicans to be concerned and much less likely to think it would be a good thing.

Also, while an overall majority and Republicans disagree that Congress should raise the debt ceiling, a majority of Democrats support the action. Nearly one-half believes cutting non-essential services in order to avoid defaulting would be the most likely result if the debt ceiling is not raised.

How concerned are you that budget disputes between Republicans and Democrats might lead to a government shutdown?

Response	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Very + somewhat concerned	50%	70%	31%	48%
Not very + not at all concerned	49%	29%	68%	51%
Not sure	1%	1%	1%	2%

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

Do you agree or disagree that a temporary government shutdown would be a good thing because it will force decreases in government spending that would have not happened otherwise?

Response	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Agree	43%	13%	73%	43%
Disagree	41%	70%	13%	38%
Not sure	17%	17%	14%	19%

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

The U.S. Congress should raise the debt ceiling

Response	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Strongly + somewhat agree	31%	55%	8%	28%
Somewhat & strongly disagree	60%	32%	88%	61%
Not sure	9%	13%	4%	10%

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

Which of the following statements is closest to what you believe will most likely happen if Congress fails to raise the debt ceiling?

Statements	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
The government defaults on debt & endangers the world economy.	20%	28%	11%	20%
The government cuts essential services in order not to default.	21%	30%	11%	21%
The government cuts	47%	28%	69%	44%

nonessential services in order not to default.				
Other/Not sure	12%	14%	9%	14%

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

If there is a government shutdown, voters closely split the fault between Democrats and Republicans.

If a government shutdown occurs, whom do you believe will be most at fault?

Most at fault	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Democrats	37%	4%	74%	33%
Republicans	36%	69%	3%	34%
Both equally	25%	25%	20%	32%
Neither/ Not sure	2%	2%	3%	2%

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

When asked which side is most likely to "cave on principles" to avoid a shutdown, Democrats and Republicans both choose their own parties.

Which side do you believe is most likely to cave in on its principles to avoid a government shutdown?

Most at likely to cave	All Voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Obama & Democrats	31%	43%	23%	26%
Republicans	26%	11%	44%	24%
Both equally	18%	19%	13%	24%
Neither	11%	10%	8%	14%
Not sure	14%	17%	12%	12%

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

The interactive poll of 1,930 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.

ABOUT IBOPE Zogby International

IBOPE Zogby International is a non-partisan, premier global public opinion polling and market research firm that offers timely, accurate results and in-depth analysis and insights. IBOPE Zogby International works with issue experts in a vast array of fields including healthcare, technology, finance, insurance, energy, agriculture, public affairs, and media who offer insightful data analysis and exceptional service to clients in countries throughout the world. IBOPE Zogby International experts analyze data and work with clients to develop and implement new strategies, and offer customized and attractive solutions to challenges our clients face. IBOPE Zogby International was formed in January 2010 following the acquisition of Zogby International by IBOPE Inteligencia of Brazil, a subsidiary of IBOPE Group.

Please visit www.ibopezogby.com for more information on IBOPE Zogby International.

About IBOPE Group

IBOPE Group is a Brazilian multinational company specializing in media, market and opinion research with offices in the United States and 14 Latin American countries. Since its founding 68 years ago, it has been providing a wide range of information and studies on media, public opinion, voting patterns, consumption habits, branding and market behavior.

Source: http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/03/30/ibope-zogby-interactive-voters-split-government-shutdown-concern-and-merits-partisan-battle-lines-cl/

165-15. Most Fear Future Quagmire in Libya

IBOPE Zogby Interactive

March 29, 2011

UTICA, NY - An IBOPE Zogby interactive poll taken in the days before President Barack Obama's speech to the nation on Libya finds high levels of concern about possible negative outcomes there.

More than 70% are concerned Col. Muammer al-Gaddafi will not be deposed, the U.S. will get bogged down in a long conflict and that a new government that might replace Gaddafi will be hostile to the U.S., yet 63% agree that military intervention by the U.S. and allies prevented the deaths of large numbers of Libyans by Gaddafi forces.

Meanwhile, President Obama's job approval rating of 46% remains almost unchanged from other recent IBOPE Zogby polls.

The poll of 1,930 likely voters was conducted from March 25-28. gives

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

Obama Job Performance	**Mar. 28**	**Mar. 21**	**Mar. 8**	**Mar. 4**	**Feb. 24**	**Feb. 21**	**Feb. 8**	**Jan. 31**	**Jan. 4**	**Dec. 10**	**Dec. 1**	**Nov. 22**
Approve	46%	45%	47%	44%	46%	45%	46%	44%	43%	39%	42%	39%
Disapprove	54%	55%	52%	55%	53%	55%	53%	56%	56%	61%	58%	60%
Not sure	<1%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	1%

Questions about the U.S. military intervention against the Gaddafi government included three possible negative outcomes. Voters were asked how concerned (very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, not at all concerned) they were about each. Here are the results:

Statement	Total of Very or Somewhat Concerned
Col. Muammar al-Gaddafi will not be deposed and violence there will continue.	78%
The U.S. will get bogged down in a long military and civil conflict.	75%
The government that ultimately replaces Gaddafi will be hostile to U.S. values and national interests.	70%

Respondents are evenly split about U.S. policy and actions in Libya, with 45% saying they agree and 48% saying they disagree. Just on one third of respondents (32%) agree that the Obama Administration has adequately defined its goals in Libya, compared to 64% that disagree.

Congressional approval and national direction:

- 23% approve of Congressional job performance.
- 33% approve of Democratic Congressional job performance.

- 32% approve of Republican Congressional job performance.
- 28% say the nation is headed in the right direction.

All of these numbers remained stable from our previous IBOPE Zogby interactive poll concluded on March 21.

The interactive poll of 1,930 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.

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Source: http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/03/29/ibope-zogby-interactive-most-fear-future-quagmire-libya-/

165-16. Water Issues Worry Americans Most, Global Warming Least

Environmental concerns are flat since 2010, but down over past decade

March 28, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- With Earth Day about a month away, Americans tell Gallup they worry the most about several water-related risks and issues among nine major environmental issues. They worry least about global warming and loss of open spaces.

Degree to Which Americans Worry About Environmental Problems

I'm going to read you a list of environmental problems. As I read each one, please tell me if you personally worry about this problem a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or not at all.

	Great deal/ Fair amount	Not much/ Not at all
	%	%
Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste	79	20
Pollution of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs	79	22
Pollution of drinking water	77	23
Maintenance of the nation's supply of fresh water for household needs	75	24
Air pollution	72	28
Extinction of plant and animal species	64	36
The loss of tropical rain forests	63	35
Urban sprawl and loss of open spaces	57	42
Global warming	51	48

March 3-6, 2011

GALLUP

At least three in four Americans surveyed in Gallup's 2011 Environment poll say they worry a great deal or a fair amount about contamination of soil and water by toxic waste, pollution of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, pollution of drinking water, and the maintenance of the nation's supply of fresh water for household needs.

Air pollution is nearly as high a concern for Americans, with 72% worried a great deal or a fair amount about it.

A little more than 6 in 10 worry about the related problems of extinction of plant and animal species and the loss of tropical rain forests. Slightly fewer worry about urban sprawl and loss of open spaces, while barely half, 51%, worry about global warming.

The poll was conducted March 3-6, prior to the emergence of an earthquake- and tsunami-generated nuclear crisis in Japan that has raised Americans' own concerns about nuclear power.

The current levels of public concern about various environmental problems are essentially unchanged from 2010. However, Americans are less worried today than they were 10 years ago about all eight issues Gallup measured in 2001. The decline over the past decade spans a period when the public often expressed surging concern about terrorism, the Iraq war, gas prices, and the economy.

Degree to Which Americans Worry About Environmental Problems, 2011 vs. 2001

% Great deal/Fair amount

	March 2001	March 2011	Change
	%	%	Pct. pts.
Pollution of drinking water	88	77	-11
Pollution of rivers/lakes/reservoirs	87	79	-8
Contamination of soil/water from toxic waste	85	79	-6
Air pollution	82	72	-10
Loss of tropical rain forests	76	63	-13
Species extinction	73	64	-9
Urban sprawl and loss of open space	69	57	-12
Global warming^	63	51	-12

^ 2001 wording: "the greenhouse effect or global warming"

GALLUP'

Bottom Line

Although the United States has experienced nothing like the mass drinking-water scare that is gripping Japan during its current nuclear crisis, Americans largely recognize the importance of clean water to their lives. All four environmental issues referring to "water" in this year's Gallup Environment poll rank in the upper tier of environmental concerns, with air pollution a close fifth. Perhaps not surprisingly, there is a slightly steeper drop-off in concern about several issues that aren't directly related to daily survival, such as the loss of tropical rain forests and urban sprawl. What may surprise some, given the broad exposure the issue has received in recent years, is that global warming ranks lowest -- consistent withother Gallup polling -- with barely half of Americans concerned and 48% only a little or not at all concerned.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted March 3-6, 2011, with a random sample of 1,021 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

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

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

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146810/Water-Issues-Worry-Americans-Global-Warming-Least.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

165-17. Americans Resist a Major U.S. Role in Libya

Divided about expanding the mission to remove Gadhafi from power

March 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Prior to President Barack Obama's speech to the U.S. on Libya Monday night, 10% of Americans said the U.S. should take the lead role in the multinational military campaign in Libya and 29% said it should have a major role. The plurality, 36%, favors a minor role for the U.S., while 22% think the country should withdraw entirely.

