BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

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Week: July 24-30, 2011

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 40 surveys. Three of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 37 are national surveys from various countries.

Summary of Polls

MIDDLE EAST

Arab Attitude Towards Iran, 2011 (Multi-country survey)

A recent survey reveals that there is a deep concern in Arab countries over Iran’s regional role. Iran is viewed negatively in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Morocco, Jordan, and Egypt. There is only a scant support for Iran nuclear program in the Arab world. (Zogby-Arab American Institute)

July 2011

‘Positive Uncertainty’ In Egypt As Citizens Come To Terms With Their New Democracy

The study of over 1,000 Egyptian citizens has unearthed a ‘positive uncertainty’ about the country’s future, where 76% of people feel optimistic about the country’s future, yet almost half (41%) are still unhappy about the current situation in the country. (TNS Global)

July 27, 2011

WEST ASIA

Pakistanis Still Rate Military Tops Among National Institutions

Gallup surveys in Pakistan show the image of the country's military took a slight bruising after reports emerged that it had no prior knowledge of the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden. In a May 9-12 Gallup poll, 78% of Pakistanis expressed confidence in their military, down from 86% in a survey conducted mostly in the weeks leading up to the raid. (Gallup USA)

July 29, 2011

Majority (59%) Believe The Media Is Doing A Good Job While 27% Disagree

Majority of about six in ten Pakistanis (59%) believe that the media does its job well, while 27% believe it adversely impacts people's perceptions. The results indicate that a relatively higher proportion of respondents over the age of fifty (30%) said the media was impacting people negatively, as compared to 25% under the age of thirty who said the same. (Gallup Pakistan)

August 1, 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Net Satisfaction With National Administration Performance Is "Good" +45 In Philippines

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, fielded from June 3-6, 2011, found 62% of adults satisfied, 19% neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, and 17% dissatisfied with the general performance of the National Administration, for a good net satisfaction rating of +45 (% satisfied minus % dissatisfied), just one point below the good +46 in March 2011. (SWS)

July 28, 2011

EAST EUROPE

Ideal Politician: Democrat? Reformer? Populist?

Over the recent twenty years Russians have known better the political terms. "Democrats" and "reformers" are rather positively perceived (55 and 53% respectively). "Nationalists" are perceived most negatively (71%). Every second respondent feel negative attitudes toward "conservators", "radicals" (51% for each) and "populists" (55%). Those who are perceived rather negatively are also "communists" (44%) and "liberals" (41%). But even "liberals" are more favored by 25% of Russians (in 1991 - only 12%), and "communists" - by 35%. (Russian Public Opinion Research Centre)

June 28, 2011

Volunteering In Russia: Youth`S Potential

Every second Russian participated in voluntary activities at least once over the recent three years (53%). Top five voluntary activities are environmentally-oriented and involve planting of greenery (18%), area cleaning (16%), helping homeless animals (10%). Charity (18%) and assistance to socially unprotected categories of citizens (12%) are popular voluntary activities as well. (Russian Public Opinion Research Centre)

June 24, 2011

Why Do People Get Tired Of Politics?

As twenty years ago, the majority of Russians believe that the people around got tired of politics (75%). They are basically the supporters of the CPRF (82%), LDPR parties (81%) and absentees (81%), as well as 45-59-year-old respondents (79%) and those who do not use the Internet (79%). Those who report tiredness of politics are mainly those respondents who are not satisfied with the development of democracy in Russia (78%). Twelve percent of respondents are not agree with this statement: they are basically non-parliament parties` adherents (25%) and Internet users (15-16%). (Russian Public Opinion Research Centre)

June 24, 2011

Recalling Nations Participating In The WWII: Russians Forgave Germans And Have A Dislike For The Poles

Today the attitudes of Russians towards Germans do not differ a lot from the attitudes of Russians toward other nations participated in the World War II, including the allies of the USSR. Germans hold third position among the likes of Russians (index of attitudes toward this nation* - 36 points), sharing it with the Finns and the English people, and giving way to the French people, Italians (39 points for each) and Japanese (31). The least favored nations among nations-participants of the WWII are the Poles a (15 points) and Americans (18 points). (Russian Public Opinion Research Centre)

