

# BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

## Global Opinion Report No. 169

Week: April 24-30, 2011

Presentation: May 04, 2011

M. Zubair

---

<b>Introductory Note</b>	02
<b>Summary of Polls</b>	02
<b>NORTH AFRICA</b>	
• Egyptians Embrace Revolt Leaders, Religious Parties and Military, As Well	05
<b>WEST EUROPE</b>	
• Royal Wedding: Bumper Response To Mobile Survey	08
• Scots Feeling More Confident About Economic Prospects	09
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	
• Neither Party Has Big Edge on Most Major U.S. Issues	10
• In U.S., More Than 6 in 10 Would Not Vote for Trump, Palin	13
• Chronic Illness Rates Swell in Middle Age, Taper Off After 75	16
• Trump Has Highest Profile Among Possible GOP Contenders	19
• Americans' Ratings of Their Finances Remain at Low Point	22
• Americans' Economic Confidence Declines Further	26
• 54% Favor Immigration Reform With Pathway to Citizenship, No Amnesty	29
• Earth Day Poll: Solar at 27% & Nuclear 23% Are Favored Choices for Electrical Supply; 80% Routinely Recycle	30
• In U.S., Negative Views of the Tea Party Rise to New High	30
• More Than Half Still Say U.S. Is in Recession or Depression	35
• Brief Honeymoon Period Ends for Boehner as Ratings Slide	37
• Americans Divided Over Ryan vs. Obama Deficit Plans	40
• Americans Blame Wasteful Government Spending for Deficit	44
• Social Networks Transforming How Canadians Get The News	47
<b>AUSTRALASIA</b>	
• Image Of Professions Survey 2011: Police Now At Highest Ever Rating For Ethics & Honesty	51
<b>MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS</b>	
• One in Four in North Africa Desired to Migrate Before Unrest	53
• Worldwide, Young Adults Twice as Likely to Be Unemployed	55

## **Introductory Note**

This week report consists of 20 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 18 are national surveys.

## **SUMMARY OF POLLS**

### **NORTH AFRICA**

#### **Egyptians Embrace Revolt Leaders, Religious Parties and Military, As Well**

Egyptians of all ages, from all walks of life, and parts of the country continue to celebrate the dramatic political changes their nation has undergone. Overwhelmingly, they say it is good that former president Hosni Mubarak is gone. Nearly two-in-three are satisfied with the way things are going in Egypt, and most are optimistic about their country's future. (Pew Research Center)

April 25, 2011

### **WEST EUROPE**

#### **Royal Wedding: Bumper Response To Mobile Survey**

In a mobile survey 61% of the mobile group said in advance of the wedding day that they were interested in the Royal Wedding, which is slightly higher than the level of interest expressed by the general public. A minority group who thought they'd be uninterested actually found themselves surprised to be swept along by the emotion of the ceremony. (Ipsos Mori)

April 30, 2011

#### **Scots Feeling More Confident About Economic Prospects**

Our latest survey on the public mood about the economy has revealed that Scots are feeling more upbeat about future economic prospects, and shows confidence in the Scottish economy has caught up with the UK economy for the first time in nearly two years. (Ipsos Mori)

April 27, 2011

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### **Neither Party Has Big Edge on Most Major U.S. Issues**

Of six key issues facing the United States, the federal budget is the only one for which Americans express a clear preference as to which party can better handle it. On the budget issue, Republicans have a 12-point advantage. The GOP holds slight, but not statistically significant, advantages on four other issues, with Democrats slightly ahead on healthcare. (Gallup USA)

April 29, 2011

#### **In U.S., More Than 6 in 10 Would Not Vote for Trump, Palin**

More than 6 in 10 registered voters nationwide say they would definitely not vote for Donald Trump or Sarah Palin for president in 2012, significantly more than say the same about possible Republican candidates Mitt Romney or Mike Huckabee, or about President Barack Obama. (Gallup USA)

April 26, 2011

#### **Chronic Illness Rates Swell in Middle Age, Taper Off After 75**

The percentages of U.S. adults ever diagnosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes increase rapidly during middle age from about age 30 to 60. These

percentages continue to rise through about age 75, after which they hold steady or diminish. (Gallup USA)

April 29, 2011

#### Trump Has Highest Profile Among Possible GOP Contenders

Donald Trump has drawn a lot of attention in a slow-starting race for the GOP presidential nomination. Roughly a quarter of all Americans (26%) name Trump as the possible Republican presidential candidate they have heard most about lately, far more than volunteer any other candidate. Among Republicans, 39% name Trump as most visible -- more than all other possible GOP candidates combined. (Pew Research Center)

April 20, 2011

#### Americans' Ratings of Their Finances Remain at Low Point

Less than half of Americans rate their current financial situations as "excellent" or "good" (42%), on par with the 10-year low Gallup measured last year. (Gallup USA)

April 25, 2011

#### Americans' Economic Confidence Declines Further

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index dropped to -39 in the week ending April 24 -- a new weekly low for 2011. This continues a downward trend that began in mid-February. The current deterioration of confidence contrasts sharply with the improving trend found at this time a year ago. (Gallup USA)

April 26, 2011

#### 54% Favor Immigration Reform With Pathway to Citizenship, No Amnesty

A small majority of likely voters favor comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record, but not amnesty, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds. (IBOPE Zogby)

April 27, 2011

#### Earth Day Poll: Solar at 27% & Nuclear 23% Are Favored Choices for Electrical Supply; 80% Routinely Recycle

Solar power is the most popular choice of U.S. adults as a supplier of home electricity at 27%, if they had a choice of resources. Despite the nuclear reactor disaster in Japan, 23% of U.S. adults say they would choose nuclear power. Just 8% report that some portion of their home's electric power is currently supplied by alternative sources such as wind or solar. (IBOPE Zogby)

April 26, 2011

#### In U.S., Negative Views of the Tea Party Rise to New High

About half of Americans, 47%, now have an unfavorable image of the Tea Party movement, the highest since it emerged on the national scene. (Gallup USA)

April 28, 2011

#### More Than Half Still Say U.S. Is in Recession or Depression

More than half of Americans (55%) describe the U.S. economy as being in a recession or depression, even as the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) reports that "the economic recovery is proceeding at a moderate pace." Another 16% of Americans say the economy is "slowing down," and 27% believe it is growing. (Gallup USA)

April 28, 2011

#### Brief Honeymoon Period Ends for Boehner as Ratings Slide

Americans are just as likely to say they have an unfavorable as a favorable opinion of Speaker of the House John Boehner. This is a significant shift from January, shortly after

Boehner took over as speaker, when his positive rating was nearly twice as high as his negative rating. (Gallup USA)

April 27, 2011

#### Americans Divided Over Ryan vs. Obama Deficit Plans

U.S. adults are evenly split in their reactions to the major deficit-reduction plans being debated in Washington. Forty-four percent prefer the Democratic plan proposed by President Barack Obama, while 43% say Republican Rep. Paul Ryan's plan is better. (Gallup USA)

April 27, 2011

#### Americans Blame Wasteful Government Spending for Deficit

The large majority of Americans say spending too much money on unneeded or wasteful federal programs is to blame for the federal budget deficit, while 22% say the deficit is a consequence of not raising enough in taxes to pay for needed programs. (Gallup USA)

April 29, 2011

#### Social Networks Transforming How Canadians Get The News

More than two-thirds of Canadians who use social networking sites value them as a way of keeping up with the news. Similarly more than half of Canadians on social networks say they get a broader range of news and information from them than if they just relied on traditional media. (Angus-Reid)

April 27, 2011

### **AUSTRALASIA**

#### Image Of Professions Survey 2011: Police Now At Highest Ever Rating For Ethics & Honesty

A large majority, 90% (up 1% in a year) of Australians aged 14 and over rate Nurses as the most ethical and honest profession — the 17th year in a row since Nurses were first included on the survey in 1994. Australian Police (69%, up 7%) are at their highest rating in over 35 years of the survey. (Roy Morgan)

April 25, 2011

### **MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS**

#### One in Four in North Africa Desired to Migrate Before Unrest

Many North Africans wanted to leave their countries before unrest in the region prompted thousands to do so this year, according to Gallup surveys in late 2010. Twenty-six percent of North African adults said they would choose to move to another country permanently if they had the chance. Fourteen percent of these potential migrants said they planned to move in the next year. (Gallup USA)

April 29, 2011

#### Worldwide, Young Adults Twice as Likely to Be Unemployed

The youngest adults in the world's workforce are the most likely to be unemployed and underemployed, according to Gallup surveys in more than 131 countries. Twelve percent of young adults report being unemployed in 2009 and 2010, more than double the 5% of unemployed 30- to 49-year-olds. Additionally, more than one in four young adults were underemployed, compared with 15% of adults aged 30 to 49. (Gallup USA)

April 27, 2011

## NORTH AFRICA

### 169-1. Egyptians Embrace Revolt Leaders, Religious Parties and Military, As Well

U.S. Wins No Friends, End of Treaty With Israel Sought

April 25, 2011

#### A Much Better Outlook

<i>Way things are going in the country</i>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
	%	%
Satisfied	28	65
Dissatisfied	69	34
Don't know	3	2
<i>Opinion about the future</i>		
Optimistic	--	57
Pessimistic	--	16
Neither (Vol)	--	26
Don't know	--	1

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q2 & QEGY3.

Egyptians of all ages, from all walks of life, and parts of the country continue to celebrate the dramatic political changes their nation has undergone. Overwhelmingly, they say it is good that former president Hosni Mubarak is gone. Nearly two-in-three are satisfied with the way things are going in Egypt, and most are optimistic about their country's future.

This is not to say that many do not remain cautious about the prospects for political change - just 41% say that a free and fair choice in the next election is very likely, while as many (43%) think it is only somewhat likely, and 16% say it is unlikely.

#### Opinions of Political Change

	<b>2011</b>
	%
<i>Mubarak resigning was a...</i>	
Good thing	77
Bad thing	13
Neither (Vol)	9
Don't know	1
<i>What is more important?</i>	
Democratic government, even if risk of political instability	54
Stable government, even if risk of not fully democratic	32
Don't know	14
<i>How likely is it that next election will be free and fair?</i>	
Very likely	41
Somewhat likely	43
Not too likely/ Not at all likely	16
Don't know	1

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q3x, QEGY13 & QEGY14.

In this new political era, Egyptians are embracing long-standing bases of power, and new ones, as well. The military and its leadership are very well regarded, and the Egyptian public is clearly open to religion-based political parties being part of a future government. Most have a favorable opinion of the Muslim Brotherhood, and looking ahead to the elections, it has as much potential support as any of a number of political parties. But other agents of political change are also viewed positively by majorities of Egyptians, including the relatively secular April 6 Movement and political leaders Amr Moussa, Ayman Nour and Mohamed ElBaradei.

No dividend emerges for the United States from the political changes that have occurred in Egypt. Favorable ratings of the U.S. remain as low as they have been in recent years, and many Egyptians say they want a less close relationship with America. Israel fares even more poorly. By a 54%-to-36% margin, Egyptians want the peace treaty with that country annulled.

### Agents of Change Well-Rated

	<i>Favorable rating</i>			
	<b>Very</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Unfav</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
April 6 Movement	38	32	24	7
Muslim Brotherhood	37	38	20	5
Mohamed Tantawi	45	45	8	2
Amr Moussa	41	48	11	1
Ayman Nour	32	38	29	1
Mohamed ElBaradei	25	32	39	4
Omar Suleiman	14	20	66	0
Hosni Mubarak	8	5	86	1

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q3t, Q3u, QEGY6a-f.

These are the principal findings from a nationwide survey of Egypt by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project. Face-to-face interviews were conducted with 1,000 adults in Egypt between March 24 and April 7, 2011. The poll finds Egyptians anxious for democracy and accountable government. When they are asked what has concerned them most about Egypt in recent years, corruption and a lack of democracy top the list.

And support for democracy is clearly on the rise in Egypt. Last year, 60% of Egyptians said that democracy is preferable to any other type of government; today, 71% hold this view. By a 64%-to-34% majority, most say they favor a democratic form of government over a strong leader. Four years ago the public was evenly divided on this basic question about governance. Moreover, 62% want parliamentary and presidential elections as soon as possible, rather than delaying them to give political parties more time to organize.

Yet, the poll finds that the desire for free multiparty elections co-exists, and potentially competes with, other aspirations. More Egyptians say that improved economic conditions (82%) and a fair judiciary (79%) are very important than say that about honest, multiparty elections (55%). And maintaining law and order is also more highly rated (63%). In that regard, when asked to choose which is more important -- a democratic government, even if there is some risk of political instability, or a stable government that is not fully democratic -- democracy wins out, but by a narrow 54%-majority; 32% choose stability, and as many as 14% of Egyptians say they

are not sure. When a good democracy is tested against a strong economy, it is a 47%-to-49% draw, respectively.

Regarding economic conditions, the survey finds Egyptians somewhat more positive than they were a year ago. About one-third (34%) now rate the economy as good, compared with 20% in 2010; still, most (64%) say economic conditions are bad. But fully 56% think the economy will improve over the next year. Just 25% were optimistic in 2010.

## **The Military Stands Out**

### **How Institutions Are Seen**

*Influence on way things are going*

	<b>Very good</b>	<b>Somewhat good</b>	<b>Bad</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
Military	53	35	11	1
Religious leaders	29	52	18	1
Court system	29	38	32	1
News media	24	45	31	1
Police	19	20	61	0

PEW RESEARCH CENTER QEGY4a-e.

The military is now almost universally seen (88%) as having a good influence on the way things are going in Egypt. Fully 90% rate military chief Mohamed Tantawi favorably. In contrast, views of the police are on balance negative (39% good influence, 61% bad influence). The court system and religious leaders are seen by most as having a good influence on the country, 67% and 81% respectively, but it is of note that fewer Egyptians give religious leaders very good ratings this year than did so in 2007 (29% vs. 43%). Most see the traditional news media's influence as having a positive impact on the way things are going, and the survey found as many as 23% saying they use social networking sites to get news and information about the political situation in Egypt.

Egyptians are welcoming some forms of change more than others. While half say it is very important that religious parties be allowed to be part of the government, only 27% give a similar priority to assuring that the military falls under civilian control. Relatively few (39%) give high priority to women having the same rights as men. Women themselves are more likely to say it is very important that they are assured equal rights than are men (48% vs. 30%). Overall, just 36% think it is very important that Coptic Christians and other religious minorities are able to freely practice their religions.