Preferred Role for U.S. in Libya

Now, we have a question about the military campaign being conducted in Libya by the United States and other countries. Do you think the United States should -- [take the leading role in this campaign, take a major role, but not the leading role, take a minor role, (or) withdraw from this campaign entirely]?

	Leading role	Major role	Minor role	Withdraw
	%	%	%	%
National adults	10	29	36	22
Republican	17	35	29	18
Independent	11	25	38	22
Democrat	5	29	41	22
Conservative	14	32	32	19
Moderate	9	30	37	22
Liberal	6	25	44	22

USA Today/Gallup, March 25-27, 2011

GALLUP'

These results come from a March 25-27 *USA Today*/Gallup poll, conducted as the Obama administration was negotiating with the United States' Western allies to turn command for the Libya campaign over to NATO.

That agreement, announced Monday, is likely to be welcomed by Americans, relatively few of whom want the U.S. to play either the leading role or withdraw altogether. Republicans are slightly more in favor of a major role for the U.S., while independents and Democrats lean more toward a minor role.

Americans are evenly divided at 44% in their reactions to Obama's handling of the situation in Libya -- similar to his overall job approval rating in Gallup Daily tracking in recent days --

with Democrats much more likely than Republicans to approve of how he is responding to Libya.

President Barack Obama's Handling of Situation in Libya

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
	%	%	%
National adults	44	44	12
Republican	26	63	11
Independent	42	45	13
Democrat	61	28	11

USA Today/Gallup, March 25-27, 2011

GALLUP

Ambivalence Over Goal of the Mission

The formal goal of the NATO Libya mission is expressly humanitarian -- attempting, via a no-fly zone, to prevent Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi from carrying out his threats to kill civilians associated with rebel forces. However, Western leaders, including Obama, have made various statements along the lines of "Gadhafi must go" that have raised questions about what the ultimate scope of the mission will be.

The American public is closely divided on this question: 45% say the goal of military actions being conducted in Libya should be limited to maintaining a no-fly zone and weakening that government's military; 44% say the mission should be expanded to removing Gadhafi from power.

Republicans and Democrats are slightly more likely to favor expanding the mission to remove Gadhafi while independents lean toward the narrower goal of enforcing a no-fly zone. The slight majority of conservatives favor toppling Gadhafi, while moderates and liberals tend to favor enforcing the no-fly zone.

Preferred Goal of Military Campaign in Libya

Now, we have a question about the military campaign being conducted in Libya by the United States and other countries. Do you think the goal of these actions should be -- [limited to enforcing a no-fly zone and weakening the Libyan government's military capabilities, (or should it be) expanded to include the removal of Libyan president Moammar Gadhafi from power]?

	Enforce no-fly zone/ weaken military	Remove Gadhafi from power
	%	%
National adults	45	44
Republican	43	50
Independent	50	39
Democrat	37	50
Conservative	39	51
Moderate	49	41
Liberal	48	42

USA Today/Gallup, March 25-27, 2011

GALLUP'

Roughly 7 in 10 Americans report they are following the news about Libya very or somewhat closely -- on par with public attention to the recent uprising in Egypt, and fairly high relative to interest in other news events Gallup has polled on over the past decade.

Bottom Line

In scaling back the United States' participation in the NATO operation in Libya to a supporting role, rather than the leading role it started out with, President Obama has moved U.S. policy closer to where public opinion resides on the issue. Relatively few Americans want the U.S. to play the lead role (10%) or to withdraw altogether (22%). Most, 65%, can live with something in between -- either a "minor" or a "major" U.S. role. Whether Obama can satisfy both of these groups going forward remains to be seen, but adopting a moderate supporting role of some kind could earn broad public backing for this military engagement. At this point, the goal of the mission -- whether narrowly focused on a no-fly zone or broadened to include regime change -- does not appear to be critical in attracting majority public support.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today/*Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted March 25-27, 2011, with a random sample of 1,027 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

For results based on the sample of 500 national adults in Form A and 527 national adults in Form B, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margins of sampling error are ±5 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell phone-only). Each sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone-only 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, 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.

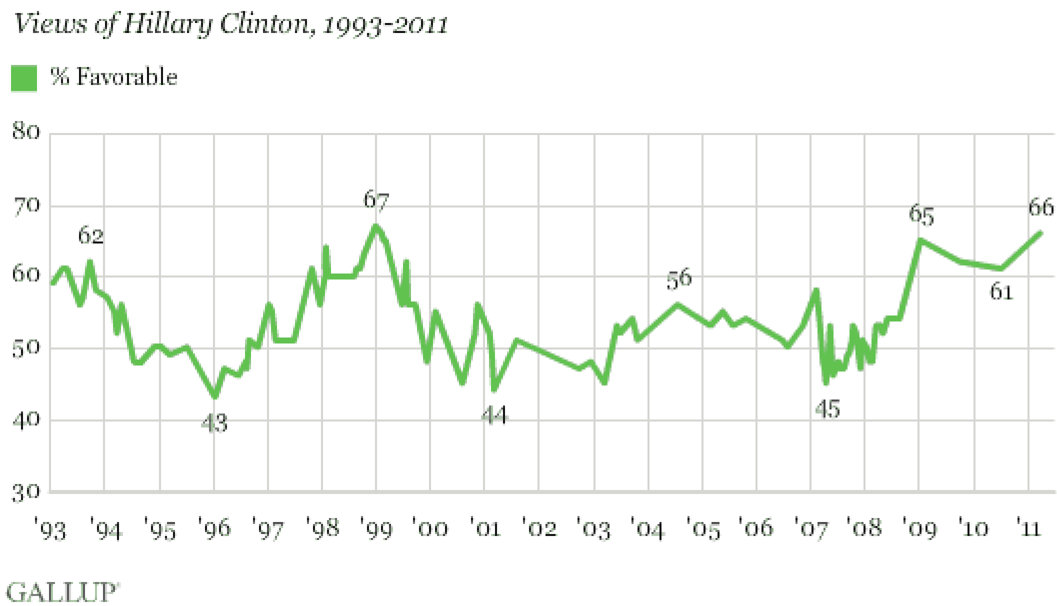
Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/146840/Americans-Resist-Major-Role-Libya.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

165-18. Hillary Clinton Favorable Near Her All-Time High

Secretary leads the president and vice president in popular appeal

March 30, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's favorable rating from Americans is now 66%, up from 61% in July 2010 and her highest rating to date while serving in the Obama administration. The current rating is just one percentage point below her all-time high rating of 67%, from December 1998.



Clinton's record-high rating came shortly after the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Bill Clinton on charges of perjury related to the Monica Lewinsky and Paula Jones investigations, matters that engendered Americans' sympathy for the first lady. However, her subsequent entry into electoral politics -- first as a U.S. senator from New York, and later as a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination -- made her a more polarizing figure, and her favorable rating descended at times into the 40s.

Since Gallup began measuring Clinton's favorable rating in 1993, there have been several instances when Americans viewed her more unfavorably than favorably -- one as recently as February 2008. However, more than 60% of Americans viewed her favorably in all three measures Gallup has taken since she assumed her State Department job, and she scored 65% in January 2009 just prior to President Barack Obama being sworn in.

The latest results are from a March 25-27 Gallup poll conducted while the United States was actively involved in enforcing a no-fly zone over Libya, a policy Clinton reportedly advocated. The same poll finds Clinton rated more positively than other top administration officials. Obama receives a 54% favorable rating, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, 52%, and Vice President Joe Biden, 46%.

Favorable Ratings of Top Obama Administration Officials

March 25-27, 2011

	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opinion
	%	%	%
Hillary Clinton	66	31	3
Barack Obama	54	43	3
Robert Gates	52	22	27
Joe Biden	46	41	13

GALLUP

Clinton Well Liked by Women

Clinton enjoys extraordinary popularity among women, and particularly women 50 and older. She also receives support from a solid majority of independents and 40% of Republicans.

Underscoring that views of Clinton and Obama are not one and the same, Clinton is seen in a favorable light by 45% of those who separately say they disapprove of the job Obama is doing as president. Naturally, she is also viewed favorably by 89% of those who approve of Obama's job performance.

Views of Hillary Clinton by Key Subgroups

March 25-27, 2011

	Favorable	Unfavorable
	%	%
Men	59	39
Women	72	24
Men 18 to 49 years	59	39
Men 50 and older	59	40
Women 18 to 49 years	67	27
Women 50 and older	77	21
Republican	40	57
Independent	62	35
Democrat	92	7
Barack Obama Job Rating		
Approve	89	8
Disapprove	45	54

GALLUP

Clinton's Predecessors Also Popular

Clinton is largely following in the footsteps of two well-liked female secretaries of state who came before her -- Condoleezza Rice, who served former President George W. Bush during his second term; and Madeleine Albright, who served during former President Clinton's second term. Rice's favorable ratings ranged from 59% to 63% (according to Gallup measurements conducted in 2005 and 2006) and Albright's from 61% to 69% (between 1998 and 2000).

However, Clinton's popularity does not approach that of Colin Powell, who served as secretary of state in George W. Bush's first term. Powell's favorable ratings were consistently above 80%, ranging from 83% to 88%.

