

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

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June 05-11, 2011

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 25 surveys. Three of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 22 are national surveys from various countries.

Summary of Poll

MENA

Palestinians Prefer a Government of Independent Figures

A recent survey of Palestinian showed that the Palestinian people prefer a government of independent figures. When asked if they prefer a government with a majority of its ministers from Fateh, Hamas or independent figures, a majority of the respondents (50.8%) said it prefers a government of independent figures compared with a ratio of 26.5% who said they prefer a Fateh-majority government while a ratio of 12.5% said they prefer a Hamas-majority government. (JMCC Jerusalem)

June 08, 2011

Half of Palestinians Think That Fateh-Hamas Reconciliation Hurts Economy

A recent poll shows that half of Palestinians think that a reconciliation between Fateh and Hamas would hurt the economy while over three in ten believe it would improve the economic situation. (PCPO)

June 11, 2011

Yemenis See Widespread Corruption in Government

While it is uncertain what government will emerge in Yemen as President Ali Abdullah Saleh recovers in Saudi Arabia from serious injuries, Gallup surveys amid the recent unrest suggest Yemenis want to see one that tackles corruption within its ranks. Seven in 10 Yemenis polled in February and early March said government corruption is widespread. (Gallup USA)

June 9, 2011

Egyptians Optimistic About Change but Concerned About Economy and Security

In the aftermath of the January 25 revolution, IRI's Egypt survey found that the people of Egypt are extremely positive about the direction of their country and overwhelmingly pleased with the resignation of Hosni Mubarak. However, the state of the Egyptian economy, and security and crime are foremost in the minds of Egyptians. As a result, the legitimacy of any post-Mubarak government will rest on the ability of its decision makers to address these issues. (IRI)

June 05, 2011

Egyptians Optimistic Post-Revolution

As Egyptians transition from nearly three decades under former President Hosni Mubarak's rule, Gallup surveys conducted in late March and early April show they do so with a growing optimism about their future lives. (Gallup USA)

June 6, 2011

Egyptians Oppose U.S. Aid to Political Groups in Their Country

Egyptians oppose the U.S. sending aid to political groups in their country. This is particularly the case among those who look to the U.S. as a political example. While 75% of the general public opposes U.S. aid to political groups, 88% of Egyptians who see the U.S. as a political model for their country say the same. (Gallup USA)

June 8, 2011

WEST & CENTRAL ASIA

On Eve of Elections, a More Upbeat Mood in Turkey

As Turks prepare for national elections on June 12, they are increasingly upbeat about the direction of their country. And at a time when publics around the world generally remain gloomy about their economies, Turks are becoming more positive. This bodes well for Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), whom most observers believe will win a decisive victory in the elections. (Pew Research Center)

June 7, 2011

Half of Filipinos Oppose Postponement of ARMM Elections

A recent survey of Philippines reveal that slight over half of Filipinos (51%) oppose the postponement of ARMM elections while 24 percent favor the postponement of elections. (SWS)

June 08, 2011

WEST EUROPE

Despite The Crisis, Europeans Are Keeping Their Holidays, Although Adopting New Types Of Behavior (Multi-country survey)

After two years of crisis, and despite an unfavourable economic context in 2011, once again 66% of Europeans claim that they will go on holiday this year (+2 points compared to 2010 and 2009), catching up with the pre-crisis level when 67% of them were planning summer holidays. (Ipsos Mori)

May 17, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

More Blame Wars than Domestic Spending or Tax Cuts for Nation's Debt

Far more Americans say that the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed a great deal to the nation's debt than say that about increased domestic spending or the tax cuts enacted over the past decade. (Pew Research Center)

June 7, 2011

Healthcare Costs Key to When and Where U.S. Investors Retire

Seventy-two percent of nonretired U.S. investors say the cost of healthcare is a major determinant of when they retire, according to the most recent Wells Fargo/Gallup Investor and Retirement Optimism Index poll. These Americans rank healthcare above the five other factors tested in the survey. (Gallup USA)

June 10, 2011

Views of Middle East Unchanged by Recent Events

Regarding the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, far more Americans continue to say they sympathize with Israel rather than the Palestinians (by 48% to 11%). These opinions are little changed from recent years. (Pew Research Center)

June 10, 2011

Opposition to Ryan Medicare Plan from Older, Attentive Americans

The public offers a mixed reaction to a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage: 41% oppose such a change, 36% favor it and nearly a quarter (23%) have no opinion either way. Despite this even division of opinion overall, there is broad, and strong, opposition to

the proposal among older Americans and those who are paying a lot of attention to the issue.
(Pew Research Center)

June 6, 2011

U.S. Subgroups Say Economy, Jobs Are Most Important Problem

All major subgroups of Americans thus far in 2011 have named either "the economy" or unemployment as the nation's top problem, although not necessarily in that order, according to an average of Gallup's monthly Most Important Problem measures from January through May. (Gallup USA)

June 10, 2011

Americans Still Cutting Back, but Slightly Less as Summer Starts

Americans have in recent weeks become slightly less likely to say they are cutting back on their weekly spending, suggesting that actual consumer spending may increase as summer gets underway. (Gallup USA)

June 9, 2011

Democratic Party Affiliation Advantage Increases in May

In May, 45% of Americans identified as Democrats or said they were independent but leaned Democratic, compared with 39% who identified as Republicans or leaned Republican. The six-percentage-point Democratic advantage represents a slight increase from the four-point advantage Gallup measured in April, which matches the 2011 average to date. (Gallup USA)

June 9, 2011

Underemployed Americans' Wellbeing Continues to Suffer

Less than half of underemployed Americans (45%) rate their lives well enough to be considered "thriving." This compares with 60% of those who are employed who are thriving. The underemployed are significantly more likely than the employed to be "struggling" in their lives. (Gallup USA)

June 8, 2011

Obama Approval Up on International Issues, Not on Economy

Majorities of Americans approve of the way President Obama is handling terrorism, the situation in Afghanistan, and foreign affairs. That contrasts with the majority disapproval he gets for his handling of the economy and the federal budget deficit. (Gallup USA)

June 8, 2011

Romney's Positive Intensity Up; Santorum's Name ID Still Low

Newly announced presidential candidate Mitt Romney's Positive Intensity Score among Republicans who recognize him is up to 17 this week, essentially tying him with Michele Bachmann. Both remain behind Herman Cain on this measure. Rick Santorum, another newly announced candidate, has a Positive Intensity Score of 11; 44% of Republicans nationwide know him, virtually unchanged so far this year. (Gallup USA)

June 7, 2011

Republicans More Unified Than Democrats on Abortion

As the 2012 Republican presidential contenders begin to hone their campaign messages and court social-issues voters, a Gallup analysis reveals the striking homogeneity of rank-and-file Republicans on abortion. Roughly two-thirds of Republicans across most major gender, age, educational, and income lines describe themselves as "pro-life," while about a quarter call themselves "pro-choice." (Gallup USA)

June 6, 2011

Voters Oppose Raising Debt Ceiling: Big Budget Cuts Increase Support

A bare majority of likely voters does not agree that Congress should raise the debt ceiling, 50% to 42%, and a plurality does not believe such a failure would cause the government to default on its debt and endanger the U.S. economy, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds. (Zogby-Ibope)

June 07, 2011

Obama Approval Slips to 46%; No Change in Re-Elect Number

President Barack Obama's approval rating has dropped two percentage points from last week, but the number of people who think he deserves to be re-elected remains the same. (Zogby-Ibope)

June 06, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Britons Welcome Killing Of Bin Laden

New research by Ipsos MORI shows that 87% of Britons believe the killing of Osama bin Laden was justified. The latest Global @dvisor survey conducted in 22 countries worldwide showed three quarters (76%) of those surveyed believe the US was justified in seeking out and killing Bin Laden with 95% of Americans supporting the action. (Ipsos-Mori)

June 08, 2011

CYBER WORLD

The Growing & Changing role of the Mobile Phone, and The Youth of Indonesia

Indonesia is already the world's 2nd biggest Facebook and 3rd biggest Twitter market in terms of number of members. However research by the global market research firm TNS reveals that although a huge 87% of those who go online, have access Social Networking sites, only 14% of them access these Social Networking Sites on a daily basis compared to the Global average of 46%. (TNS Global)

June 08, 2011

Why we connect

A recent survey in UK shows that about 80 percent of all adults access Internet. The most popular activity in January 2011 was (unsurprisingly) sending and receiving emails, which is consistent with January 2010. (Ipsos-Mori)

June 2011

MENA

175-1. Palestinians Prefer a Government of Independent Figures

Governance and Politics

June 08, 2011

Summary: The public opinion poll conducted by Jerusalem Media & Communications Center showed that the Palestinian people prefer a government of independent figures. When asked if they prefer a government with a majority of its ministers from Fateh, Hamas or independent figures, a majority of the respondents (50.8%) said it prefers a government of independent figures compared with a ratio of 26.5% who said they prefer a Fateh-majority government while a ratio of 12.5% said they prefer a Hamas-majority government.

Regarding the most appropriate figure to head the next unity government, the poll results showed that Dr. Salam Fayyad is the most appropriate figure among the names of figures

circulated in the mass media. A ratio of 44.4% said Dr. Salam Fayyad is the most appropriate while a ratio of 12.3% said Jamal al-Khodari is the most appropriate and a ratio of 5.3% said Mazen Sinokrot is the most appropriate followed by Mohammed Abu Shahla who got a support ratio of 3.3% and Mohammed Mustafa got a ratio of 1.8%. A ratio of 23.7% said they don't trust anyone and a ratio of 9.2% refrained from answering the question.

According to the poll that was conducted during the period between May 31st and June 4th 2011 with a random sample of 1198 persons from the West Bank and Gaza, a majority of respondents (79.1%) said they consider the reconciliation agreement a positive step that serves the national interest while a ratio of 12.4% said the reconciliation agreement would not make any difference. A majority of respondents (81.1%) expressed optimism regarding the implementation of the agreement on the ground. A majority of respondents (76.9%) said the formation of a national reconciliation government of independent figures as stipulated in the reconciliation agreement is a good idea at the current phase compared with a ratio of 13.0% who said the opposite.

The political situation and the United States

With regards to the general public optimism vis-a-vis the PLO possible step next September to gain recognition of the Palestinian state, the poll results showed that two thirds of the respondents (63.6%) expressed optimism towards this step and the possibility of getting support from the majority of the world countries while a ratio of 30.2% of the respondents said they feel pessimistic regarding the chances to get international recognition. On the importance of such a step, a ratio of 64.6% said it serves the national interest compared with a ratio of 4.6% who said the step will harm the national interest and a ratio of 25.5% said the step will not make any difference regarding the national interest.

The poll shows that the speech of US President Barack Obama made the largest ratio of Palestinians (44.4%) more pessimistic regarding finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict compared with a ratio of 11.2% who said that the speech made them feel more optimistic. A ratio of 43.6% of the respondents said the speech of Obama didn't make any difference although a ratio of 52.1% said they read or watched one of the recent speeches of Obama regarding the Middle East.

The poll results showed that the general public believes that there is US regression in dealing with the Middle East issues at the current phase. The ratio of those who believe the US retreated in its dealings with the Middle East issues rose to 32.6% in this poll compared with a ratio of 12.8% in the poll conducted in October 2009. Generally speaking, a Palestinian majority of 91.8% still insists that the US is biased towards Israel compared with a ratio of 4.8% who believes that the US is neither biased towards Israel nor towards Palestine.

Popularity of parties and figures

With regards to the level of confidence in the Palestinian factions, the ratio of those who trust Fatah more rose from 36.2% in April 2010 to 39.2% in this poll. Level of confidence in Hamas also rose from 14.4% in April 2010 to 16.6% in this poll. Along the same lines, the level of confidence in President Mahmoud Abbas increased from 17.8% in April 2010 to 22.2% in this poll. Level of confidence in Ismail Hanniyeh also rose from 11.2% to 13.6%. Marwan Barghouthi maintained his third rank in this poll with a confidence ratio of 6.8% following by PM Salam Fayyad who received a confidence ratio of 6.3%. Ratio of those who don't trust anyone went down from 32.5% to 28.5%.

On the other hand, the recent political developments have increased the ratio of respondents who are satisfied with the way in which President Abbas is running the PNA from 18.6% in April 2010 to 24.3% in June 2011.

Source: <http://www.imra.org.il/story.php3?id=52746>

175-2. Half of Palestinians Think That Fateh-Hamas Reconciliation Hurts Economy

PCPO poll of Palestinians: Fateh-Hamas reconciliation hurts economy 48.8%(33.8% improves)

June 11, 2011

Improvement of the economic situation as a result of the reconciliation Regarding the question:” In the light of the reconciliation between Fateh and Hamas, do you think that the economic situation in the country would improve, retreat, or remain unchanged?”, (33.8 %) said “it would improve”, (48.8 %) “it would retreat”, (17.1 %) “would remain unchanged” and (0.3 %) answered “I don’t know”.

PCPO Poll No. 177

June 11, 2011

Beit Sahour – Section of Public Relations:

The most recent poll prepared by Dr. Nabil Kukali, conducted by the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion (www.pcpo.org), now an associate member of Gallup International Association (GIA) and the World Independent Network for Market Research (WIN) and as such the sole representative of Palestine, during the period from May 26 till June 7, 2011, covered a random sample of (1020) Palestinian respondents representing the various demographic specimens of adult Palestinians (18 years and above) living in the west Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip. It has revealed that (40.9 %) of the Palestinians believe that lingering on the constitution of a transitional government would negatively affect the Palestinian economy.

Dr. Kukali, in his capacity as President of the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion, said that the Palestinian public is aware of the pressing need of implementing the Reconciliation Accord concluded between Fateh and Hamas in order to boost and develop the economy. The Palestinians, he said, are now hoping that the economic situation in the Palestinian Territories after the reconciliation will improve as it’s expected that the political stability and security should revive the role of the different economic sectors such as the local industries, particularly that of tourism, increase the trade exchange between the west Bank and Gaza Strip and encourage investments in the Palestinian Territories.

Dr. Kukali showed that there is a cautious optimism among the Palestinians with regard to the building of the Palestinian economy after the reconciliation as the rate of the optimists (49.1 %) and that of the pessimists (48.7 %) are almost balanced. Dr. Kukali referred these feelings of the Palestinian public to the fact that the Israeli policies and measures control the trade border-crossings and impede the transportation and free movement of the foreign trade. Add thereto the inability of the Palestinian government to cover the deficit of the PA balance without relying on the

foreign aids aggravates the economic hardship in the country. Dr. Kukali further pointed out that the donor countries and Israel provide actually two thirds of the revenues of the Palestinian Authority.

Dr. Kukali, a renowned pollster and economist, emphasized in his comment the necessity of boosting the Palestinian economy along both tracks, its relief and development, by the donor countries in general and the rich Arab oil countries in particular. A comprehensive plan, he suggested, should be laid for the building of the Palestinian economy and the provision of manpower and financial resources as to achieve the goals of this plan. Such a master plan should also include the opening of the commercial border-crossings, the establishment of industrial zones, the construction of a sea-port in Gaza and an airport in the West Bank, the restoration of Gaza airport and the connection of the major two Palestinian regions, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, by a land corridor.

Dr. Kukali concluded his comments by revealing that the majority of the Palestinian people view the performance of the Prime Minister, Dr. Salam Fayyad, in the economic sector positively.

Hereunder the details of the poll issues:

Lingering on the constitution of a transitional government:

Responding to the question: "Several weeks after the signing of the Reconciliation Accord concluded by and between the two major parties, Fateh and Hamas, in Cairo, do you believe that lingering on the constitution of a transitional government would negatively or positively impact the Palestinian economy, or would it effect no change ?", (40.9 %) said "it would negatively impact", (28.2 %) "it would positively impact" and (25.6 %) said "it would have no effect". (5.3 %) answered "I don't know".

Improvement of the economic situation as a result of the reconciliation

Regarding the question: "In the light of the reconciliation between Fateh and Hamas, do you think that the economic situation in the country would improve, retreat, or remain unchanged ?", (33.8 %) said "it would improve", (48.8 %) "it would retreat", (17.1 %) "would remain unchanged" and (0.3 %) answered "I don't know".

Optimism and Pessimism

Responding to the question: "On the 3rd of May 2011, Hamas and Fateh celebrated the conclusion of the Reconciliation Accord between them. Having this in mind, are you optimistic or pessimistic for the improvement of the economic situations in the Palestinian Territories ?", (49.1 %) said "optimistic", (48.7 %) "pessimistic" and (2.2 %) said "I don't know".

Potential assistance of the Arab countries

(55.3 %) of the respondents are of the opinion that the rich Arab oil countries are able to cover the financial assistance provided by the EU countries and the US to the Palestinian government, whilst (44.1 %) said they are unable and (1.6 %) declined the answer to the question.

Performance of Dr. Salam Fayyad

(54.2 %) evaluated the performance of the Prime Minister, Dr. Salam Fayyad, in the economic field as “good”, (22.9 %) “fair”, (17.1 %) “bad” and (5.8 %) declined the answer to the question.

Significance of the US-American and European Aid:

Regarding the question: "Up to which extent the US-American and European financial and economical aid contribute in general to the well-being of the Palestinian people ?", (35.4%) said "to a high degree", (42.2%) "to a mediocre degree", (14.9%) "to an unimportant degree", (5.8%) said "nil", and (1.7%) "don't know".

The economic conditions

(36.3%) of the Palestinians evaluated the general economic condition in the Palestinian territories as "bad" whilst (49.0%) said "it's mediocre", only (14.7%) described it as "good".

The concerns of the citizen

Responding to the question: "What is your main concern at present ? ", (23.7%) answered " job / money", (29.9%) "the security", (14.2%) "the health" and (32.2%) "the future".

The content with the life

Answering the question: "How much are you in general content with your life?" taking into consideration that the answers were in figures from 1 to 10 where (1) stands for the utmost degree of discontent and (10) for the utmost degree of content. The outcome was in average (4.79).

Methodology of the Survey Study:

Miss Rana Kukali, a staff member of the Research and Studies' Section at the PCPO, said that all interviews of this survey were conducted inside the respondents' homes, i.e. face-to-face during different working hours, at least 5 hours a day, including the evening time, in order to ensure proper representation of those sub-groups of the population, which would otherwise be difficult to reach and selecting one individual in each household using Last Birthday Method. The choices were taken from a total of (150) election sites, from which (113) sites are located in West Bank and (37) sites in Gaza Strip according to the distribution of the Central Election Commission. These election sites were randomly chosen by using the method of the simple random sample. These in turn were the beginning of the random sample choice made from those regions in accordance with PCPO's long experienced methodology.

Miss Rana Kukali has further established that the margin of error was ($\pm 3.07\%$) at a significance and confidence levels of (5%) and (95%) respectively. She added that the rate of the female respondents in this survey was (49.7%) against (50.3%) male respondents. The distribution of the random sample between the Palestinian two major regions was (63.9%) in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and (36.1%) in Gaza Strip, and allocated as follows: (52.1%) for the towns, (31.3%) for the villages and (16.6%) for the camps.

About PCPO:

The Palestinian Center for Public Opinion (PCPO) was founded in February 1994 in Beit Sahour by Dr. Nabil Kukali, who became the director of this center since that time.

Since that time we are dedicated to the following activities:

- 1) Conducting public opinion surveys.
- 2) Omnibus polls and services.
- 3) Market studies on all kinds of trading activities.
- 4) Surveys of consumer attitudes, consumption habits, and market shares.
- 5) Communication researches.
- 6) Focus group sessions and workshops on various topics.
- 7) Rendering services in the field of investment, including feasibility studies.
- 8) In-depth interviews & brainstorming workshops.
- 9) Translation services from Arabic into English, German & Hebrew and vice-versa.