### **Religiosity**

Egyptians hold diverse views about religion. About six-in-ten (62%) think laws should strictly follow the teachings of the Quran. However, only 31% of Egyptian Muslims say they sympathize with Islamic fundamentalists, while nearly the same number (30%) say they sympathize with those who disagree with the fundamentalists, and 26% have mixed views on this question. Those who disagree with fundamentalists are almost evenly divided on whether the treaty with Israel should be annulled, while others favor ending the pact by a goodly margin.

## Views of U.S.

---

### Low Opinion of U.S. and Obama

	2010	2011
<i>Opinion of the U.S.</i>	%	%
Favorable	17	20
Unfavorable	82	79
Don't know	1	1
<i>Confidence in Obama</i>		
A lot/Some	33	35
Not too much/None	59	64
Don't know	9	0
<i>Impact of U.S. response to political situation in Egypt</i>		
Positive	--	22
Negative	--	39
Neither (Vol)	--	35
Don't know	--	4

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q3a, Q48a & QEGY10.

---

Only 20% of Egyptians hold a favorable opinion of the United States, which is nearly identical to the 17% who rated it favorably in 2010. Better educated and younger Egyptians have a slightly more positive attitude toward the U.S. than do other Egyptians.

Ratings for U.S. President Barack Obama are also basically unchanged from last year -- currently, 35% of Egyptians express confidence in Obama to do the right thing in world affairs, compared with 33% in 2010. The American president gets more negative than positive reviews for how he is handling the political changes sweeping through the Middle East: 52% disapprove of how Obama is dealing with the calls for political change in nations such as Egypt, Tunisia, Bahrain, and Libya. A plurality of those who disapprove say Obama has shown too little support for those who are calling for change.

When asked specifically about the U.S. response to the political situation in Egypt, 39% say the U.S. has had a negative impact, while just 22% say it has had a positive effect, and 35% volunteer that the U.S. has neither positively nor negatively influenced the situation in their country.

Looking to the future, few Egyptians (15%) want closer ties with the U.S., while 43% would prefer a more distant relationship, and 40% would like the relationship between the two countries to remain about as close as it has been in recent years.

Source:<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1971/egypt-poll-democracy-elections-islam-military-muslim-brotherhood-april-6-movement-israel-obama>

---

## WEST EUROPE

### 169-2. Great British Royal Weekend: Bumper response to mobile survey

**Date:**30 April 2011

#### **Bumper response to mobile survey**

This weekend over 750 panellists were recruited from Ipsos MORI's online panel to download our bespoke Royal Wedding app to their smartphones.



The app asked participants to complete a survey before and after the Wedding, telling us how they were feeling, who they were spending the day with, and to share their Royal Wedding moments with texts and images as often as they liked through the weekend.

So far the survey has received **over 1000 responses**, including pictures of food and drink, families and communities, and texts reflecting on everything from TV coverage to the dress and the ceremony.

The survey remains open for the rest of the weekend.

**Sarah Castell**, Head of Qualitative Methods at Ipsos MORI, said

“The flexible, mobile approach showed us what people were doing – and crucially, how they felt and how things changed and developed for them during the day. Merging qualitative and quantitative data like this gives us a really rounded picture of public views.”

**See our photos on Sky News**

• **Sky News** covered this mobile event and has set up a gallery for some of our participants’ photos which can be seen on [their website](#)

**What did the public do and say?**

61% of the mobile group said in advance of the day that they were interested in the Royal Wedding, which is slightly higher than the level of interest expressed by the general public.

A minority group who thought they’d be uninterested actually found themselves surprised to be swept along by the emotion of the ceremony. We received many texts like this:-

- “I’m surprised, I started crying when I saw the princes and haven’t really stopped!”
- “Really didn’t think I’d be watching, but the majesty of it is all so absorbing”
- “I’m a bloke - but suddenly struck with excitement, now that Kate is almost there”

The day seemed to create a patriotic spirit. The day before the wedding, we asked participants how ‘patriotic’ they were feeling. They scored 5 out of 10 on average. During the day, however, this level rose to 7 out of 10 and remained high all day.

- “I’m feeling particularly British right now!”

There were a high number of positive comments about the young royals Princes William, Harry and the new Duchess of Cambridge. The public took from the ceremony that they were “refreshingly unstuffy”; “people with a sense of humour” and “down to earth”.

A minority of anti-royalists even texted us to tell us that they were revisiting their republican views:-

- “I am enjoying the wedding far more than expected. A staunch anti royalist, my views have changed today.”

Our opinion polling since 1993 consistently shows around three quarters of Britons to be in favour of the monarchy. It remains to be seen whether the positive spirit found yesterday among our panellists is reflected in the public as a whole, and whether levels of support for the monarchy will rise even higher after the Royal Wedding.

**Technical data**

Base size 754 participants, giving 1328 responses as of Saturday 30th April 10am

Source:<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/latestnews/714/Ipsos-MORIs-Great-British-Royal-Weekend-Bumper-response-to-mobile-survey.aspx>

---

***169-3. Scots Feeling More Confident About Economic Prospects***

Published: 27 April 2011

Fieldwork: 14 - 17 April 2011

Scots feeling more confident about economic prospects

Our latest survey on the public mood about the economy has revealed that Scots are feeling more upbeat about future economic prospects, and shows confidence in the Scottish economy has caught up with the UK economy for the first time in nearly two years. Although pessimists still outweigh optimists, the gap has closed considerably since last measured in February. When asked about prospects for the Scottish economy, around four in ten (41%) believe conditions will worsen compared to 28% who believe conditions will improve. This gives net optimism of -13%, an improvement of 24 points from February when net optimism stood at -37%. Confidence in the UK is now at similar levels, with 42% believing conditions will worsen against 28% who think they will improve, giving net optimism of -14%, an improvement of 20 points from February. This is the first time that confidence in the Scottish economy has outperformed the UK economy since we started measuring these indicators in August 2009.

This increase in confidence is not reflected in the intention of Scots to increase spending on 'big-ticket' items, moving homes, buying cars or taking holidays overseas. The latest survey shows no significant movement in the public's appetite for spending on these items; around half (48%) intend to take an overseas holiday in the next year, while 13% intend to buy a new or replacement car and 11% intend to move home. These are all similar figures to the last two surveys in February 2011 and November 2010.

**Mark Diffley**, Research Director at Ipsos MORI Scotland said:

'Although pessimists still outweigh optimists, our latest survey shows significantly higher levels of economic optimism among the Scottish public. It is unclear at the moment whether this represents a genuine shift in public mood or whether it is a short-term blip ahead of the forthcoming Holyrood elections. We observed a similar spike in consumer confidence before last year's general election. However, this was followed by a sharp decline in optimism as economic realities became apparent. We will continue to measure these trends to see if confidence continues to grow.'

#### **Technical Note**

Data are based on a survey conducted by Ipsos MORI by telephone with a representative sample of 1,002 adults in Scotland between 14 and 17 April 2011. Data have been weighted.

Source:<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2779/Monitoring-Scotlands-economic-recovery.aspx>

---

## **NORTH AMERICA**

### ***169-4. Neither Party Has Big Edge on Most Major U.S. Issues***

Americans see Republicans as better able to handle the budget

April 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Of six key issues facing the United States, the federal budget is the only one for which Americans express a clear preference as to which party can better handle it. On the budget issue, Republicans have a 12-point advantage. The GOP holds slight, but not statistically significant, advantages on four other issues, with Democrats slightly ahead on healthcare.

*Do you think the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress would do a better job of dealing with each of the following issues and problems? How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?*

	<b>% Republicans in Congress</b>	<b>% Democrats in Congress</b>	<b>Republican advantage (pct. pts.)</b>
The federal budget	48	36	+12
The situation in Afghanistan	43	37	+6
The economy	46	41	+5
Immigration	45	40	+5
Jobs	45	43	+2
Healthcare	43	46	-3

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23

**GALLUP\***

These results are based on an April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup poll. Gallup last asked Americans to rate the parties on issues in August. At that time, the GOP held an 11-point advantage on the economy (49% to 38%) and a 15-point advantage on immigration (50% to 35%). Those leads, along with several others, have since shrunk.

The lack of differentiation between the parties also extends to several characteristics. Americans are about equally likely to say the Democratic and Republican parties are able to bring about changes the country needs, have mostly honest and ethical members in Congress, and look out for the country's long-term future as well as current problems. In an absolute sense, the parties' ratings on these attributes are not particularly strong, with at best slim majorities saying any of the characteristics describe the parties.

*Please tell me whether you think each of the following applies, or does not apply to the [Republican Party/Democratic Party] today. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?*

	<b>% Applies to Republican Party</b>	<b>% Applies to Democratic Party</b>
Looks out for the country's long-term future as well as current problems	53	52
Can bring about the changes this country needs	48	50
Has mostly honest and ethical members in Congress	42	45

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

**GALLUP\***

One positive sign for the parties is that Americans are more likely now than they were last fall to believe each can bring about changes the country needs. In October, 43% thought the Republican Party could bring about change and fewer, 40%, believed the Democrats could. Since

then, there has been a 10-point increase in the percentage of Americans who believe Democrats can deliver needed change, and a 5-point increase in the belief that Republicans can.

### **Favorable Ratings of Parties Similar and Little Changed**

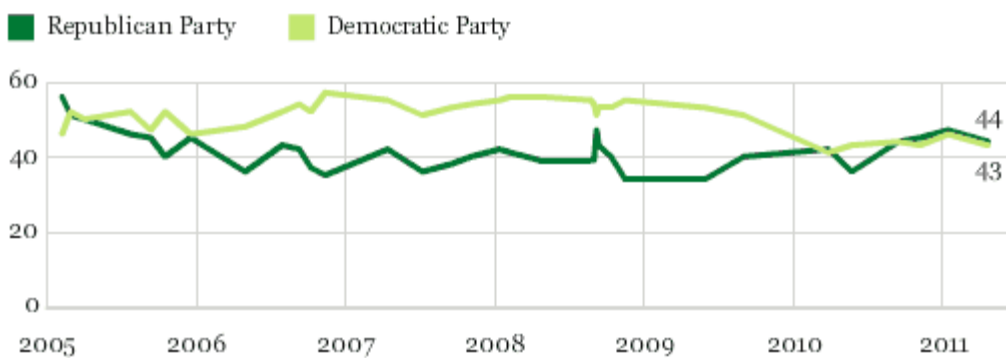
The most general measure of the parties' images are their favorable ratings, and these, too, are similar in the April 20-23 survey -- 44% for the Republican Party and 43% for the Democratic Party. Americans have rated the parties about equally each time Gallup has asked this question since September 2010.

That is a departure from what Gallup found for most of the time between late 2005 and early 2010, when Americans evaluated the Democratic Party much more positively than the Republican Party.

#### *Favorable Ratings of Republican and Democratic Parties*

% Favorable

Trend since 2005



GALLUP®

### **Implications**

Neither party seems to have a significant perceptual advantage in the eyes of Americans across a wide variety of dimensions, including issue competence, characteristics, and basic favorability. Americans in general do not view either party that positively, giving each favorable ratings below 50%.

And even for the one dimension -- the federal budget -- on which Americans generally seem to favor the Republican Party over the Democratic Party, it is not clear that they necessarily endorse the specific actions the GOP would take on this issue. The same April 20-23 poll finds Americans evenly divided in their preferences between the specific long-term budget plan Rep. Paul Ryan and the Republicans are promoting and the one President Obama and the Democrats have proposed.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline

respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147332/Neither-Party-Big-Edge-Major-Issues.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147332/Neither-Party-Big-Edge-Major-Issues.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

**169-5. In U.S., More Than 6 in 10 Would Not Vote for Trump, Palin**

Trump's image more negative than it was a month ago

April 26, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- More than 6 in 10 registered voters nationwide say they would definitely not vote for Donald Trump or Sarah Palin for president in 2012, significantly more than say the same about possible Republican candidates Mitt Romney or Mike Huckabee, or about President Barack Obama.

*Next, I'm going to ask you about some people who may run for president in 2012. For each one, please tell me whether you will definitely vote for that person, whether you might consider voting for that person, or whether you will definitely not vote for that person. How about \_\_\_\_\_ ?*

Based on registered voters

	<b>% Definitely vote for/ Might consider voting for</b>	<b>% Will definitely vote for</b>	<b>% Might consider voting for</b>	<b>% Definitely not vote for</b>
Barack Obama	54	31	23	46
Mitt Romney	48	6	42	45
Mike Huckabee	46	7	39	46
Donald Trump	35	7	28	64
Sarah Palin	34	8	26	65

April 20-23, 2011

GALLUP®

None of the four potential Republican candidates measured in the April 20-23 USA Today/Gallup poll has officially announced that he or she is running for president, although none has ruled out a possible candidacy. Trump, however, has been highly visible in recent weeks,

talking openly about the possibility of a presidential bid while focusing heavily on the issue of President Obama's birthplace.

The majority of U.S. voters at this point do not appear receptive to a Trump presidency. Sixty-four percent of registered voters have essentially rejected the television personality and businessman, saying they would definitely not vote for him. That leaves Trump with 7% of voters who say they definitely would vote for him, and another 28% who say they might consider it.

About as many voters nationwide (65%) say they would definitely not vote for former vice presidential candidate, former Alaska governor, and current television personality Palin.

President Obama fares better than any of the four Republican candidates on this measure. Fifty-four percent of registered voters say they would consider voting for Obama, including 31% who would definitely vote for him, while 46% say they would definitely not vote for him.

Romney and Huckabee are in somewhat more positive positions than either Trump or Palin, but neither is positioned as well as Obama. Less than half of registered voters say they would definitely not vote for either of these two possible GOP candidates.

**Almost Half of Republicans Definitely Would Not Vote for Trump**

Trump flirted with the idea of running for president in 1999, when most of the speculation centered on the possibility that he would run as a third-party candidate. This year, by contrast, Trump is talking about running for the GOP nomination.

Gallup finds that Trump ties Huckabee for the lead when Republicans are given a list of possible GOP candidates and asked which one they are most likely to support. But Trump's tie on that measure reflects a widely dispersed Republican vote, and he and Huckabee "win" the trial heat based on receiving just 16% of Republican votes each.