Bottom Line

With a 66% favorable rating from Americans, Secretary of State Clinton is more popular than the president, more popular than the vice president, and more popular than she, herself, has been for much of her time in the national spotlight since 1993.

Clinton's popularity may be partly due to the nature of the secretary of state position, which is somewhat above the fray of partisan politics and focused on defending U.S. interests globally.

Clinton recently ruled out serving another term as secretary of state in a possible Obama second term and has squelched speculation that she might replace Biden as vice president. This has only fueled speculation about what her presidential ambitions might be for 2016. While Clinton's broad appeal would seem an auspicious foundation for seeking the White House, the presidential track record of secretaries of state is not -- the last time a former secretary of state won the presidency was James Buchanan in 1856. Perhaps that is one reason Clinton is looking to end her service on a high note, and in plenty of time to add another presidential-worthy credential to her resume, should the presidency be her goal.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted March 25-27, 2011, with a random sample of 1,027 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell phone-only). Each sample includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone-only 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, 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/146891/Hillary-Clinton-Favorable-Near-Time-High.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

165-19. Canadian Consumers Unwilling to Pay for News Online

March 29, 2011

Key findings:

• Ninety-two per cent of Canadians who get news online say they would find another free site if their favourite news sites started charging for content.

• Eighty-one per cent say they definitely will not pay to continue reading their favourite online news site.

• Canadians are more willing to pay for music, games, e-books and even ringtones than they are to pay for news but even in these categories, the numbers are not high

• The vast majority of consumers is unwilling to accept fees but up to 30 per cent indicate they would definitely or probably pay, if there were no other choice

• Charges are most acceptable for breaking news (28 %) or hard news (22 %). Nineteen per cent indicate they would pay for international news and 16 per cent would purchase feature and analytical news.

Consumers dont want to pay

News consumers, long used to getting their news free because production costs were mostly subsidized by advertising, are balking at the idea of having to pay for content, now that revenues are falling below the level needed to sustain media operations on both legacy and online platforms.

For the last few years, operators have been scrambling to find a new model that will generate sufficient revenue to keep them afloat. Many, including media titan Rupert Murdock, have seized on paywalls as the panacea for what ails the news business but consumers are not prepared to go along, according to a collaborative survey conducted recently by the Canadian Media Research Consortium (CMRC) and Vision Critical.

The internet survey of 1,682 adults showed that Canadians are overwhelmingly opposed to fees for content. Ninety-two per cent of those who get news online said they would find another free site if their favourite news sites started charging for content. Somewhat surprisingly, there is little or no difference among age groups, educations levels or urban and rural populations on this question. At present, approximately 85 per cent of internet users in Canada get news online at least once a month.

If media owners insist on going ahead with paywalls against these odds, 81 per cent of consumers say they would not pay to continue reading their favourite online news site. Only four per cent overall are willing to pay and the other 15 per cent are unsure. (See Figure 1.) Here, there are no significant differences among those unwilling or unsure about paying but there is some variation in the results for the sexes and language groups, among those willing to pay. Men (5%) seem more willing than women (2%).

French speakers (6%) are more willing than English speakers (3%). There is also more willingness as education and income levels rise but keep in mind that these results apply only to four per cent who read news online. So long as these attitudes prevail, media owners had best start looking elsewhere for new revenue streams. Having gotten used to news online for free, people seem adamant that they wont pay.

Might attitudes change over time?

Is there any hope that attitudes could change?

Perhaps, but so far, there is scant evidence that they will. An online survey of Canadians, conducted in 2009 by Vision Critical, found similar resistance and surveys done in the U.S. and the U.K. don t reveal much appetite for paywalls. Opposition in the U.S. is not quite as strong as in Canada – 82 per cent would go elsewhere if their favourite sites started charging, according to a Pew Institute study carried out in 2010. Where paywalls have been introduced, huge losses in online traffic have resulted. The Globe and Mail reported recently that The Times of London regularly attracted more than six million unique visitors per month but since July 2010 when paywalls were introduced, the number has not gone above 2.5 million, a 60 per cent drop from one year ago. The New York Times started charging Canadians on March 17. So far, the newspaper company does not appear to be discouraged by its counterparts disappointing numbers.

The recent CMRC survey found that Canadians are more willing to pay for music, games, movies, ebooks and even ringtones online than they are to pay for news but even in these categories, the numbers are not high: twenty-six per cent already pay for music; 19 per cent pay for games; nine for movies; eight for e-books and a surprising 12 per cent for ringtones. When consumers first started having to pay to download music, resistance was widespread so perhaps this is evidence that attitudes toward paying for news could change over time. The problem is that media owners need new revenue streams sooner, rather than later, and they may not survive long enough for attitudes to change.

While they may be totally against paying for news, consumers have started to think about what they would do if charges were implemented. Respondents to the survey answered several questions having to do with what types of news and publications they would be willing to pay for and what form of payment they would prefer. The vast majority of consumers is unwilling to accept fees but up to nearly 30 per cent indicate they would definitely or probably pay, if there were no other choice. The numbers vary depending on the type of publication. Twenty-eight per cent would be definitely or probably willing to pay to receive their local online newspaper or their national newspaper. Eighteen per cent say they definitely or probably would pay a fee for an online international newspaper; 17 per cent would definitely or probably pay for a national magazine or to take part in an online community site based on common interests. The only noteworthy variant among these overall results is that for local and national online publications, French speakers seem slightly more inclined to definitely or probably pay (31%) than English speakers (25%).

However, among those who definitely won t pay, there is no discernible difference of opinion between English and French Canadians.

It is interesting, but hardly surprising, that opposition to paying for online magazines, be they local, national or international, is even higher than for newspapers in all these categories. Eighty-eight per cent say no to charges for local magazines, 85 per cent are against charges for international magazines and 83 per cent don t want to pay for national magazines online. Numbers opposed to paying for newspapers in these categories are, on average, 10 per cent lower.

What if there were no choice but to pay for content?

If there were no choice, some online consumers would likely pay for certain types of news. Charges are most acceptable for breaking (28%) or hard news (22%). Nineteen per cent indicate they would pay for international news and 16 per cent would purchase feature and analytical content. Investigative news and financial news come next at 13 per cent each. Sports follow with 12 per cent willing to pay. Specialty news, soft content, entertainment and celebrity news and Pro/Am news (generated by citizen journalists but professionally edited) are at the bottom of the list, presumably because if one of these sites starting charging, it is so easy for a consumer to go elsewhere to find that kind of news. Again, it is prudent to remember that substantial majorities in all these categories remain unwilling in accept charges of any kind. (See Figure 2.)

Somewhat surprisingly, results in this area do not vary significantly by age but it appears that as education levels rise, fees are more acceptable, but only for some types of news (hard or breaking).

When it comes to what form of payment would be most acceptable, the survey shows a clear preference on the part of the consumer for a flat-fee subscription. Thirty-four per cent say they prefer this method.

The next closest, among available choices, is metered charges – pay as you go (20%). There is little support for any of the other options presented: a per-day charge (6%), per-article fee (4%), or by purchasing a mobile device application such as a Blackberry news app (7%). The remainder does not want to pay… period! (See Figure 3.)

If people are unwilling to pay for content, are they ready to accept advertising online or to register and share personal data with the provider in the hope that these things will cover the costs of producing news and save them from having to pay a user fee? The news on this front, from a media owner s point of view, is good and bad. The good news is that eighty-two per cent of news consumers are willing to accept advertising along with content if it means the latter is free. Only nine per cent are against and the same per cent is unsure. The bad news for owners is that 58 per cent are not willing to serve up personal data as a means of mitigating costs. Nineteen per cent are willing to co-operate and 23 per cent are not yet certain. For most, this is a privacy issue and while the academic literature on the end of privacy seems to suggest that younger users are less concerned, this survey did not produce that result. Results were the same across all age groups, except among those who were “not at all comfortable” with sharing personal data. Here the traditional relationship showed up: people over 55 were more opposed (62%) than were those in the 18 – 34 age group (47%).

Given that media owners – old and new – see marketing of personal data as having the potential to make up for a good portion of lost revenues, this has to be a concern for them. Many members of the public are only beginning to become aware that when they search, buy or surf online, they are leaving a trail that provides useful information which can be aggregated, sold and used by merchants as a means of targeting people already interested in the type of product they are selling. The advantages of this type of advertising are obvious and more companies are doing it every day. If and when the public becomes more aware of the issue and decides they really don t want it to continue, it may be too late. The practice is already widespread so the genie is out of the bottle.

Conclusion

If only consumers were as comfortable paying for content as owners would like them to be, the future would be a lot rosier. For owners, the paywall solution is neat and tidy, just like the old model except that the lion s share of production costs is borne by consumers, not advertisers. Paywalls might work for selective publications, such as The Wall Street Journal and the Times of London but given current public attitudes, most publishers had better start looking elsewhere for revenue solutions. The Wall Street Journal is a financial newspaper with a specialized audience; the Times of London claims its audience is extremely loyal and would pay, if necessary. The latter lost droves of online readers (60% or more) when it introduced a paywall around its site in July 2010 but the owners say they are confident they can replace lost revenues in a matter of months, not years. Many remain sceptical.