June 21, 2011

WEST EUROPE

London 2012: Support 'High' Among Londoners Despite 'Unfair' Ticketing

About 57% of Londoners feel the ticket sales for the 2012 Olympics was "not fair", but this has not dented the support for the event being held in the city, an Ipsos MORI survey for BBC London has found. Of the 1,000 people surveyed, 73% backed London hosting the Games, with 38% saying they felt "more positive" about the event now than in 2010. (Ipsos Mori)

July 26, 2011

Yougov Olympics Results – One Year To Go

With one year to go until the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in London, a new YouGov survey shows British opinion is divided over support for the Games and the benefits hosting will bring. 40% are interested in the London Olympic Games with one year to go while 44% think London should have bid for the Games, and 42% disagree. (Yougov)

27 July 2011

Majority of Britons Distrusted Media Before Hacking Scandal (Multi-country survey)

The "whole disgraceful and sorry episode" of media phone hacking in the United Kingdom is another scandal that has shaken people's confidence "to the core," Prime Minister David Cameron said earlier this week. Gallup surveys, however, show the British public hasn't placed much faith in its media for some time. Since 2005, a majority of Britons have lacked confidence in their media. (Gallup USA)

July 27, 2011

UK Citizens Satisfied With Their Cities, but Not as Optimistic

Most Britons (86%) are satisfied with the city or area where they live. However, less than half (47%) say their city is getting better as a place to live, according to Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data, while 30% say it is getting worse. (Gallup USA)

July 29, 2011

Labour Holds Seven-Point Lead Over Conservatives in Britain

Prime Minister David Cameron maintains the highest approval rating of the three main party leaders.The Labour Party continues to garner the backing of two-in-five decided voters in Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid)

July 25, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Most Americans Embarrassed by Lack of Deal on Debt Ceiling

Most adults in the United States are clearly disappointed with the way the discussions on raising the debt ceiling have evolved, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

Two-in-five respondents would raise the debt limit, even if it leads to higher government spending and a higher national debt. (Angus-Reid)
July 31, 2011

U.S. Political Ideology Stable With Conservatives Leading
Americans' political ideology at the midyear point of 2011 looks similar to 2009 and 2010, with 41% self-identifying as conservative, 36% as moderate, and 21% as liberal. (Gallup USA)
August 1, 2011

Obama Approval Drops to New Low of 40%
President Obama's job approval rating is at a new low, averaging 40% in July 26-28 Gallup Daily tracking. His prior low rating of 41% occurred several times, the last of which was in April. As recently as June 7, Obama had 50% job approval. (Gallup USA)
July 29, 2011

Near Record-Low Confidence in U.S. Public Schools
Americans continue to express near record-low confidence in U.S. public schools -- holding in the range seen throughout the past few years of tumult for the U.S. economy and state budgets. The 34% who say they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in public schools is unchanged from last year and statistically similar to what Gallup has found since 2005. (Gallup USA)
July 29, 2011

Obama Rates Higher Than Boehner, Reid on Debt Situation
Americans are more likely to approve of the way President Obama is handling the negotiations to raise the federal debt ceiling than they are to approve of the handling of the situation by Speaker of the House John Boehner or Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, although opinions about all three are more negative than positive. (Gallup USA)
July 28, 2011

Obama Loses Ground in 2012 Reelection Bid
The sizeable lead Barack Obama held over a generic Republican opponent in polls conducted earlier this year has vanished as his support among independent voters has fallen off. Currently, 41% of registered voters say they would like to see Barack Obama reelected, while 40% say they would prefer to see a Republican candidate win in 2012. In May, Obama held an 11-point lead. (Pew Research Center)
July 28, 2011