While 52% of Republicans would consider voting for Trump, 46% already say they would definitely *not* vote for him, worse than their attitudes toward Huckabee, Romney, and Palin. This measure of the projected voting patterns of Republicans thus does not look encouraging for Trump.

*Next, I'm going to ask you about some people who may run for president in 2012. For each one, please tell me whether you will definitely vote for that person, whether you might consider voting for that person, or whether you will definitely not vote for that person. How about \_\_\_\_\_ ?*

Based on registered Republican voters

	<b>% Definitely vote for/ Might consider voting for</b>	<b>% Definitely not vote for</b>
Mitt Romney	69	26
Mike Huckabee	69	22
Sarah Palin	60	37
Donald Trump	52	46

April 20-23, 2011

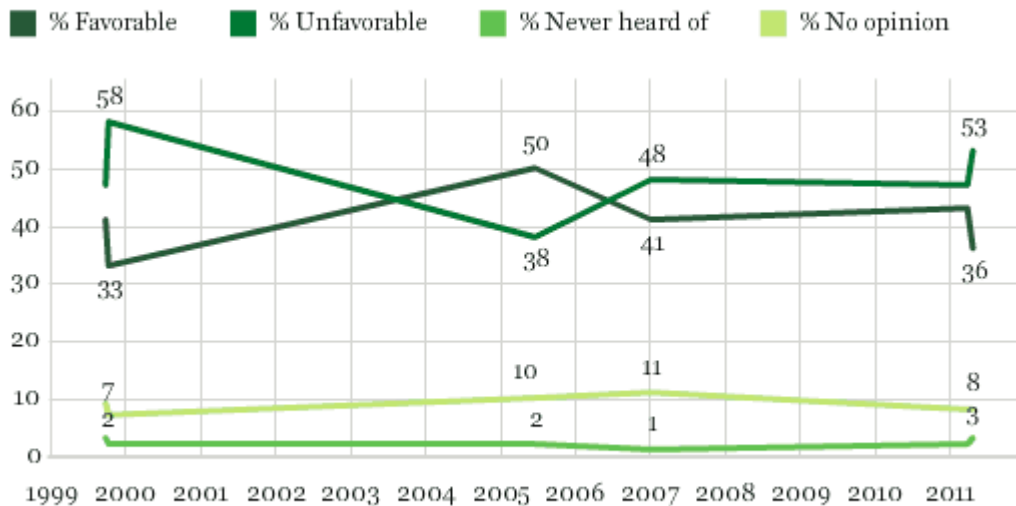
GALLUP®

**Trump's Image Now More Negative**

Trump's image among all Americans has become more negative over the last several weeks -- a time during which he has ramped up his media appearances and encouraged widespread speculation about his possible presidential bid.

Americans were about evenly split in their views of Trump in late March. Now, in the April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup update, Trump's image has deteriorated; 36% of Americans view him favorably, while 53% view him unfavorably.

#### *Opinion of Donald Trump*



#### GALLUP

Trump would be even more visible should he declare officially that he is running for the presidential nomination, but the current trends suggest that such visibility would not necessarily be positive for his image.

Republicans' views of Trump have remained almost exactly the same between the March and April surveys, with 51% now viewing him favorably. However, independents' and Democrats' views of Trump have worsened considerably between the two surveys. Trump's favorable rating dropped 11 percentage points among independents, to 33%, and 8 points among Democrats, to 26%. This most likely reflects a growing perceived connection between Trump and the GOP arising from the widespread discussion of his possible run for the Republican nomination.

#### **Implications**

Trump's attention-grabbing, high-visibility statements and his ability to generate large amounts of news coverage cut two ways. On the one hand, Trump has undeniably dominated news coverage of the Republican race in the last several weeks, vaulting him into the middle of political and election news discussion and coverage. On the other hand, Trump's ability to generate publicity apparently has its costs, as his image has turned more negative and as more than 6 in 10 voters across the country already say they would definitely not vote for him.

Trump also faces apparent obstacles in his efforts to gain the Republican nomination, should he decide to run. Almost half of Republican registered voters at this point say they would definitely not vote for him, the highest of any of the four possible GOP candidates measured in this survey.

#### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

For results based on the total sample of 902 registered voters, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phones numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone-only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147272/Not-Vote-Trump-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147272/Not-Vote-Trump-Palin.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

[Palin.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147272/Not-Vote-Trump-Palin.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### ***169-6. Chronic Illness Rates Swell in Middle Age, Taper Off After 75***

Obesity rate surges in early adulthood, approaches 30% by late 30s

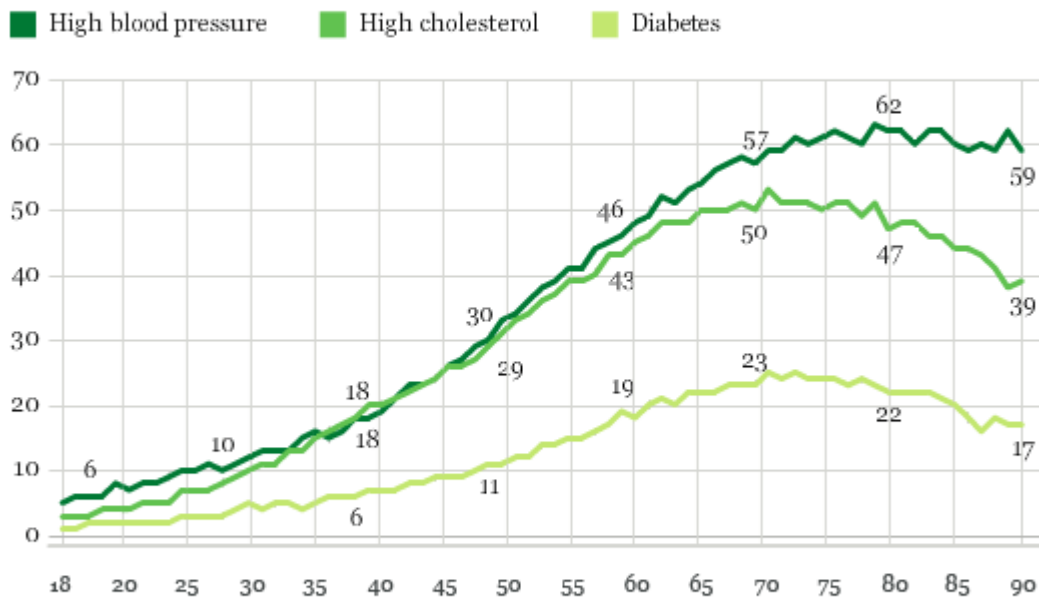
April 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- The percentages of U.S. adults ever diagnosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes increase rapidly during middle age from about age 30 to 60. These percentages continue to rise through about age 75, after which they hold steady or diminish.



*Percentage in U.S. Ever Diagnosed With Chronic Health Conditions, Among Those Aged 18 to 90*

Based on respondents' self-reports of medical diagnoses for each condition



Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index  
2009-2010

**GALLUP**

These findings are based on 24 months of Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index daily tracking data from 2009 through 2010, encompassing surveys with more than 650,000 U.S. adults, aged 18 and older. The resulting sample sizes for every age from 18 through 90 -- ranging from roughly 1,500 to 18,000 cases -- allow for age-specific analysis of the data.

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index measures the prevalence of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes by asking respondents if a medical professional has ever told them they have each condition. Overall from 2009 through 2010, an average of 31% of Americans reported having ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure, 27% with high cholesterol, and 11% with diabetes. In many cases, once diagnosed, these are lifetime conditions, not episodic.

**Rates of Chronic Conditions Expand Differently as Americans Age**

The trends by age reveal the extent to which these diagnoses accumulate in the population as it ages, although the patterns vary by condition.

The percentage of Americans reporting they were ever told they have high blood pressure climbs steadily from 5% of 18-year-olds to 57% of 70-year-olds and then plateaus at about 60% among people in their 70s and 80s.

The pattern is slightly different for high cholesterol. The percentage ever diagnosed with this condition holds in single digits from age 18 through 31, but then rises more rapidly from 10% at age 32 to 43% at age 60. It increases further to 50% by age 66, after which it stabilizes at this level until age 80 when it starts to dip, descending below 40% by age 89.

One reason hypertension rates might stay high among older seniors, whereas high cholesterol rates do not, is that the stiffening of blood vessels with age is a strong risk factor for the disease; thus, the diagnosis mounts with age, apparently offsetting those who die of

hypertension-related illnesses in old age. By contrast, high cholesterol is linked with lifestyle factors more likely to affect people's health earlier in life. Thus, more people with high cholesterol may be dying in their 70s and 80s than are being newly diagnosed with the condition during these years.

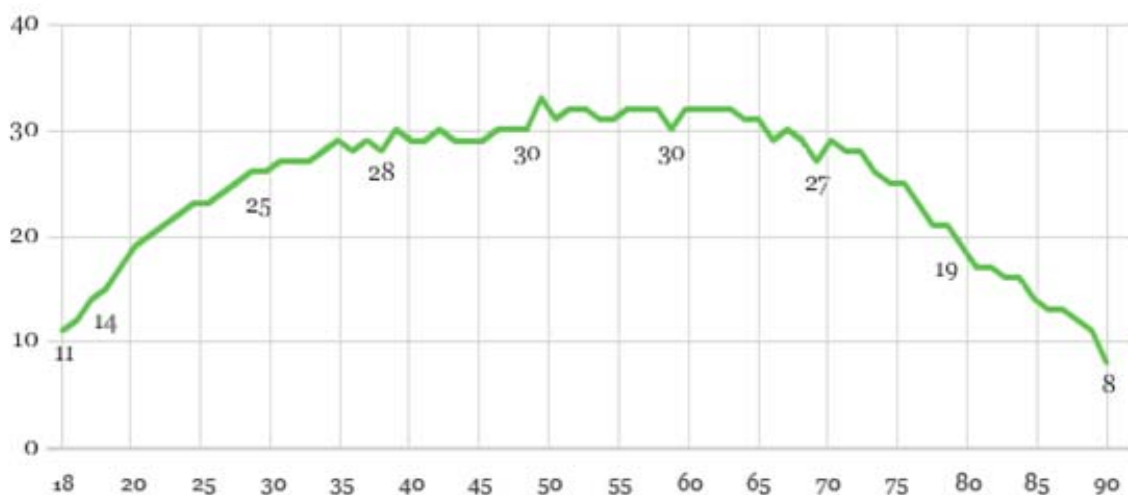
Diabetes rates are slower to accelerate in the population by age than either high blood pressure or high cholesterol. About 1% of 18-year-old adults have been diagnosed with some form of the disease -- most likely heavily represented by Type 1 diabetes. The percentage of people diagnosed with diabetes remain in the single digits through their late forties, but thereafter -- when Type 2 diabetes becomes a greater risk -- it rises more sharply reaching 23% at age 68, then falls to 17% by age 89. Given the lifetime nature of diabetes, this decline is most likely attributed to mortality.

### **Obesity More Than Doubles Between Age 18 and 30**

A leading cause of certain chronic conditions -- obesity -- surges in Americans' 20s, more than doubling between the ages of 18 and 30. It peaks at about age 50 and remains prevalent among Americans in their 60s and early 70s before tapering off.

*Percentage of U.S. Adults Categorized as Obese, Among Those Aged 18 to 90*

Based on respondents' self-reports of height and weight



Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

2009-2010

GALLUP

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index determines obesity on the basis of respondents' self-reported height and weight, using traditional Body Mass Index (BMI) scoring. Across 2009 and 2010, an average 27% of Americans were obese, defined as having a BMI of 30 or higher.

Whether the decline in obesity later in life mostly reflects the higher mortality rate of obese people as they age or significant weight loss among seniors is not clear.

To the extent that obesity remains a chronic problem for younger Americans -- that is, they do not make lifestyle changes to reduce their weight -- the prevalence of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes may be greater for future generations of seniors. It is also possible that the rates of chronic illnesses among younger Americans today are higher than they were in the past as a result of higher rates of obesity.

### **Bottom Line**

The proportion of Americans who have ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes is fairly low in their 20s; however, these rates naturally increase over time, swelling to double digits among Americans in their 30s. Among people in their 40s, nearly a quarter each report having had hypertension or high cholesterol. About half of Americans in their 60s have been diagnosed with these conditions and one in five with diabetes. The rates would likely continue to compound, except for the associated mortality rates. As a result, those who survive into their 70s and 80s are typically less likely to have such chronic conditions.

At the same time, obesity affects an average of 20% of adults in their 20s and more than a quarter of adults in their 30s, likely setting Americans up for the exploding rates of weight- and diet-related chronic conditions seen later in life.

### **About the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index**

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index tracks U.S. and U.K. wellbeing and provides best-in-class solutions for a healthier world. To learn more, please visit [well-beingindex.com](http://well-beingindex.com).

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey throughout 2009 and 2010, with a random sample of 658,578 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

For results based on individual age groups, the maximum margins of sampling error range from  $\pm 1$  percentage point to  $\pm 3$  percentages 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/147317/Chronic-Illness-Rates-Swell-Middle-Age-Taper-Off.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147317/Chronic-Illness-Rates-Swell-Middle-Age-Taper-Off.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing)

### **169-7. Trump Has Highest Profile Among Possible GOP Contenders**

But Few Paying Attention to Presidential Race

April 20, 2011

Donald Trump has drawn a lot of attention in a slow-starting race for the GOP presidential nomination. Roughly a quarter of all Americans (26%) name Trump as the possible Republican presidential candidate they have heard most about lately, far more than volunteer any other candidate. Among Republicans, 39% name Trump as most visible -- more than all other possible GOP candidates combined.

## Trump Stands Out in Possible GOP Field

Possible GOP candidate you have heard most about?	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Donald Trump	26	39	23	25
Mitt Romney	9	12	7	11
Sarah Palin	4	4	2	5
Mike Huckabee	2	3	2	1
Newt Gingrich	1	1	0	4
Tim Pawlenty	1	1	1	2
Other	4	3	4	3
None/Don't know	53	38	61	50

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 14-17, 2011.  
Based on open-ended question.

To be sure, Trump is standing out in a contest that has yet to draw much public interest or media coverage. In fact, about half of all Americans (53%) could not name anyone when asked which GOP candidate they have been hearing the most about.

Overall, just 20% of the public say they followed possible candidates for the 2012 presidential elections very closely last week and just 4% named it as their most closely followed story. The disaster in Japan was once again the most closely followed story (at 26%).