Whether the Times of London succeeds or not, there is very little likelihood that their experience could become the model for others that are unable to replicate the quality of this venerable institution. When The New York Times introduces paywalls in the US at the end of March, it will provide a better test but again, this publication is revered by its readers because of a quality few can match.

Time is of the essence because a lot of media companies are already in trouble due to lost revenues as readers switch to online news. In order to survive, they need additional revenue streams in a matter of months, not years.

Source:http://www.visioncritical.com/newsroom/canadian-consumers-dont-want-to-pay-for-news/

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

165-20. Housing Shortage Stands Out Among Bahrain's Woes

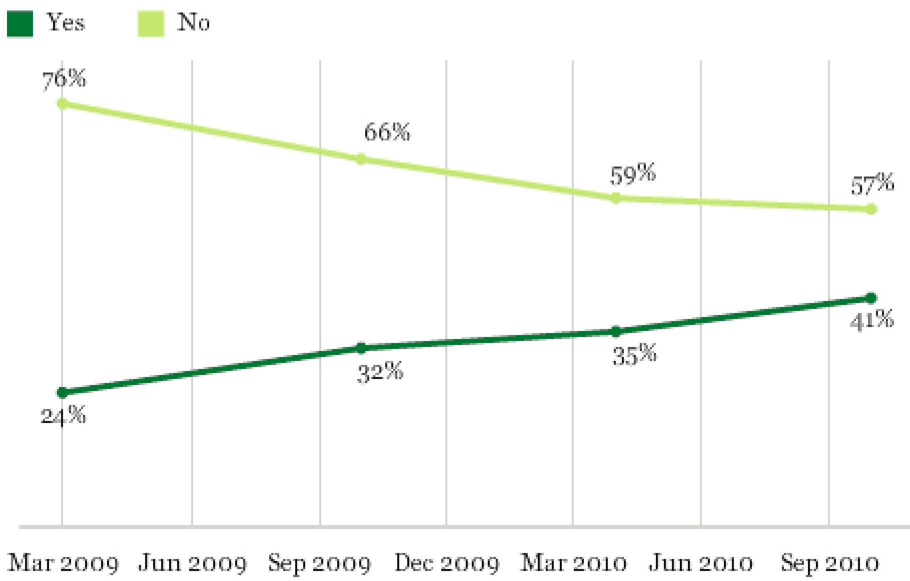
Last fall, 41% of respondents said they had trouble affording shelter in the past year

March 31, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- As anti-government protests continue in Bahrain, recent Gallup surveys indicate a lack of affordable housing is among the most prominent sources of economic concern for the country's population. In October 2010, 41% of nationals and Arab expatriates surveyed in Bahrain said there had been times in the past 12 months when they did not have enough money to pay for adequate shelter -- a sharp rise from 24% in March 2009.

Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to provide adequate shelter or housing for you and your family?

Asked of respondents in Bahrain



GALLUP

Protesters in Bahrain have demanded political reform and a more representative government in demonstrations that started Feb. 14. While press coverage has focused largely on possible sectarian tensions between the country's Shiite majority and Sunni minority, Gallup polling suggests people in the country have other key grievances. Economic concerns, such as access to food and shelter, are also important. The country does not have as much oil wealth as other small Arab Gulf countries.

In some cases, the Bahraini government has not been able to maintain the extensive social services and employment opportunities that several neighboring populations enjoy -- particularly since the region began experiencing a demographic "youth bulge." Consequently, relative to other small Arab Gulf countries, a larger share of respondents in Bahrain have a hard time paying for basic necessities; for example, in late 2010, 22% of those surveyed said there had been times in the past 12 months when they did not have enough money to buy the food they or their families needed. By contrast, 9% of respondents in Kuwait and 6% in the United Arab Emirates said the same.

When it comes to services that the government traditionally subsidizes, the country's housing shortage is a particularly sore spot for people in Bahrain. The 41% of adults surveyed in Bahrain who said there were times in the past 12 months when they did not have enough money to provide adequate housing tops all other populations surveyed in the Arab League.

Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to provide adequate shelter or housing for you and your family?

	Yes	No
Bahrain	41%	57%
Sudan	35%	65%
Yemen	32%	69%
Comoros	31%	68%
Mauritania	31%	69%
Saudi Arabia	27%	73%
Somaliland region	26%	75%
Egypt	25%	74%
Iraq	21%	76%
Palestinian Territories	14%	85%
Morocco	12%	86%
Tunisia	11%	89%
United Arab Emirates	10%	87%
Algeria	10%	90%
Kuwait	10%	90%
Lebanon	9%	89%
Jordan	7%	92%
Libya	2%	91%

All interviews conducted August-December 2010

GALLUP

These results reflect the growing severity of Bahrain's housing shortage as its young adult population has swelled. According to the country's housing ministry, more than 46,000 people are currently on the waiting list for government-subsidized housing, and housing units are now being assigned to those who applied in 1993.

Rising concerns about housing are also evident in respondents' relatively low satisfaction with the availability of good, affordable housing in their city or area. One in three respondents (33%) in Bahrain in April 2010 said they were satisfied -- down dramatically from 61% in March 2009. As in the other Arab Gulf countries surveyed in 2010, the availability of good, affordable housing is the one aspect of their communities that respondents were least likely to be satisfied with. However, people in Bahrain were significantly less likely to be satisfied with local housing availability than those in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, or the United Arab Emirates.

Addressing the housing crisis may go a long way toward improving the outlook of those in Bahrain, particularly because satisfaction with other important services -- including education and healthcare -- remains strong.

In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with ...?

Results among Arab Gulf countries surveyed in 2010

	Bahrain	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	United Arab Emirates
The educational system or schools	88%	62%	65%	82%
The public transportation systems	74%	71%	65%	84%
The availability of quality healthcare	73%	64%	60%	84%
The roads and highways	70%	72%	63%	79%
Availability of good jobs	50%	54%	53%	45%
The availability of good, affordable housing	33%	48%	47%	42%

All interviews conducted March-August 2010

GALLUP

Bottom Line

The Bahraini government has recently started to explore new strategies for improving housing availability, most prominently public-private partnerships. Until the country's property bubble burst in 2008, private developers were focused on building luxury housing rather than units that were affordable to most Bahrainis. That is now changing as the demand for high-end housing has dropped. On March 9, the government announced a plan to build 50,000 homes over the next five years in cooperation with the private sector -- a move Housing Minister Majid Al Alawi hoped would "contribute to forwarding the national dialogue" between the government and opposition leaders.

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

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 from Bahrain are based on face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, per survey wave. The sample includes Bahrainis and Arab expatriates; non-Arabs were excluded. It's estimated that approximately one-fourth of the adult population is excluded. For results based on this total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±3.1 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/146912/Housing-Shortage-Stands-Among-Bahrain-Woes.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World

165-21. 3D Home Television Falls Flat with Buyers in U.S., Britain, Canada

Published on Mar 31, 2011

Most Americans, Britons and Canadians are unlikely to purchase a 3D television any time soon, according to a recent Vision Critical poll.

The online survey of representative national samples shows that a negligible number of respondents in each country currently own 3D TVs. Five per cent of Americans, two per cent of Britons and only one per cent of Canadians have a 3D television at home.

However, despite limited intent to purchase, awareness of 3D TV is strong in all three countries—at least four-in- five respondents in the U.S. (81%), Britain (also 81%) and Canada (84%) have heard of household consumer 3D television.

3D TV – Comparison

What type of television(s) do you currently have in your household? (select all that apply)

	Canada	Great Britain	United States
Flat Screen LCD	21%	26%	17%
Flat screen High Definition LCD	29%	30%	30%
Rear-Projection LCD	4%	2%	6%
Rear-Projection High Definition LCD	4%	1%	6%
CRT Tube	24%	17%	31%
Flat screen Plasma	8%	8%	6%
Flat screen High Definition Plasma	10%	9%	8%
Flat screen High Definition LED	10%	14%	13%
3D Flat screen High Definition LCD	1%	2%	5%
Other	6%	3%	7%
None of the above	12%	9%	9%

Based on a short description, 81 per cent of American respondents said they probably or definitely would not purchase a 3D TV in the next six months. American men are more likely (17%) to purchase than women (10%).

95 per cent of Canadians responded that they would “probably” or “definitely” not purchase a 3D television in the next six months. A vast proportion of those (71%) fall into the “definitely would not buy” category. Respon- dents in British Columbia are the least likely to purchase a 3D TV (98% will not) while those in Ontario are more open to the technology (5% might).

Four-in-five Britons (81%) will not purchase a 3D TV in the next six months. Respondents living in London are more likely to buy compared to those in other parts of Britain. Respondents in the Midlands and Wales are the least likely to purchase a 3D TV in the foreseeable future.

Across all three countries, the main reason cited for not planning to buy a 3D television is the high price tag. In Britain, two-in-five respondents (42%) think 3D TVs are too expensive, a sentiment shared by 39 per cent of Americans and 32 per cent of Canadians. Also, 31 per cent of Britons, 28 per cent of Canadians and 26 per cent of Americans feel it is inconvenient to wear the required 3D glasses at home.

When asked what they would be willing to pay for a 46” name-brand 3D television, Americans averaged $753, on par with Canadians at $785 (nearly equivalent considering the current exchange rate). Britons are willing to pay £385 (approximately $625 U.S.) for a 40” 3D TV from a national UK retailer.