PCPO is now a name for reliability, credibility and experience not only in Palestine, but all over the world.

Source: <http://imra.org.il/story.php3?id=52746>

175-3. Yemenis See Widespread Corruption in Government

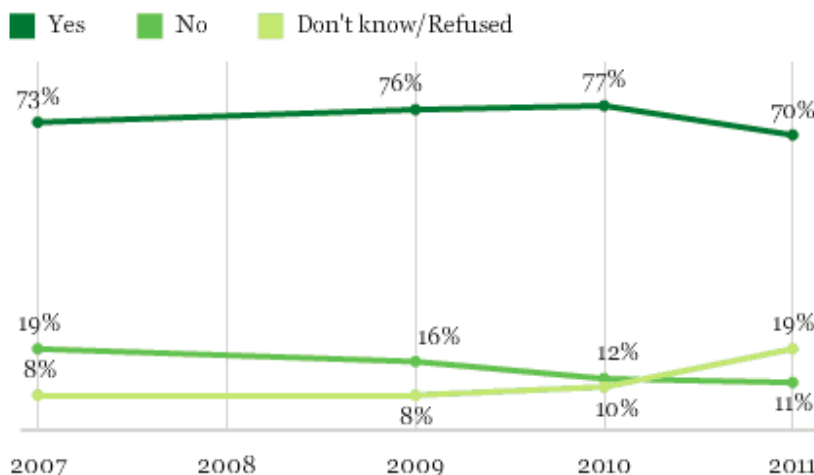
About one in three say government doing enough to fight graft

June 9, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- While it is uncertain what government will emerge in Yemen as President Ali Abdullah Saleh recovers in Saudi Arabia from serious injuries, Gallup surveys amid the recent unrest suggest Yemenis want to see one that tackles corruption within its ranks. Seven in 10 Yemenis polled in February and early March said government corruption is widespread.

Is corruption widespread throughout the government in this country, or not?

Asked of Yemeni adults



GALLUP®

Like many of their Arab brethren who took to the streets in other countries this spring, the thousands of Yemenis who have protested since early February list government corruption

among their key grievances. The grand patronage network that exists in Yemen has helped keep Saleh in power for more than 30 years, but it has also contributed to the country's weak growth and intense poverty -- another of the protesters' major grievances.

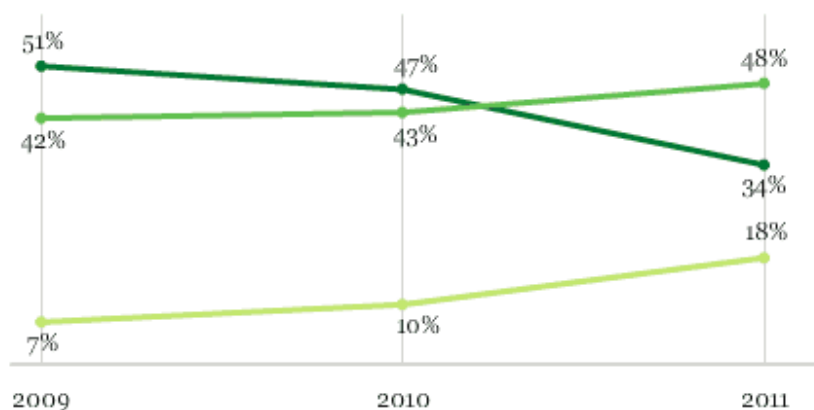
Saleh's government has in recent years pledged to make fighting corruption a top priority, but the average Yemeni continues to see little tangible progress. The proportion of Yemenis who believe government corruption is rampant has remained in the 70% or higher range for the past four years. Although these figures have remained consistently high, they are not the highest in the world and are similar to percentages Gallup has measured elsewhere in the region. For instance, 75% of Iraqis polled in February and March of this year said corruption was widespread in their government.

Furthermore, Yemenis who thought at one time that the government was doing enough to fight corruption either do not think so now, or have become more uncertain. A slim majority of Yemenis (51%) said in 2009 the government was doing enough to fight corruption, but by this spring that number has fallen to 34%.

Do you think the government of your country is doing enough to fight corruption, or not?

Asked of Yemeni adults

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know/Refused



GALLUP

Implications

Thousands of Yemeni protesters kept up their calls this week for the country's acting president to form a transition council that could create a new government, but the situation remains fluid. Much of Yemen's future hinges on if, or when, Saleh returns. Regardless, Gallup's data suggest most Yemenis are unhappy with the status quo.

About the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted in Feb. 15-March 3, 2011, in Yemen. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one

can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3.8 percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. Earlier surveys in Yemen conducted in January 2007, March and September 2009, and February and October 2010. For results based on the total sample of national adults in these surveys, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3.9 percentage points.

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/147980/Yemenis-Widespread-Corruption-Government.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia%20-%20Muslim%20World

175-4. Egyptians Optimistic About Change but Concerned About Economy and Security

June 05, 2011

Summary

This is the first public opinion survey conducted in Egypt by the International Republican Institute (IRI). The survey was conducted from April 14-27, 2011, and was undertaken in cooperation with an international survey research firm operating in Egypt. This poll will serve as a baseline for future IRI polls.

In the aftermath of the January 25 revolution, IRI's Egypt survey found that the people of Egypt are extremely positive about the direction of their country and overwhelmingly pleased with the resignation of Hosni Mubarak. However, the state of the Egyptian economy, and security and crime are foremost in the minds of Egyptians. As a result, the legitimacy of any post-Mubarak government will rest on the ability of its decision makers to address these issues. A summary of key findings suggests:

 People are positive about the direction of the country and hopeful about the future. The source of this optimism is likely the revolution itself. The vast majority of respondents in the survey said that they supported the events surrounding January 25 and they feel the revolution will impact Egypt for the better.

 Despite this optimism, Egyptians are concerned about the economy with an overwhelming 81 percent of respondents rating it as poor. More than one-third of Egyptians (41 percent) said they have trouble feeding themselves and their family or providing for the most basic needs.

 Security and crime emerged as major concerns. Respondents rated the security situation as poor and listed it as one of the main problems facing Egypt, second only to the economy.

 The survey revealed that the upcoming parliamentary elections are wide open, with no party clearly seen as a frontrunner. In an open-ended question asking for whom they would vote, 65 percent responded that they did not know.

 Egyptians are enthusiastic about upcoming elections. The survey shows that the vast majority is either very likely or somewhat likely to vote in the parliamentary elections (95 percent).

 The survey also found wide support for the results of Egypt's recent constitutional referendum.

 The survey results challenge certain widespread assumptions regarding the role of new media in the protests. Respondents reported that they relied on television more than Facebook as their main source of information during the revolution (84 percent compared to six percent), while Twitter barely registered. When asked what medium was the second-most relied upon, nearly half said word of mouth.

Indicators

↳ When asked about the general direction of their country, 89 percent said it was heading in the right direction while nine percent said that it was headed in the wrong direction.

↳ However, when it comes to the economy, Egyptians are of a different mind; just 19 percent rated the current economic situation positively, while 81 percent rated it poorly. Nearly half of the 81 percent who rated it poorly (49 percent) said the economic situation was very poor.

↳ Respondents were split over whether their personal financial situation had improved or not over the past year; 37 percent said that it had gotten better, 43 percent said that it was worse, and 20 percent said that it had not changed.

↳ Egyptians are very optimistic about their economic future. Eighty percent said they expected their personal financial situation to improve over the next year and only 13 percent said they expected it to get worse.

Respondents were read a list of issues and asked if they felt that the situation regarding each issue had gotten better or worse. The poll found that along with economic issues, security and crime have also become concerns for Egyptians.

↳ Of the issues that respondents were asked about, security topped the list of issues that have gotten worse with 77 percent feeling that it had. Further, 51 percent of the total 77 percent rated security has having become much worse. Only 10 percent felt that it had improved.

↳ Following security was foreign investment (63 percent worse) and living standards (60 percent worse). Additionally, 55 percent felt that unemployment had also worsened.

↳ When asked about the government's ability to address the problems facing Egypt, 77 percent said that they had confidence in the government while 21 percent did not.

Economy is Top Concern

Respondents were asked in an open-ended question what in their opinion were the top three problems facing Egypt. Unemployment (37 percent), security (21 percent) and corruption (11 percent) were the top three issues Egyptians listed as their first choice. Unemployment and security were also the most cited second choice at 17 percent and 15 percent respectively.

Egyptians Eager to Vote but Dissatisfied with Parliamentary Election Choices

↳ In an open-ended question asking Egyptians which political party they would vote for in the upcoming parliamentary elections, none of the parties garnered significant support. Instead, IRI's poll shows most people remain undecided as to whom they will support, leaving open many possibilities for new political party options.

↳ The survey asked Egyptians if they preferred a current political parties or a new party; 68 percent stated their desire for the latter. Only 14 percent said that they preferred one of the existing parties.

↳ Despite dissatisfaction with their current political choices, the survey reveals that Egyptians are eager to vote in the upcoming parliamentary elections. When asked about the likelihood of going to the polls on Election Day, 72 percent said they were very likely to vote while 23 percent said they were somewhat likely; this is a total of 95 percent indicating that they intend to vote.

↳ Egyptians are also eager for the elections to be held. When asked about the timing of the parliamentary elections, 51 percent said September was the right amount of time to hold the elections, 25 percent felt that it was not soon enough and only 21 percent felt September was too soon. It is worth noting that 76 percent feel the election should be held in September or sooner.

Constitutional Referendum

The survey probed attitudes toward the recent constitutional referendum. Despite some controversy over the timing and substance, the amendments passed overwhelmingly.

 Among Egyptians who said they participated in the constitutional referendum, 72 percent said that they voted for the amendments while 9 percent said that they voted no. The actual referendum results were 77 percent voting in favor of the amendments.

 Respondents were asked if they had ever voted in an election by their own free will prior to the constitutional referendum; 28 percent said that they had, while 71 percent said that they had not. Of those who had voted in a previous election, 61 percent said that they had voted in three elections or fewer.

Overwhelming Support for the January 25 Revolution

 When asked if they supported the events of January 25, 95 percent responded affirmatively, with 82 percent saying that they strongly supported the revolution. Only six percent were opposed.

 Further, 89 percent said that the events of January 25 will impact Egypt for the better. Only five percent said that the revolution would make things worse.

 Egyptians overwhelmingly support the ultimate result of the protests – the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak; 94 percent of respondents approved of his resignation, with 84 percent voicing strong approval.

 When asked in what manner they participated in the revolution, 25 percent said that were involved in the protests, one percent said they took part in worker strikes, and two percent said that they engaged in online activities; 72 percent said that they did not participate at all.

 IRI's survey also probed the primary sources of information Egyptians got their news from during the January 25 revolution. When asked what was the one source they relied on the most, 84 percent said television, six percent cited Facebook, six percent relied on word of mouth from family and friends, two percent said Internet news sites, and one percent each relied on radio and SMS. Less than one percent cited either newspapers, Twitter or email.

 As would be expected, youth were more likely to use Facebook; 11 percent of those under the age of 30 said they relied on the medium, versus three percent between the ages of 30-39, two percent of those in their 40's, and three percent of those older than the age of 50.

 The survey also asked what the second and third most relied upon source of information was. Word of mouth topped the list in both categories, with 43 percent citing it as the second most relied upon source of information and 23 percent saying it was the third.

 A total of 97 percent cited television as either their first, second or third choice, while 72 percent mentioned word of mouth; only 15 percent cited Facebook.

 These responses would seem to dispel one of the myths that have sprung up around the events of January 25. Although the role of Facebook, Twitter and SMS are widely discussed, Egyptians overwhelmingly seem to have relied on television for information. And, as their second choice and third choice, most people relied on talking to their friends and family.

 When asked what influenced them to take part in the January 25 protests, 64 percent of Egyptians cited low living standards and unemployment, whereas only 19 percent said the lack of democracy and political reform; the events in Tunisia (six percent), encouragement from friends and family (six percent) and the death of Khalid Said (three percent) trailed far behind.

Source:<http://www.iri.org/sites/default/files/2011%20June%205%20IRI%20Egypt%20Index.%20April%2014-27.%202011.pdf>

175-5. Egyptians Optimistic Post-Revolution

Post-revolution survey reveals areas in need of attention

June 6, 2011

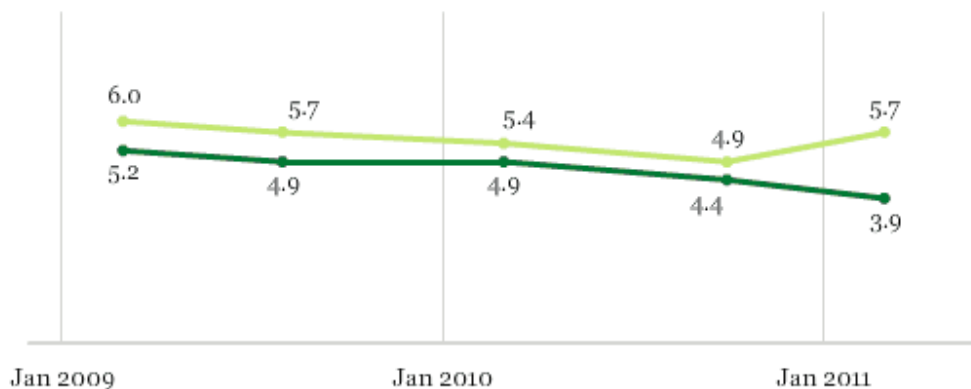
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- As Egyptians transition from nearly three decades under former President Hosni Mubarak's rule, Gallup surveys conducted in late March and early April show they do so with a growing optimism about their future lives.

Please imagine a ladder with steps numbered from 0 at the bottom to 10 at the top. Suppose we say that the top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you, and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life for you.

A. On which step of the ladder would you say you personally feel you stand at this time ...

B. Just your best guess, on which step do you think you will stand in the future, say about five years from now?

■ Egyptians' lives today ■ Egyptians' lives in five years



GALLUP

When asked to rate their current lives and their lives five years in the future on a 0-to-10 ladder scaled based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, Egyptians forecast that, five years from now, their lives will be an average of 5.7. This is up from 4.9 in fall 2010. In contrast, they rate their current lives worse than before, at 3.9. This is down from 4.4 last fall and the lowest level Gallup has measured in recent years.

Egyptians' Optimism Tempered by Dissatisfaction With Local Conditions

In the cities and areas where Egyptians live and work, optimism gives way to dissatisfaction with economic conditions. Despite being three times as likely to say they believe the country's economy is getting better (46%) than they were in fall 2010 (15%), Egyptians are twice as likely to say the economic conditions in their communities are getting worse (53%) than they were one year ago (25%).

Right now, do you think that economic conditions in the city or area where you live, as a whole, are getting better or getting worse?

Asked of Egyptian adults

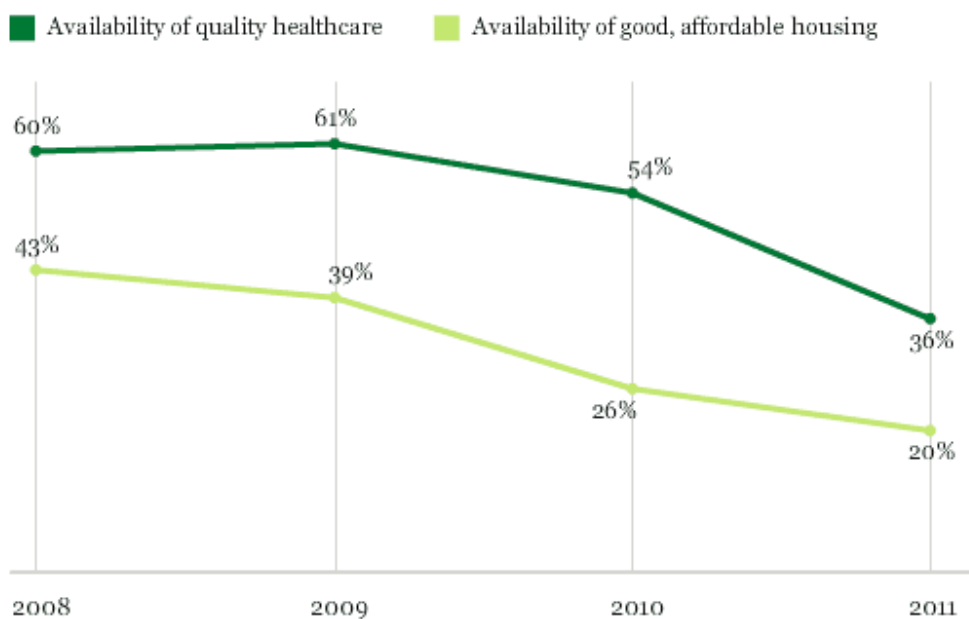
	March 2010	March 2011
Getting better	28%	20%
Staying the same	45%	23%
Getting worse	25%	53%

GALLUP

The job market is likely one of the issues contributing to their economic concerns. Most Egyptians (81%) continue to say it is a bad time to find a job in their local communities. Relatively small numbers are satisfied with the availability of good affordable housing where they live (20%) and with the availability of quality healthcare (36%).

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

% of Egyptian adults satisfied



GALLUP

After the revolution, 28% Egyptians said they approve of the leadership in their city or area, compared with 47% in spring 2009. This decline may reflect Egyptians' greater sense of freedom to express their opinions. Factor in Egyptians being twice as likely now as in 2010 to say they do not feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where they live (39% vs. 17%), and the collective status of Egyptians' lives shows a population in flux.

Perhaps Egyptians will consider these issues when casting their ballots in the country's presidential election, tentatively scheduled for November 2011. The recent survey finds 89% of Egyptians eager to participate in what 91% believe will be an honest and fair election. This represents a drastic improvement in Egyptians' opinions about the honesty of elections and their

willingness to vote. Less than 30% said they had confidence in elections in 2010, and about one-quarter of eligible voters routinely participated in elections during the latter years of Mubarak's rule.

These, and other changes, are detailed in a new report, *Egypt From Tahrir to Transition*. In addition to examining Egyptians' optimism for the future and opinions about their current lives, the report includes recommendations for leaders in the United States and Egypt to help the country transition to a strong and stable democracy, and offer a positive example to the region.

About the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews in Egypt with approximately 1,000 adults in each survey administration, aged 15 and older, from 2007 to 2011. Surveys took place in July 2007; in 2008, they were conducted April 23-May 18; in 2009, surveys took place March 7-22 and Aug. 11-19; in 2010, they were conducted March 13-23 and Sept. 25-Oct. 26; and in 2011 surveys were conducted March 25-April 2. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from ±3.1 to ±3.5 percentage points. The questionnaire was translated into Arabic. The translation process starts with an English version. A translator who is proficient in the English and Arabic languages translates the survey into the target language. A second translator reviews the language version against the original version and recommends refinements.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/147938/Egyptians-Optimistic-Post-Revolution.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Politics

175-6. Egyptians Oppose U.S. Aid to Political Groups in Their Country

Nearly 9 in 10 who look to the U.S. as a political model oppose aid for these groups
June 8, 2011

ABU DHABI and WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Egyptians oppose the U.S. sending aid to political groups in their country. This is particularly the case among those who look to the U.S. as a political example. While 75% of the general public opposes U.S. aid to political groups, 88% of Egyptians who see the U.S. as a political model for their country say the same.

Do you favor or oppose the U.S. sending aid to political groups in Egypt?

	Egyptian public	Egyptians who see U.S. as political model for Egypt*
Favor	13%	10%
Oppose	75%	88%
Don't know/Refused	12%	2%

*Which country would you consider to be a political model for Egypt's future government?
Surveys conducted March 25-April 2, 2011

GALLUP®

The findings, from Gallup's first survey in Egypt following the revolution, suggest that Egyptians may not be rejecting America's political principles, but rather seeking their own self-determination.