GOP Makes Big Gains Among White Voters
As the country enters into the 2012 presidential election cycle, the electorate's partisan affiliations have shifted significantly since Obama won office nearly three years ago. In particular, the Democrats hold a much narrower edge than they did in 2008, particularly when the partisan leanings of independents are taken into account. (Pew Research Center)
July 22, 2011

Public Wants Debt Ceiling Compromise, Expects a Deal Before Deadline
The public overwhelmingly favors a compromise in the debt ceiling standoff. And even as negotiations aimed at resolving the issue show little progress, a majority thinks that Barack Obama and congressional Republicans will reach a deal before the Aug. 2 deadline on a possible government default. (Pew Research Center)
July 26, 2011

For a Second Straight Week, It's the Debt Crisis and Tabloid Scandal

Two stories that have become fixtures in the headlines -- the deadlocked debt debate and the intensifying News of the World phone hacking scandal -- accounted for more than half of last week's newshole, relegating other significant events to secondary status in the media. (Pew Research Center)

July 27, 2011

Wealth Gaps Rise to Record Highs Between Whites, Blacks and Hispanics

The median wealth of white households is 20 times that of black households and 18 times that of Hispanic households, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of newly available government data from 2009. (Pew Research Center)

July 26, 2011

Wine Matches Beer in U.S. Drinkers' Preferences This Year

For only the second time in two decades, wine ties beer as the top choice when U.S. drinkers are asked whether they most often drink liquor, wine, or beer. Gallup now finds nearly as many U.S. drinkers naming wine (35%) as beer (36%), while liquor still registers a distant third at 23%. (Gallup USA)

July 27, 2011

Most Caregivers Look After Elderly Parent; Invest a Lot of Time

The large majority of employed American caregivers -- people who work at least 15 hours per week and help care for an aging family member, relative, or friend -- are looking after an elderly parent. Specifically, 72% say they provide care to a parent and separately 67% say the person is 75 years of age or older. (Gallup USA)

July 28, 2011

Caregiving Costs U.S. Economy $25.2 Billion in Lost Productivity

Working American caregivers -- those who work at least 15 hours per week and help care for an aging family member, relative, or friend -- report that their caregiving obligations significantly affect their work life. (Gallup USA)

July 27, 2011

More Than One in Six American Workers Also Act as Caregivers

More than one in six Americans who work a full- or part-time job also report assisting with care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend. (Gallup USA)

July 26, 2011

Common State Abortion Restrictions Spark Mixed Reviews

Large majorities of Americans favor the broad intent of several types of abortion restriction laws that are now common in many states, but have mixed or negative reactions to others. (Gallup USA)

July 25, 2011

80% Believe U.S. Reporters Sometimes Use Illegal Methods

In the wake of a British media scandal involving illegal phone hacking, high percentages of U.S. likely voters believe reporters in the United States sometimes use illegal methods to learn personal information and that some media conglomerates have too much influence on how we receive news. (Ibope-Zogby)

July 28, 2011

Six in 10 Disagree With Ending Space Shuttle & Fear Others Will Surpass U.S. in Exploration

Majorities of U.S. voters disagree with the decision to end space shuttle missions and fear other nations might surpass the U.S. in space exploration. Also, future space exploration through both NASA and private companies is seen as preferable to either going it alone. (Ibope-Zogby)

July 27, 2011

Cain and Perry Top GOP Positive Intensity List

Herman Cain and Rick Perry have the highest Positive Intensity Scores among Republicans who know them. Rudy Giuliani, Michele Bachmann, Sarah Palin, and Mitt Romney trail slightly behind. There are no signs of improvement in the weaker Positive Intensity Scores of Tim Pawlenty, Rick Santorum, Ron Paul, Newt Gingrich, or Jon Huntsman. (Gallup USA)

July 27, 2011

Amid Debt Battle, More Americans Say Economy Getting Worse

Seventy-three percent of Americans in Gallup Daily tracking over the July 22-24 weekend say the U.S. economy is getting worse. This is up 11 percentage points from the three days ending July 6, and the worst level for this measure since the three days ending March 12, 2009. (Gallup USA)