“There appears to be a significant perceived lack of value with 3D TVs among consumers in all three countries,” said Matt Kleinschmit, Senior Vice President at Vision Critical. “This is not surprising given that many people may have only recently migrated to high definition TVs, and now they are being asked yet again to upgrade to a new technology. At the same time, early adopters of Plasma or LCD HD TVs discovered that there was very little HD content when they first purchased these devices, and then witnessed prices drop dramatically over the course of several years. It seems these same consumers may have learned their lesson and are sitting on the sidelines of the initial 3D TV technology wave. The inherent value proposition of these initial 3D TVs, coupled with the inconvenience of having to wear 3D glasses at home is just too much of a barrier to take the plunge."

3D TV – Comparison

Many television manufacturers are now offering 3D-ready televisions for consumer household use. These televisions range in size from 40" to 65" and range in price at national retailers from $1,200 to $6,000. These televisions display all regular and HD programming, plus 3D broadcasts that require the viewer to wear 3D glasses. 3D movies are also available which require a 3D-ready Blu-Ray player.

Before today, had you ever heard of household consumer 3D televisions?

	Canada	Great Britain	United States
Yes	84%	81%	81%
No	16%	19%	19%

Of the very small group of respondents who will "probably" or "definitely" buy a 3D television in the next six months, most will elect to buy a Sony, Samsung, or LG—or whichever brand is the best deal at the time they go to purchase.

About a third of Canadians (35%) who plan to buy a 3D TV will choose LG, 17 per cent will select Sony and 21 per cent will go with whichever brand provides the best deal. In the U.S., 32 per cent of prospective buyers will acquire a Sony model, 14 per cent plan to buy Samsung and 16 per cent will go with the best deal. In Britain, respondents who plan to buy a 3D TV will mostly go for the best deal (35%), followed by 23 per cent opting for Sony and 14 per cent choosing Samsung.

More than half of Britons who are planning to buy a 3D TV in the next six months will do so from whichever retailer has the best deal at the time they go to purchase (53%)—12 per cent will purchase from Currys and 11 per cent will buy at Argos. In Canada, 37 per cent plan to buy at Future Shop and nine per cent will go to Costco—more than a third (35%) will go wherever the deals are best. American shoppers prefer Best Buy (28%) or Wal-Mart (22%) if they plan to buy a 3D TV in the next six months. One-in-five respondents in the U.S. will be seeking the best deal, regardless of the retailer (20%).

3D TV – Comparison

Based on the description provided, how likely would you be to purchase a 3D television in the next six months?

	Canada	Great Britain	United States
Definitely would buy	1%	2%	3%
Probably would buy	3%	8%	11%
Probably would not buy	24%	29%	25%
Definitely would not buy	71%	52%	56%
Not sure	2%	8%	6%

Nearly one third of Canadians own a high definition flat screen LCD (29%) while one-in-five have a non- HD flat screen LCD (21%) and nearly one quarter (24%) have a CRT tube-style television in their home. CRT tube TVs (31%) and HD flat screen LCD TVs (30%) are most popular in the US. About one-in-five Americans (17%) have a non-HD flat screen LCD. In Britain, three-in-ten respondents have a flat screen HD TV at home (30%) while 26 per cent have a non-HD LCD, and 17 per cent own a CRT tube television.

Methodology: From March 1 to March 7, 2011 Vision Critical conducted an online survey among 1,011 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,006 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,007 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1% for Canada and the United States and 2.2% for Great Britain. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada, the US and Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

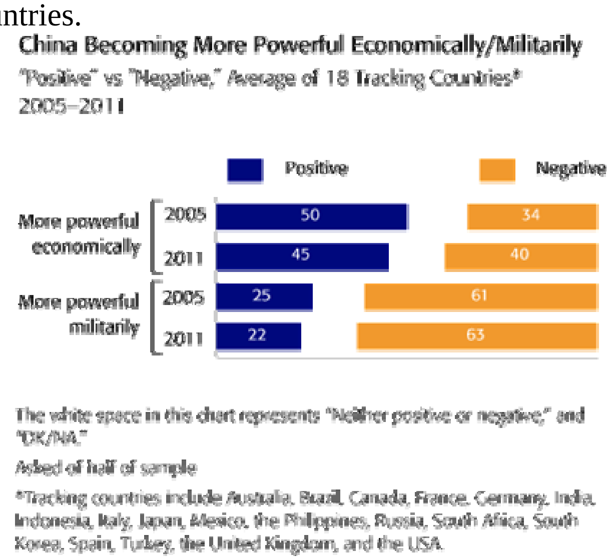
Source:http://www.visioncritical.com/newsroom/3d-home-television-falls-flat-with-buyers-in-u-s-britain-canada/

165-22. Rising Concern about China's Increasing Power: Global Poll

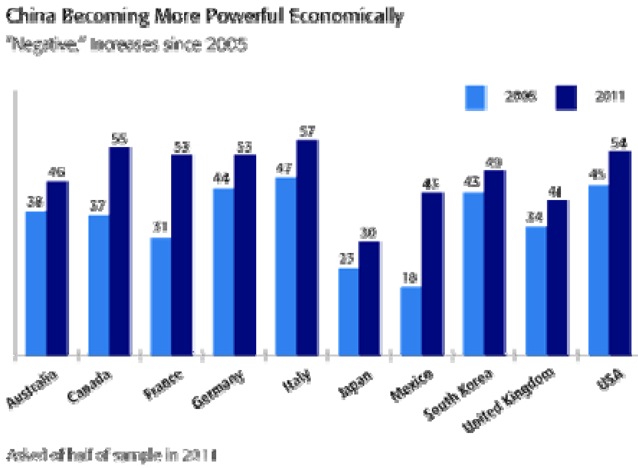
March 27, 2011

Public concern is growing about China's increasing economic power, according to a new global poll conducted for BBC World Service.

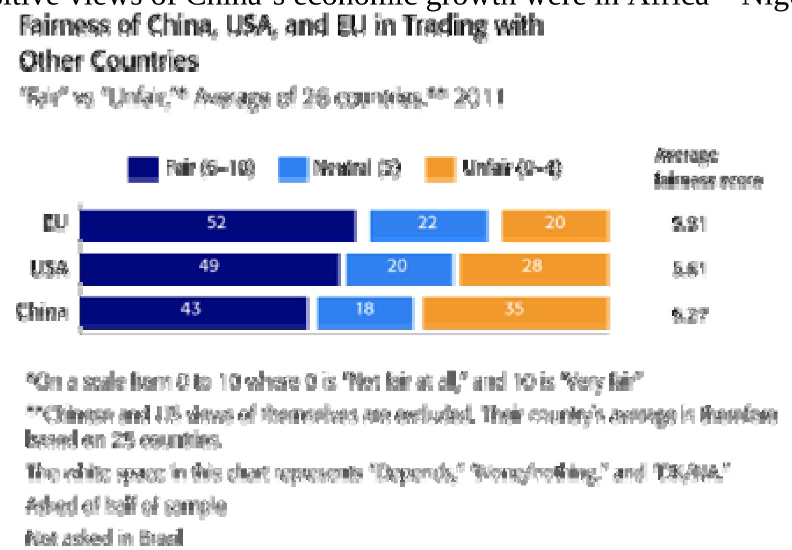
The poll conducted by GlobeScan/PIPA among 28,619 people in 27 countries reveals that the numbers who say that China becoming more powerful economically is a bad thing have increased substantially across a number of China's key trading partners—and especially in G7 countries.



Compared to BBC World Service polling in 2005, negative views of China's growing economic power rose—and are now in the majority—in France (up from 31 to 53%), in Canada (up from 37% to 55%), in Germany (up from 44% to 53%), in Italy (up from 47% to 57%) and in the USA (up from 45% to 54%). Negative views also grew significantly in countries such as the United Kingdom (up from 34% to 41%), and Mexico (up from 18% to 43%).

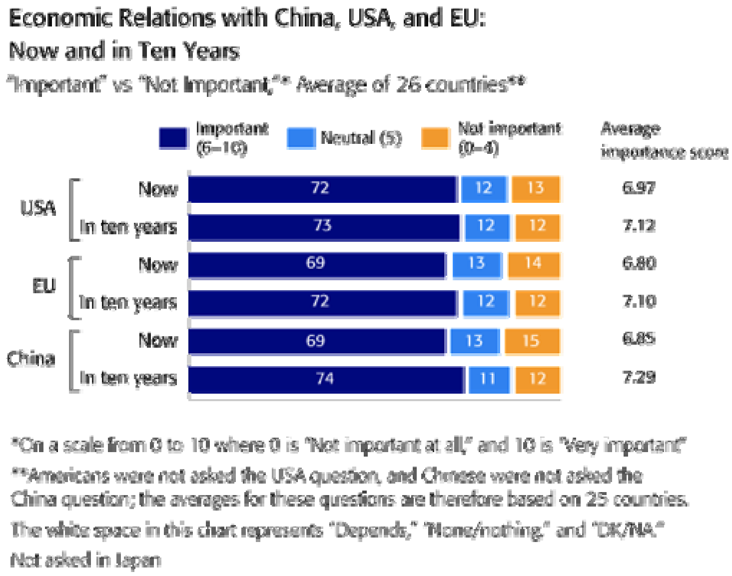


Despite increasing unease in many countries, however, views of China's increased economic power remained positive on balance, with an average of 50 per cent with a positive view of it and 33 per cent with a negative view across all countries polled. The two nations with the most positive views of China's economic growth were in Africa—Nigeria (82%) and Kenya (77%).