At this important juncture in their history, Egyptians are still apprehensive about possible U.S. interference in their political affairs. About two-thirds of Egyptians disagree that the U.S. is serious about encouraging democratic systems of government in MENA. While that percentage is lower now than in 2009, when three-quarters of Egyptians expressed such skepticism, it still implies that a majority of Egyptians distrust U.S. motives. Additionally, 68% of Egyptians think the U.S. will try to exert direct influence over Egypt's political future as opposed to letting the people of the country forge that future for themselves.

This desire for political independence may help explain Egyptians' discomfort with accepting U.S. financial aid. Even among Egyptians who think their country should look to the U.S. system of democracy as a model, 43% oppose the more general idea of accepting economic aid from the U.S. A slight majority of Egyptians as a whole (52%) also oppose economic aid from the U.S. This is especially noteworthy considering Egyptians' immediate economic challenges, suggesting that they are rejecting aid out of suspicion rather than lack of need.

Differences on foreign policy with respect to Israel, Iraq, and Afghanistan also loom as major stumbling blocks in Egypt-U.S. relations. Read the complete findings from the survey, as well as recommendations for leaders, [in the research brief from the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews in Egypt with approximately 1,000 adults in each survey administration, aged 15 and older, from 2007 to 2011. Surveys took place in July 2007; in 2008, they were conducted April 23-May 18; in 2009, surveys took place March 7-22 and Aug. 11-19; in 2010, they were conducted March 13-23 and Sept. 25-Oct. 26; and in 2011 surveys were conducted March 25-April 2. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from ± 3.1 to ± 3.5 percentage points. The questionnaire was translated into Arabic. The translation process starts with an English version. A translator who is proficient in the English and Arabic languages translates the survey into the target language. A second translator reviews the language version against the original version and recommends refinements.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/147953/Egyptians-Oppose-Aid-Political-Groups-Country.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20USA

WEST & CENTRAL ASIA

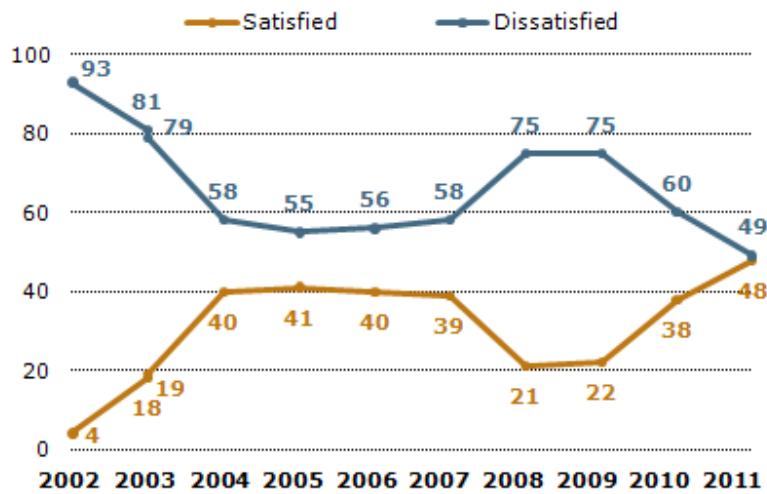
175-7. On Eve of Elections, a More Upbeat Mood in Turkey

PM Erdogan Gets High Marks for Foreign Policy

June 7, 2011

As Turks prepare for national elections on June 12, they are increasingly upbeat about the direction of their country. And at a time when publics around the world generally remain gloomy about their economies, Turks are becoming more positive. This bodes well for Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), whom most observers believe will win a decisive victory in the elections.

Country Direction in Turkey



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q2.

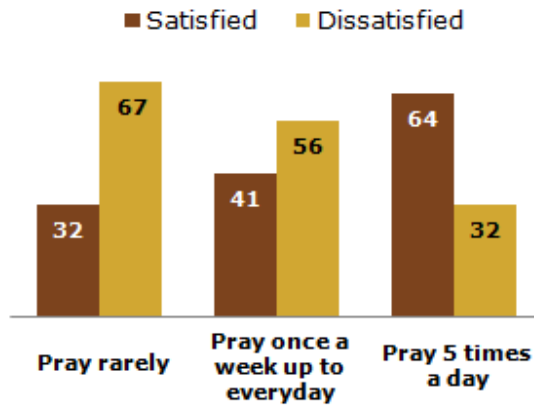
Under Erdogan's leadership, Turkey has played a more assertive role in international affairs, and most Turks give the prime minister positive marks on foreign policy: 62% have confidence that he will do the right thing in world affairs. Moreover, Erdogan is also popular in neighboring Arab nations -- most Egyptians, Jordanians, Lebanese and Palestinians express confidence in the Turkish leader. In contrast, solid majorities in Israel, Germany, Spain and France have little or no confidence in him.

These are among the key findings from a survey by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project, conducted March 21 to April 26. The poll also finds that while Turks continue to favor joining the European Union, enthusiasm for EU ascension has waned in recent years. And there is no consensus about whether Turkey's future lies more with Europe or the Middle East: 17% of Turks believe their country should look to Europe in the future, 25% say the Middle East and 37% volunteer that both regions are equally important.

An Increasingly Positive Public Mood

Turks are almost evenly divided about the current direction of their country: 49% are dissatisfied with the way things are going and 48% are satisfied. This is a notable improvement from last year, when 60% were dissatisfied and 38% were satisfied. And it is a dramatic change from 2009, when three-in-four Turks felt the country was on the wrong track.

Religious Turks More Satisfied With Country Direction

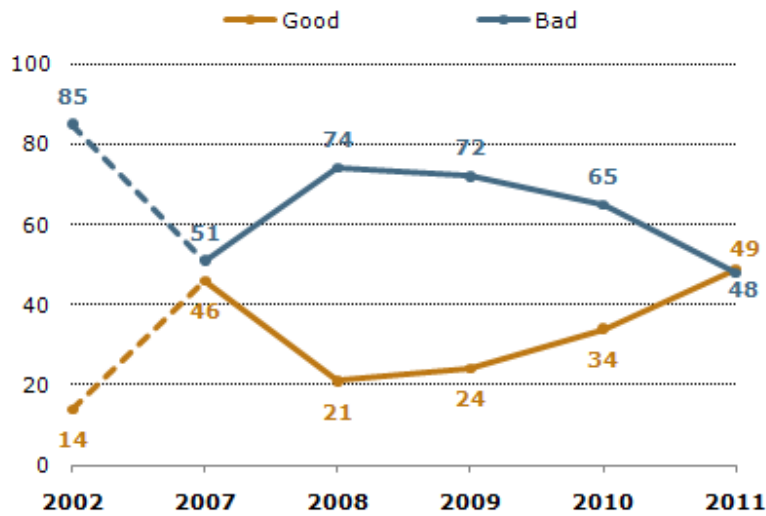


PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q2.

Opinions about the state of the country are strongly associated with religiosity. A solid majority (64%) of Muslim Turks who pray five times a day are satisfied with the direction of the nation. Among those who pray at least once a week but less than five times daily, only 41% are satisfied. And among those who hardly ever pray or only do so during religious holidays, just 32% express satisfaction.

Supporters of the AKP -- who tend to express high levels of personal religiosity -- are especially likely to believe the country is headed in the right direction: 73% say they are satisfied. Older Turks are also happier with the state of the country -- 56% of those ages 50 and older are satisfied, compared with 46% of those ages 30-49 and 42% of people younger than age 30.

Turkey's Current Economic Situation



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q4.

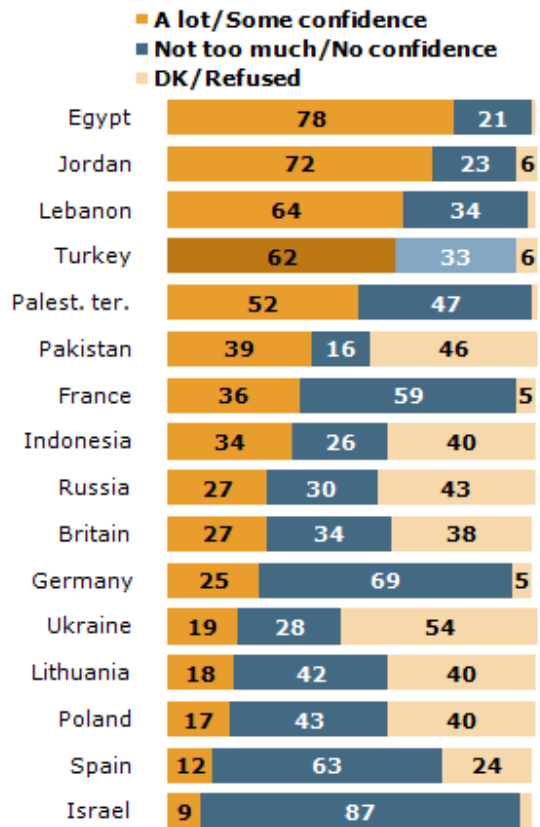
Views about the national economy have improved over the last year. Currently, 49% say the economy is in good shape, while 48% describe economic conditions as bad. In the spring 2010 Pew Global Attitudes survey, 65% rated the economy poorly and just 34% said it was in good shape.

Turkish assessments of the economy are much more positive today than when Erdogan won office nearly a decade ago. In a 2002 poll, conducted a few months before Erdogan's AKP won its first national election, only 14% said economic conditions were good. By the next national election in 2007, this had risen to 46%.

As the global economy started to slump, Turkish views about their economic situation turned negative in 2008, and stayed negative through 2010, before recovering to some extent in the current poll.

Erdogan Receives High Marks in Turkey -- and in Arab Nations

Confidence in Erdogan



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q48m.

As he nears the end of his second term in office, Prime Minister Erdogan gets positive ratings for his handling of foreign affairs. About six-in-ten (62%) Turks have a lot or some confidence in Erdogan to do the right thing in world affairs, while one-third have little or no confidence in him.

The prime minister receives especially high marks from supporters of his own party (86% a lot or some confidence). And views about Erdogan are strongly linked to religiosity -- 73% of Muslim Turks who pray five times daily voice confidence in him, 60% of those who pray at least once per week but less than five times a day are confident and only 42% of those who hardly ever pray or do so just during religious holidays express a positive view about Erdogan's leadership in world affairs.

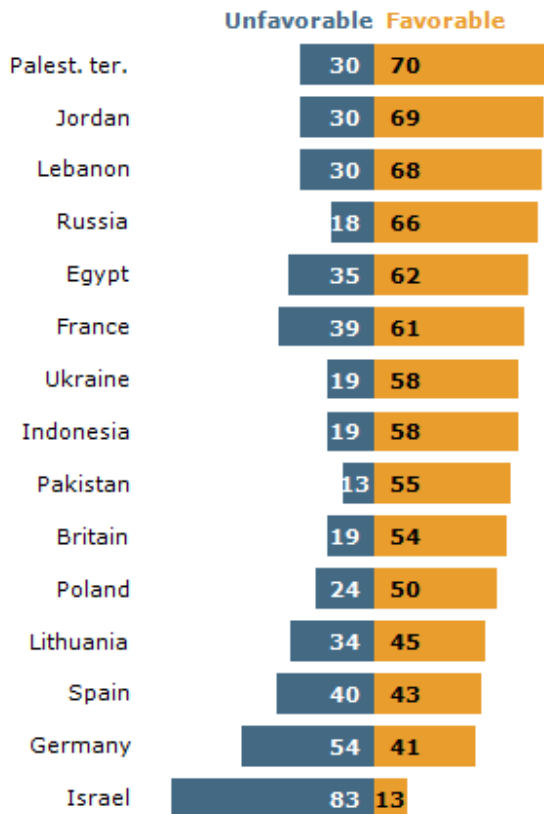
Beyond Turkey's borders, Erdogan is also popular in a number of neighboring Arab nations. Strong majorities of Egyptians (78% a lot or some confidence), Jordanians (72%), and Lebanese (64%) express confidence in the Turkish prime minister, who, along with his Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu, has in many ways raised Turkey's profile on the world stage in recent years.

Erdogan, for example, has received considerable attention for breaking with previous Turkish policy and taking a more confrontational approach toward Israel regarding Israeli policies in the West Bank and Gaza. In the Palestinian territories themselves, Erdogan receives somewhat less support than in other Arab nations, with 52% expressing confidence in the

Turkish leader and 47% saying they have little or no confidence in him. He is much more popular in the West Bank (61% a lot or some confidence) than in Gaza (35%).

Israelis overwhelmingly assign Erdogan negative ratings -- only 9% express confidence in him, while 87% lack confidence. However, among Israel's minority Arab community, Erdogan is generally popular, with 60% voicing confidence in him. Nearly all Israel Jews surveyed (95%) express little or no confidence.

Turkey Favorability



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q3s.

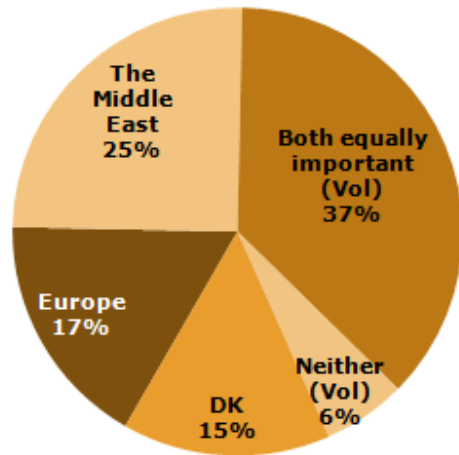
The prime minister also fares poorly in Western Europe -- clear majorities in Germany (69%), Spain (63%) and France (59%) give Erdogan a negative assessment. In the other European and predominantly Muslim nations where this question was asked, large numbers are unable to offer an opinion about the Turkish leader.

Turkey, as a nation, is generally popular in the countries surveyed. Majorities in all of the predominantly Muslim nations polled (the Palestinian territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Indonesia and Pakistan) express a favorable opinion of Turkey. But the country also receives a positive rating in much of Europe, including Russia (66% favorable), France (61%), Ukraine (58%) and Britain (54%).

Israel and Germany are the clear outliers on this question. Fully 83% of Israelis have an unfavorable opinion of Turkey, although once again there are significant differences between the country's Jewish (5% favorable) and Arab (68% favorable) communities. In Germany, home to a large Turkish minority, just over half (54%) express an unfavorable view of Turkey.

Turkey's Future

Should Turkey Look More To Europe or the Middle East?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q53.

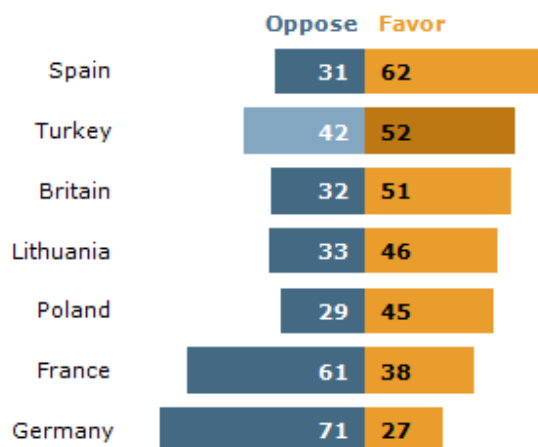
There is no consensus as to whether in the future Turkey should look to Europe (17%) or to the Middle East (25%).

Nearly four-in-ten (37%) volunteer that both are equally important, while 6% say that neither are important and 15% do not offer an opinion.

By a narrow margin, Turks favor joining the European Union. Currently, 52% endorse EU membership, while 42% oppose it.

While support for EU ascension has not changed substantially in Turkey since last year, it has dropped 16 percentage points since 2005, when 68% favored joining the EU.

How Do You Feel About Turkey Becoming a Member of the EU?



In Turkey, question asked about "our country."

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q11.

Younger Turks are more likely to favor joining Europe: 61% of those ages 18 to 29 hold this view, compared with 50% of 30 to 49 year-olds,

and 43% of those age 50 and older. EU membership is also especially popular among the country's Kurdish minority (76% favor).

On balance, publics in most of the EU member nations surveyed support Turkish membership in the organization. Majorities in Spain (62%) and Britain (51%) favor membership, as do pluralities in Lithuania (46%) and Poland (45%). However, majorities hold the opposite view in two of the EU's most powerful countries: Germany (71% oppose) and France (61%).

Among the EU countries surveyed, there has been little change since the Pew Global Attitudes Project last asked this question in 2005, although support for Turkish EU membership has slipped slightly in Spain (-6 percentage points), Britain (-6) and Poland (-6).

Source:<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2016/turkey-public-opinion-erdogan-european-union-muslim>

SOUTH EAST ASIA

175-8. Half of Filipinos Oppose Postponement of ARMM Elections

First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey:

51% oppose, 24% favor the ARMM polls postponement

June 08, 2011

The **First Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey** findings on people's opinion on the postponement of the ARMM elections is reported in the June 8, 2011 issue of *BusinessWorld*.

Survey Background

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

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

The Social Weather Survey question on people's opinion on the postponement of the ARMM elections is not commissioned, but is done on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

The exact survey question is as follows:

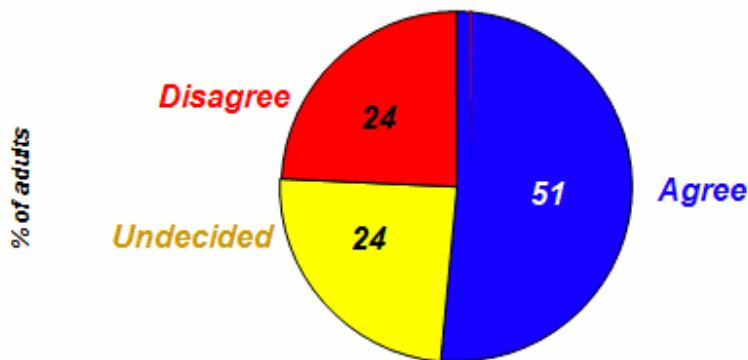
"Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon o hindi sang-ayon sa pangungusap na ito: 'Hindi dapat ipahinto o i-postpone ang darating na halalan sa Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao?' (Lubos na sumasang-ayon, Medyo sumasang-ayon, Hindi tiyak kung sumasang-ayon o hindi, Medyo hindi sumasang-ayon, Lubos na hindi sumasang-ayon)."

["Do you agree or disagree with this statement: 'The coming elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao should not be postponed?' (Strongly agree, Somewhat agree, Undecided if agree or disagree, Somewhat disagree, Strongly disagree)."]

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

#

TEST STATEMENT: "THE COMING ELECTIONS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED," MAR 2011

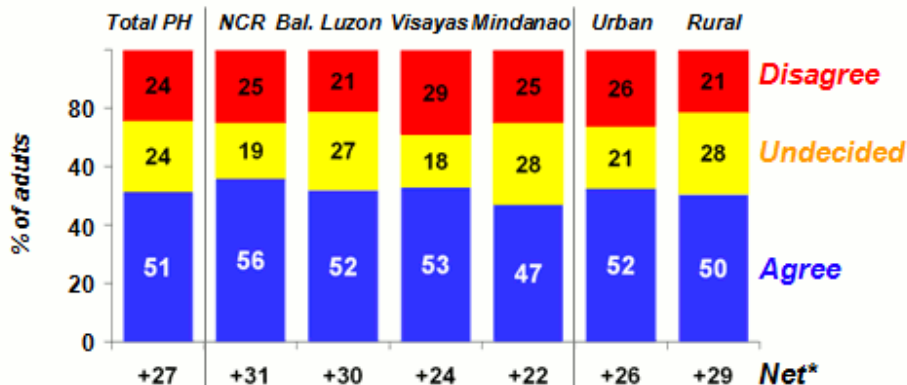


Note: Don't know (0.05%) responses are not shown.