July 26, 2011

Bad Economic News Dampens Canadian Consumer Confidence: Survey

Canadian consumers' are no longer showing the optimism of the last three months, as negative reports on employment, continuing high gas prices, the markets, and the yet to be resolved debt crisis have all taken their toll on how Canadians feel about the economy. After three successive months of gains, the TNS Consumer Confidence Index dropped in July from 100.3 to 99.7. (TNS Canada)

July 28, 2011

AUSTRALASIA

New Zealand National-LED Government Gains And Has Winning Lead

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is at 57.5% (up 2.5%). Support for Key's National Party is 52% (up 3%), ACT NZ 2% (down 1%), the Maori Party 3% (up 0.5%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged). (Roy Morgan)

July 28, 2011

Australians Believe Economic & Financial Issues Are The Most Important Problems Facing Australia And The World

Australians believe the most important problems facing Australia and the World are Economic and Financial issues according to the latest Roy Morgan Research conducted in mid July 2011. (Roy Morgan)

July 26, 2011

CYBERWORLD

71% of Online Adults Now Use Video-Sharing Sites

More online Americans are using video-sharing sites-- and they are doing so more frequently. As of May 2011, 71% of online adults reported watching videos on a video-sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo. A demographic portrait of these site users is in the table below. (Pew Research Center)

July 26, 2011

Bloggers Assess Motives of the Norway Attacker

The dramatic July 22 attacks in Norway that resulted in the deaths of at least 68 people inspired a vibrant conversation in the blogosphere last week. While sympathy for the

victims was significant, more time was devoted to conversations about the killer, Anders Behring Breivik, according to an analysis of social media conducted by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.
July 28, 2011

Indonesia The Most Reliant On Mobile Internet Access Across Southeast Asia (Multi-country)
Almost half of all Indonesian Internet users access the net via their mobile phones and this number is set to increase, as a more significant amount intend to use this device to get online in the next 12 months, according to a report released today by global insights and measurement company, Nielsen. (Nielsen)
July 11, 2011

TNS Survey Puts Hong Kong At Forefront Of Expected Global Tablet Sales Explosion
Half of Hong Kong consumers say they are likely to purchase a tablet in this year, according to a recent survey conducted by TNS, a leading consultative market research company. The study found that 17% of Hong Kong consumers claim to own a tablet – nearly six times the global average – and that another 50% of the territory's consumers are likely to purchase a tablet. (TNS Global)
July 29, 2011

MIDDLE EAST

182-43-1. Arab Attitude Towards Iran, 2011

• Deep concern with Iran's regional role
• Iran viewed very unfavorably in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Morocco, Jordan, and Egypt
• Scant support for Iran's nuclear program
• GCC's assertive role in Yemen and Bahrain supported in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Morocco

This is an Arab American Institute poll with analysis by James Zogby. It was conducted during the first three weeks of June by Zogby International. Over 4,000 Arabs were surveyed, with a margin of error of +/- 3.5% in Morocco, Egypt, KSA; and +/- 4.5% in Lebanon, Jordan, UAE.

Findings:

• Most Arabs look askance at Iran's role across their region, with substantial majorities seeing Iran playing a negative role especially in Iraq, Bahrain and the Arab Gulf.
• Iran's favorable ratings have dropped significantly in recent years. It is seen as not contributing to "peace and stability in the Arab World" and there is scant support for Iran's nuclear program.
• Significant majorities desire that the Middle East become a "nuclear free zone". When asked if they "had to choose one nation other than Israel to be a nuclear power in the Middle East" – for most Arabs, Egypt is the preferred choice, followed by Turkey.
• There is regional support for the GCC's new and more assertive role in Bahrain, Yemen, and in their concern with Iran's nuclear program.
• Lebanon's attitudes toward Iran differ from the rest of the region, revealing a troubling sectarian divide.
• Overall, Turkey receives the highest favorable ratings in most Arab countries, with the U.S.

Receiving the lowest rating in every country but Saudi Arabia, where Iran is lowest.