The poll results also suggest that worries about China's economic growth are related to perceptions that China's trade practices with other countries are unfair.

Overall, more than one-third of those polled (35%) rated China's trade practices as unfair, compared to 28 per cent who rated US trade practices as unfair and just one in five (20%) who felt EU trade practices are unfair. Further, the proportions rating China's trade practices as unfair were substantially higher in the countries that have a negative view of China's economic growth, including Japan (70% saying China is unfair), France (59%), South Korea (58%), Germany (56%), Italy (51%), the USA (45%), the United Kingdom (44%), Mexico (41%), and Canada (39%). These countries are among China's largest trading partners.



China is also expected by many to overtake the USA in economic importance to their country over the next ten years. Asked to rate on a scale of 0 to 10 the importance of their economic relations with the USA, China, and the EU now, and in ten years' time, people on average give China a score of 6.85, but a score of 7.29 in ten years—more important than the USA and the EU.

Doug Miller, Chairman of GlobeScan, comments: "China's 'economic miracle' is more controversial today than it was in 2005. Ravaged by the Great Recession, citizens of G7 countries may be less certain how they will compete with China, now so large in their economic lives."

Steven Kull, Director of PIPA, said: "China may feel that it is only natural that it should seek advantages in its trading relations and a larger military footprint. But this poll suggests that a growing perception of China as acting unfairly is alienating some of its largest trading partners, while its military expansion is being watched by its neighbours with a wary eye."

Results are based on 28,619 in-home or telephone interviews conducted across a total of 27 countries by the international polling firm GlobeScan, together with the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. GlobeScan coordinated fieldwork between December 2, 2010 and February 4, 2011.

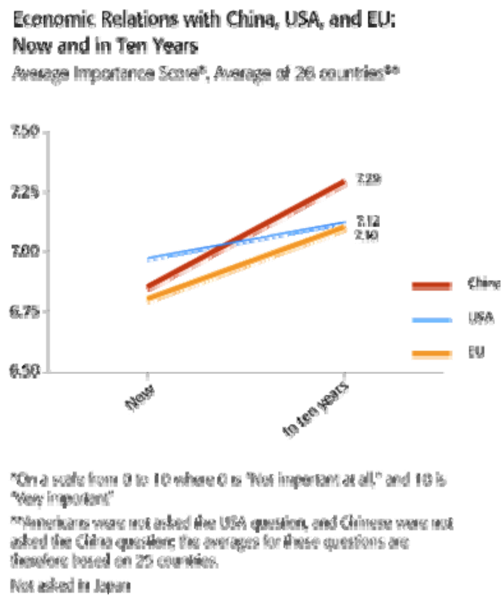
Detailed Findings

As well as being asked to give their feeling about increased Chinese economic power, respondents were also asked to say how they felt about the possibility of China becoming significantly more powerful militarily. This is seen as a more ominous prospect with an average of 55 per cent among all countries surveyed viewing it as negative and only 26 per cent as positive. Compared to 2005, concern seems to be rising, especially among China's neighbours, with negative views increasing in South Korea (up from 58 to 76%), Russia (up from 59 to 69%), the Philippines (up from 46 to 63%), and Japan (up from 78 to 88%).

Detailed results suggest only a modest shift in people's expectations about the future economic importance of their country's trade relations with the USA, the EU, and China, but enough for China to overtake America as the country of primary importance among the three—the USA currently ranks higher than China in terms of importance (6.97), but is projected to be slightly lower than China in ten years' time (7.12). The EU is also rated as important (6.80 now) and is expected to almost catch up with the USA in terms of importance in ten years' time (7.10).

In some regions, trade relations with China are already being seen as more important than those with the US. China's Asian neighbours give an average rating of 7.18 to their relations with China, compared to just 7.00 for the US. Similarly, African countries polled on average give a higher rating to the current importance of trade relations with China (7.87) than they do to the USA (7.59)

In contrast, the public in the world's other emerging economic giant, India, thinks that its economic relations with the US will remain more important than those with China in ten years' time. The average score Indians give to China in terms of its economic importance to their nation rises from 5.36 now to 5.49 in ten years' time, while the average score given to the US falls from 6.37 to 6.11.



In total 28,619 citizens in 27 countries, were interviewed face-to-face, or by telephone December 2, 2010 and February 4, 2011. Some questions were asked of half of samples. Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan and its research partners in each country, together with the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. In eight of the 27 countries, the sample was limited to major urban areas. The margin of error per country ranges from +/- 2.8 to 4.9 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

165-23. Half Of Global Citizens Think The Arab Spring Will Only Lead To Governments That Are As Bad As They Are Now

Published:31 March

Fieldwork:2 - 14 March 2011

A new poll conducted by Ipsos MORI (before the military action in Libya began) indicates citizens in 23 countries around the world are not convinced that public uprisings in the Middle East and Africa will bring about better government.

If the public uprisings in these countries are successful in changing their government and/or their leader, half (52%) think it will create real democratic governments where their citizens can both vote and have a real say in their future. However, 47% say the current government in each country will just be replaced by another government or leader that will be as bad, or worse, than the previous one.

The public in Britain are among the most cautious. Two in five (41%) Britons think the uprisings will bring about real democracies while three in five (59%) believe even if the protestors are successful in overturning their governments an equally bad government will take its place. US citizens are equally wary, while the French – Britain and America's main ally in the air strikes on Libya – are more equally split (49% and 51% respectively).

Citizens in South Korea and India are more positive about the potential for democracy resulting from the Arab Spring, with three quarters in each country (75% and 74% respectively) believing democratic governments will be created as a result of the uprisings.

Despite the caution over seeing democracies rise up from the Arab Spring movements, a majority of global citizens (72%) agree that regime changes due to public uprisings in the Middle East and Africa will lead to meaningful improvements in the lives of people living in those countries.

Managing Director of Ipsos MORI, Bobby Duffy, said:

"There are very different reactions to the situations in the Middle East. People across the world think that the uprisings will lead to an improvement in the day to day lives of many in the region. However, the jury is still out on whether it will lead to better governance but only time will tell."

Notes to Editors

Global @dvisor is conducted monthly in 23 countries via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America. Due to safety considerations for respondents, those surveyed in Saudi Arabia were given the option of "prefer not to say". An international sample of 17,531 adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, were interviewed between March 2 and March 14, 2011. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis with the exception of Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Russia and Turkey, where each have a sample 500+. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/-3.1 percentage points for a sample of 1,000 and an estimated margin of error of +/- 4.5 percentage points for a sample of 500 19 times out of 20 per country of what the results would have been had the entire population of the specifically aged adults in that country been polled.

Source: http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2752/Half-of-global-citizens-think-the-Arab-Spring-will-only-lead-to-governments-that-are-as-bad-as-they-are-now.aspx

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CYBER WORLD

165-24. **TNS Study Reveals Penalty For Not Keeping Up In Relentlessly Changing Mobile Category**

- Insatiable consumers continue to drive market growth for advanced mobile technologies, with video calling, live video and video downloads the next critical developments
- Device brand is key, but handset manufacturers are losing out as content brands and partnerships make rapidgains in importance when consumers make purchasing decisions

- Apple and Google's ability to deliver more effective rich media experiences to consumers is translating to victory in the platform wars

Shanghai – 29 March, 2011: TNS, the world's largest custom research company, today launched TNS Mobile Life 2011, the largest ever global research study into today's mobile consumer. Now into its sixth year, TNS Mobile Life is the result of more than 25,000 hours of interviews with over 34,000 respondents in 43 countries. It provides a complete understanding of consumer experiences with mobility today and insights into how this will change tomorrow.

The findings highlight that as "static" functionality such as SMS and still imaging become commoditised, growth will be driven through further demand for social functionality and new demands for video calling, streaming and sharing services:

· The number of mobile web users visiting social networking sites grew from 30% to 46% globally, and from 26% to 50% in emerging markets*, leapfrogging much of the developed markets

· Only 18% of consumers globally managed to upload photos or video directly to the web from their mobiles, during the same period, but a further 44% would be interested in doing so in future

· Consumers in emerging markets are more likely to want to upload content (49%), but more than half (55%) do not have the ability to do so

"With mobiles increasingly becoming the primary device for internet access and communication, particularly in emerging markets, entertainment and multimedia features are a key requirement for engaging with consumers," said James Fergusson, Managing Director, Global Technology Sector, TNS. "Handset manufacturers need to ensure that entertainment offers, particularly mobile music, gaming, pictures, video and social networking are available and easy to access. Many are missing a trick in not bringing more smartphones to market in high-growth countries."

Many emerging markets users outpace their western counterparts, leading demand for the latest mobile technologies

Camera features may have reached a saturation point, growing only 1% between 2010 and 2011, but nearly a quarter of global consumers (24%) say the ability to take and share pictures and video will play a major role in their choice of next device. TNS Mobile Life shows the strongest growth in new services in the last 12 months has come from social video (10% to 15%) and Live TV (9% to 12%). Over half of consumers (54%) are interested in video calling, despite not yet using the service and half are interested in watching live TV (50%) or in downloading or streaming video (48%).

In Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa, demand for Live TV in particular is higher still, reaching upwards of 70%. "Emerging Tier 1 markets, such as China, Brazil and UAE already have penetration levels that match mature markets," Fergusson continues. "Multimedia content presents an opportunity to leverage growth potential in emerging economies. Income constraints in many of these markets ensure the importance of imaging and video services through mobiles increases."

Brand, partnerships and demand for tablets – challenges in maintaining market share in a crowded environment

Across developed (44%) and emerging (77%) markets handset brand is considered an important factor in product decision making. Content brands, however, are building equity in the mobile ecosystem, with more than 1 in 4 global consumers saying content and apps are a key consideration at the point of purchase. The results from TNS Mobile Life show that as markets mature, key purchase influencers shift to content and application offerings, along with operating system. Providing desirable content – and engaging with local partners where appropriate - is a clear opportunity to capture equity in markets where content brand share is low, but increasing.

Partnerships will become increasingly important as handset manufacturers look to maintain marketshare as tablets rapidly expand on the scene. Tablets are already generating substantial momentum, with intended ownership rates as high as 31% in Asia and 28% in Europe. Fortunately for handset manufacturers, consumers typically view the tablet either as a complementary device, or as a replacement for a PC, rather than a mobile.

Apple and Google continue to win the platform war, delivering better access to rich media

Further findings from the TNS Mobile Life study show that content and service offerings are also playing an increasingly important role in terms of operating systems, with consumer loyalty supporting the continued growth of Android and iOS systems. Google's operating system – Android, as well as OMS and Tapas – have gained 24% share in the past 12 months, growing from 9% to 33%**. This loyalty is due, in part, to Apple's and Google's ability to keep pace with consumer's content demands, particularly with regard to social networking and rich media functionality. For example:

- Over half of Apple (56%) and Android (52%) customers access social media via their mobiles daily, but this figure drops to 44% and 41% for Windows Mobile and Symbian, respectively
- 51% of Apple and 49% of Android customers are "very likely" to stay with that operating system, while that figure drops to 30% and 31% for Windows and Symbian
- "While there has been previous research into mobility, Mobile Life has truly set a precedent in its scope, depth and breadth of information on mobile consumers' behaviour and decision influences," said Fergusson. "The study reveals significant breakthroughs and detailed analyses of the interests, key drivers and influencers in consumers' purchase decisions across the globe."

http://www.tns-global.com.cn/news20110331_1.asp

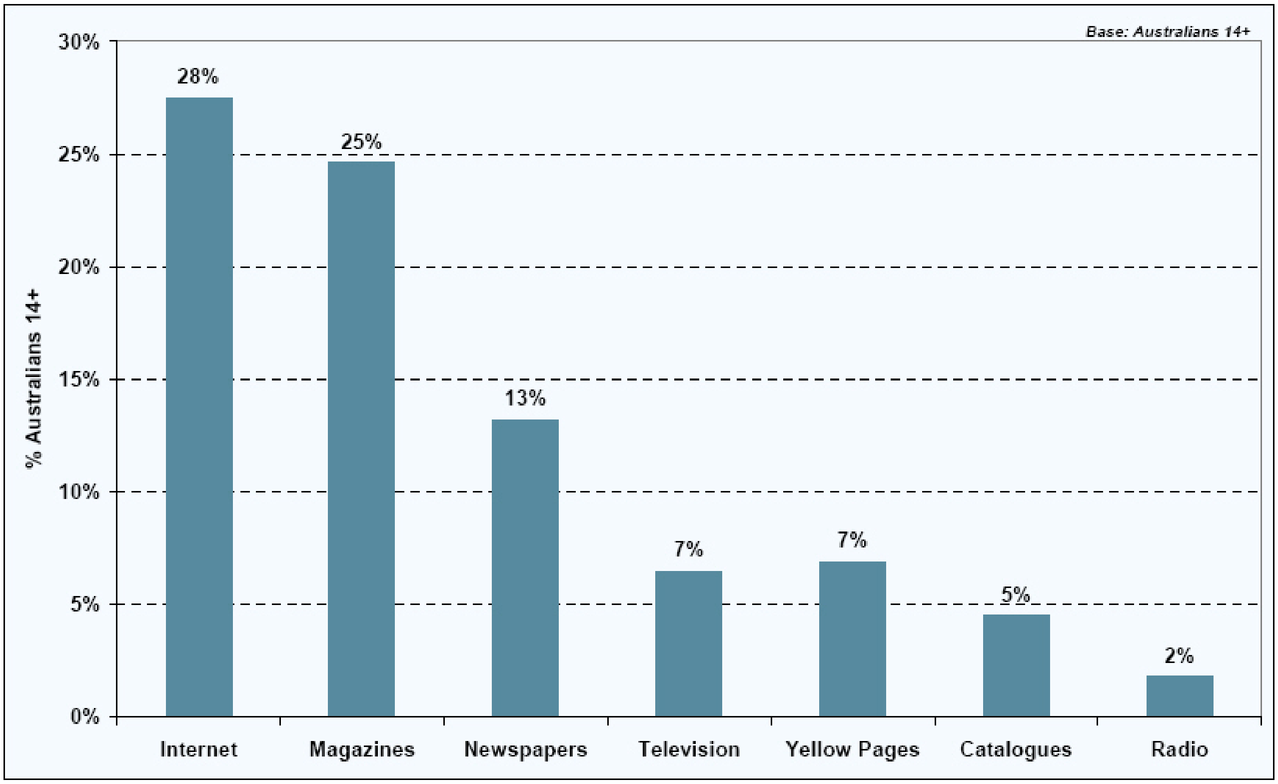
165-25. Australia: Understanding Health, Wellbeing and Fitness products - Internet vs. Print

March 29, 2011

Australians now say Internet is the most useful media for information about Health, Wellbeing and Fitness products. Magazines and newspapers more valued amongst the older population, according to Roy Morgan Health MAP, a major new study of Australian Health, Wellbeing and Fitness spanning some 5 years and over 100, 000 interviews.

When Australians aged 14+ were asked which media they considered "most useful for providing information on Health, Wellbeing or Fitness," 28% nominated Internet and 25% Magazines (estimated at 5 and 4.5 million respectively), whilst about half as many (13%) nominated Newspapers.

Most useful media for information for Health, Wellbeing & Fitness products

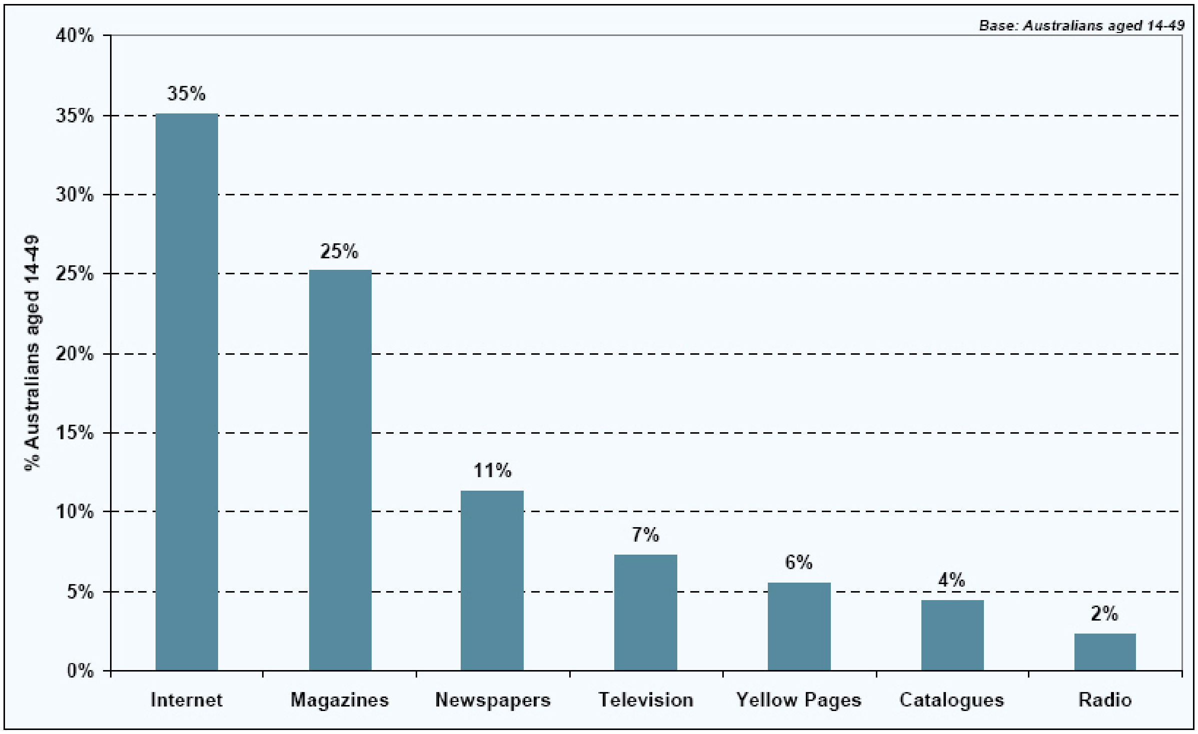


***Source**: Roy Morgan Research Single Source Australia: January 2010 — December 2010 n= 18,817.*

Media most useful for Healthcare products varies considerably by age groups.