Q84. Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon o hindi sang-ayon sa pangungusap na ito: "Hindi dapat ipahinto o i-postpone ang darating na halalan sa Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao." [LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON]



TEST STATEMENT: "THE COMING ELECTIONS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED," BY AREA AND LOCALE, MAR 2011

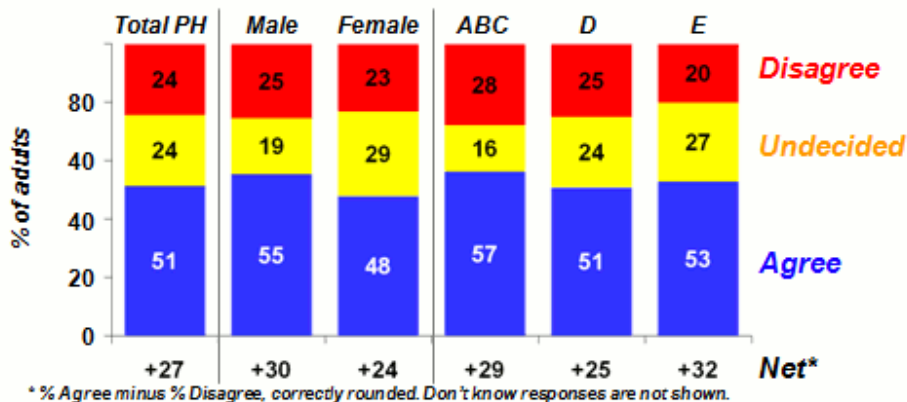


* % Agree minus % Disagree, correctly rounded. Don't know responses are not shown.

Q84. Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon o hindi sang-ayon sa pangungusap na ito: "Hindi dapat ipahinto o i-postpone ang darating na halalan sa Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao." [LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON]



TEST STATEMENT: "THE COMING ELECTIONS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED," BY SEX AND CLASS, MAR 2011



* % Agree minus % Disagree, correctly rounded. Don't know responses are not shown.

Q84. Kayo po ba ay sang-ayon o hindi sang-ayon sa pangungusap na ito: "Hindi dapat ipahinto o i-postpone ang darating na halalan sa Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao." [LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON]



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

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

WEST EUROPE

175-9. Despite The Crisis, Europeans Are Keeping Their Holidays, Although Adopting New Types Of Behavior

11th Ipsos - Europ Assistance holiday barometer

Martin VIAL, CEO of the Europ Assistance Group, has presented the findings of the 11th Ipsos – Europ Assistance barometer on Europeans’ plans and concerns in relation to holidays.

Conducted by Ipsos at the request of the Europ Assistance Group among a sample of 3,500 Europeans (French, German, British, Italian, Spanish, Belgian and Austrian), this reference study published for the 11th consecutive year aims to estimate, each year, the holiday plans of subjects of the countries in question, along with their motivations, destinations and the types of holiday favoured. Given the spectacular increase in Smartphone sales, this year Europ Assistance wished to integrate questions on their usage at the holiday location and their usefulness in the organisation of holidays.

Despite the crisis, Europeans are keeping their holidays, and more of them want to go away this summer (66%)

After two years of crisis, and despite an unfavourable economic context in 2011, once again 66% of Europeans claim that they will go on holiday this year (+2 points compared to 2010 and 2009), catching up with the pre-crisis level when 67% of them were planning summer holidays.

In terms of destination, Europe is still preferred by 8 Europeans out of 10, and the success of national tourism continues: 47% of Europeans will remain in their native country.

This proportion is even greater in countries enjoying a favourable climate, and following the sun is a decisive factor in the choice of destination. Hence, in Italy, France and Spain, 6 to 7 travellers out of 10 will stay at home.

Rest and peace of mind are still the absolute priorities for Europeans, a trend that has been confirmed since 2009. 61% of them now make rest their main goal for these summer holidays, whereas a desire for “discovery” affects only 38% of them (a figure that has been stable since 2008).

In response to this quest for tranquillity, the seaside is preferred by the vast majority of Europeans (65%).

With 2,145€, the average budget devoted to holidays is also progressing across Europe (+62€ and +3% c.f. 2010)

This increase can mainly be felt in Italy (+112€), Belgium (+280€) and particularly Germany (+287€).

Europeans continue to pay attention to their holiday spending: 81% consider the “budget” criterion to be important or even essential in the choice of destination.

... But Europeans are adopting new types of behaviour and are organising themselves differently

Europeans are not giving up on their holidays. But they are adapting to the situation by leaving for a shorter period and several times over. Two-week stays are still favoured (39% of Europeans will leave for a fortnight) but their proportion is diminishing. In France and the UK, only one-week stays are on the rise in 2011.

The crisis has accentuated the lasting adoption of new types of behaviour. Nowadays, holidays are organised in advance, and independently: 71% of Europeans started to prepare their holidays ahead of time, and the same figure organise themselves by buying separate services. Europeans are increasingly inclined to organise their own holidays, especially the French (78%, +5 points).

Europeans are using the new media more and more to organize and manage their holidays

Europeans are organising more and more via the Internet in preparing their holidays, with 57% of them claiming to reserve mainly via the Internet (an uninterrupted progression since 2005 when only 28% of Europeans used it). The British are still the most technophile: 71% of them reserve their holidays using this channel.

As for Smartphones, their use is clearly progressing: 1 European out of 4 claims to own one. While 57% claim to use it less on holiday than during the rest of the year, a sign of the desire to “disconnect”, the device can find a new purpose during the holidays. Hence, one third of Europeans (34%) would find it useful to have access to practical information for the organization of their stay, and more than half of them (52%) would find it helpful to be able to consult a list of useful numbers during their trip, 42% a conversation guide, and 34% a telephone platform facilitating their stay.

Risk perception is being impacted by events in the Middle East and Southern Mediterranean

This year, international events are clearly impacting decisions and accentuating sensitivity to risks. Europeans have been marked by the events of the past winter and this spring, and particularly by the movements in North Africa and the Middle East. Perceived risks of a terrorist attack and risks of social unrest influencing Europeans’ choice of destination have progressed the most, respectively +5 points and +10 points compared to 2010. As was the case in previous years, health risks are the focal point of fears for Europeans: 69% of them are mainly or even very concerned about a health problem concerning them or someone travelling with them. This year,

perception of risks of social unrest along with health risks (doubtless with reminiscence of the H1N1 pandemic) is worrying an increasing number of Europeans.

Europeans are getting covered more and more: especially the Germans, Italians and Austrians.

This coverage relates to a vehicle breakdown (64%, +7 points), a health problem concerning a person not travelling with them (32%, +9 points) or a strike or delay in transportation (26%, +5 points). But a gap persists between the level of concern and the level of coverage. Hence, only 17% of Europeans are covered for the risk of a terrorist attack, yet this is a concern for 48% of them.

The survey was conducted by phone between February 14th and March 28th 2011, at the home of the respondents and using the quota method (gender, age, profession of head of household, after stratification by region and by size of agglomeration). It is available at www.europ-assistance.com.

Source:

NORTH AMERICA

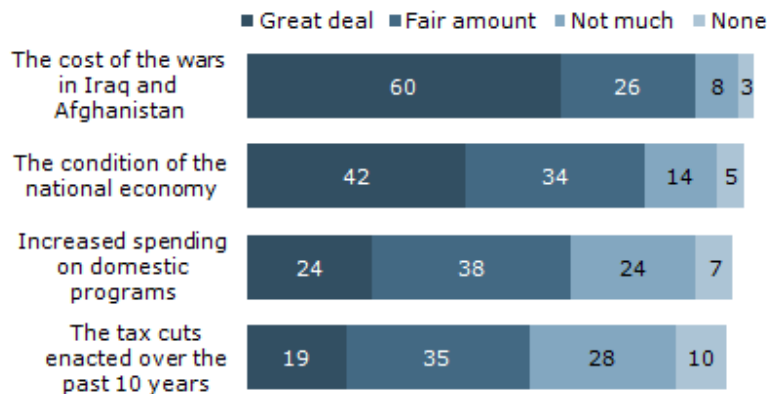
175-10. More Blame Wars than Domestic Spending or Tax Cuts for Nation's Debt

Jobs Are Top Economic Worry, Deficit Concerns Rise
June 7, 2011

Far more Americans say that the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed a great deal to the nation's debt than say that about increased domestic spending or the tax cuts enacted over the past decade.

Most Say Cost of Iraq, Afghanistan Contributed "Great Deal" to U.S. Debt

How much, if at all, did each contribute to the size of the national debt?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011.

Six-in-ten (60%) say the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed a great deal to the size of the debt. About four-in-ten (42%) say the same about the condition of the national economy.

By comparison, just 24% say increased spending on domestic problems has contributed greatly to the nation's debt and even fewer (19%) cite the tax cuts enacted over the past decade. While half or more say spending and the tax cuts contributed at least a fair amount to the debt,

31% say increased domestic spending did little or nothing to increase the debt and 38% say the same about the tax cuts.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted May 25-30 among 1,509 adults, finds widespread opposition to number of proposals aimed at reducing the deficit and the national debt, including reducing funding for the states for education and roads (73% disapprove) and gradually raising the Social Security retirement age (59%).

Several Deficit-Reduction Proposals Garner Majority Support

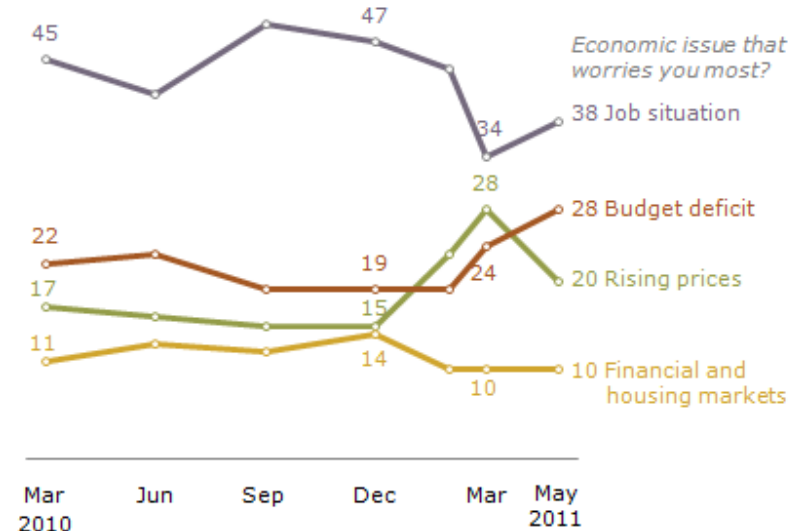
<i>% approve of each to reduce deficit/debt...</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Reduce foreign aid	72	83	61	76
Raise Social Security contribution cap	67	54	73	71
Raise taxes on incomes over \$250k	66	49	78	67
Reduce overseas military commitments	65	56	63	72
Limit tax deductions for large corporations	62	62	58	67

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37c,g,l,m,n.

However, several deficit-reduction proposals attract majority support, aside from the traditionally popular idea of reducing U.S. assistance to foreign countries (72% approve of this proposal. Two-thirds (67%) approve of making more of high earners' income subject to Social Security tax, and nearly as many approve of raising taxes on incomes of over \$250,000 (66%), reducing military commitments overseas (65%) and limiting tax deductions for large corporations (62%).

Notably, Republicans (62% approve) are as likely as Democrats (58%) to approve of limiting corporate tax deductions; while 63% of Democrats approve of reducing foreign military commitments, 56% of Republicans agree.

Deficit Worries Rise, but Job Situation Remains the Bigger Concern



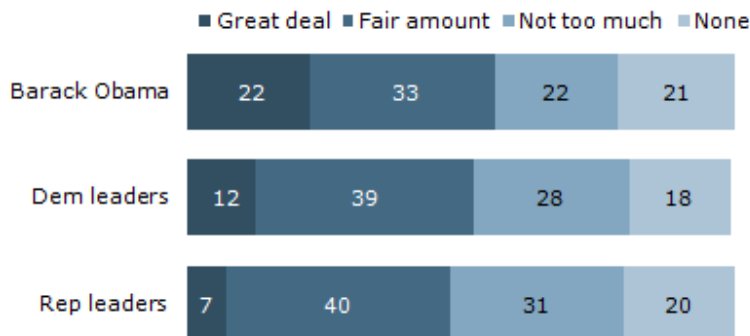
PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q16.

The survey finds that public concern about the budget deficit has increased since the end of last year. Currently, 28% cite the federal budget deficit as the economic issue that most worries them, up from 24% in March and 19% in December. Despite this shift, however, the job situation remains the broader concern -- 38% say they worry most about jobs, up slightly from March (34%) though down from 47% in December.

The partisan gap in deficit concern is wide: Republicans are about twice as likely as Democrats to cite the budget deficit as their biggest economic concern (37% vs. 19%). And the deficit has been rising as a concern among independents. Today, 32% say it is their top economic worry, up from 25% in March and 19% in February.

Obama Holds Credibility Edge on Deficit Issue

How much confidence do you have in each to do the right thing when it comes to dealing with the federal budget deficit?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q38a-c.

The public expresses more confidence in Barack Obama to deal with the budget deficit than either Democratic or Republican congressional leaders. About one-in five (22%) say they have a great deal of confidence in Obama on the deficit; 12% say the same about Democratic congressional leaders and 7% express a great deal of confidence in GOP congressional leaders on this issue.

When asked which party can do a better job of reducing the deficit, 41% say the Republican Party and 38% say the Democrats. In early April, the Republican Party held a 46%-to-34% lead as the party better able to reduce the budget deficit.

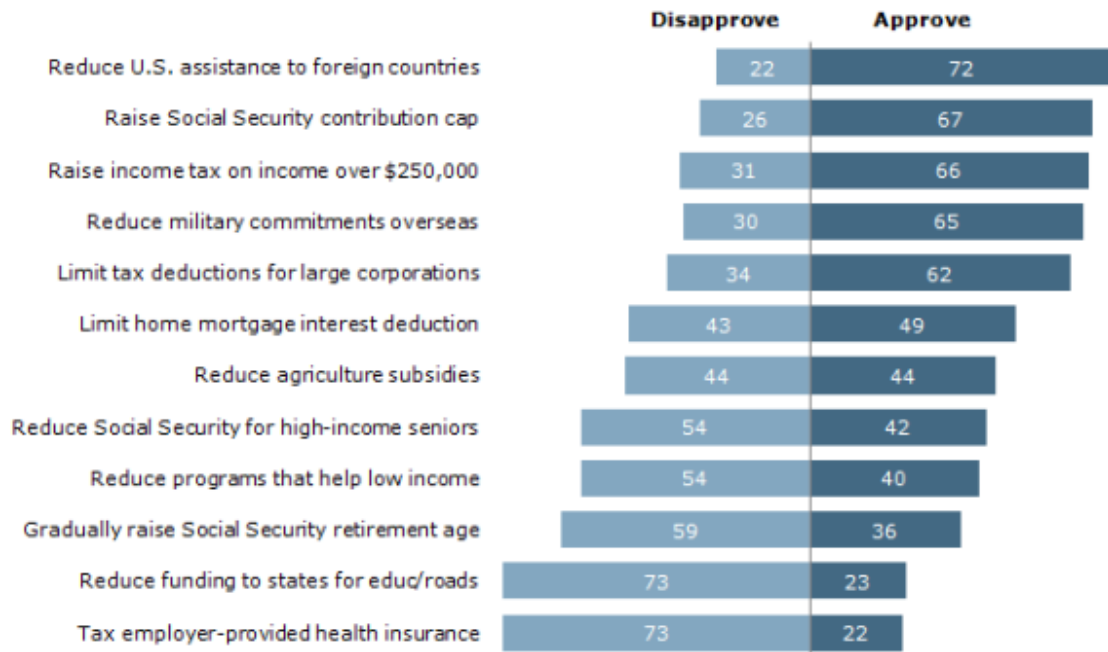
Views of Deficit Proposals

The public remains persuaded that dealing with the federal budget deficit is critical. Roughly three-quarters (74%) say it is a major problem that the country must address now, while 22% say it is a major problem best addressed when the economy is better, and only 3% say it is not much of a problem.

A number of specific proposals to deal with the deficit and debt receive majority support, particularly those that deal with reducing foreign commitments and making the wealthy and corporations pay more in taxes. Less popular are proposals that have a direct impact on middle-class Americans, such as taxing the value of employer-provided health care or gradually raising the age at which people can begin collecting Social Security.

One particularly popular spending cut in the name of deficit reduction is to reduce U.S. assistance to foreign countries (72% approve). A substantial 65% also supports reducing U.S. military commitments overseas as a way to reduce the deficit. This comports with the broad impression -- held by six-in-ten -- that the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has contributed greatly to the size of the current national debt, more than any other factor tested.

To Cut Deficit, Most Approve of Taxing Higher Incomes, Reducing Military Commitments



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37a-n.

Both of these reductions receive bipartisan support. Fully 83% of Republicans approve of cutting foreign aid to help reduce the deficit, as do 76% of independents and a more modest 61% of Democrats. Reducing military commitments overseas is favored by 56% of Republicans, 63% of Democrats, and a substantial 72% of independents.

Two proposals that would take a larger share out of high-earners' paychecks -- raising income taxes on income over \$250,000 and increasing the share of income that is subject to the Social Security payroll tax -- are favored by roughly two-thirds of Americans (66% and 67%, respectively).

These are far-and-away the most popular approaches to deficit reduction among Democrats; 78% of whom support raising the income tax on high incomes, and 73% of whom support raising the cap on Social Security contributions. And while Republican leaders in Congress have drawn a firm line against raising income taxes, about half of Republicans nationwide (49%) would support higher taxes on income over \$250,000 to reduce the national debt, and 54% approve of raising the Social Security contribution cap.

Republicans Favor Limiting Corporate Tax Breaks, Divide over Taxing Higher Incomes

		Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
		%	%	%	%
Proposals that majorities favor					
Reduce US assistance to foreign countries	Approve	72	83	61	76
	Disapprove	22	14	32	20
Raise Social Security contribution cap	Approve	67	54	73	71
	Disapprove	26	42	17	25
Raise income tax on income over \$250,000	Approve	66	49	78	67
	Disapprove	31	49	21	28
Reduce military commitments overseas	Approve	65	56	63	72
	Disapprove	30	40	30	25
Limit tax deductions for large corporations	Approve	62	62	58	67
	Disapprove	34	32	40	29
Proposals that divide the public					
Limit home mortgage interest deduction	Approve	49	50	46	52
	Disapprove	43	44	43	42
Reduce agriculture subsidies	Approve	44	51	42	43
	Disapprove	44	38	42	49
Proposals that majorities oppose					
Reduce funding to help lower income Americans	Approve	40	52	31	42
	Disapprove	54	43	67	51
Reduce Social Security for high income seniors	Approve	42	48	37	43
	Disapprove	54	47	59	50
Gradually raise Social Security retirement age	Approve	36	44	31	38
	Disapprove	59	51	65	57
Reduce funding to states for roads & education	Approve	23	32	18	21
	Disapprove	73	64	78	76
Tax employer-provided health insurance	Approve	22	23	17	27
	Disapprove	73	70	80	71

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37a-n.
 Figures in **Green** denote significant majorities **approve**.
 Figures in **Red** denote significant majorities **disapprove**.

By a 62%-to-34% margin most people favor limiting tax deductions for large corporations as a means toward reducing the national debt. Two-thirds of independents (67%), as well as majorities of Republicans (62%) and Democrats (58%) support reining in corporate tax deductions.

Of the 12 deficit reduction strategies tested, two are deeply unpopular, with disapproval outweighing approval by more than three-to-one. Taxing the health insurance people receive from their employers is opposed by 73% of Americans, including 70% of Republicans, 71% of independents and 80% of Democrats. And 73% also oppose reducing the deficit by making cuts in federal funding to states for things like education and roads. Again, there is bipartisan

agreement: 78% of Democrats, 76% of independents and 64% of Republicans oppose cutting federal funding to states for these kinds of programs.