Note: In previous polls, when Arabs were asked questions about Iran or its nuclear program, and the U.S. and its threats of sanctions or military action were a part of the question, Arabs would indicate strong support for Iran and its defiance on nuclear issues. The more negative attitudes toward Iran reflected here may be accounted for by the fact that in this survey Arabs are being asked to state their attitudes toward Iran without reference to the U.S. and/or that Iran's regional behavior has succeeded in alienating Arab opinion.

Methodology:

	Morocco		Egypt		Lebanon		Jordan		KSA		UAE	
	freq	%	freq	%	freq	%	freq	%	freq	%	freq	%
Total	819	**100**	817	**100**	515	**100**	514	**100**	815	**100**	525	**100**
Under 36	451	**55**	472	**58**	257	**50**	321	**63**	494	**61**	322	**61**
36+	368	**45**	345	**42**	258	**50**	193	**38**	321	**39**	203	**39**
Live in city	697	**85**	794	**97**	513	**100**	417	**81**	768	**94**	237	**45**
Live outside city	122	**15**	23	**3**	2	**<1**	97	**19**	47	**6**	288	**55**
Less than university	685	**84**	670	**82**	398	**77**	434	**84**	660	**81**	250	**48**
University+	134	**16**	147	**18**	117	**23**	80	**16**	155	**19**	275	**52**
Married	349	**43**	446	**55**	268	**52**	222	**43**	395	**49**	360	**69**
Single, never married	416	**51**	342	**42**	247	**48**	282	**55**	407	**51**	159	**30**
Divorce/widowed/separated	52	**6**	29	**4**	--	--	10	**2**	13	**2**	6	**1**
Own	389	**48**	317	**39**	162	**32**	386	**75**	387	**48**	221	**42**
Rent	423	**52**	500	**61**	353	**69**	128	**25**	421	**52**	304	**58**
Employed	486	**59**	486	**60**	117	**34**	225	**44**	379	**47**	419	**80**
Not employed	333	**41**	331	**41**	338	**66**	289	**56**	436	**54**	106	**20**
Muslim	--	--	776	**95**	--	--	504	**98**	--	--	--	--
Muslim Shi'a	--	--	--	--	191	**37**	--	--	--	--	--	--
Muslim Sunni	--	--	--	--	134	**26**	--	--	--	--	--	--
Christian	--	--	41	**5**	191	**37**	10	**2**	--	--	--	--
Male	390	**48**	409	**50**	257	**50**	261	**51**	408	**50**	376	**72**
Female	429	**52**	408	**50**	258	**50**	253	**49**	407	**50**	149	**28**

*Total may not equal 100% due to rounding

I. Attitudes toward Iran:

1. For each of the following questions, please indicate if you think Iran plays a positive or a negative role or has no impact.

A.	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Jordan	KSA	UAE**
Iraq	**14**/72/14	**13**/61/21	**38**/35/13	**20**/56/8	**14**/81/4	--/89/3
Lebanon	**21**/48/28	**17**/51/27	**70**/15/5	**50**/40/4	**3**/71/22	**31**/47/10
Bahrain	**17**/44/37	**13**/47/34	**17**/26/29	**3**/46/30	--/100/--	**1**/82/10
Arab Gulf region	**15**/53/29	**17**/50/29	**28**/32/23	**2**/33/38	**1**/84/10	**<1**/83/10