Amongst 14-49 year olds, the Internet was the preferred medium for 35% (an estimated 3.9 million). Magazines came in second, nominated by 25% or around 2.8 million.

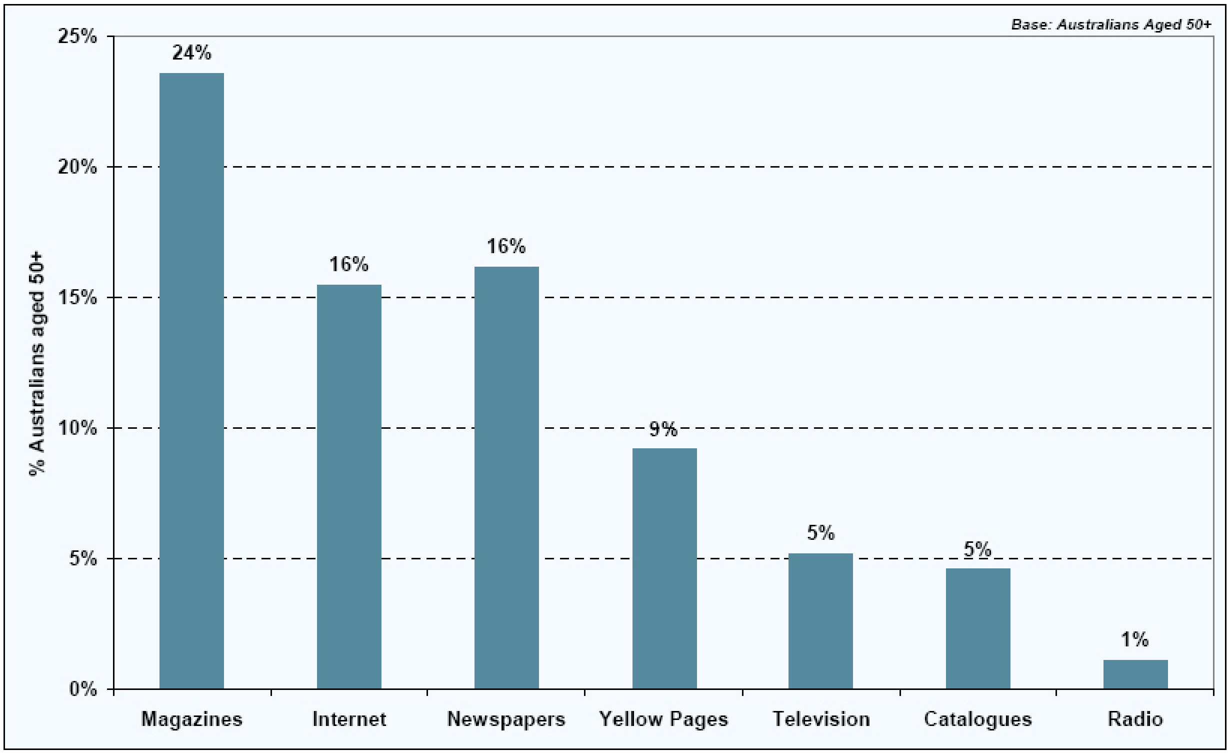
Younger Australians preferences - Most useful media for information for Health, Wellbeing & Fitness products: 14-49 year olds



***Source**: Roy Morgan Research Single Source Australia: January 2010 — December 2010 n= 7,370.*

Amongst Australians aged 50+, this preference was reversed, with Magazines nominated by 24% (an estimated 1.7 million).whilst Internet was preferred by 16% (around 1 million)

Older Australians preferences - Most useful media for information for Health, Wellbeing & Fitness products: 50+ years old



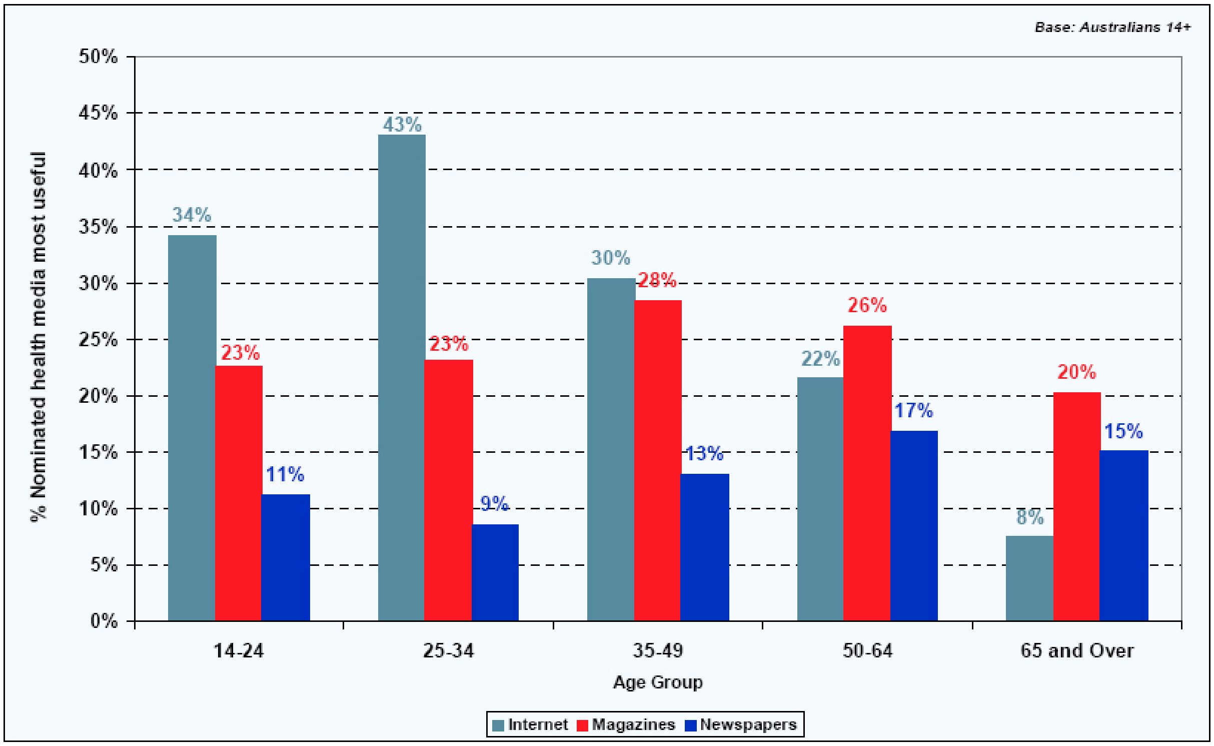
***Source**: Roy Morgan Research Single Source Australia: January 2010 —December 2010 n= 11,447.*

Nick Williams, Healthcare Consultant at Roy Morgan Research, says:

"Australians awareness and understanding of the available health, wellbeing and fitness products is crucial. Roy Morgan Research shows how most Australians view the information sources available today.

"For those in the health industry wanting to communicate about their products and services, the message is clear - age is a key consideration in optimising media selection for Healthcare products. The Internet peaks as the single most useful channel for 43% of consumers in the 25 - 34 age group, but that preference is halved amongst 50-64 year olds and drops to 8% for over 65's. The over 50's are an important group for Healthcare communications, particularly in the area of chronic illness. For this age group, twice as many preferred print media (comprising magazines and newspapers) compared to the Internet. In addition people with particular health problems often have specific media preferences that can be focused on."

Most useful media for information for Health, Wellbeing & Fitness products — analysed by Age



***Source**: Roy Morgan Research Single Source Australia: Jan 2010 — Dec 2010   n= 18,817.*

"For those wanting a deeper understanding of relationships between health, wellbeing and fitness and demographics, attitudes, lifestyle, behaviour and media, the newly created Roy Morgan Health MAP enables media planners to segment consumers and patients across 248 specific conditions or illnesses and target health communications utilising their preferred channels."

About Roy Morgan Research

These findings are derived from Roy Morgan Research Single Source data. Roy Morgan Research is the largest independent Australian research company, with offices in each state of Australia, as well as in New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom. A full service research organisation specialising in omnibus and syndicated data, Roy Morgan Research has more than 65 years' experiences in collecting objective, independent information on consumers.

In Australia, Roy Morgan Research is considered to be the authoritative source of information on telecommunications & financial behaviour, readership, voting intentions and consumer confidence. Roy Morgan Research is a specialist in recontact customised surveys which provide invaluable and effective qualitative and quantitative information regarding customers and target markets.

Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. Margin of error gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate

	40%-60%	***25% or 75%***	***10% or 90%***	***5% or 95%***
1,000	±3.0	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
1,500	±2.5	±2.2	±1.5	±1.1
2,500	±1.9	±1.7	±1.2	±0.9
5,000	±1.4	±1.2	±0.8	±0.6
10,000	±1.0	±0.9	±0.6	±0.4
15,000	±0.8	±0.7	±0.5	±0.4
20,000	±0.7	±0.6	±0.4	±0.3
25,000	±0.6	±0.5	±0.4	±0.3

http://www.roymorgan.com/news/press-releases/2011/1308/