By much slimmer margins, most Americans oppose two often discussed changes to Social Security -- gradually raising the retirement age (36% approve, 59% disapprove) and reducing benefits for high income seniors (42% approve, 54% disapprove). In both cases, Democrats are significantly more opposed than Republicans.

By a 54%-to-40% margin most Americans disapprove of reducing federal funding for programs that help lower-income Americans as a way to deal with the national debt. But this is one of the most divisive issues along partisan lines, as Democrats disapprove by more than two-to-one while Republicans and independents are more divided.

Home Mortgage Interest Deduction

More Favor Limiting Mortgage Deduction than Ending It

	Dec 2010	May 2011
	<i>Eliminate</i>	<i>Limit</i>
	%	%
Approve	34	49
Disapprove	56	43
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q37dF1.

When asked about limiting tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages as a way to reduce the size of the national debt, the public is divided, with 49% approving and 43% disapproving. Last December, a similar question asked about eliminating tax deductions for home mortgage interest, and found a much more negative response: 56% disapproved of eliminating this deduction entirely, while 34% approved.

Eliminating the mortgage interest deduction was opposed across party lines last December. Today, Republicans, Democrats and independents are all divided, with roughly as many approving as disapproving of limiting these deductions.

What Created the Debt?

In terms of the factors that contributed to the nation's debt, Democrats -- especially liberal Democrats -- and independents point to the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan as the biggest factor. Two-thirds of Democrats, including 79% of liberal Democrats, and 62% of independents say that the cost of the wars contributed a great deal to the debt.

Partisan Gaps Over Causes of Nation's Debt

% saying each contributed "great deal" to debt	Wars	Econ-omy	Spend-ing	Tax cuts
	%	%	%	%
Total	60	42	24	19
Republican	49	41	38	11
Conserv Rep	47	41	43	11
Mod/Lib Rep	54	41	26	11
Independent	62	40	23	17
Democrat	67	45	16	29
Conserv/Mod Dem	62	43	18	24
Liberal Dem	79	49	11	38

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q39a-d.

For both Democrats and independents, no other factor comes close to the wars' price-tag. In fact, just 29% of Democrats, and 38% of liberals, say that the tax cuts enacted over the past 10 years contributed greatly to the debt.

For Republicans as well, the cost of the wars (49%) is seen as a leading cause of the debt, along with the state of the economy (41%) and increased domestic spending (38%). Even conservative Republicans are about as likely to cite the cost of the wars (47%) as increased domestic spending (43%) as greatly contributing to the debt.

Republicans are in agreement that the tax cuts are not a major factor in increasing the debt. Just 11% say the tax cuts have contributed a great deal to the debt, including identical percentages of conservative Republicans and moderate and liberal Republicans.

However, most conservative Republicans (55%) say the tax cuts have contributed not much (31%) or not at all (24%) to the debt; fewer moderate and liberal Republicans (39%) say the tax cuts did little or nothing to increase the debt.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2017/poll-what-created-the-national-debt-wars-spending-tax-cuts-deficit-reduction-proposals>

175-11. Healthcare Costs Key to When and Where U.S. Investors Retire

Seventy-two percent of U.S. investors say they are a major determinant of when they retire
June 10, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Seventy-two percent of nonretired U.S. investors say the cost of healthcare is a major determinant of when they retire, according to the most recent Wells Fargo/Gallup Investor and Retirement Optimism Index poll. These Americans rank healthcare above the five other factors tested in the survey.

Key Factors Influencing When Investors Are Financially Able to Retire

Please tell me whether you think _____ will have a major impact, a minor impact, or no impact at all on when you retire?

Asked of nonretirees

	% Major impact, February 2011	% Major impact, May 2011
Cost of healthcare	67	72
Inflation	59	62
Investment market conditions	N/A	60
Price of energy, including gas and oil	48	60
Solvency of Social Security	50	54
Level of interest rates	37	41

Wells Fargo/Gallup Investor and Retirement Optimism Index

GALLUP

Notably, the percentage of investors who said the price of energy will have a major impact on the timing of their retirement rose 12 percentage points between February and May.

In the May 2-11 survey, investors -- defined as those having \$10,000 or more of investable assets -- represent the top one-third of Americans in terms of investable assets.

Medical Care Surfaces as Main Issue in Where Investors Will Retire

Sixty percent of nonretired investors say being located near good medical facilities will be a major factor in determining where they will live in retirement. This is consistent with the 54% of *current* retirees who say healthcare was a major determinant of where they decided to retire. Among the four other factors evaluated, nonretirees ranked low state and/or local real estate taxes second, at 52%. But, no other factor was nearly as important as healthcare as far as *current* retirees are concerned.

Key Factors in Determining Where Investors Live in Retirement

Please tell me whether _____ was a major factor, a minor factor, or no factor at all in your decision about where you wanted to live during your retirement?

	% Major factor, Nonretirees	% Major factor, Retirees
Located near good medical facilities	60	54
Low state and/or real estate taxes	52	27
A less costly place to live	45	26
Easy access to transportation	40	23
Someplace with lower home prices	34	21

Wells Fargo/Gallup Investor and Retirement Optimism Index, May 2-11, 2011

GALLUP

Nonretired Investors Place Importance on Their Homes

The May investor poll asked nonretirees and retirees a number of additional questions about housing and retirement. Key findings include:

- Most retired American investors surveyed own their home (93%) and a majority feel it is now worth more than when they bought it (75%).
- Most nonretired Americans have a mortgage (80%), while 19% have paid off their mortgage.
- Eighty-six percent of nonretired investors feel it is "very" or "somewhat important" that they have their mortgage paid off when they retire.
- Another 58% of nonretired investors see their home as an investment asset that will help fund their retirement. Of those, 42% say their home will help fund their retirement by providing them with a place to live and 39% say it is "an asset to sell to add to retirement funds."
- About one in three nonretired investors (31%) say they would consider renting throughout their retirement.

Implications

As Americans live longer, the cost and quality of the healthcare available to them becomes increasingly important, resulting in a strong tie-in between healthcare and retirement.

Politically, this relationship tends to reinforce the notion that proposals to alter the healthcare system -- whether they involve overall healthcare reform or new proposals to alter Medicare in the future -- are the "third rail of American politics." In fact, the political heat may be hotter now than ever before, but that may make it even more important to address these issues. Such proposals are of major concern not only to those who are retired, but also to all Americans considering when and where they will retire.

The importance investors place on access to healthcare in retirement may mean the quality of healthcare facilities is as important to them when they consider where to retire as is the importance of good local schools to many parents when deciding where to live. Communities that want to attract retirees may want to consider a renewed focus on the quality and availability of local healthcare as a key marketing point. This may also be important to nonretired investors who select a place of employment with an eye toward eventual retirement -- particularly as the nation moves more toward a virtual economy in which workers have more flexibility in where they work.

The strong link between healthcare and housing is likely to garner increasing attention as baby boomers consider when and where to retire, particularly when the U.S. economy and housing begin to experience a real economic recovery.

Survey Methods

The Wells Fargo/Gallup Investor and Retirement Optimism Index results are based on questions asked on the Gallup Daily tracking survey of a random sample of 1,099 U.S. adults having investable assets of \$10,000 or more from May 2-11, 2011.

For results based on the total sample of investors, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 672 nonretirees, the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 421 nonretirees, the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 5 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/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/148004/Healthcare-Costs-Key-Investors-Retire.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

175-12. Views of Middle East Unchanged by Recent Events

Public Remains Wary of Global Engagement

June 10, 2011

No Change in Views of Israel-Palestinian Dispute

	April 21-26 2010	May 25-30 2011
<i>Sympathize more with...</i>	%	%
Israel	49	48
Palestinians	16	11
Neither (vol.)	12	15
Both (vol.)	4	4
Don't know	<u>19</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100
<i>Barack Obama is...</i>		
Favoring Palestinians too much	21	21
Favoring Israel too much	7	6
Striking about the right balance	47	50
Don't know	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>
	100	100

Little Enthusiasm for "Arab Spring"

<i>Changes in Middle East will be...</i>	Mar 30-Apr 3 2011	May 25-30 2011
Good for U.S.	24	23
Bad for U.S.	35	26
Will not have much effect	28	36
Other/Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100
<i>Will changes lead to lasting improvements for people in region?</i>		
Yes	42	37
No	43	45
Other/Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Major events in the Middle East -- including tensions between the U.S. and Israel, growing political unrest in many Arab countries, and the death of Osama bin Laden -- have had little effect on public attitudes toward the region.

Regarding the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, far more Americans continue to say they sympathize with Israel rather than the Palestinians (by 48% to 11%). These opinions are little changed from recent years.

A plurality (50%) says Barack Obama is striking the right balance in the Middle East situation, while 21% say he favors the Palestinians too much. There has also been no change in

these views over the past year; in April 2010, 47% said Obama struck the right balance and 21% said he favored the Palestinians too much.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted May 25-30 among 1,509 adults, finds that the public continues to cast a wary eye on the turmoil sweeping the Middle East.

Just (23%) say the changes occurring in the Middle East will be good for the United States; about as many (26%) say the changes will be bad and 35% say they will not have much effect.

There also is considerable skepticism that people in the Middle East will benefit from the protests and calls for change: 45% say these actions will not lead to lasting improvements for the people living in these countries while 37% say they will lead to lasting improvements. In early April, the public was split over whether the protests and calls for change would lead to lasting improvements for people in the region (42% will lead to lasting improvements, 43% will not).

Long-Range Foreign Policy Priorities - Protect Jobs, Protect Nation from Terrorism

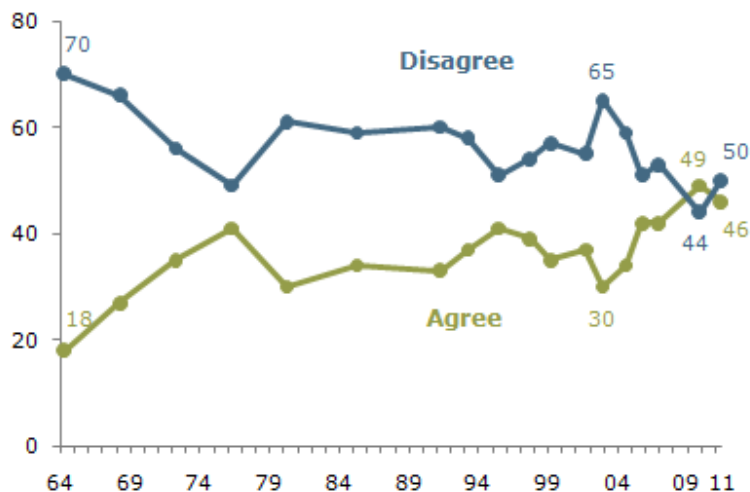
	Early Sept 2001	July 2004	Nov 2009	May 2011
<i>% rating each as a top long-range priority for U.S.</i>	%	%	%	%
Protect jobs of U.S. workers	77	84	85	84
Protect U.S. from terrorism	80	88	85	81
Reduce dependence on imported energy	--	63	64	67
Improve relations w/ allies	--	54	54*	46
Reduce U.S. military commitments overseas	26	35	45*	46
Destroy terrorist groups overseas	--	--	--	44
Deal w/ global climate change	44	36	40	29
Promote human rights abroad	29	33	29	24
Find solution to conflict between Israelis and Palestinians	--	28	25*	23
Promote democracy abroad	29	24	21	13

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q21. *From September 2008.

The survey also finds few changes in the public's overall foreign policy goals. As in the past, protecting the jobs of American workers and taking measures to protect the United States against terrorism are cited by substantial majorities as top long-range policy priorities; 84% say protecting U.S. jobs should be a top priority and 81% say the same about protecting the U.S. against terrorism.

Consistent with other trend measures about dealing with global climate change, the percentage rating this objective as a top foreign policy priority has declined since 2009 (from 40% to 29%). And the goal of promoting democracy abroad -- which was not widely viewed as a top priority even when former President Bush made it a centerpiece of his administration's foreign policy -- draws even less support today. Just 13% say promoting democracy abroad should be a top priority, down from 21% two years ago and 24% in 2004.

U.S. Should "Mind Its Own Business" Internationally



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 26-29, 2011. 1964-1991 data from Gallup.

More generally, the public continues to express reservations about the United States taking an active role in the world. A separate survey, conducted May 26-29, finds a nearly even division of opinion over whether the U.S. should "mind its own business internationally" -- 46% say that it should, while 50% disagree.

These opinions are little changed since the Pew Research Center's major foreign policy study -- "America's Place in the World" -- was conducted in the fall of 2009. At that time, 49% agreed that the U.S. should mind its own business internationally and 44% disagreed.

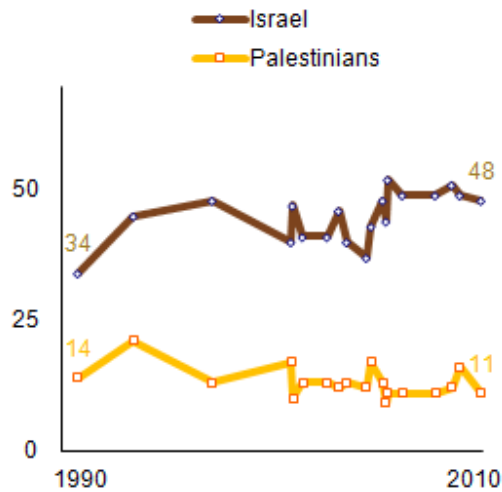
Nonetheless, the current measure of isolationist sentiment is among the highest recorded in the more than half-century that the Pew Research Center and Gallup Org. have been tracking this question. In August 2004, just 34% said the U.S. should mind its own business internationally and in December 2002 just 30% expressed this sentiment.

There are other indications of the public's reticence about U.S. global engagement. Fully 77% say that it is more important for President Obama to focus on domestic policy compared with just 9% who say Obama should focus more on foreign policy. This is little changed from January, but far higher than the percentage that said Bush should focus more on domestic policy at any point during his presidency.

And in a report released on June 7, 65% approved of reducing overseas military commitments as a way to cut the budget deficit. Majorities of independents (72%), Democrats (63%) and Republicans (56%) approve of this proposal. (See "More Blame Wars than Domestic Spending or Tax Cuts for Nation's Debt," June 7, 2011.)

Public's Sympathies Still with Israel

Sympathize More With...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q45.

Nearly half of Americans (48%) say they sympathize more with Israel in its dispute with the Palestinians while just 11% sympathize more with the Palestinians; 15% volunteer that they sympathize with neither side.

These opinions have fluctuated only modestly since the late 1970s; in 1993, the proportion sympathizing more with the Palestinians reached 21%, the highest percentage over this period.

There continue to be substantial partisan, ideological and religious differences in views of the Israel-Palestinian dispute.

Fully 75% of conservative Republicans sympathize more with Israel -- by far the highest percentage of any partisan group.

Conservatives Overwhelmingly Sympathize with Israel

Sympathize more with...

	Palest-Neither Both/ Israel inians (vol.) DK			
	%	%	%	%
Total	48	11	15	25=100
Conserv Rep	75	5	8	11=100
Mod/Lib Rep	41	12	25	22=100
Independent	50	12	15	22=100
Conserv/Mod Dem	40	11	17	32=100
Liberal Dem	32	21	13	34=100
Protestant	56	9	12	23=100
White evangelical	70	3	12	15=100
White mainline	46	12	13	29=100
Catholic	43	14	15	28=100
White Catholic	52	12	13	24=100
Unaffiliated	32	14	25	29=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q45. Whites include only those who are not Hispanic. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

At the other end of the ideological spectrum, just 32% of liberal Democrats sympathize more with Israel while 21% sympathize more with the Palestinians.

Among religious groups, white evangelical Protestants continue to stand out for their strong support for Israel: 70% say they sympathize more with Israel compared with just 3% who sympathize more with the Palestinians.

Members of other religious groups side with Israel by less lopsided margins.

About half of white Catholics (52%) sympathize more with Israel, as do 46% of white mainline Protestants; just 12% in each group sympathizes more with the Palestinians.

About a third (32%) of the religiously unaffiliated sympathize more with Israel while nearly as many (25%) volunteer than they sympathize with neither side; 14% say they sympathize more with the Palestinians.

No Increase in Percentage Saying Obama Sides Too Much with Palestinians

	April 2010		May 2011	
	<i>Strikes right balance</i>	<i>Favors Palestinians too much</i>	<i>Strikes right balance</i>	<i>Favors Palestinians too much</i>
	%	%	%	%
Total	47	21	50	21
Republican	28	38	31	40
Democrat	66	7	67	8
Independent	47	21	49	21
Protestant	44	24	48	26
White evangelical	34	37	33	39
White mainline	48	19	45	26
Catholic	54	16	53	17
White Catholic	49	18	52	21
Unaffiliated	56	11	57	10

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q46. Whites include only those who are not Hispanic. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Tensions between the United States and Israel rose last month after Obama called for Israel and the Palestinians to negotiate a two-state solution based on 1967 borders. But there is no evidence that the flap is affecting public views of Obama's handling of the situation.

Far more Americans say Obama is striking the right balance in the Middle East (50%) than say he favors the Palestinians too much (21%). Just 6% say he favors Israel too much. These opinions are virtually unchanged from April 2010.

Even among Republicans and white evangelicals -- who already were more likely to say that Obama tilts too much toward the Palestinians -- there has been no significant increase in the percentages expressing this view since last year.

No Consensus about Impact of Middle East Upheaval

Public Uncertain about Impact of Middle East Changes on U.S.

<i>Protests and changes in Middle East will be ...</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
May 25-30				
Good for U.S.	23	16	32	22
Bad for U.S.	26	30	20	28
Won't have much effect	36	36	35	37
Other/Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100	100
Mar 30-Apr 3				
Good for U.S.	24	20	31	21
Bad for U.S.	35	40	32	36
Won't have much effect	28	28	25	31
Other/Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q25. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

There continues to be no public consensus about what the protests and calls for change in the Middle East will mean for the people in the region, or for the United States. Slightly more say the upheaval affecting the Middle East will not lead to lasting improvements for the region's peoples than say it will (45% vs. 37%). In early April, opinion on this issue was evenly divided (43% will not lead to improvements, 42% will lead to improvements).

Republicans continue to be far more pessimistic than Democrats about the likely impact of changes in the region. Only about a quarter of Republicans (24%) say the changes sweeping the region will lead to lasting improvements for its people; nearly twice as many Democrats (46%) express this view. Four-in-ten independents (40%) say the changes will result in lasting improvements for people in the Middle East.

Republicans also take a more negative view of what the changes in the region will mean for the United States: Just 16% say they will be good for the U.S. compared with 32% of Democrats.

Over the past two months, however, increasing numbers in both parties say the changes in the Middle East will not have much of an effect on the U.S. Currently, 35% of Democrats say changes in the Middle East will not have much of an impact on the U.S., up from 25% in early April. Among Republicans, 36% say protests and changes in the Middle East will not have much effect on the U.S., compared with 28% two months ago.

Long-Range Foreign Policy Goals

There is broad partisan agreement about what the country's top long-term foreign policy objectives should be: Protecting the jobs of American workers and protecting the country from terrorist attacks rank highest for Republicans, Democrats and independents alike. Protecting U.S. jobs is seen as a top priority by more than eight-in-ten Republicans (85%), Democrats (87%) and independents (81%); taking measures to protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks ranks similarly high.