The 2012 race also was overshadowed by other stories -- particularly the ongoing debate about the federal budget deficit and national debt. The deficit debate accounted for 31% of all news coverage, according to a [separate analysis](#) by the Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). By contrast, coverage of the presidential race accounted for just 2% of the newshole.

### Perceptions of Federal Budget Deficit Coverage

While the budget debate drew the most news coverage, it did not attract a great deal of public interest. Slightly more than a third (36%) followed this story very closely, while 14% said it was the news story they followed most closely last week.

### Coverage of Deficit Viewed as Unchanging

Perceptions of coverage of the federal budget deficit and national debt:

	No	Yes
Seems like the same news; nothing ever changes	24	73
Don't always have enough background to follow	43	55
News about the deficit issue depresses me	48	49
Difficult to understand, numbers so large	54	44

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 14-17, 2011

Asked about their impressions of coverage of the budget deficit and national debt, fully 73% say that deficit news seems to be the same all the time with nothing ever really changing.

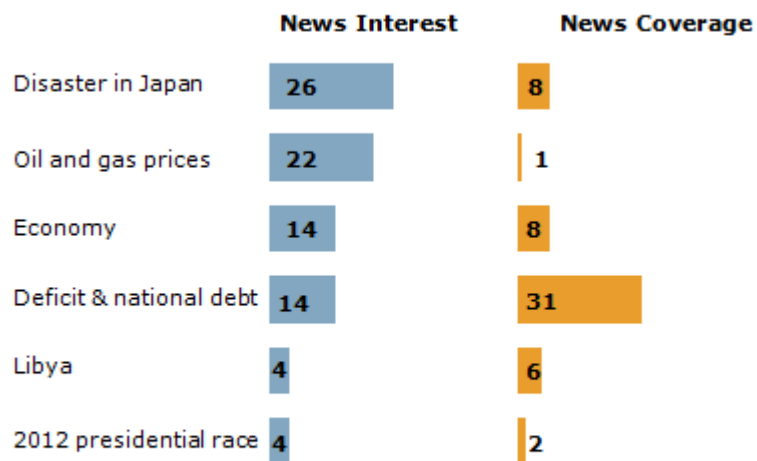
Another 55% say they often feel they do not have enough background information to follow budget news stories. About half (49%) say that news about the deficit issue depresses them.

Fewer than half (44%) say that the large numbers involved in following the deficit issue make it difficult to understand. For a majority of Americans (54%), the vast amounts involved are not an impediment to understanding the deficit.

### News of the Week

While the media focused squarely on the federal budget and broader debate in Washington on how to address the deficit and national debt, the public expressed greater interest in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan and news about rising fuel prices.

### News Coverage



News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, April 14-17, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, April 11-17, 2011.

About a quarter (26%) say they followed news about the tragedy in Japan most closely, making this the public's top story last week. Japan shared the top spot one week earlier with news about the threat of a government shutdown over budget disagreements.

This past week, rising domestic gas and oil prices also captured more attention than the federal spending debate in Washington. Nearly a quarter (22%) followed fuel prices most closely and a majority (53%) reported following this news very closely. The media devoted just 1% of all coverage to this issue.

News about economic conditions was the top story for 14% of Americans. More than four-in-ten (44%) followed economic news very closely. These stories accounted for 8% of the newshole.

About a third (36%) followed news about the debate in Washington over federal spending very closely last week and 14% followed this most closely. Media coverage far surpassed interest in these stories, accounting for 31% of the newshole. Public interest in addressing the nation's finances declined from the previous week, when 47% very closely followed the threat of a government shutdown because of budget disagreements.

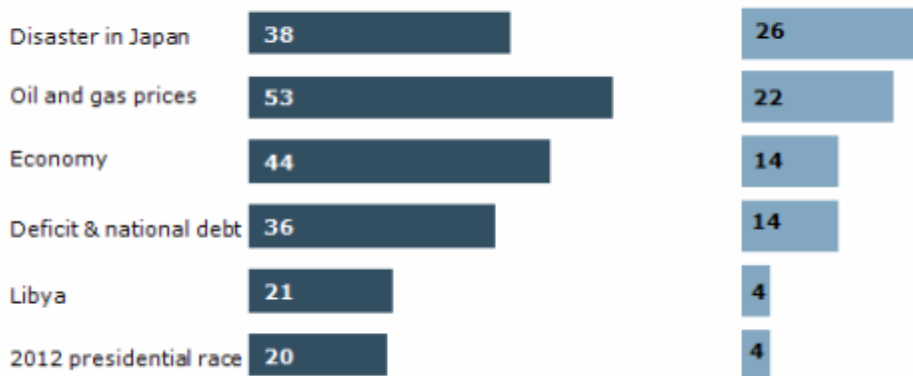
Interest in events in Libya reached its lowest point since the conflict between Col. Gadhafi's government forces and armed rebels began in March. About two-in-ten (21%) say they very closely followed news about events in Libya; 4% say this was the news they followed most closely. Stories about Libya accounted for 6% of coverage.

The 2012 presidential election is attracting only modest interest in this early stage of the race. Two-in-ten (20%) are following very closely and just 4% said news about potential 2012 candidates was their most closely followed story. Campaign news interest is now on par with interest at this point in the 2008 presidential race. In April 2007, 18% said they were following election news very closely.

### News Interest

% following each story very closely

Which one story did you follow most closely?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 14-17, 2011.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected April 11 to 17, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected April 14 to 17, from a nationally representative sample of 1,015 adults.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1968/trump-most-public-attention-republican-candidates-budget-deficit-news-depressing-difficult-to-understand-large-numbers>

### **169-8. Americans' Ratings of Their Finances Remain at Low Point**

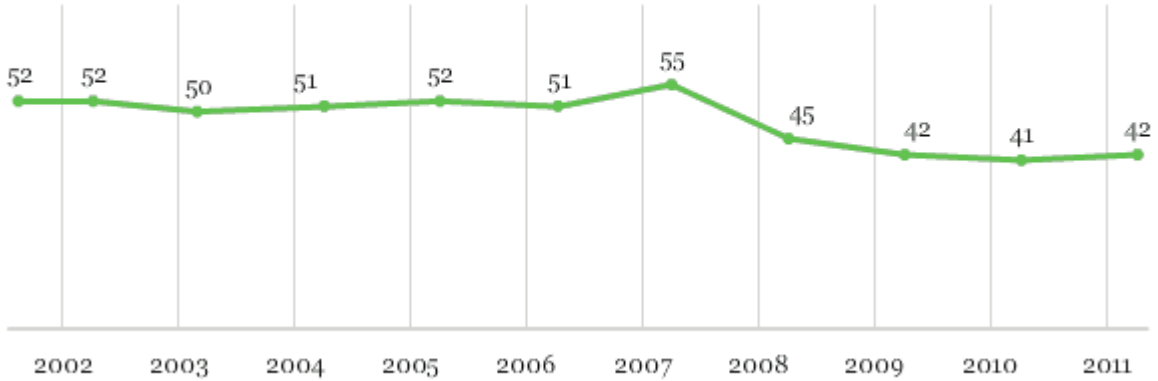
High- and middle-income Americans are more optimistic than low-income Americans  
April 25, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Less than half of Americans rate their current financial situations as "excellent" or "good" (42%), on par with the 10-year low Gallup measured last year.

*How would you rate your financial situation today -- as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?*

Selected trend

■ % Excellent/Good



#### GALLUP\*

Gallup first asked Americans to rate their financial situations on the excellent/good/only fair/poor scale in August 2001, and has asked the question at least annually since then. A majority of Americans rated their financial situations positively through most of the past decade, before pessimism struck in reaction to the beginning of the recession in 2008. Since then, less than half of Americans have given their financial situations an excellent or good rating.

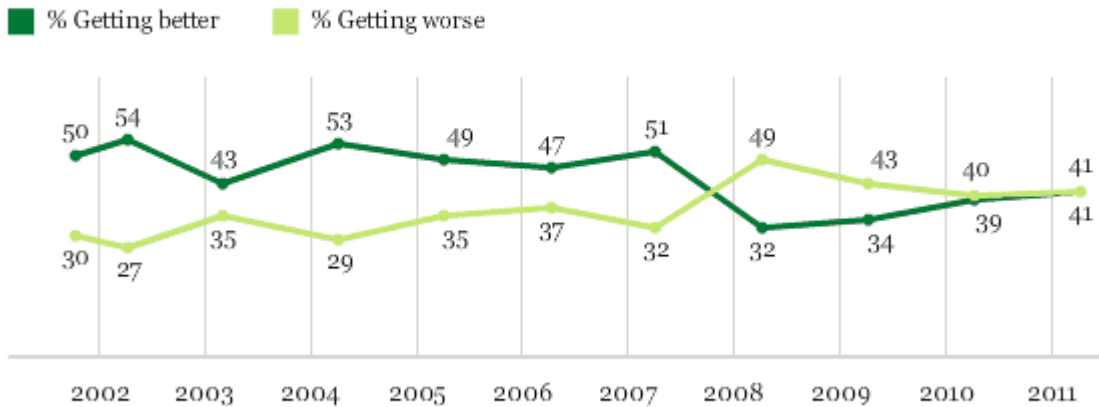
#### **As Many Americans Optimistic as Pessimistic About Their Financial Future**

In regard to what their financial future holds, Americans fall into one of two equally sized groups: 41% think their situation is "getting better" and 41% think it is "getting worse," according to the April 7-11 Gallup poll.

Americans' optimism about their future financial situations plummeted in 2008. The percentage who think their situation is getting better has been inching back up since that time, but remains well below the relatively optimistic levels found pre-2008. From 2001 to 2007, Americans were much more likely to say their financial situations were getting better than getting worse.

*Right now, do you think that your financial situation as a whole is getting better or getting worse?*

Selected trend



GALLUP®

**High-Income Americans Align With Middle-Income People on Financial Futures**

While high-income Americans rate their current financial situations better than those with lower incomes, they are as likely as middle-income Americans to say their situations are getting better. At the same time, low-income Americans are significantly more pessimistic about their current and future financial situations.

*Ratings of Personal Finances, by Household Income Level*

	Less than \$30,000	\$30,000 to <\$75,000	\$75,000 or more
Excellent/Good	20%	37%	67%
Poor	39%	14%	3%
Getting better	33%	45%	45%
Getting worse	53%	39%	36%

April 7-11, 2011

GALLUP®

**Republicans Rate Current Financial Situation Best, Future Worst**

Republicans are slightly more likely than Democrats and significantly more likely than independents to rate their current financial situation as excellent or good. Republicans are, however, less optimistic about the future than either independents or Democrats. Fifty-one percent of Republicans think their financial situation is getting worse, significantly more than the 30% of Democrats and 43% of independents who say the same.



### *Ratings of Personal Finances, by Political Party*

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Excellent/Good	44%	34%	51%
Poor	17%	21%	14%
Getting better	50%	40%	33%
Getting worse	30%	43%	51%

April 7-11, 2011

#### **GALLUP**

Republicans were also more likely than Democrats to have pessimistic predictions about their financial futures in the same poll last year, but that was before the GOP took control of the House. In each year during the Bush administration, however, Republicans were more optimistic than Democrats, suggesting that economic expectations are related to politics and in particular to the party that controls the White House.

#### **Bottom Line**

The lack of improvement in Americans' ratings of their financial situations is in line with their declining economic optimism and concerns swirling around the high-profile budget battle in Washington, including what will be done about the deficit and how it will affect their retirement. Americans' views of the job market also remain highly negative. Until the employment situation improves and the federal budget issues are ironed out, Americans may be less likely to be positive about their current and future personal finances.

#### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 7-11, 2011, with a random sample of 1,077 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone-only/landline only/cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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.

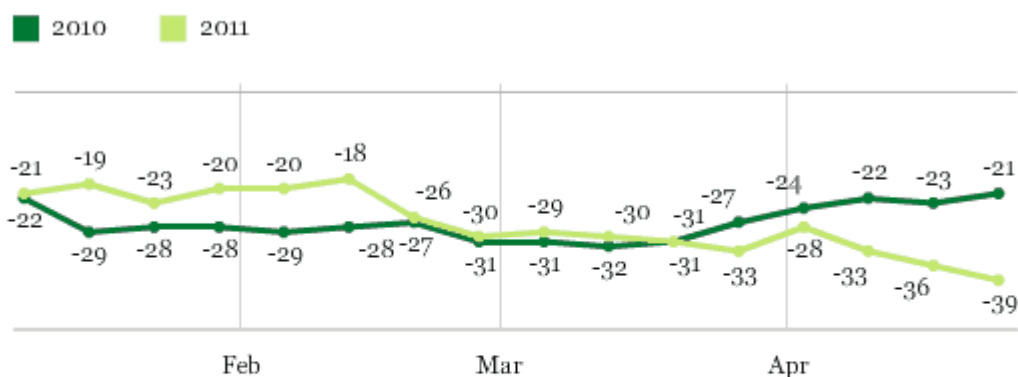
Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/147260/Americans-Ratings-Finances-Remain-Low-Point.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147260/Americans-Ratings-Finances-Remain-Low-Point.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing)

**169-9. Americans' Economic Confidence Declines Further**

Americans' declining confidence contrasts with the improving trend at this time a year ago  
 April 26, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup's Economic Confidence Index dropped to -39 in the week ending April 24 -- a new weekly low for 2011. This continues a downward trend that began in mid-February. The current deterioration of confidence contrasts sharply with the improving trend found at this time a year ago.

*Economic Confidence Index by Week, 2010 and 2011*



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27; March 6, 13, 20, and 27; and April 3, 10, 17, and 24. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28; March 7, 14, 21 and 28; and April 4, 11, 18, and 25

Gallup Daily tracking

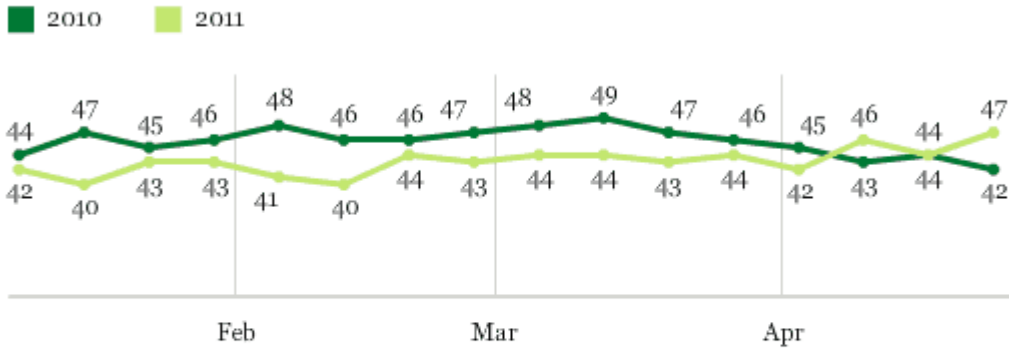
**GALLUP**

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index consists of two measures: one evaluating Americans' expectations about the future direction of the economy -- whether it is "getting better" or "getting worse" -- and the other rating Americans' perceptions of current economic conditions.