*Positive/Negative/No Impact

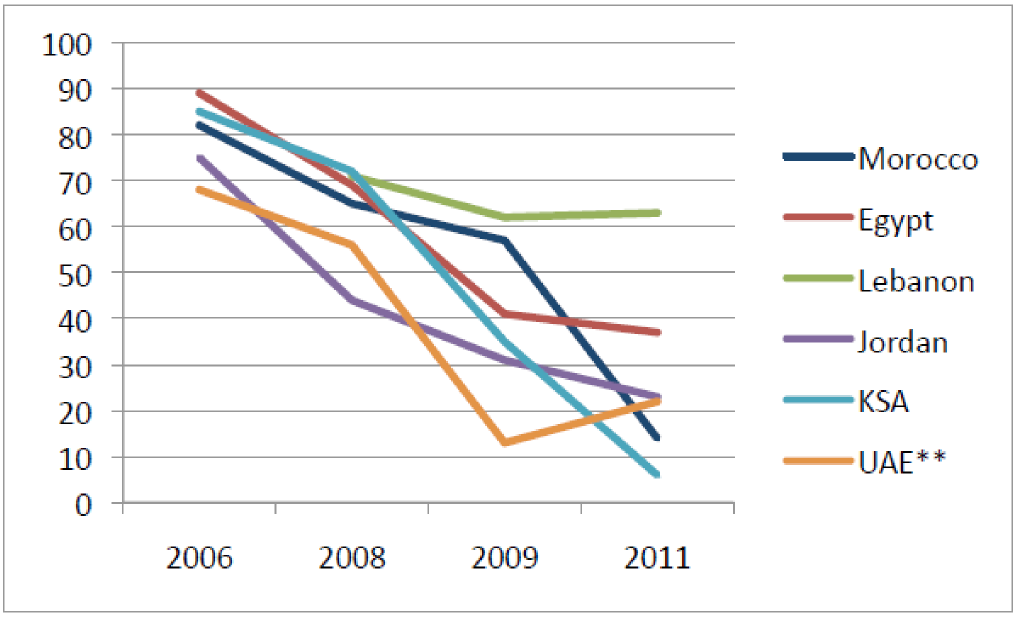
Lebanon only

	Shi'a	Sunni	Christian
Iraq	55/26/11	25/43/17	31/38/14
Lebanon	89/5/1	53/23/10	64/19/5
Bahrain	32/10/31	6/40/25	10/32/29
Arab Gulf region	40/28/19	17/35/27	23/33/24

*Positive/Negative/No Impact

A. Most Arabs look askance at Iran's role in their region with majorities in five of six countries concerned with Iran's role in Iraq and pluralities troubled by Iran's role in Bahrain and the Gulf region in general. Views are most negative in Saudi Arabia and UAE, followed by Morocco and Egypt. In Jordan and Lebanon perceptions of Iran's role are mixed with Jordanians and Lebanese seeing Iran play a positive role in Lebanon but are less supportive of Iran's role in the broader region.

A1.	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Jordan	KSA	UAE**
2006	82/16	89/9	--	75/15	85/14	68/31
2008	65/26	69/14	71/28	44/55	72/25	56/41
2009	57/33	41/44	62/31	31/68	35/58	13/87
2011	14/85	37/63	63/37	23/77	6/80	22/70



A1. There has been a dramatic decrease in Iran's favorable ratings since 2006.

2. Please tell us if your opinion of each of the following is very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable?

B.	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Jordan	KSA	UAE**
Turkey	80/20	64/35	93/7	45/55	98/2	62/27
China	59/40	56/43	63/29	55/44	26/66	62/28
Iran	14/85	37/63	63/37	23/77	6/80	22/70
France	62/38	44/56	41/45	21/79	95/4	60/26
United States	12/88	5/95	23/77	10/88	30/68	12/77
United Nations	15/84	7/93	39/61	9/91	52/43	27/67

*Favorable/Unfavorable

Lebanon only

	Shi'a	Sunni	Christian
Turkey	93/7	96/4	90/10
China	32/61	36/56	38/51
Iran	84/16	55/45	48/52
France	42/53	37/58	44/54
United States	26/74	22/78	22/78
United Nations	44/56	39/61	33/67

*Favorable/Unfavorable

B. In every county but Lebanon, Iran has a net unfavorable rating - with highest negatives in Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and UAE. Iran's favorable rating in Lebanon is driven by strong support from that country's Shia community, with mixed Sunni and Christian attitudes towards Iran.

Overall, Turkey has the highest favorable rating among Arabs, with the U.S. receiving the lowest rating in every country but Saudi Arabia.