Modest Partisan Differences Over Many Foreign Policy Priorities

<i>% rating each as a top long-range priority for U.S.</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D diff
	%	%	%	%	
Protect jobs of U.S. workers	84	85	87	81	-2
Protect U.S. from terrorism	81	86	83	77	+3
Reduce dependence on imported energy	67	63	68	70	-5
Improve relations w/ allies	46	54	49	40	+5
Reduce U.S. military commitments overseas	46	44	50	43	-6
Destroy terrorist groups overseas	44	47	42	43	+5
Deal w/ global climate change	29	16	40	30	-24
Promote human rights abroad	24	15	31	23	-16
Find solution to conflict between Israelis and Palestinians	23	28	26	17	+2
Promote democracy abroad	13	10	16	13	-6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q21.

Smaller majorities of all three groups also prioritize reducing American dependence on foreign energy sources. And about half of Republicans, Democrats and independents say that improving relationships with our allies should be a top policy priority.

Far more Americans rate protecting the U.S. from terrorism as a top priority than say that about destroying terrorist groups overseas (84% vs. 44%). There are virtually no partisan differences in views of the importance of destroying overseas terrorist groups -- 47% of Republicans rate this as a top priority as do 43% of independents and 42% of Democrats.

This is consistent with findings from the [Pew Research Center's political typology](#), released May 4. The typology found that partisan differences in opinions about foreign assertiveness, which largely distinguished Republicans from Democrats during the Bush administration, have decreased as foreign policy issues have declined in importance.

Finding a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a top priority for just 23% of the public, and Republicans (28%) and Democrats (26%) are about equally likely to say it should be (independents are less likely than either partisan group to view this as a top priority). All three groups are in agreement that promoting democracy in other nations ranks as the lowest priority of the 10 listed. Just 10% of Republicans, 16% of Democrats and 13% of independents say promoting democracy abroad should be a top priority.

But significant partisan differences do persist over the importance of promoting human rights abroad and dealing with global climate change. Democrats are about twice-as likely as Republicans to say promoting human rights abroad is a top priority (31% vs. 15%). And while four-in-ten Democrats (40%) say dealing with global climate change should be a top priority, just 16% of Republicans agree. The partisan gap over global climate change has narrowed over the last several years, as fewer Democrats now identify this as a top priority than in 2008 and 2009.

More GOP Support for Cutting Military Commitments

More Republicans See Reducing Military Commitments as Priority

	Jul 2004	Sep 2008	May 2011	'08-'11 change
% top priority	%	%	%	
Total	35	45	46	+1
Republican	27	29	44	+15
Democrat	39	57	50	-7
Independent	36	43	43	0
R-D diff	-12	-28	-6	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q21.

Currently, 46% of the public says that reducing U.S. military commitments overseas should be a top priority. While this overall proportion is little changed since September 2008, partisan opinions have shifted over this period. In 2008, just 29% of Republicans said scaling back U.S. military commitments was a top priority, compared with 57% of Democrats and 43% of independents. Today, the partisan gap on this question is much narrower (44% of Republicans, 50% of Democrats and 43% of independents now rate reducing U.S. military commitments abroad as a top priority).

No Partisan Gap in Views of Global Engagement

As was the case in 2009, the public is divided about whether the United States should scale back its international involvement. Currently, 46% agree with the statement "The U.S. should mind its own business internationally and let other countries get along the best they can on their own." Half (50%) disagree with that statement.

Post-Bush, Increased Isolationist Sentiment among Republicans

% agree "U.S. should mind its own business internationally"	Early Sept 2001	Dec 2002	Aug 2004	Oct 2005	Nov 2009	May 2011
Total	37	30	34	42	49	46
Republican	38	22	20	27	43	45
Democrat	38	40	41	55	53	43
Independent	36	27	41	42	49	47
R-D diff	0	-18	-21	-28	-10	+2

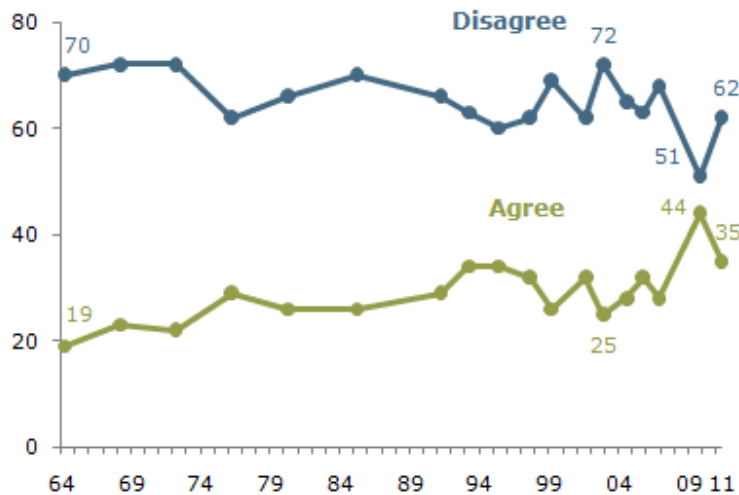
PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 26-29, 2011. PEW4d.

For much of the Bush administration, Republicans were far less likely than Democrats to agree that the United States should mind its own business internationally. But in November 2009, the proportion of Republicans saying the U.S. should mind its own business internationally rose sharply to 43%, from just 27% four years earlier. In the new survey, 45% of Republicans express this sentiment.

By contrast, the proportion of Democrats who say the U.S. should mind its own business internationally has fallen. Currently, 43% agree, down from 53% in 2009 and 55% in 2005. As a result, for the first time in a decade there is no partisan gap in isolationist sentiment.

Fewer Say U.S. Should Go Its Own Way

Since U.S. Is Most Powerful, It Should Go Its Own Way in International Matters



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 26-29, 2011. PEW4c.

Two years ago, Pew Research Center also found an increase in the proportion of Americans who agreed that "since the U.S. is the most powerful nation in the world, we should go our own way in international matters, not worrying too much about whether other countries agree with us or not."

The percentage agreeing jumped to 44%, from just 28% in 2006.

Democrats, Independents Less Likely to Say U.S. Should Go Its Own Way

<i>% agree "we should go our own way in international matters"</i>	Dec 2006	Nov 2009	May 2011
	%	%	%
Total	28	44	35
Republican	32	50	43
Democrat	24	45	25
Independent	29	37	35

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 26-29, 2011. PEW4c.

But in the new survey, the number saying the U.S. should go its own way in the world has fallen back to 35%, which is more in line with measures over the past few decades; 62% disagree with this statement, up from 51% in 2009.

Democrats are less likely to agree that the U.S. should go its own way internationally: 25% of Democrats favor this approach, down from 45% in 2009.

By contrast, there has been little change in these opinions among both independents and Republicans.

Continued Division over Cooperating with U.N.

The proportion of Americans saying that the United States should cooperate fully with the United Nations has rebounded after declining in recent years. Nearly six-in-ten (58%) say the U.S. should cooperate with the U.N., up from 51% in 2009.

Long-Standing Partisan Divisions Over Cooperating with U.N.

<i>% agree "U.S. should cooperate fully with the United Nations"</i>	Early Sept 2001	Dec 2002	Aug 2004	Oct 2005	Nov 2009	May 2011
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	58	67	60	54	51	58
Republican	47	58	41	39	39	36
Democrat	65	80	75	68	65	72
Independent	63	65	62	52	47	60
R-D diff	-18	-22	-34	-29	-26	-36

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 26-29, 2011. PEW4a.

In the new survey, twice as many Democrats as Republicans say the United States should cooperate fully with the United Nations (72% vs. 36%). These opinions are little changed from 2009. Independents are much more likely to favor full cooperation with the U.N. than they were two years ago (60% today, 47% then).

Republicans have long been more skeptical of the U.N. than either Democrats or independents. Only once in the past decade -- in December 2002 -- has a majority of Republicans (58%) agreed that the U.S. should cooperate fully with the U.N. In that survey, even higher percentages of Democrats (80%) and independents (65%) favored full cooperation with the U.N.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2020/poll-american-attitudes-foreign-policy-middle-east-israel-palestine-obama>

175-13. Opposition to Ryan Medicare Plan from Older, Attentive Americans

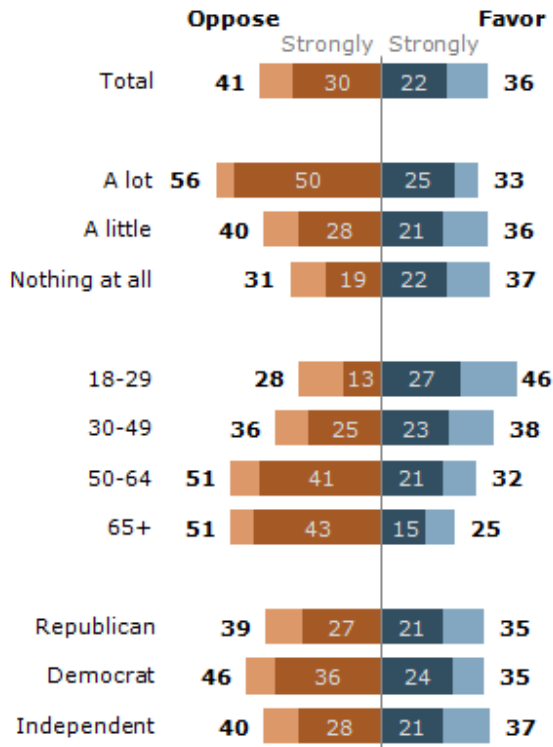
Few Have Heard 'A Lot' About Proposal to Change Medicare

June 6, 2011

The public offers a mixed reaction to a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage: 41% oppose such a change, 36% favor it and nearly a quarter (23%) have no opinion either way. Despite this even division of opinion overall, there is broad, and strong, opposition to the proposal among older Americans and those who are paying a lot of attention to the issue.

Divisions over Medicare Proposal: Older and Attentive More Opposed

Change Medicare into program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. .

Those ages 50 and older oppose this proposal, which is part of Rep. Paul Ryan's deficit reduction plan, by a 51%-to-29% margin. And this opposition is intense: 42% strongly oppose this kind of change, while only 19% strongly favor it. The same is true among people who say they have heard a lot about this proposal -- fully 56% are opposed while 33% are in favor, and strong opposition among this group outweighs strong support by two-to-one (50% vs. 25%).

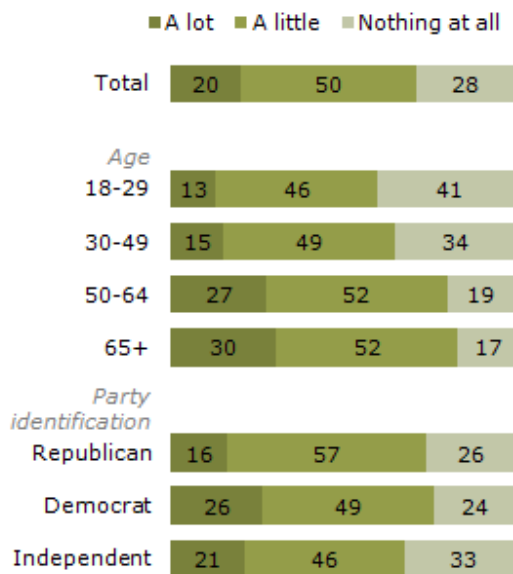
The latest national poll by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted May 25-30 among 1,509 adults, finds only modest partisan differences in views of the Medicare proposal. Democrats are slightly more likely to oppose this kind of change than are Republicans (46% vs. 39%), while an identical 35% in both parties are in favor. The ambivalence toward this proposal among Republicans holds across ideological lines. Even among conservative Republicans as many oppose (38%) as favor (34%) this proposal. And among people who say they agree with the Tea Party just 44% support this change, while 36% are opposed.

When it comes to dealing with Medicare, the Democrats have a 44%-to-34% edge over the Republicans as the party who can do the best job. Even though this proposed change receives mixed reactions within each party base, most remain loyal to their party on the issue generally. For example, while just 35% of Republicans favor this particular proposal, 70% believe the GOP can do the better job of dealing with Medicare overall. A comparable 75% of Democrats say

their party is best suited to handle Medicare, far higher than the 46% who oppose this particular issue. Independents are divided in their assessment, with 40% preferring the Democratic Party and 33% the Republican Party on the issue of Medicare.

Few Have Heard 'A Lot' about Proposal to Change Medicare

How much have you heard about a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q18.

Attention to the debate over Medicare is limited so far. Just one-in-five Americans (20%) say they have heard a lot about a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage; half (50%) have heard a little about it, and 28% have heard nothing at all. Awareness is particularly low among younger Americans -- fully 41% of adults younger than age 30, and 34% of those ages 30-49, have heard nothing at all about this proposal. And politically Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say they have heard a lot about this proposal (26% vs. 16%).

The lack of awareness goes a long way toward explaining some of the contradictory views many Americans hold on this issue. In particular, people younger than age 30 are the only major demographic group in which significantly more say they favor (46%) than oppose (28%) this proposed change. Yet this same cohort is far more likely to say the Democratic Party (49%) not the Republican Party (34%) can do a better job on this issue.

While there is little partisan difference overall in reactions to this proposed Medicare change, there is a distinct partisan divide among the very attentive. Democrats who have heard a lot about the proposal are far more likely to oppose it (69% vs. 38% of Democrats who have heard little or nothing). Similarly, independents who have heard a lot about this proposal are significantly more likely to oppose it than those who have not (51% vs. 37%). However, Republicans who have heard a lot about the proposal, if anything, are more likely to support it.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2014/poll-medicare-ryan-plan-opposition-older-attentive>

175-14. U.S. Subgroups Say Economy, Jobs Are Most Important Problem

Republicans and related groups more likely than Democrats to name the budget deficit
June 10, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- All major subgroups of Americans thus far in 2011 have named either "the economy" or unemployment as the nation's top problem, although not necessarily in that order, according to an average of Gallup's monthly Most Important Problem measures from January through May.

Top Five Issues Named as "Most Important Problem" by Major Subgroups

January-May 2011

	The economy (in general)	Unemploy- ment/Jobs	Federal budget deficit	Government	Poor healthcare/ hospitals
	%	%	%	%	%
Men	29	24	17	12	7
Women	29	28	10	9	14
Whites	31	19	17	11	11
Blacks	25	30	5	8	13
18 to 29 years	26	19	11	7	10
30 to 49 years	32	25	14	8	12
50 to 64 years	32	29	14	12	11
65 and older	24	31	13	16	8
\$75,000 and over	35	24	19	11	10
\$30,000 to \$74,999	30	26	12	10	11
Less than \$30,000	22	27	8	10	10
Republicans	32	24	18	11	8
Independents	28	24	14	11	9
Democrats	29	30	8	9	14

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Men, whites, adults younger than 65, Republicans, independents, and those earning at least \$30,000 per year are all more likely to cite the economy in general than unemployment or jobs. Conversely, unemployment is the top issue for blacks, seniors, and low-income Americans. The two issues tie among women and Democrats.

Additionally, different groups give different relative priority to the budget deficit and healthcare. Men, whites, adults 50 and older, those making at least \$75,000, Republicans, and independents are more likely, by a statistically significant margin, to mention the federal budget

deficit than they are to cite poor healthcare or hospitals. Other groups give the two issues equal weight, while women, blacks, and Democrats show greater concern for healthcare.

All groups are about equally likely to say dissatisfaction with government is a top problem, although mentions of it are higher among adults 50 and older than among those younger than 50.

These findings are from a combined dataset of Gallup surveys from January through May 2011, consisting of interviews with 5,149 national adults conducted by cell phone and landline.

Twenty-nine percent of all Americans since January have named the economy as the nation's most important problem and 26% have cited unemployment or jobs. Following these, 13% have mentioned the federal budget deficit, 11% some aspect of government leadership, and 10% poor healthcare or hospitals. These constitute all of the issues averaging double-digit mentions in Gallup's monthly Most Important Problem measure to date this year among national adults.

Smaller percentages of Americans have mentioned various other economic and social issues, including education (5%), fuel/oil prices (4%), and immigration (4%).

Several issues that often spark hot political debate or are associated with special-interest groups -- abortion, race relations, the environment, Medicare, and gay rights -- receive mentions of 1% or less each. (See table on page 2 for full results.)

January-May 2011 Average for Most Important Problem

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

	January-May 2011
	%
Economy in general	29
Unemployment/Jobs	26
Federal budget deficit	13
Government/Congress/Politicians/Poor leadership/Corruption	11
Poor healthcare/hospitals	10
War	5
Education	5
Lack of money	5
Fuel/Oil prices	4
Immigration/Illegal aliens	4
Ethical/Moral/Religious/Family decline	4

Issues mentioned by fewer than 4% of Americans not shown

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While the overall year-to-date averages reported here are generally similar to Gallup's most recent monthly results, from May, there are some differences. Most notably, the 35% of Americans in May mentioning the economy as the top problem is well above the 22% citing unemployment or jobs. Also, concern about fuel/oil prices has been rising since January, and 8% of Americans in May named the issue as the top problem. At the same time, concern about healthcare fell to 5% from 13%.

Bottom Line

The economy and unemployment have consistently led Gallup's Most Important Problem list since January 2010, with just under 30% of Americans on average mentioning each issue in the first five months of 2011. Despite some differences in the relative importance various subgroups of Americans put on each, all major demographic subgroups, as well as Republicans and Democrats, agree that these are the nation's primary challenges.

The federal budget deficit has been a prominent talking point this year for Republicans in Congress as well as for many Republicans vying to be the 2012 GOP presidential nominee; however, it ranks third in 2011, among both the public at large and rank-and-file Republicans. Concern about healthcare, though down by more than half from where it stood prior to passage of healthcare reform in 2010, is still a significant issue on this list, particularly for Democrats.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of five separate Gallup polls conducted between January and May 2011, with a combined sample of 5,149 national adults, aged 18 and older. Survey dates for the four polls are Jan. 7-9, Feb. 2-5, March 3-6, April 7-11, and May 5-8.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each 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/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/148001/Subgroups-Say-Economy-Jobs-Important-Problem.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

175-15. Americans Still Cutting Back, but Slightly Less as Summer Starts

Self-reports of cutting back appear to provide an early indicator of actual spending
June 9, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have in recent weeks become slightly less likely to say they are cutting back on their weekly spending, suggesting that actual consumer spending may increase as summer gets underway.

At this time, are you cutting back on how much money you spend each week, or not?



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Gallup has since June 2009 asked approximately 800 Americans each week: "At this time, are you cutting back on how much money you spend each week, or not?" The results in the accompanying chart are based on five-week rolling averages that include about 3,500 interviews each. Throughout this period, about two-thirds of Americans or more have said they are cutting back on spending, ranging from a high of 73% in July 2009 to a low of 65% in December 2010.

Gallup did not ask this question prior to June 2009, meaning there is no available comparison to times when the economy was booming and when economic confidence was high, such as the late 1990s. But in at least the last two years, the results show that the majority of Americans consistently view themselves as making an effort to cut back on spending, which in turn underscores the idea that most Americans are looking for ways to save money.

"Cutting Back" an Early Indicator of Actual Spending

A special Gallup analysis shows that the relatively small variations in responses to this question over time are related to changes in actual self-reported spending. More specifically, over the last two years, increases in the percentage of Americans saying they are cutting back on spending based on five-week rolling averages have predicted a decrease in average reported spending a week later. Conversely, decreases in the five-week rolling average have been followed by increases in spending a week later. These statistical relationships are not extremely strong, but suggest that when there are changes in the percentage of Americans telling survey interviewers they are cutting back on their spending, actual spending -- at least as measured by Gallup's spending measure -- does, in fact, change in the following weeks.

For example, 68% of Americans reported cutting back last June. The percentage rose to more than 70% by the fall, and then dipped to the low point of 65% by late December. This drop in reports of cutting back on spending at year's end was correlated with an increase in actual spending during the holiday season. The percentage of Americans cutting back on spending climbed again in the first months of this year. Now, as June begins, the five-week rolling average is down slightly. History suggests that at least a modest rise in spending could ensue in the coming weeks.