**"Poor" Ratings of Economy Reach 2011 High**

Nearly half of Americans rated current economic conditions "poor" during the week ending April 24 -- the highest level of negativity on this measure so far this year. This is also somewhat worse than the 42% "poor" rating found in the same week a year ago.

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



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27; March 6, 13, 20, and 27; and April 3, 10, 17, and 24. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28; March 7, 14, 21 and 28; and April 4, 11, 18, and 25

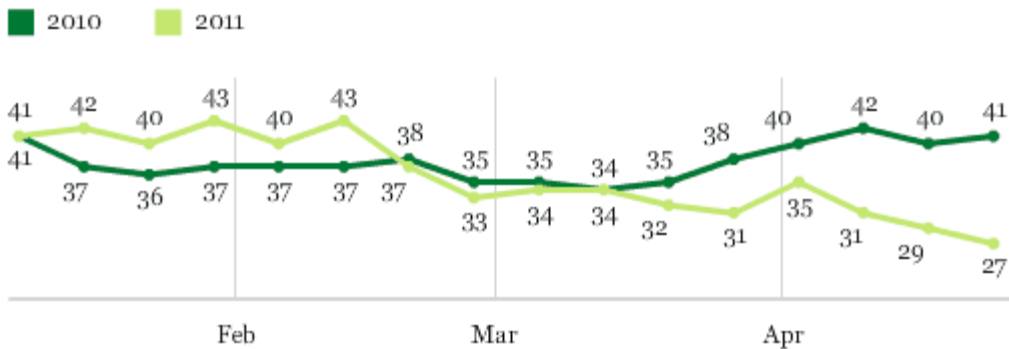
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

**Optimism About Economic Outlook Drops to 2011 Low**

Slightly more than one in four Americans said the economy is "getting better" last week. This measure has been declining since mid-February, and is now at its 2011 low. Far fewer Americans currently feel the economy is improving than held that expectation a year ago, when 41% said things were getting better.

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



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27; March 6, 13, 20, and 27; and April 3, 10, 17, and 24. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended Jan. 10, 17, 24, and 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28; March 7, 14, 21 and 28; and April 4, 11, 18, and 25

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

**Implications**

Americans may have good reason to be less confident now than they were earlier this year. Gas prices are surging and are approaching the 2008 record high of \$4.11 a gallon. It seems as though Americans' forecast of a peak price of \$4.36 for 2011 is well within striking distance. While upper-income Americans can tolerate these prices better than their lower- and middle-income counterparts, talk of \$4 and \$5 pump prices is likely to depress all Americans' future expectations for the U.S. economy.

Food prices are also surging, and jobs remain a major economic problem. Gallup Daily tracking shows that while there has been a modest improvement in the jobs situation, essentially the same percentage of Americans are unemployed today (9.6%) as was the case in mid-January. Although some economic observers may downplay the impact of plummeting confidence and surging prices on the U.S. economy, many economists are lowering their economic forecasts for the first quarter of 2011 -- from the 3% to 4% range they originally estimated to the 1 ½% to 2% range.

The beginning of the 2012 presidential campaign may also be creating added uncertainty and depressing economic confidence. Generally, the political confrontations taking shape over federal budget cuts, increased taxes, and raising the federal debt limit may be a source of concern for Americans.

Just 12 months ago, economic confidence was improving and there was talk of "frugality fatigue." The U.S. saw a sharp spike in spending -- particularly among those with higher incomes -- during May 2010. Things were looking up for the nation's retailers and the economy as a whole until the debt crisis in Europe surfaced.

This year, economic confidence is going in the opposite direction. There is an increasing danger of stagflation as prices surge and the economy slows. As a result, retailers and the economy could find it difficult to match last May's sales performance in 2011.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 18-24, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 3,021 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  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 sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147266/Americans-Economic-Confidence-Declines-Further.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147266/Americans-Economic-Confidence-Declines-Further.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

**169-10. 54% Favor Immigration Reform With Pathway to Citizenship, No Amnesty**

Plurality Says Deport Undocumented Even If It Breaks Up Families

UTICA, NY--A small majority of likely voters favor comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record, but not amnesty, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds.

The survey, conducted from April 21-25 also finds nearly half (47%) believe reform legislation should require that the undocumented be deported even if it splits up their families, and almost three quarters (73%) support increased funding to patrol U.S. borders.

*Should the U.S. Congress pass comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record, already in the United States, but not amnesty? This could include assessing penalties and fees.*

Response	All voters	Republicans	Democrats	Independents
Yes	54%	39%	70%	53%
No	35%	51%	18%	39%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%	9%

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

*Should any immigration legislation passed by Congress include a requirement for undocumented immigrants in America being deported even if it splits up their family?*

Response	All voters	Republicans	Democrats	Independents
Yes	47%	69%	24%	50%
No	37%	15%	58%	37%
Not sure	16%	16%	18%	14%

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

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of 2,055 likely voters has a margin of error of +/-2.2%. A sampling of IBOPE 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.

**For more information contact the Communications Dept – 202-429-0022**

**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.

Source:<http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/04/27/54-favor-immigration-reform-pathway-citizenship-no-amnesty/>

**169-11. Earth Day Poll: Solar at 27% & Nuclear 23% Are Favored Choices for Electrical Supply; 80% Routinely Recycle**

### 8% Say Portion of Home Power Comes From Alternative Sources Like Wind, Solar

UTICA, NY-- Solar power is the most popular choice of U.S. adults as a supplier of home electricity at 27%, if they had a choice of resources. Despite the nuclear reactor disaster in Japan, 23% of U.S. adults say they would choose nuclear power. Just 8% report that some portion of their home's electric power is currently supplied by alternative sources such as wind or solar.

An IBOPE Zogby interactive Earth Day poll conducted from April 21-25 also finds 80% of U.S. adults say they routinely recycle paper, plastics, glass and other recyclable materials.

Other questions about recycling find 79% do so at home and 60% at work. The likelihood of recycling increases slightly according to the age of respondents. Democrats and liberals are somewhat more likely to recycle than Republicans and conservatives.

Also, 15% say they do something special to acknowledge Earth Day.

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

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of 2,100 adults has a margin of error of +/-2.2%. A sampling of IBOPE 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, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population.

***For more information contact the Communications Dept --202-429-0022***

#### **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.

Source:<http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/04/26/earth-day-poll-solar-27-nuclear-23-are-favored-choices-electrical-supply-80-routinely-recycle/>

---

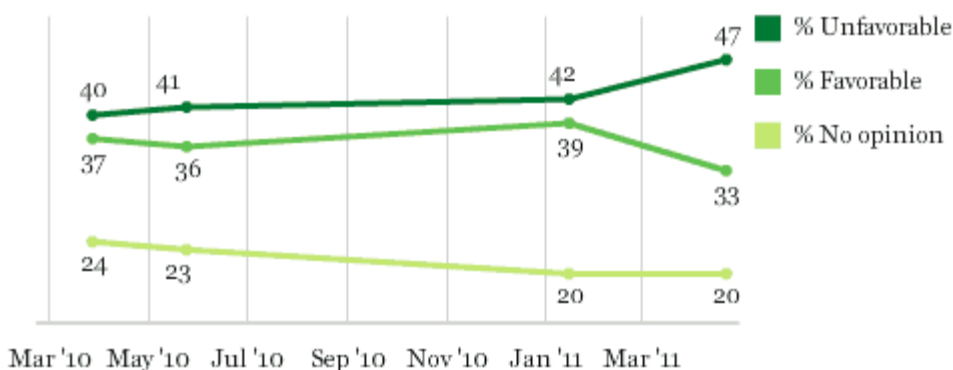
### ***169-12. In U.S., Negative Views of the Tea Party Rise to New High***

Republicans and conservatives are the most positive

April 28, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- About half of Americans, 47%, now have an unfavorable image of the Tea Party movement, the highest since it emerged on the national scene.

### Overall Opinion of the Tea Party Movement



Note: "No opinion" response includes "Never heard of"

#### GALLUP

Gallup began tracking Americans' views of the Tea Party in March 2010, when 37% had a favorable and 40% an unfavorable view. Those views stayed roughly the same through January of this year, but have now turned somewhat more negative. The April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds favorable opinions of the Tea Party movement dropping to 33%, from 39% in January, and unfavorable opinions rising to 47% from 42%. Twenty percent of Americans say they haven't heard of the Tea Party or have no opinion of it.

#### Republicans, Conservatives Most Positive About Tea Party

The Tea Party movement has no official status as an organization or association. It is not officially connected with the Republican Party. Still, Tea Party candidates who ran for the House and Senate in last fall's midterm elections for the most part ran as Republicans. And Tea Party candidates who were elected to the House are now making their voices heard in Congress as they pressure House Republican leadership to take strong conservative positions on such issues as cutting government spending and reducing the deficit.

While Americans who identify as Republicans and conservatives clearly tend to be favorably predisposed toward the Tea Party, these attitudes are by no means universal, underscoring the challenges House GOP leaders face as they try to reflect the interests of their constituencies.

The views of Republicans split 60% positively to 24% negatively toward the Tea Party; conservatives' views split 56% to 29%. Substantial majorities of Democrats and liberals view the Tea Party unfavorably. Views of the Tea Party became more negative between January and April among both Republicans and independents; there was very little change in Democrats' already negative views.

### *Overall Opinion of Tea Party Movement*

	<b>Favorable</b>	<b>Unfavorable</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Republican	60	24
Independent	30	43
Democrat	10	73
Conservative	56	29
Moderate	19	57
Liberal	10	64
Approve of Obama	13	69
Disapprove of Obama	55	26
View Trump favorably	50	29
View Trump unfavorably	21	64

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

#### **GALLUP\***

Americans who approve of the job President Obama is doing tilt strongly negative toward the Tea Party. Those who view possible Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump favorably are substantially more positive about the Tea Party than those who view him unfavorably.

#### **Older Men More Favorable Toward Tea Party**

The Tea Party has a relatively strong appeal to men aged 50 and older, 49% of whom have favorable opinions of the movement. By contrast, women aged 50 and older are the most negative, with more than half holding a negative opinion.



*Overall Opinion of Tea Party Movement*

	Favorable	Unfavorable
	%	%
Men 18 to 49	34	42
Men 50+	49	40
Women 18 to 49	27	47
Women 50+	26	57
East	27	49
Midwest	34	48
South	42	41
West	25	52

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

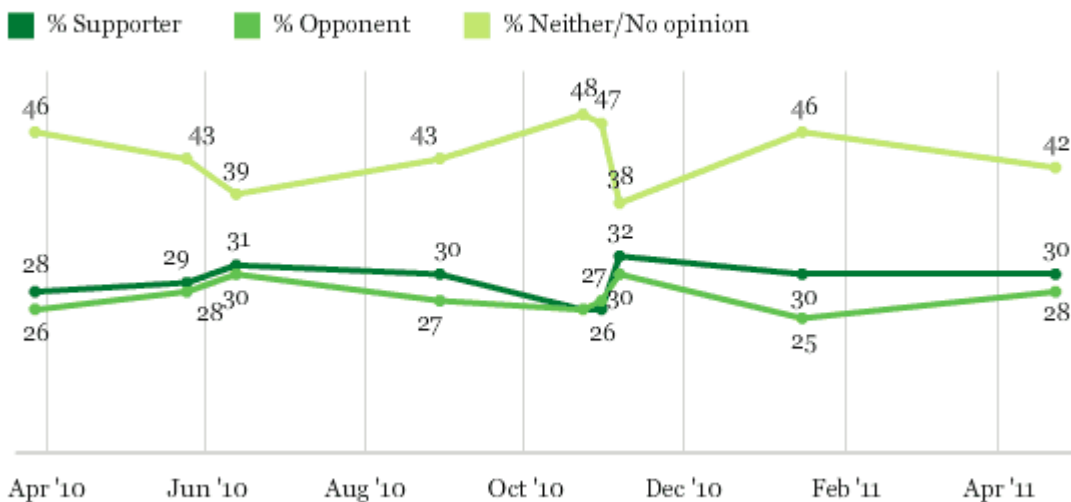
**GALLUP**

Southerners are most positive about the Tea Party across regions, with essentially equal favorable and unfavorable opinions. Americans living on either coast are the most negative.

**Percentage of Americans Who Are Tea Party Supporters Holds Constant**

A separate Gallup trend question asks Americans if they are "supporters" of the Tea Party movement, "opponents," or neither. The percentage of Americans who call themselves supporters of the movement (30%) roughly matches the percentage calling themselves opponents (28%). Support for the Tea Party has held steady over the last year at about 30%.

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



**GALLUP**

A little more than half of Republicans, 54%, say they are supporters of the Tea Party movement.

This is considerably higher than the 29% of independents and 8% of Democrats who are Tea Party supporters but, as was the case for basic attitudes toward the Tea Party, is by no means monolithic. Republicans who are not Tea Party supporters for the most part say they are neither supporters nor opponents.

### **Implications**

The precise influence of the Tea Party movement on U.S. politics is difficult to pinpoint, given its vague shape and lack of any type of official organization. The Tea Party, however, did have a significant influence on last year's midterm elections. Candidates who were supported by voters who identified with the Tea Party made a significant impact on primary outcomes, and in a number of instances won election to the House and Senate.

Now observers continue to ponder the impact of those elections on the Republican Party, as these newly elected members attempt to follow through on their campaign promises and pressure House leadership to take stronger conservative positions on key issues.

The data reviewed here demonstrate the nature of the political challenges Republican congressional leadership faces in responding to Tea Party-supported members. A majority of rank-and-file Republicans nationwide give the Tea Party favorable ratings, but a sizable minority say their opinion is unfavorable or do not classify themselves as supporters.