Last summer, the drop in self-reports of cutting back on spending was fairly short-lived. One indicator of economic activity to watch this summer will be the extent to which this measure stays at this lower level, or continues to drop, in the months ahead.

Even Higher-Income Americans Say They Are Cutting Back

Higher-income Americans are less likely to say they are cutting back on spending than are those who have lower incomes. Still, almost half of those making \$240,000 a year or more say they are cutting back.

At this time, are you cutting back on how much money you spend each week, or not?

By annual income

	% Yes
Less than \$6,000	75%
\$6,000-<\$12,000	73%
\$12,000-<\$24,000	76%
\$24,000-<\$36,000	74%
\$36,000-<\$48,000	68%
\$48,000-<\$60,000	66%
\$60,000-<\$90,000	62%
\$90,000-<\$120,000	57%
\$120,000-<\$240,000	54%
\$240,000+	48%

September 2010-May 2011
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

Implications

The significant majority of Americans consistently report that they are cutting back on the amount they are spending each week. This may represent a "new normal" in which Americans are adjusting to a less robust economy, or a more basic element of human psychology that manifests itself in a need to present oneself as frugal.

These self-reports of cutting back on spending appear to provide an early indicator of actual spending. As the nation enters the summer vacation season, Americans' reports of cutting back are trending slightly downward -- as they did last June. This suggests there will be at least a modest uptick in spending in the weeks ahead. The direction of this consumer attitude throughout the summer will help measure the health of the consumer side of the economy for the end of the second quarter and into the third quarter of the year.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking from June 2009-May 2011, with weekly random samples of approximately 800 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

For results based on the five-weekly rolling averages of national adults used in this analysis, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 2 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each 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/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/147983/Americans-Cutting-Back-Slightly-Less-Summer-Starts.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

175-16. Democratic Party Affiliation Advantage Increases in May

Edge over Republicans increases to six percentage points

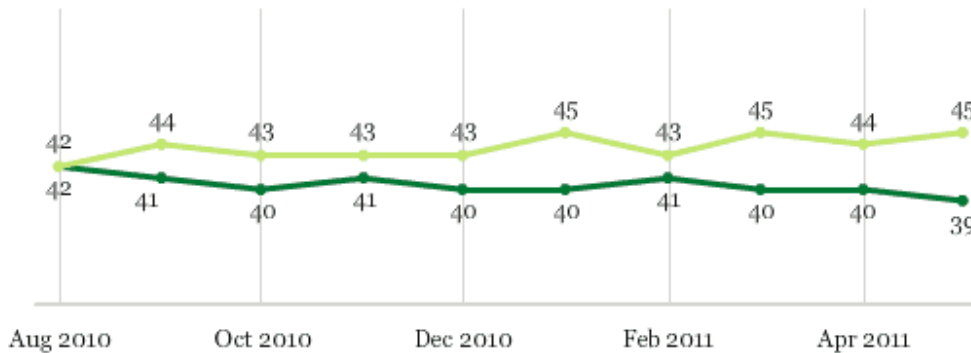
June 9, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- In May, 45% of Americans identified as Democrats or said they were independent but leaned Democratic, compared with 39% who identified as Republicans or leaned Republican. The six-percentage-point Democratic advantage represents a slight increase from the four-point advantage Gallup measured in April, which matches the 2011 average to date.

Recent Trend in Party Affiliation

Gallup Daily tracking

■ % Republican/Lean Republican ■ % Democrat/Lean Democratic



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These results are based on more than 30,000 interviews conducted in May as part of Gallup Daily tracking. Though the changes in party affiliation are small on an absolute basis, they are meaningful because of the large number of interviews in each month's sample.

Longer term, the current six-point Democratic edge is the largest measured in Gallup Daily tracking since October 2009, when the gap was seven points. The high point in the more than three-year history of Gallup Daily tracking is 19 points in December 2008. Since President Obama took office, that gap has generally shrunk over time to the point that the parties have been more competitive in recent months, including a tie in August 2010 tracking.

The recent increase in the Democrats' advantage in party affiliation coincides with Americans' more positive evaluations of President Obama, who averaged 50% job approval in May, compared with 44% in April.

Historical Gallup trends indicate party affiliation often shifts when presidents are very popular or unpopular. For example, Republicans gained an advantage in 1991 after George H.W. Bush's approval ratings soared during and after the Persian Gulf War. Democrats expanded their advantage in party affiliation in the late 1990s during the latter part of Bill Clinton's presidency, when the economy was booming and Clinton's approval ratings routinely topped 60%. Between 2005 and 2008, the Democrats built up a large advantage as George W. Bush's approval ratings suffered due to the Iraq war and later to record-high gas prices and a poor economy.

The current data show a similar pattern, with party affiliation moving toward the president's party as he has gained popularity. However, the magnitude of the change reflects the more modest increase in Obama's approval rating.

Gallup measured a six-point bounce in Obama's approval rating in the days immediately after Osama bin Laden's death, which is typical in size for a presidential rally.

Had the rally been larger, party affiliation likely would have shifted even more in a Democratic direction. For example, between the third and fourth quarters of 2001, spanning the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the party affiliation gap shifted six points toward the Republicans as George W. Bush received record-high approval ratings.

Whether the Democrats are able to maintain their now slightly larger advantage will depend partly on whether Obama's approval rating continues to register at or near the improved 50% level.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking May 1-31, 2011, with a random sample of 30,239 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 ± 1 percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each 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/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/147971/Democratic-Party-Affiliation-Advantage-Increases-May.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

175-17. Underemployed Americans' Wellbeing Continues to Suffer

Daily negativity higher, positivity lower for underemployed

June 8, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Less than half of underemployed Americans (45%) rate their lives well enough to be considered "thriving." This compares with 60% of those who are employed who are thriving. The underemployed are significantly more likely than the employed to be "struggling" in their lives.

Life Evaluation, by Employment Status

Jan. 1-June 2, 2011

	Underemployed*	Employed^	Difference, Underemployed vs. Employed
Thriving	45%	60%	-15
Struggling	51%	38%	+13
Suffering	4%	2%	+2

*Unemployed or employed part time but wanting full-time work

^Employed full time or working part time but not wanting full-time work

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

Gallup classifies the underemployed as those who are either unemployed or working part time but wanting full-time employment. Those who are working full time or working part time but not wanting full-time work are considered employed. This analysis of January through May 2011 data, collected as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, finds that underemployed Americans rate their lives slightly better now than they did in 2010, when 42% of the group was thriving.

When Gallup did the analysis last year, 19.8% of Americans in the workforce were underemployed; in the 2011 sample, 19.3% were in that category.

Underemployed Americans Experience More Daily Negativity Than the Employed

Daily worry and sadness are particular problems for the underemployed. One in four underemployed Americans say they experienced sadness the day before the survey, nearly double the number of employed who say the same. Forty-four percent of the underemployed experienced worry, compared with 29% of the employed.

The underemployed also experienced more anger and stress than the employed.

Daily Negative Emotions, by Employment Status

Jan. 1-June 2, 2011

	Underemployed*	Employed^	Difference, Underemployed vs. Employed
Worry	44%	29%	+15
Sadness	25%	13%	+12
Stress	50%	41%	+9
Anger	20%	13%	+7

*Unemployed or employed part time but wanting full-time work

^Employed full time or working part time but not wanting full-time work

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

The underemployed are also significantly more likely than the employed to say they have ever been diagnosed with depression. Twenty-two percent of underemployed Americans report a depression diagnosis, higher than the national average of 17.2%.

Depression Diagnosis, by Employment Status

Jan. 1-June 2, 2011

	Underemployed*	Employed^	Difference, Underemployed vs. Employed
Have ever been diagnosed with depression	22%	12%	+10

*Unemployed or employed part time but wanting full-time work

^Employed full time or working part time but not wanting full-time work

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

It is not clear from the data, however, whether the depression diagnosis is related to underemployed Americans' current employment status or other factors.

Underemployed Americans' Daily Positivity Lower, but Not by Much

The potential good news is that underemployed Americans' levels of enjoyment and happiness are not as affected by their employment status as their negative emotions. More than 8 in 10 underemployed Americans continue to report experiencing enjoyment and happiness "yesterday," slightly less than the percentages of the employed who say the same.

Daily Positive Emotions, by Employment Status

Jan. 1-June 2, 2011

	Underemployed*	Employed^	Difference, Underemployed vs. Employed
Enjoyment	83%	87%	-4
Happiness	86%	91%	-5

*Unemployed or employed part time but wanting full-time work

^Employed full time or working part time but not wanting full-time work

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

Bottom Line

Gallup found 9.2% of Americans unemployed last month and an additional 9.9% working part time but wanting full-time work, bringing the underemployment rate to 19.1%. The government's unemployment rate rose to 9.1% in May, sparking discussion in the media and among economists about whether the data point to a slowdown in the nation's economy. With millions of Americans still jobless or working less than they need or would like to and with the possibility of a further slowdown in hiring, the Gallup data underscore the negative effect underemployment can have on Americans' wellbeing.

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data confirm that underemployed Americans continue to rate their lives more poorly and suffer from more daily worry, sadness, stress, and anger than those who are employed. Whether an improvement in the unemployment situation could alleviate some of this angst remains to be seen. In the meantime, these data highlight that the underemployed remain a particularly vulnerable group of Americans for reasons beyond their fiscal challenges. Reducing unemployment is not only important economically, but also to improve the quality of life for the millions who are struggling to find work.

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.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 1-June 2, 2011, with a random sample of 95,667 adults, aged 18 and older, who are a part of the workforce and living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

For results based on the sample of 18,217 underemployed adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 1.5 percentage points. For results based on the sample of 77,450 employed respondents, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is less than ± 1 percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each 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/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/147962/Underemployed-Americans-Wellbeing-Continues-Suffer.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

175-18. Obama Approval Up on International Issues, Not on Economy

Sixty-three percent approval on terrorism

June 8, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Majorities of Americans approve of the way President Obama is handling terrorism, the situation in Afghanistan, and foreign affairs. That contrasts with the majority disapproval he gets for his handling of the economy and the federal budget deficit.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

	% Approve	% Disapprove
Terrorism	63	33
The situation in Afghanistan	53	42
Foreign affairs	51	43
Immigration	37	55
The economy	37	60
The federal budget deficit	32	63

USA Today/Gallup, May 12-15, 2011

GALLUP

These results are based on a May 12-15 *USA Today*/Gallup poll that shows the effect of Osama bin Laden's death on Americans' evaluation of how Obama is handling key issues. The president's ratings on terrorism, foreign affairs, and the situation in Afghanistan all improved significantly from Gallup's prior measurement. However, Americans do not view his handling of the economy or the federal budget deficit any better than they did in late March.

Change in President Obama's Approval Ratings on Issues

	Prior reading	Current reading	Change (pct. pts.)
Terrorism	48%	63%	+15
The situation in Afghanistan	47%	53%	+6
Foreign affairs	46%	51%	+5
Immigration	29%	37%	+8
The economy	39%	37%	-2
The federal budget deficit	33%	32%	-1

Note: For all issues, current reading is based on May 12-15, 2011, poll. Prior readings for economy, foreign affairs, budget deficit are from March 25-27, 2011, poll. Prior readings for Afghanistan are from Feb. 2-5, 2011, poll. Prior readings for terrorism and immigration are from Aug. 5-8, 2010, poll.

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More generally, Gallup has shown a sustained increase in Obama's overall job approval rating since bin Laden's death, from an average of 44% in the week before it occurred to 51% in the week after. Since then, his approval rating has averaged 50%, suggesting the rally in support is ongoing.

Despite the increase in his overall approval rating and his approval ratings on many issues, Americans have not globally improved their evaluations of Obama, given his flat ratings on the economy and the deficit.

The president's weak approval on the economy is a clear vulnerability, given the issue's dominant status as the most important problem facing the country in Americans' eyes. Americans are less concerned about international matters such as terrorism and the war in Afghanistan, issues on which Obama receives much more positive ratings. Indeed, the May 12-15 poll finds that U.S. registered voters are much more likely to say the economy will be extremely or very important (71%) to their decision on whether to vote for Obama in 2012 than will foreign affairs (49%).

Thus, the course of the economy over the next 17 months may be the most significant factor in determining how voters evaluate President Obama's performance and whether he is re-elected.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted May 12-15, 2011, with a random sample of 1,024 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 ± 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/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/147956/Obama-Approval-International-Issues-Not-Economy.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

175-19. Romney's Positive Intensity Up; Santorum's Name ID Still Low

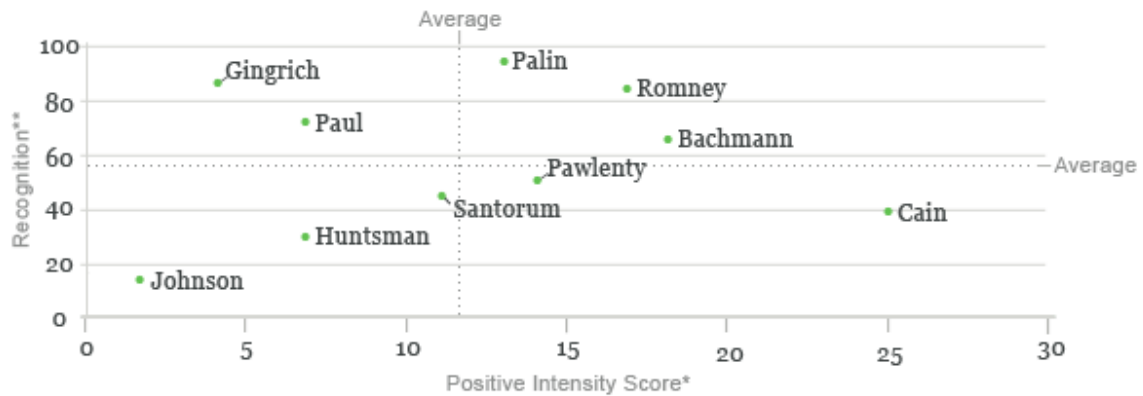
Cain has highest Positive Intensity Score

June 7, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Newly announced presidential candidate Mitt Romney's Positive Intensity Score among Republicans who recognize him is up to 17 this week, essentially tying him with Michele Bachmann. Both remain behind Herman Cain on this measure. Rick Santorum,

another newly announced candidate, has a Positive Intensity Score of 11; 44% of Republicans nationwide know him, virtually unchanged so far this year.

Potential GOP Candidate Images Among Republicans and Republican-Leaning Independents



* % with strongly favorable opinion minus % with strongly unfavorable opinion, based only on those who recognize candidate

** % who recognize candidate

May 23-June 5, 2011

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Romney, who officially announced his presidential candidacy in New Hampshire last Thursday, is more positively situated in this week's update on Gallup's presidential tracking measures than has previously been the case. Romney's Positive Intensity Score of 17 is higher than those of the other three best-known candidates -- Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich, and Ron Paul.

Palin, who has still not said whether she is running for her party's presidential nomination, conducted a widely publicized bus tour of the East Coast over the Memorial Day holiday and into last week. Her Positive Intensity Score is now 13, one point lower than last week and off her high of 19 earlier this year.

Gingrich announced his candidacy on May 11, but has now left the campaign trail for a two-week vacation with his wife. Gingrich's image in Republicans' eyes continues to slide. His Positive Intensity Score of 4 is down from 6 last week and markedly off from his high of 19 earlier this year. Gingrich's Positive Intensity Score is the second lowest of any Republican tested, higher only than former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson's 2.

Paul's Positive Intensity Score of 7 is his lowest of the year; he is recognized by about three-quarters of Republicans.

Santorum, a former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania, officially announced his candidacy on Monday. His name recognition of 44% is virtually the same as in mid-March. This lack of improvement contrasts with substantial upticks in name recognition for a number of other Republicans over that same time period, including Herman Cain (up 19 points), Tim Pawlenty (13 points), Bachmann (11 points), and Jon Huntsman (10 points).

Pawlenty's Positive Intensity Score is 14, putting him in the third tier of candidates on this measure, behind Cain, Bachmann, and Romney.

Cain maintains the highest Positive Intensity Score of any candidate measured, at 25. His 40% name recognition is low on an absolute basis, but is up from 21% in March. By contrast, Santorum's recognition score in March was 46%, and now, 2 ½ months later, it is at 44%.

Bachmann reportedly has hired the well-known political consultant Ed Rollins to join her political team, and is expected to officially announce her presidential candidacy later this month. Her current Positive Intensity Score of 18 is her lowest yet, although her name recognition has climbed from 52% in March to 63% today.

Bottom Line

This week marked either stability or decline in the Positive Intensity Scores of most of the 10 Republicans Gallup is tracking, with the exception of Romney, whose Positive Intensity Score edged up to 17 after his formal entry into the race. He is now better positioned on this measure than any of the Republicans measured except for Cain and Bachmann, and is better known than both of these. However, Romney is not generating the same level of intensity as did Mike Huckabee before he announced last month that he was not running for president.

Pawlenty's and Palin's Positive Intensity Scores are slightly below Romney's, with newly announced candidate Santorum in turn behind them. Four candidates now have low, single-digit Positive Intensity Scores -- Paul, Huntsman, Gingrich, and Johnson. Gingrich in particular stands out for his rapid fall in Republicans' eyes in recent weeks. At one point in March and early April, Gingrich was as well positioned as any other candidate Gallup tested. Now, his Positive Intensity Score is next to last.

Cain's, Pawlenty's, Bachmann's, and Huntsman's name recognition scores have increased in recent weeks, providing a stark contrast with the situation of newly announced candidate Santorum, who is no better known now than he was three months ago. The data also show almost no progress for Johnson, who is unknown to more than 8 in 10 Republicans and who has the lowest Positive Intensity Score of any candidate measured.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking May 23-June 5, 2011, with random samples of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Questions asking about the 10 potential candidates measured in this research were rotated among randomly selected samples of Republicans each night; over the 14-day period, each candidate was rated by a minimum of 1,500 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents.

For the overall ratings of each potential candidate among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, including recognition scores, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points. For the Positive Intensity Score for each candidate, the maximum margin of sampling error varies depending on the size of the group recognizing the candidate.

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/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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/147950/Romney-Positive-Intensity-Santorum-Name-Low.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

175-20. Republicans More Unified Than Democrats on Abortion

Pro-choice view among Democrats largely linked to education and income

June 6, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- As the 2012 Republican presidential contenders begin to hone their campaign messages and court social-issues voters, a Gallup analysis reveals the striking homogeneity of rank-and-file Republicans on abortion. Roughly two-thirds of Republicans across most major gender, age, educational, and income lines describe themselves as "pro-life," while about a quarter call themselves "pro-choice."

Republicans' Views on Abortion -- by Demographic, Regional Subgroups

With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

	“Pro-choice”	“Pro-life”	Number of interviews
	%	%	
All Republicans	27	68	1,270
Men	27	68	676
Women	26	68	594
18 to 34 years	21	73	175
35 to 54 years	34	64	391
55 and older	24	69	687
High school or less	24	66	369
Some college	30	68	364
College graduate	26	71	280
Post graduate	27	68	256
Less than \$30,000	25	69	219
\$30,000-\$74,999	28	67	475
\$75,000 and over	31	67	453
East	38	58	242
Midwest	21	76	293
South	22	71	443
West	31	62	292

Combined data from 2008-2011

GALLUP

Republicans' abortion views show slightly greater variability by region of the country. Those living in the East and West are less unified around the pro-life label than those in the South or Midwest, although even on the coasts, it is the majority view.

These findings are based on an aggregation of Gallup's annual Values and Beliefs surveys from 2008 through 2011, encompassing 1,270 Republicans.

Class Differences in Democrats' Abortion Views

Republicans' broad unity on abortion contrasts with Democrats' more variable support for the pro-choice label. According to interviews with 1,362 Democrats since 2008 as part of Gallup's Values and Beliefs surveys, differences in Democrats' views on the issue are particularly seen along socio-economic lines.

Whereas Democrats with a high school education or less tilt pro-life by 47% to 43%, the pro-choice view rises to 68% among those with at least some college education and to 85% among those with postgraduate education. Similarly, adherence to the pro-choice label among Democrats rises from 43% in the lowest income group to 79% in the highest one.

Like Republicans' abortion views, Democrats' views also vary somewhat by region, with Democrats in the West being the most unified around the pro-choice position, and those in the South, the least. Also similar to Republicans, Democrats exhibit no gender gap on abortion. There is a modest generational gap, with Democrats 55 and older being slightly less likely than younger Democrats to describe themselves as pro-choice.

Black Democrats are slightly less likely than white Democrats to be pro-choice, although the majority of both groups take the pro-abortion-rights position. The 2008-2011 Gallup dataset contains too few black Republicans for a comparable look at racial views on abortion within that party.

Democrats' Views on Abortion -- by Demographic, Regional Subgroups

With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

	"Pro-choice"	"Pro-life"	Number of interviews
	%	%	
All Democrats	62	32	1,362
Men	61	35	578
Women	63	30	784
Non-Hispanic white	67	29	935
Non-Hispanic black	52	39	209
18 to 34 years	65	28	201
35 to 54 years	67	28	426
55 and older	55	38	725
High school or less	43	47	422
Some college	68	27	358
College graduate	67	28	216
Post graduate	85	13	364
Less than \$30,000	43	48	346
\$30,000-\$74,999	66	29	528
\$75,000 and over	79	19	385
East	65	31	341
Midwest	61	33	295
South	54	39	421
West	71	22	305

Combined data from 2008-2011

GALLUP

Religion a Factor in Abortion Views in Both Parties

Abortion views are closely intertwined with religion, and that is seen within both parties just as it is among the public at large. The percentage of Republicans who are pro-life is 38 points higher among those who seldom or never attend church or another place of worship compared with those who attend weekly, 46% vs. 84%. A nearly identical gap in pro-choice support is seen among Democrats between non-churchgoers and regular attendees, 77% vs. 40%.

Partisans' Views on Abortion -- by Attendance at Church/Synagogue

With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

	"Pro-choice"	"Pro-life"	Number of interviews
	%	%	
REPUBLICANS			
Attend weekly	11	84	552
Attend nearly weekly	29	66	340
Seldom/Never attend	47	46	370
DEMOCRATS			
Attend weekly	40	48	385
Attend nearly weekly	60	36	349
Seldom/Never attend	77	19	617

Combined data from 2008-2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

Consistent with the solid "pro-life" stance of rank-and-file Republicans, the emerging Republican presidential field is dominated by anti-abortion candidates and potential candidates, with all of the current top-tier names (at 5% or better in Gallup polling) embracing the pro-life label. This includes Mitt Romney, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Newt Gingrich, Herman Cain, Tim Pawlenty, and Michele Bachmann. The primary differences among them on the issue generally have to do with whether they oppose all abortions or would make an exception for rape and incest.

Such unity would normally suggest that the Republican nomination will be decided on something other than abortion. That would seem particularly true this year with the economy and federal budget deficit eclipsing other concerns in voters' minds. However, Romney's candidacy could change that if his competitors decide to make his past positions in support of abortion rights an issue. The Gallup analysis of Republicans' abortion views suggests that such criticism of Romney could be broadly communicated to GOP voters in a way that might not work for abortion messaging in the Democratic Party. It would matter little if Romney's GOP opponents make their case at a \$1,000-a-plate dinner in Ohio, a down-home picnic in New Hampshire, or to college Republicans -- the audience would likely be sympathetic to a pro-life message. Whether Republicans would care enough to prioritize questions about Romney's sincerity on abortion over other issues remains a different matter.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of four separate Gallup polls conducted between 2008 and 2011, with a random sample of 4,079 national adults, aged 18 and older. Survey dates for the four polls are May 5-8, 2011; May 3-6, 2010; May 7-10, 2009; and May 8-11, 2008.

For results based on the total sample of 1,270 Republicans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points. For results based on the total sample of 1,362 Democrats, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

Interviews across the four surveys were conducted with respondents on both land-line telephones and cellular phones, although the precise methods and minimum quotas used for each survey differ according to changes over time in cell-phone use and penetration. The 2011 survey included interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, and phone status. Demographic weighting targets for each survey are based on the most recent 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/147941/Republicans-Unified-Democrats-Abortion.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

175-21. Voters Oppose Raising Debt Ceiling: Big Budget Cuts Increase Support

45% Do Not believe it Will Endanger Economy

UTICA, NY - A bare majority of likely voters does not agree that Congress should raise the debt ceiling, 50% to 42%, and a plurality does not believe such a failure would cause the government to default on its debt and endanger the U.S. economy, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds

Including major budget cuts with passage of a raised debt ceiling would make 51% more likely to support it.

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll was conducted from June 2-6.

Do you agree or disagree that the U.S. Congress should raise the debt ceiling?

Responses	All Voters	Republicans	Democrats	Independents
Agree	42%	13%	71%	36%
Disagree	50%	81%	18%	57%
Not Sure	8%	6%	11%	7%

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

If Congress fails to raise the debt ceiling, do you believe the government will default on its debt, and endanger the U.S. economy?

Responses	All Voters	Republicans	Democrats	Independents
Yes	37%	18%	55%	36%
No	45%	66%	27%	46%
Not Sure	17%	17%	18%	17%

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

Would you be more or less likely to support raising the debt ceiling if you knew Congress would pass major budget cuts at the same time?

Responses	All Voters	Republicans	Democrats	Independents
More likely	51%	65%	34%	56%
Less likely	15%	9%	23%	11%
No difference	27%	19%	34%	27%
Not Sure	17%	6%	9%	6%

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

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of 2,022 likely voters has a margin of error of +/-2.1%. 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.

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/2011/06/07/ibope-zogby-poll-voters-oppose-raising-debt-ceiling-big-budget-cuts-increase-support-/](http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/06/07/ibope-zogby-poll-voters-oppose-raising-debt-ceiling-big-budget-cuts-increase-support/)

175-22. Obama Approval Slips to 46%; No Change in Re-Elect Number

Increase in Those who Say Country is on the Wrong Track

UTICA, NY - President Barack Obama's approval rating has dropped two percentage points from last week, but the number of people who think he deserves to be re-elected remains the same.

These results come from our June 2-6 interactive poll of 2,022 likely voters.

Obama's approval fell to 46% after being at 48% on May 31, but the percentage of voters who think the president deserves to be re-elected stayed at 41%. Those feeling that the U.S. is off on the wrong track spiked four percentage points from the previous poll to 61%, while the respondents who think the country is headed in the right direction remained the same at 29%.

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

Obama Job Performance	un.	ay.	ay.	ay.	ay.	pr.	pr.	pr.	pr.	ar.	ar.	ar.
	6	31	23	9	5	25	15	7	4	28	21	8
Approve	6%	8%	8%	8%	6%	1%	3%	2%	3%	6%	5%	7%

Disapprove	3%	2%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Not sure	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

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

Congressional Republicans get a seven-point bounce in their job approval, going from 28% a week ago to 35% now. Approval of Congressional Democrats drops two points to 33%. Approval of Congress overall is up two points to 21%.

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of 2,022 likely voters has a margin of error of +/-2.2%. A sampling of Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population.

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Source:<http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/06/06/ibope-zogby-pollobama-approval-slips-46-no-change-re-elect-number-/>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

175-23. Britons Welcome Killing Of Bin Laden

Ipsos Global @dvisor Wave 20
 Published: 8 June 2011
 Fieldwork: 6 - 21 April 2011

New research by Ipsos MORI shows that 87% of Britons believe the killing of Osama bin Laden was justified. The latest Global @dvisor survey conducted in 22 countries worldwide showed three quarters (76%) of those surveyed believe the US was justified in seeking out and killing Bin Laden with 95% of Americans supporting the action.

However, around half of Britons (49%) believe that as a result of Osama bin Laden's death there will be more al-Qaida attacks in the future. The survey showed Great Britain to be among the most fearful countries, with only South Koreans more fearful of increased attacks.

In contrast to the British public, only a third of Americans (35%) believe there will be an increased number of al-Qaida attacks.

A third of Britons (36%) now feel less safe overall but most feel it will make no difference (54%).

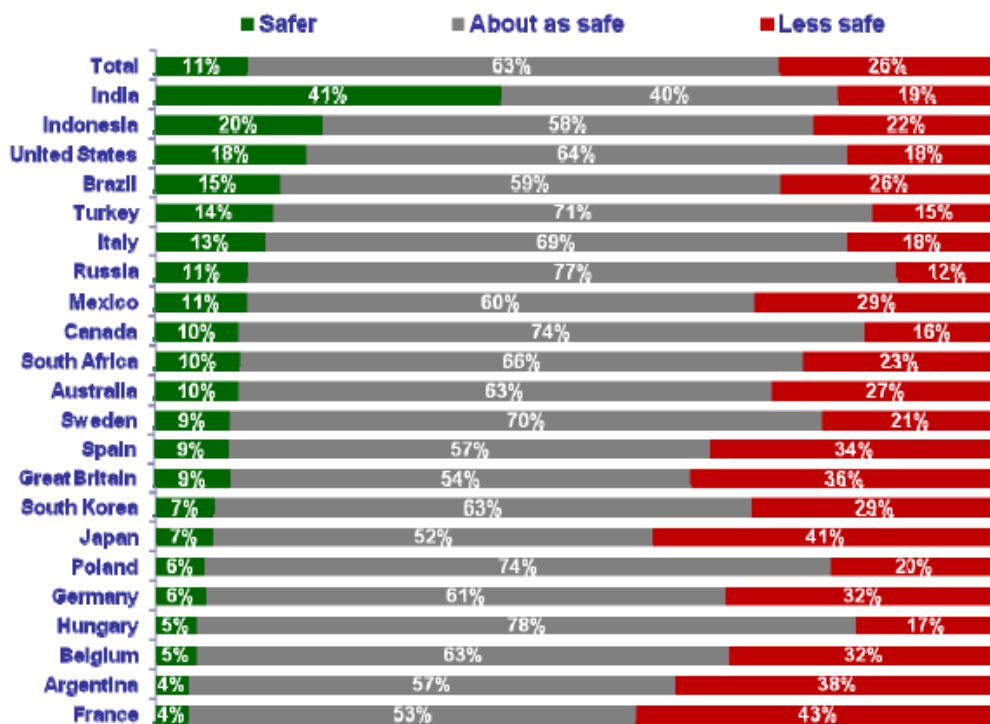
Managing Director of Ipsos MORI, **Bobby Duffy**, said

“Osama bin Laden was responsible for the death of thousands, so it’s no surprise that there is strong support for the US in seeking him out and killing him. Of course this didn’t mark the end of the terror threat and it is understandable that people are concerned about the possibility reprisals.”

Technical Note

Ipsos Global @advisor is a monthly online survey conducted by Ipsos via the Ipsos Online Panel system in 24 countries around the world. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America.

As you probably know, Osama bin Laden was recently killed by US forces. As a result of the death of Osama bin Laden, do you personally feel safer, less safe, or about as safe as before?



For the results of the survey presented herein, an international sample of 18,787 adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, were interviewed. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey, where each have a sample approximately 500+.

Weighting was employed to balance demographics and ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data available and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe, (in the small number of developing countries where access to the internet is limited respondents are more likely to be affluent and well connected than the average member of the population.)

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2805/Britons-welcome-killing-of-bin-Laden.aspx>

CYBER WORLD

175-24. The Growing & Changing role of the Mobile Phone, and The Youth of Indonesia

TNS Digital Nation 2011: Welcome to the Rapidly Digitizing Indonesia

How to understand and make the most of this rapid change.

TNS Indonesia believes that the 3 big drivers of change in the next 5-10 years would be:
Increasing Digitizing (Internet revolution)

In order to help marketers understand better, these 3 pillars of change, TNS Indonesia organized TNS Digital Nation 2011, where interesting findings from 3 large global studies, TNS Digital Life, TNS Mobile Life & TRU Teenz Life were presented.

Some of the interesting findings coming out of the event and the studies were:

Social Networking & the Power of Social Media in Indonesia – We ain't seen nothing yet!!!

Indonesia is already the world's 2nd biggest Facebook and 3rd biggest Twitter market in terms of number of members. However research by the global market research firm TNS reveals that although a huge 87% of those who go online, have access Social Networking sites, only 14% of them access these Social Networking Sites on a daily basis compared to the Global average of 46%.

This is based on findings from TNS Digital Life, one of the largest studies done Worldwide to understand Digital attitudes & behavior

Speaking from Jakarta this week, James Fergusson TNS' Global Technology Sector Managing Director said, "Currently many Indonesians rely on either Warnets or Older generation smart phones to access the Internet. The inconvenience of getting to a Warnet and the cluttered operating systems of older phones compromise the user experience and frequency of Internet access and Social Networking usage."

Fergusson went on to say, "This will change and rapidly! Over the coming months we will see an increase in Chinese manufactured new generation smart phones using the extremely user friendly and intuitive Android operating system in the market at a relatively lower price point. As is happening elsewhere in rapid growth markets, we will see this drive a flood of more frequent Internet access."

"The subsequent increase in Social Networking usage represents a huge opportunity for businesses operating in Indonesia, where 30% of these consumers welcome online brand content"

Also, more than 60% of Social Network users Post or Read about Brands on Social Networking sites.

"Brands are treated as friends, currently, and it is important that marketers keep this in mind while designing their Digital strategies", feels Rina Ivandriani, the coordinator of the TNS Digital Nation 2011.

Jhoni Tuerah, the TNS Indonesia Digital Champion added, "Now is the time for marketers to be planning their mobile digital strategies. The future of Digital in Indonesia is very much mobile!"

Key Findings from TRU Teenz Life

A global study done by one of the leading global experts on understanding Teens & Youth has thrown up some interesting findings:

1 . Faith & Pluralism-strong characteristic of Indonesian Teens. Riko Rahman, TNS Indonesia's Youth champion said that 'Religion is very important to Indonesian teens, but at the same time they are more Pluralistic than other Asia Pacific countries.

a. 95% of Indonesian Teens say that Religion/ Faith is one of the Most important Aspects of My life as compared to an average of 54% across Asia Pacific, but

b. 58% of Indonesian Teens also have close friends who are from a Different religion as compared to 32% in Asia Pacific as a whole.

2. Higher Education is Essential for Future Success but I Cant Afford it. Like in other APAC countries, majority of Indonesian Teens consider Higher Education to be critical for future Success, however,

a. 24% of all Indonesian Teens say that they will not go to College after School.

b. Irene Ariyani, Associate Client Advisor at TNS Indonesia adds that, 'Education loans and support and making Higher Education Affordable would become very important to ensure that Indonesian youth realize their full potential'

3. Love International Brands, but like Indonesian Ads better.

a. International brands such as Nokia, Yamaha, Honda emerge as the Top3 most liked brands by Indonesian Teens, but

b. Advertising from Indonesian brands Mie Sedaap & XL emerge as the advertising they like the most.

c. Robert Hutchison, TNS Regional Youth Champion adds that "The clear message to International brands is to make advertising that connects better with the Indonesian culture in order to drive better brand engagement"

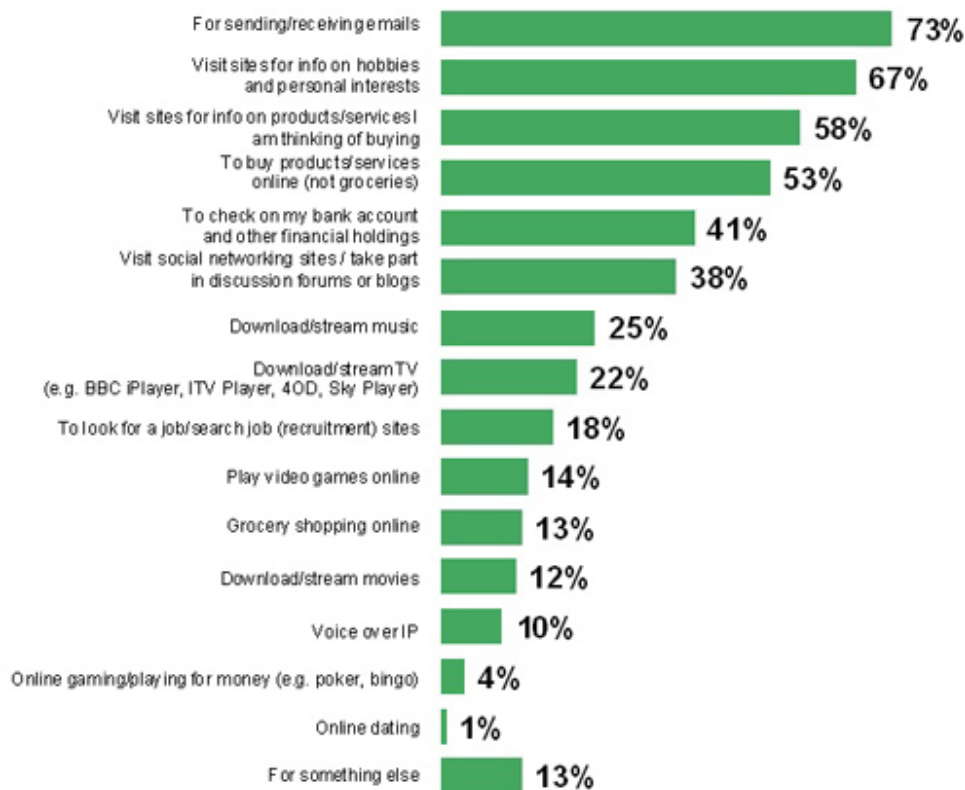
Source: <http://www.tnsglobal.com/news/news-CFD63092EC72457D95B5BB4748D0E181.aspx>

175-25. Why we connect

With approximately 80% of all adults in the UK accessing the internet in Q1 2011, several questions are raised regarding not only who connects, but why.

The most popular activity in January 2011 was (unsurprisingly) sending and receiving emails, which is consistent with January 2010.

Even so, we find an increasing proportion of people using the internet to communicate through emails from the year before. The internet is also an increasingly important platform through which people not only source information regarding products and services they are thinking of buying (58%), but also purchase them directly (53%). This may, to a certain extent, explain the explosion of price comparison websites over the past couple of years, as they capitalise on these trends and take advantage of a growing and lucrative market. However, the 24% year-on-year decrease of grocery shopping seems slightly at odds with the overall popularity of online shopping, so it would be interesting to explore further what is causing this gap and what in particular is making less people shop for groceries through the internet.



Though social networking is more democratised than before, only 38% of adults who accessed the internet in the past three months did so in order to visit social networking sites and/or take part in discussion forums or blogs – interestingly, this is after a yoy increase of 15%. And though downloading and streaming films ranks quite low among other online activities (12%), it has increased by 50% from the year before. This is worth monitoring to see whether it will continue to increase at this rate or if it will soon reach a plateau and further to assess what impact, if any, this kind of activity is having/ will have on the cinema sector.

It is therefore the practical uses that appear to take precedence over leisure activities online – i.e. basic communication (emails), retail purchasing and finances are more important than networking, entertainment, dating etc, which come further down the list of priorities.

It would also be interesting to establish whether or not these online activities are supplementing or replacing their ‘offline’ equivalents and at what rate. It would be useful too to discern the remaining ‘other’ activities that 13% of the population use the internet for, which we are not yet capturing. Could this unravel some new and exciting trends for the sector and/or implications for consumers?

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/blogs/mediactlightbites/738/Why-we-connect.aspx>