Further, the overall image of the Tea Party among all Americans has become substantially more negative than positive over the last several months, which could weaken its perceived clout among GOP congressional leaders. Americans' negative views of the Tea Party contrast with their much more balanced views of the Republican Party, measured at 44% favorable and 47% unfavorable in the same April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup poll.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147308/Negative-Views-Tea-Party-Rise-New-High.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147308/Negative-Views-Tea-Party-Rise-New-High.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

**169-13. More Than Half Still Say U.S. Is in Recession or Depression**

Democrats rate the economy better than Republicans or Tea Party supporters

April 28, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- More than half of Americans (55%) describe the U.S. economy as being in a recession or depression, even as the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) reports that "the economic recovery is proceeding at a moderate pace." Another 16% of Americans say the economy is "slowing down," and 27% believe it is growing.

*Americans' Ratings of Current Direction of Economy*

Right now, do you think the U.S. economy is growing, slowing down, in a recession, or in an economic depression?

	Growing	Slowing down	In a recession	In a depression	TOTAL: In a recession or depression
April 2011	27%	16%	26%	29%	55%
September 2008	3%	27%	36%	33%	69%
February 2008	7%	46%	33%	12%	45%

GALLUP

While most Americans seem to disagree with the FOMC's characterization of the economy, their current assessment is better than that of September 2008 -- during the height of the financial crisis -- when 69% said the economy was in a recession or depression. On the other hand, current attitudes are more downbeat, overall, than they were in early February 2008, when 45% considered the economy to be in either a recession or a depression. However, Americans are much more likely today to perceive the economy as growing rather than slowing down.

**Democrats Give Better Ratings Than Republicans and Tea Party Supporters**

Forty-two percent of Democrats say the economy is growing -- essentially the same as the 43% from that party who say the economy is in a recession or depression. Democrats are much more positive on the economy than their Republican counterparts, 68% of whom describe the economy as in recession or depression, while 14% say it is growing. Tea Party supporters' ratings are similar to Republicans', and independents' ratings are about midway between those from the two major parties.

*Americans' Ratings of Current Direction of Economy, by Party ID and Tea Party Supporters, April 2011*

Right now, do you think the U.S. economy is growing, slowing down, in a recession, or in an economic depression?

	<b>Growing</b>	<b>Slowing down</b>	<b>In a recession</b>	<b>In a depression</b>	<b>TOTAL: In a recession or depression</b>
Republicans	14%	18%	33%	35%	68%
Independents	24%	18%	23%	34%	57%
Democrats	42%	13%	25%	18%	43%
Tea Party Supporters	13%	19%	33%	35%	68%

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

**GALLUP**

**Nearly One-Third of Upper-Income Americans Say Economy Is Growing**

Fifty-two percent of upper-income Americans say the economy is in a recession or depression and 31% think it is growing. These ratings, though not good, are better than lower-income Americans' ratings: 65% of this group says the economy is in a recession or depression and 21% say it is growing.

*Americans' Ratings of Current Direction of Economy, by Income, April 2011*

Right now, do you think the U.S. economy is growing, slowing down, in a recession, or in an economic depression?

	<b>Growing</b>	<b>Slowing down</b>	<b>In a recession</b>	<b>In a depression</b>	<b>TOTAL: In a recession or depression</b>
\$75,000 or more	31%	17%	29%	23%	52%
\$30,000 to \$74,999	25%	18%	31%	24%	55%
Less than \$30,000	21%	12%	19%	46%	65%

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

**GALLUP**

**Implications**

Although economists announced that the recession ended in mid-2009, more than half of Americans still don't agree. These ratings are consistent with Gallup's mid-April findings that 47% of Americans rate the economy "poor" and 19.2% report being underemployed.

It also seems likely that most Americans would not agree with the FOMC's assessment of the current economic recovery. Nor does it seem likely that -- given surging gas and food prices - - most would agree with the Committee that "longer-term inflation expectations have remained stable and measures of underlying inflation are subdued."

Although the FOMC seems to perceive current economic conditions differently than most Americans, it does say it needs to "promote a stronger pace of economic recovery" by continuing its aggressive monetary policy, often referred to as "quantitative easing," through June. On the

other hand, in the press conference after the FOMC's April meeting -- the first ever by a Fed chairman -- Ben Bernanke said that, "the trade-offs are getting less attractive at this point," meaning it is getting harder to aggressively add liquidity to stimulate stronger economic growth while avoiding inflation.

In another possible disconnect with monetary policymakers, many Americans may not see the trade-off Bernanke suggests between promoting a stronger economy and experiencing higher inflation. Right now, prices are soaring, yet the latest Gallup Daily tracking data show that 67% of Americans say the economy is "getting worse."

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147299/Half-Say-Recession-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147299/Half-Say-Recession-Depression.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

[Depression.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147299/Half-Say-Recession-Depression.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

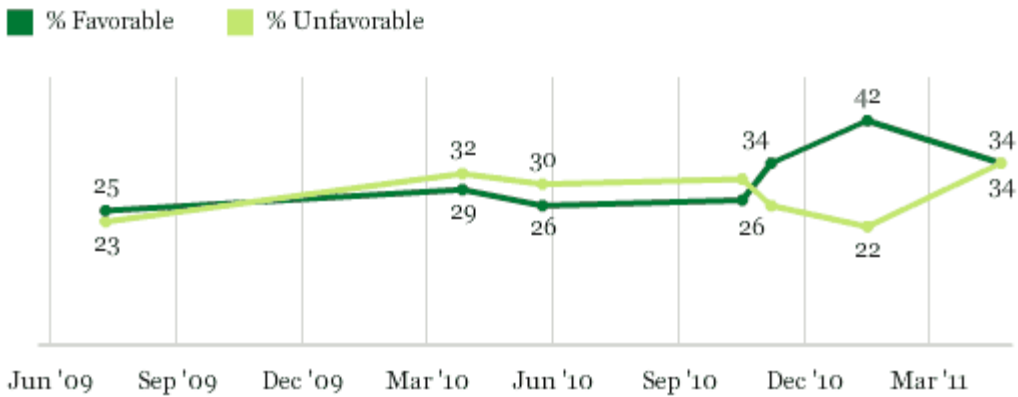
### ***169-14. Brief Honeymoon Period Ends for Boehner as Ratings Slide***

Image now equally negative and positive

April 27, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans are just as likely to say they have an unfavorable as a favorable opinion of Speaker of the House John Boehner. This is a significant shift from January, shortly after Boehner took over as speaker, when his positive rating was nearly twice as high as his negative rating.

*Favorable/Unfavorable Opinions of John Boehner*



**GALLUP**

Americans' views of Boehner were closely divided in four Gallup measurements from July 2009 to October 2010, with substantial proportions not having an opinion of him in either direction. After the Republicans won control of the House of Representatives in last fall's midterm elections, his favorable ratings rose and his unfavorable ratings declined in two successive measurements, in November and January. Now, the April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds the speaker's ratings returning to about equally positive and negative. This is what they have been for most of his time as the top Republican in the House of Representatives, though more have an opinion of him now than did so in earlier measurements.

**Boehner's Image Declines Across All Parties**

Since January, Boehner's image has declined among all party groups, with proportionately greater change among independents. His favorable rating is down 10 points among independents and his unfavorable rating is up 17 points, shifting his net favorable score from +16 to -11.

Republicans are less positive toward Boehner now than in January, but still widely view him favorably. Democrats' opinions were more negative than positive in January, but have moved further in that direction in the most recent measure.

*Change in Favorable/Unfavorable Opinion of John Boehner*

	Jan 14-16, 2011	Apr 20-23, 2011	Change (pct. pts.)
<b>Republican</b>			
Favorable	65%	56%	-9
Unfavorable	11%	14%	3
Net favorable (pct. pts.)	+54	+42	-12
<b>Independent</b>			
Favorable	39%	29%	-10
Unfavorable	23%	40%	17
Net favorable (pct. pts.)	+16	-11	-27
<b>Democrat</b>			
Favorable	25%	20%	-5
Unfavorable	34%	46%	12
Net favorable (pct. pts.)	-9	-26	-17

**GALLUP**

The change in Americans' opinions of Boehner likely reflects the reality of his role in the political process as the president and Congress try to come to agreement on issues. The challenging environment for Boehner is greater given divided control of government, and his leadership role in the House of Representatives at a time when approval ratings of Congress as an institution are generally low.

The trend in Boehner's ratings this year is similar to what Gallup measured for Nancy Pelosi after she became speaker in 2007. Her favorable ratings increased in her first month in that position, but within two months had declined to the point that she was viewed about as negatively as positively. Over time, Americans became increasingly negative toward Pelosi and now generally view her much more negatively than positively.

**Implications**

Americans tend to view political figures more positively as they assume leadership positions in government. This phenomenon, known as the honeymoon period, has long been apparent in ratings of presidents, and Gallup now observes this to be true for the two most recent speakers of the House.

But as politicians get into their work and are forced to make decisions that are pleasing to some but not others, their popularity generally fades quickly. From that perspective, the rise and fall in Boehner's favorable ratings in recent months is not unexpected.

Though Boehner's image is now much less positive than it was just three months ago, it compares favorably to ratings of recent speakers. Of the four most recent people to hold this position, only Dennis Hastert was generally viewed more positively than negatively by Americans for most of his tenure, perhaps because of his lower profile, relatively higher ratings of Congress overall, and being able to work with a president of his own party for most of his time as speaker. Pelosi and Newt Gingrich were more prominent figures who had to work with

presidents of the other party for much or all of their speakership, and Americans generally viewed them more negatively than positively during that time.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147293/Brief-Honeymoon-Period-Ends-Boehner-Ratings-Slide.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147293/Brief-Honeymoon-Period-Ends-Boehner-Ratings-Slide.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### ***169-15. Americans Divided Over Ryan vs. Obama Deficit Plans***

Favor congressional Republicans over Democrats on federal budget, generally

April 27, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- U.S. adults are evenly split in their reactions to the major deficit-reduction plans being debated in Washington. Forty-four percent prefer the Democratic plan proposed by President Barack Obama, while 43% say Republican Rep. Paul Ryan's plan is better.



*Preferred Long-Term Deficit Reduction Plan*

Which do you think is the better long-term plan for dealing with the federal budget deficit -- [the Republican plan put forth by Congressman Paul Ryan (or) the Democratic plan put forth by President Barack Obama]?

	<b>Republican/ Ryan plan</b>	<b>Democratic/ Obama plan</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
	%	%	%
National adults	43	44	14
18 to 29 years	30	53	16
30 to 49 years	45	39	16
50 to 64 years	47	41	12
65 and older	48	42	10

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

**GALLUP**

Ryan's plan includes a complete restructuring of Medicare for people younger than 55. Pluralities of middle-aged Americans as well as those 65 and older prefer Ryan's plan to Obama's, while adults 18 to 29 show more support for Obama's, 53% to 30%. These findings are in line with approval of Obama by age, more generally.

Democrats' and Republicans' reactions to the competing budget plans are generally symmetrical; slightly more than 80% each of Republicans and Democrats favor their own party's plan and few favor the opposing party's plan. Independents are evenly divided. Consistent with the different demographic profiles of Republicans and Democrats, whites and those making at least \$75,000 annually generally favor Ryan's plan over Obama's; nonwhites and lower-income Americans favor Obama's.

*Preferred Long-Term Federal Budget Deficit Reduction Plan*

Republican plan by Rep. Paul Ryan vs. Democratic plan by President Barack Obama

	<b>Paul Ryan/ Republican plan</b>	<b>Pres. Obama/ Democratic plan</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
	%	%	%
Republican	82	4	14
Independent	41	42	17
Democratic	7	83	10
White	53	32	14
Nonwhite	22	65	13
\$75,000 and over	50	38	12
\$30,000-\$74,999	42	44	14
Less than \$30,000	35	49	17

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

GALLUP®

**Americans Prefer Republicans for Handling Federal Budget**

The same *USA Today*/Gallup survey, conducted April 20-23, finds Republicans holding a significant edge over Democrats in public perceptions of which party would do the better job of dealing with the federal budget. Nearly half of Americans, 48% prefer the Republicans in Congress on this question, while 36% favor the Democrats in Congress.

*Party Better Able to Deal With Federal Budget*

Do you think the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress would do a better job of dealing with each of the following issues and problems? How about the federal budget?

	<b>Republicans in Congress</b>	<b>Democrats in Congress</b>	<b>No difference (vol.)</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
	%	%	%	%
National adults	48	36	9	6
Republicans	86	5	7	2
Independents	47	30	14	9
Democrats	14	73	7	6

(vol.) = Volunteered response

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

GALLUP®

One reason Republicans fare relatively well on this measure is that independents prefer the Republicans in Congress over the Democrats for handling the federal budget by 47% to 30%. Another is that a higher percentage of Republicans (86%) than Democrats (73%) favor their own

party on the issue. Both findings contrast with the pattern seen in preferences for the Ryan vs. Obama deficit reduction plans, in which independents are evenly divided and Republicans and Democrats are equally likely to support their own party.

**Neither Party Given a Free Pass**

With accumulated federal deficits creating more than \$14 trillion in federal debt, there is a growing concern among Washington lawmakers -- as well as among Americans -- about the federal budget. However, both parties face public relations challenges in advancing their long-term budget proposals.

Americans' biggest concern, at 71%, is that the Democrats' plan will not go far enough to fix the nation's budget problems. However, nearly as many Americans worry that the Republicans' plan will go too far in cutting Medicare, Social Security, and programs for the poor, or in protecting the rich. A majority of Americans are also concerned the Democrats will use the budget deficit as an excuse to raise taxes, but fewer worry they will cut defense spending too much.

*Public Concerns About Republican and Democratic Deficit Reduction Plans*

Are you worried or not worried that the Democratic/Republican plan for reducing the federal budget deficit in the long term would \_\_\_?

	Worried	Not worried
	%	%
<b>DEMOCRATIC PLAN:</b>		
Not go far enough to fix the problem	71	24
Use the deficit as an excuse to raise taxes	62	36
Cut defense spending too much	49	48
<b>REPUBLICAN PLAN:</b>		
Cut Medicare too much	66	31
Cut Social Security too much	65	33
Take away needed protections for the poor and disadvantaged	64	34
Protect the rich at the expense of everyone else	64	35

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

GALLUP

**Bottom Line**

By 48% to 36%, more Americans prefer the Republicans in Congress to the Democrats in Congress for managing the federal budget. At the same time, Americans give equal support to the specific long-term budget plans recently issued by the Republican House Budget Committee Chairman Ryan and President Obama.

Whether this parity is due to public concerns about Ryan's plan, or to the higher support enjoyed by Obama versus the Democrats in Congress, is not clear. In any case, Americans also have major concerns about each party's approach to the budget. These concerns include that Democrats will not go far enough to fix the deficit and will use the deficit as an excuse to raise

taxes. For the Republicans, they include that party cutting certain spending programs too deeply and protecting the rich at the expense of others.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147287/Americans-Divided-Ryan-Obama-Deficit-Plans.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147287/Americans-Divided-Ryan-Obama-Deficit-Plans.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### ***169-16. Americans Blame Wasteful Government Spending for Deficit***

Prefer cutting spending over raising taxes as way for Congress to reduce deficit

April 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- The large majority of Americans say spending too much money on unneeded or wasteful federal programs is to blame for the federal budget deficit, while 22% say the deficit is a consequence of not raising enough in taxes to pay for needed programs.

*Which do you think is more to blame for the federal budget deficit -- [spending too much money on federal programs that are either not needed or wasteful, (or) not raising enough money in taxes to pay for needed federal programs]?*

	<b>Spending too much on programs</b>	<b>Not raising enough money in taxes</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
National adults	73	22	5
Republicans	91	7	2
Independents	73	20	7
Democrats	56	38	6

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

#### GALLUP\*

These results are based on an April 20-23 *USA Today*/Gallup poll. Given a forced choice, Republicans almost uniformly place blame for the deficit on too much federal spending, rather than a shortage of tax revenue. Majorities of independents and Democrats agree, albeit by somewhat smaller margins.

Accordingly, Americans generally favor spending cuts rather than tax increases as the way for Congress to reduce the deficit going forward.

*As you may know, Congress can reduce the federal budget deficit by cutting spending, raising taxes, or a combination of the two. Ideally, how would you prefer to see Congress attempt to reduce the federal budget deficit -- [only with spending cuts, mostly with spending cuts, equally with spending cuts and tax increases, mostly with tax increases, (or) only with tax increases]?*

	<b>National adults</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Independents</b>	<b>Democrats</b>
Only with spending cuts	20	30	20	12
Mostly with spending cuts	28	42	27	16
Equally with spending cuts/tax increases	37	22	37	50
Mostly with tax increases	9	4	9	14
Only with tax increases	2	*	3	4
Other (vol.)	1	1	1	1
No opinion	3	1	4	4

\* Less than 0.5%

(vol.) = Volunteered response

USA Today/Gallup, April 20-23, 2011

#### GALLUP

This question asks Americans to choose among five ways of reducing the federal deficit, ranging from a total reliance on spending cuts to a total reliance on tax increases. The responses cluster at the "spending cuts" end of the spectrum. About half (48%) of Americans say reducing the deficit should be done mostly or only with spending cuts. Another 37% say it should be done equally with spending cuts and tax increases. Eleven percent say mostly or only with tax increases.

Thus, overall, 85% of Americans explicitly favor spending cuts as at least part of the solution to reducing the federal deficit, with more than half of these favoring only or mostly using cuts. This compares with 48% who explicitly favor tax increases as at least part of a deficit reduction strategy -- a number consisting mostly of those who want an equal emphasis on spending cuts and tax increases.

The major partisan distinctions in response to this question reflect the choice between mostly/only spending cuts versus the equal use of spending cuts and tax increases. Republicans are most likely to favor the former; Democrats, the latter. Independents' views are between these two extremes. Relatively few Americans of any partisan identification favor mostly or only using tax increases to reduce the deficit.

#### **Implications**

Given a choice, Americans of all political persuasions are more likely to say that too much wasteful and unneeded government spending is the cause of the federal budget deficit, rather than too little tax revenue. Americans of all political persuasions also say cutting back on federal spending should be a major focus of efforts to reduce the deficit going forward.

Still, some emphasis on tax increases is part of the solution for almost half of Americans. Thus, it appears Americans would most likely tell their elected representatives to attack the federal deficit primarily using spending cuts, but with a secondary reliance on raising tax revenue.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted April 20-23, 2011, with a random sample of 1,013 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone-only respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit-dial methods. 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, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). 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/147338/Americans-Blame-Wasteful-Government-Spending-Deficit.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147338/Americans-Blame-Wasteful-Government-Spending-Deficit.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

---

### **169-17. Social Networks Transforming How Canadians Get The News**

April 27, 2011

#### **Key findings**

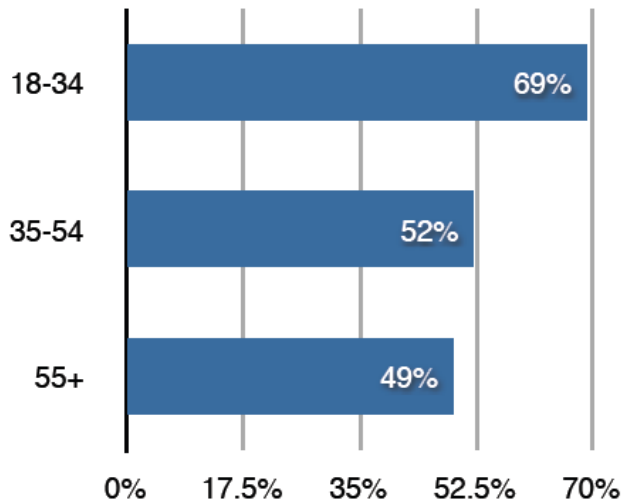
- More than two-thirds of Canadians who use social networking sites value them as a way of keeping up with the news.
- More than half of Canadians on social networks say they get a broader range of news and information from them than if they just relied on traditional media.
- One in three Canadians overall value social networks as a source for news, with the figure rising to one in two for young adults.
- But only one in four consider information from social networks as reliable.
- Canadians on social media are twice as likely to get their news from friends and family on social networks such as Facebook than from news organizations or journalists they follow.

#### **Social networks becoming a source for news**

News is increasingly becoming a shared social experience online for Canadians thanks to new digital platforms and services, according to a recent poll by the Canadian Media Research Consortium.

An online survey of a representative national sample of 1,682 adults conducted by Angus Reid Public Opinion found that more than two-thirds (71 per cent) of Canadians who visit social networking sites use them to keep up with the news.

**Figure 1: More news and information via social networks.**



This amounts to more than 10 million Canadians. The survey shows how social networking sites are becoming a personalized news stream for Canadians of all ages, with news selected and filtered by family, friends and acquaintances. The idea of news as a social experience is important for Canadians. Close to two-thirds (64 per cent) say they value being able to easily share content with others. For young Canadians, the figure rises to 83%. Similar findings emerged in a Pew study in the U.S. last year that indicated how news was becoming more social as news consumers shared links and recommendations in their social networks.

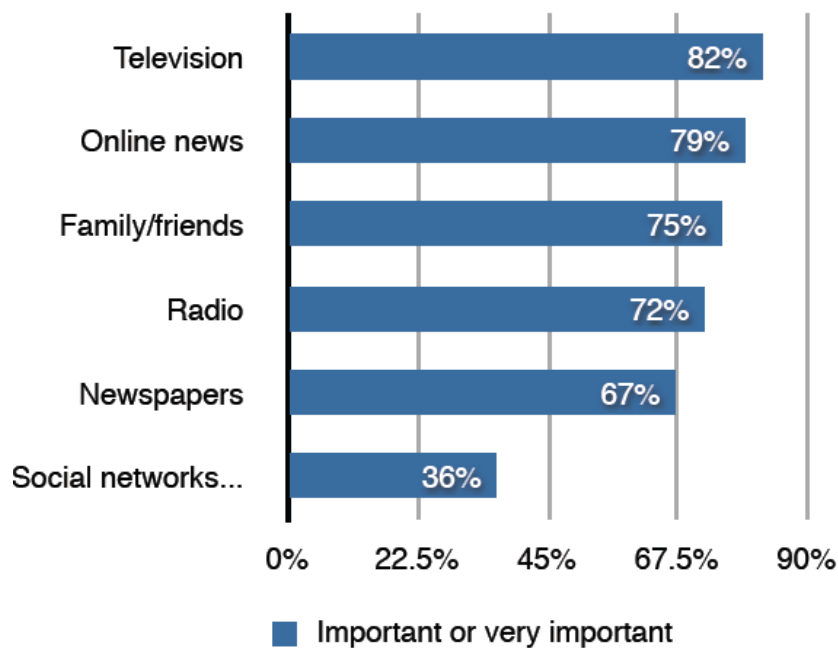
While news may be becoming more personal, many Canadians believe their social network provides them with a broader range of news and information than if they relied solely on traditional media. Almost two-thirds (59 per cent) who use social media say they are exposed to more news and information via their social networks, with the figure rising to 69 per cent for younger news consumers. (See Figure 1.)

There are concerns that social networks may limit the breadth of information people receive. However, the survey's findings suggest that social media provide both personalization and serendipity; Canadians get news tailored to their interests, based on recommendations from people who know them, but also who make them aware of content they did not know about.

Indeed, receiving a diverse range of news is important for Canadians; only one in five say they preferred news that shared their point of view.



Figure 2: Importance as source of news and information.



In just the space of just a few years, social media services have become part of the news diet of Canadians. One in three Canadians (36%) consider social networking sites as an important source for news. Social networks are even more important for students. Almost two-thirds (61 per cent) of students cite social networks as an important source for news, comparable to the figures for print, television and radio.

However, social media still has some way to go as a source for news for Canadians of all ages. Overall, more established sources such as television and online news websites outstripped social networks, with four out of five of all Canadians online citing both TV and the Internet as important sources for news. (See Figure 2.)

Despite the use of social media for news, there are questions over reliability and trust. Established news outlets such as television and online news websites are seen as far more reliable sources for news than social networks. Just over 25 per cent rate of Canadians see social networks as reliable, compared to nine out of 10 for television, print newspapers, online news sites and radio. Younger Canadians (33 per cent), and particularly students (39 per cent), are more likely to trust information from social networks than older Canadians.

### **The appeal of social media**

Social media in its many forms has become so prevalent that it is hard to separate from how people experience the Internet. Social networking alone has become what Pew Research describes as a “global phenomenon”<sup>2</sup>. Our survey found that 58 per cent of Canadians use social networks every month, while the majority of Canadians under 34 years old has visited a social networking service (82 per cent). Two-thirds of these younger adults visit social networking sites daily, often several times a day.

As might be expected, Canadians say that the main reason they use a social networking site is to keep in touch with friends and family. Social media is also valued as a source for entertainment, finding out personal information about others and being informed about social and community events.

While the survey did not ask people which service they used, Facebook is the most popular social networking site in Canada, with 18.5 millions users, accounting for 71 per cent of Canada's online population<sup>3</sup>. By comparison, 13.5% of Canadian Internet users are on Twitter.

### **Traditional media take up of social media**

Social media is transforming how journalists and citizens relate to the news. Media organizations around the world have enthusiastically embraced social media as a way to distribute content as it offers new ways for news outlets to reach audiences, especially with younger news consumers. The survey shows how Canadians are relying on their personal network to filter the news, rather than just on professional news organizations.

Canadians value news links and recommendations from friends and family more than from journalists. Two in five social network users say they get their news from their personal social network compared to one in five who receive news from a news organization or a journalist on services such as Facebook.

Women and French-speaking Canadians, in particular, are using their social media feeds as their news editors. Social recommendations are a daily source of news for 49 per cent of women who use social media, compared to 36 per cent of men. It is also notably higher among French speakers in Quebec, with half saying they got some of their daily news from their friends and family.

While 20 per cent of social network users get their news from journalists on sites such as Facebook, the figure rises to 31 per cent for students. Journalists on social media also have more impact in French-speaking areas such as Quebec, with one in three turning to journalists they follow for news.

### **Twitter and the news**

There is a similar pattern when it comes to getting news via Twitter. The social messaging service has emerged as a significant distribution network of news for French-speaking Canadians who use social media. Almost 40 per cent say they get some of their news from tweets distributed by friends and family, compared to 18 per cent for all Canadians on social media. Twitter is also more important for younger Canadians, with 25 per cent getting some of their news from tweets by their social circle.

At a time when many journalists are rapidly adopting Twitter as a way to share the news, only a minority of Canadians are getting news updates directly from them. Only one in ten of social media users say they get news via tweets from news professionals, with the figure slightly higher at 16 per cent for younger adults and at 17 per cent for students. But virtually no one over 55 on social media gets their news from journalists' tweets. (See Figures 3 and 4.)

The reason for these figures may be an uncertainty among audiences about whether journalists should use social media. The CMRC survey suggests that Canadians have mixed views as whether journalists should use services like Twitter to help report on trends and issues surrounding a news event. However, younger Canadians are more open to news professionals incorporating social media into their journalistic routines, with 52 per cent of under-34 year olds saying journalists should be on Twitter.

There is also a high degree of ambivalence over whether established media should incorporate information from social media in news reports.

Established news organizations such as the BBC, CBC and CNN routinely incorporate news, photos and videos shared by citizens on social media into their professionally edited reports.

A third of Canadians say they value the inclusion of social media content, with younger adults more open to the idea. Students, in particular, place greater worth on citizen-based media, with half saying they valued social media content.

### **The role of blogs**

Blogs are a form of social media that have been widely adopted by journalists as the conversational, informal and personal format is seen as a way to connect with audiences. The survey found that only 21 per cent follow journalists or bloggers online. As might be expected, younger news consumers are more likely to read blogs, with the figure jumping to 43 per cent among students. French-speaking news consumers are more likely to read blogs:

27 per cent, compared to 19 per cent for English-speaking.

The research team wanted to find out if journalists' perceptions of the value of blogging matched those of news consumers. Journalists tend to use blogs to offer information that does not fit into a standard news report, as well as to provide some commentary and analysis on issues. The survey shows that the most common reason for reading blogs is to find out more details about a story. A similar number of people say they enjoyed reading the posts. Readers who read blogs also value the ability to gain a better understanding of the story, as well as finding out more about the journalistic process.

Blogs are less successful in connecting and engaging with audiences on a more personal level. Only a third say they turned to blogs to learn more about the author or to share their views on a story. The social aspect of blogging is more important to younger adults, particularly students. Learning more about a journalist is important for 60 per cent of students, while 57 per cent appreciated the ability to leave comments. The figures suggest that younger readers, especially those in college, see the appeal in the more personal, open and interactive form of journalism offered by blogs.

The rise and popularity of social media is affecting how Canadians get their news and from whom, especially given that more than 18 million Canadians are on Facebook alone. While we did not ask about the type of news content they shared, it is clear that many are relying on their online social network to alert them to news of interest. A significant portion of the audience is expecting the news to come to them, filtered by friends rather than only by trained professionals. The dissemination of news through social interaction has always affected the spread of news. New networked media technologies are extending the ability of news consumers to both create and receive personalized social news streams, undermining existing mass media business models based on delivering large audiences to advertisers.

While social media creates new opportunities for the news industry to reach and engage audiences, particularly younger Canadians, it also represents competition for consumer attention and revenue.

Source: <http://www.mediaresearch.ca/en/projects/documents/CRMCSocialnewsApril27.pdf>

---

## **AUSTRALASIA**

### ***169-18. Image Of Professions Survey 2011: Police Now At Highest Ever Rating For Ethics & Honesty***

Finding No. 4655 - These are the main findings of a Roy Morgan telephone survey conducted in late March on the nights of March 22-24, 2011, with 638 Australian men and women aged 14 and over.: April 25, 2011

In the annual Roy Morgan Image of Professions survey Australian Police (69%, up 7%) are at their highest rating in over 35 years of the survey.

A large majority, 90% (up 1% in a year) of Australians aged 14 and over rate **Nurses** as the most ethical and honest profession — the 17<sup>th</sup> year in a row since Nurses were first included on the survey in 1994.

Car Salesmen (3%, down 2%) were once again rated the least ethical and honest Profession — a position they have held for over 30 years.

Several other professions also gained record high ratings for ethics and honesty in 2011, including Doctors (87%, up 8%), Dentists (76%, up 8%), High Court Judges (75%, up 12%) and State Supreme Court Judges (75%, up 11%).

Other professions to rate highly include Pharmacists (87%, up 2%), School teachers (76%, up 3%), Engineers (71%, up 2%) and University lecturers (61%, up 1%).

Professions to record strong rises included Public opinion pollsters (34%, up 7%), Ministers of religion (51%, up 7%), Bank Managers (40%, up 7%), Lawyers (38%, up 6%) and Directors of Public Companies (24%, up 5%).

Car Salesmen (3%, down 2%), Advertising people (5%, down 3%) and Real Estate Agents (7%, down 3%) are once again the lowest ranked of Professions.

Interestingly, Federal MPs (14%, down 2%) and State MPs (12%, down 4%) both recorded their lowest ratings for ethics and honesty since October 2000 — only months after the introduction of the GST.

Of all 30 professions surveyed in 2010 & 2011 the majority, 21 professions, rose over the year, eight saw decline while only one profession, Newspaper Journalists (11%) was unchanged.

Michele Levine says:

“Roy Morgan’s annual Image of Professions survey for 2011 shows most professions improved their standing in the community for ethics and honesty over the past year as Australia emerged from the uncertainties provided by the worst part of the Global Financial Crisis.

“The sharp rise in the image of **Police** may be in part explained by the number of law-enforcement observational series on our television screens which clearly resonate with viewers. And on Tuesday (April 26, 2011) we see Channel Nine launch the latest in this genre. ‘**AFP**’ will provide viewers with a look at the work of the Australian Federal Police.

“**Nurses** (90%, up 1%) were once again rated the most ethical and honest profession — the 17th year in a row. Also rating strongly and scoring new highs were the closely related medical professions of **Doctors** (87%, up 8%) and **Dentists** (76%, up 8%).

“Also rising strongly this year to new highs were both **High Court Judges** (75%, up 12%) and **State Supreme Court Judges** (75%, up 11%) and also **Police** (69%, up 7%).

“At the other end of the scale **Real Estate Agents** (7%, down 3%) and **Advertising people** (5%, down 3%) both recorded new lows and only finished above the perennially lowest ranked profession — **Car Salesman** (3%, down 2%). **Car Salesman** have now ranked as the least ethical and honest profession for the past 30 years.”

These are the main findings of a Roy Morgan telephone survey conducted in late March on the nights of March 22-24, 2011, with 638 Australian men and women aged 14 and over.

**Respondents were asked:** “As I say different occupations, could you please say — from what you know or have heard - which rating best describes how you, yourself, would rate or score people in various occupations for honesty and ethical standards (Very High, High, Average, Low, Very Low)?”

These are the main findings of a Roy Morgan telephone survey conducted in late March on the nights of March 22-24, 2011, with 638 Australian men and women aged 14 and over.

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4655/>

---

## MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

### ***169-19. One in Four in North Africa Desired to Migrate Before Unrest***

Potential migrants in Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria particularly drawn to France

April 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Many North Africans wanted to leave their countries before unrest in the region prompted thousands to do so this year, according to Gallup surveys in late 2010. Twenty-six percent of North African adults said they would choose to move to another country permanently if they had the chance. Fourteen percent of these potential migrants said they planned to move in the next year.

#### *Migration Desires in North Africa*

Based on surveys in October and November 2010 in Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, and Libya

	<b>Desire to migrate permanently</b>	<b>Plan to migrate in the next 12 months*</b>	<b>Making preparations to move**</b>
North Africa	26%	14%	53%

\*Among those who desire to migrate

\*\*Among those who plan to migrate in the next 12 months

#### GALLUP®

Since the "Arab Spring" began, an estimated 25,000 mostly Tunisian migrants have fled to Europe to escape the unrest or economic conditions at home only to find themselves in the middle of a battle over open borders in the European Union. Italy -- where most of these migrants are entering the EU -- and France -- where most migrants are reportedly headed -- are at odds on how to deal with the influx. Both are calling for reform of the EU's Schengen border-free travel agreement.

Before some of the barriers that limited people from migrating from Tunisia fell with President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali's ouster in January, nearly 3 in 10 Tunisian adults (28%) said they would like to migrate permanently to another country. Desire to migrate was similar in other North African countries such as Algeria (31%) and Libya (27%), and slightly lower in Egypt (24%) and Morocco (24%).

#### **France, Saudi Arabia Popular Desired Destinations**

Potential migrants in Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco were most likely to say they would like to permanently move to a European country -- France in particular -- if they could move anywhere. This preference likely reflects these nations' historical and linguistic ties to France, and the likelihood that people in these countries have family or other people they count on in France. Among those who say they have people they can count on in other countries, 75% of Algerians, 60% of Tunisians, and 50% of Moroccans say these people live in France.

### *North Africans' Desired Destinations for Permanent Migration*

Among those who desire to migrate permanently

	<b>% would like to migrate permanently to this country</b>
France	20%
Saudi Arabia	17%
United States	8%
Italy	8%
Canada	7%
Spain	6%

Based on surveys in October and November 2010

#### **GALLUP'**

In Libya and Egypt, potential migrants appear to have closer affinity to Gulf countries, where they were most likely to say they would like to move. They rarely mentioned France and other European countries as a desired destination. Adults in Libya and Egypt were more likely to say the family members or other people they rely on in other countries live in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere around the Gulf, reinforcing the importance of social networks.

#### **Temporary Work May Be Stepping Stone**

Many adults who wanted to migrate for temporary work also wanted to migrate permanently, which is why it is important to consider both groups together. Gallup surveys in Tunisia in early 2010 show that 32% of Tunisian adults said they would like to migrate for temporary work or permanently. Breaking this down further, however, 3% wanted to go for temporary work and did not want to move permanently, while 17% wanted to go for both and 12% wanted to make a permanent move but not one for temporary work. These data suggest that many are using temporary work as a stepping stone to settle down permanently.

### *Desire to Migrate Permanently and for Temporary Work*

Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like to go to another country for temporary work, or not?

Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like to move permanently to another country, or would you prefer to continue living in this country?

	Egypt	Morocco	Algeria	Libya	Tunisia	North Africa overall
Only permanent migration	7%	2%	2%	9%	12%	5%
Only temporary work	4%	10%	5%	5%	3%	6%
Both	9%	25%	25%	21%	17%	17%
Would migrate for temporary work or permanently	20%	37%	32%	35%	32%	28%

Based on surveys in March 2010

### GALLUP

#### **Implications**

While Gallup's data reflect the situation in North Africa before the unrest and not the current situation on the ground, they do provide some insight into people's desires for permanent and temporary migration that can be useful going forward. In other regions that are heavily dependent on temporary work, such as the Commonwealth of Independent States, people are twice as likely to want to move for temporary work as to make a permanent move to another country. Policymakers need to consider that potential migrants in North Africa are different: Many may want to come for temporary work, but they may also want to stay much longer.

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on face-to-face and telephone interviews conducted in 2010 with approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, in five North African countries. For results based on the total sample in each country, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points to  $\pm 3.7$  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/147344/One-Four-North-Africa-Desired-Migrate-Unrest.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147344/One-Four-North-Africa-Desired-Migrate-Unrest.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World)

#### **169-20. Worldwide, Young Adults Twice as Likely to Be Unemployed**

Of those employed, 15- to 29-year-olds least likely to say their job is ideal

April 27, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The youngest adults in the world's workforce are the most likely to be unemployed and underemployed, according to Gallup surveys in more than 131 countries. Twelve percent of young adults report being unemployed in 2009 and 2010, more than double the 5% of unemployed 30- to 49-year-olds. Additionally, more than one in four young adults were underemployed, compared with 15% of adults aged 30 to 49.

## Employment Status and Age

Among those in the workforce

	Unemployed	Underemployed	Employed full time for an employer
15- to 29-year-olds	12%	27%	42%
30- to 49-year-olds	5%	15%	44%
50- to 69-year-olds	4%	14%	34%

Based on surveys in 131 countries in 2009 and 2010

### GALLUP'

While young adults are struggling to find work, those in the workforce are more likely (42%) than 50- to 69-year-olds (34%) to be working full time for an employer. This is a relatively positive indicator. Worldwide, full-time employment with an employer is the metric Gallup finds to be most highly correlated with GDP, is linked to higher wellbeing, and is the basis of Gallup's measure of "good jobs."

Gallup defines "unemployed" respondents as those who are not employed for an employer or themselves, but are actively looking for employment and able to work. The "underemployed" are people who are unemployed or working part time but would like to work full time. Those classified as "employed full time for an employer" work at least 30 hours per week for an employer. Each group is reported as a percentage of the total workforce.

### **High Unemployment Among Young Adults Persists Across Regions**

Higher unemployment and underemployment among young adults in the workforce is present in all regions of the world. Young adults in the Middle East and North Africa (18%), Europe (17%), and the Americas (16%) are the most likely to be unemployed. Underemployment, however, is highest for young adults in sub-Saharan Africa (38%) and the Americas (35%).



## Employment Status, by Age and Region

Among those in the workforce

	Unemployed	Underemployed	Employed full time for an employer
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	15%	38%	20%
30- to 49-year-olds	8%	28%	22%
50- to 69-year-olds	4%	23%	16%
<b>Americas</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	16%	35%	48%
30- to 49-year-olds	9%	21%	58%
50- to 69-year-olds	6%	18%	52%
<b>Asia</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	10%	22%	42%
30- to 49-year-olds	3%	13%	36%
50- to 69-year-olds	3%	13%	24%
<b>Europe</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	17%	33%	50%
30- to 49-year-olds	7%	16%	61%
50- to 69-year-olds	6%	14%	56%
<b>Former Soviet Union</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	9%	20%	56%
30- to 49-year-olds	5%	11%	69%
50- to 69-year-olds	4%	12%	58%
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	18%	30%	44%
30- to 49-year-olds	7%	16%	52%
50- to 69-year-olds	7%	15%	43%

Based on surveys in 131 countries in 2009 and 2010

GALLUP®

### Employed Young Adults Not in Their Ideal Job

Globally, employed young adults are the least likely to say their job is ideal (54%), while employed adults aged 50 to 69 are the most likely (66%) to say this. Young, employed adults in former Soviet Union countries (41%), sub-Saharan Africa (45%), and the Middle East and North

Africa (47%) are the least likely of all groups to say their job is ideal. Employed adults aged 50 to 69 in the Americas are the most likely to say their job is ideal (80%).

*Would you say that your job is the ideal job for you, or not?*

Asked only of those who are employed

	<b>Yes, ideal</b>	<b>No, not ideal</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
<b>Worldwide</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	54%	40%	6%
30- to 49-year-olds	61%	34%	5%
50- to 69-year-olds	66%	28%	7%
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	45%	54%	1%
30- to 49-year-olds	57%	43%	0%
50- to 69-year-olds	62%	37%	0%
<b>Americas</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	57%	38%	5%
30- to 49-year-olds	74%	24%	1%
50- to 69-year-olds	80%	19%	2%
<b>Asia</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	58%	38%	4%
30- to 49-year-olds	59%	36%	5%
50- to 69-year-olds	64%	30%	6%
<b>Europe</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	54%	41%	5%
30- to 49-year-olds	69%	28%	3%
50- to 69-year-olds	74%	23%	3%
<b>Former Soviet Union</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	41%	42%	16%
30- to 49-year-olds	49%	37%	14%
50- to 69-year-olds	50%	31%	19%
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>			
15- to 29-year-olds	47%	45%	8%
30- to 49-year-olds	61%	33%	6%
50- to 69-year-olds	66%	27%	7%

Based on surveys in 131 countries in 2009 and 2010

GALLUP®

## **Implications**

Unemployment among young adults isn't a problem only in the Middle East, where it has been partly tied to the recent social unrest. Young adults worldwide are struggling to find work, and for many of those who are working, their jobs are less than ideal. For young adults, a good job can provide the means to starting a family or buying a first home. The lack of jobs for the world's young adults is an issue that must be addressed so this group can feel engaged in their communities and financially ready to enter adulthood.

## **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, per survey administration. Interviews were conducted in 131 countries throughout 2009 and 2010. In many countries, the data have been aggregated. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of  $\pm 1.4$  in India to a high of  $\pm 4.7$  in Latvia. 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 survey data.

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/147281/Worldwide-Young-Adults-Twice-Likely-Unemployed.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Asia%20-%20Latin%20America%20-%20Muslim%20World](http://www.gallup.com/poll/147281/Worldwide-Young-Adults-Twice-Likely-Unemployed.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Asia%20-%20Latin%20America%20-%20Muslim%20World)

---