3. Please tell us if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements.

C.	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Jordan	KSA	UAE**
Iran contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	16/83	32/68	57/42	22/72	4/95	12/80
Turkey contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	82/14	65/35	85/15	58/35	76/21	61/28
United States contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	11/87	10/89	16/84	5/95	24/71	8/87
Saudi Arabia contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	69/27	82/17	61/39	57/42	99/1	66/25

*Agree/Disagree

Lebanon only

	Shi'a	Sunni	Christian
Iran contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	79/20	42/58	46/54
Turkey contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	90/10	87/13	79/21
United States contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	17/83	14/86	15/85
Saudi Arabia contributes to peace and stability in the Arab world	44/55	74/27	70/30

*Agree/Disagree

C. In every county but Lebanon, significant majorities say that Iran does not “contribute to peace and stability in the Arab World”. Once again, Lebanon’s views are mixed, with Sunni and Christian attitudes being more negative towards Iran and only the Shi’a community being positive.

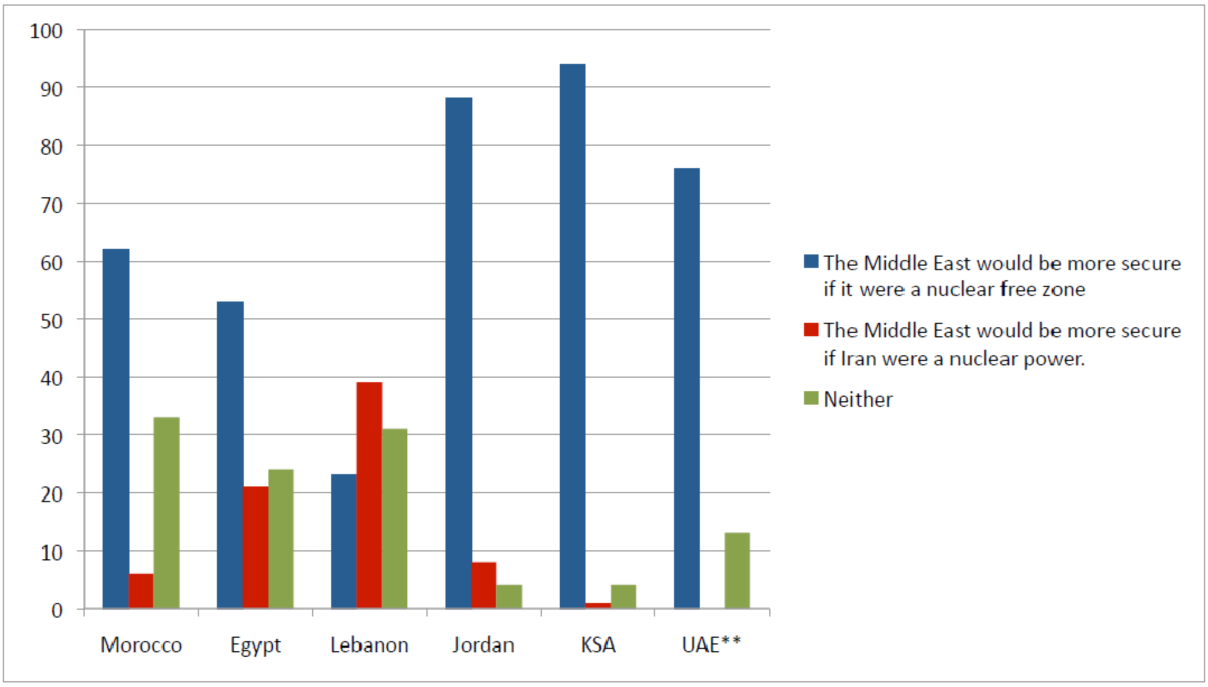
Overall, Turkey and Saudi Arabia are viewed as making the most positive contribution to “peace and stability”.

4. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view – Statement A or Statement B?

Statement A: “The Middle East would be more secure if it were a nuclear free zone.”

Statement B: “The Middle East would be more secure if Iran were a nuclear power.”

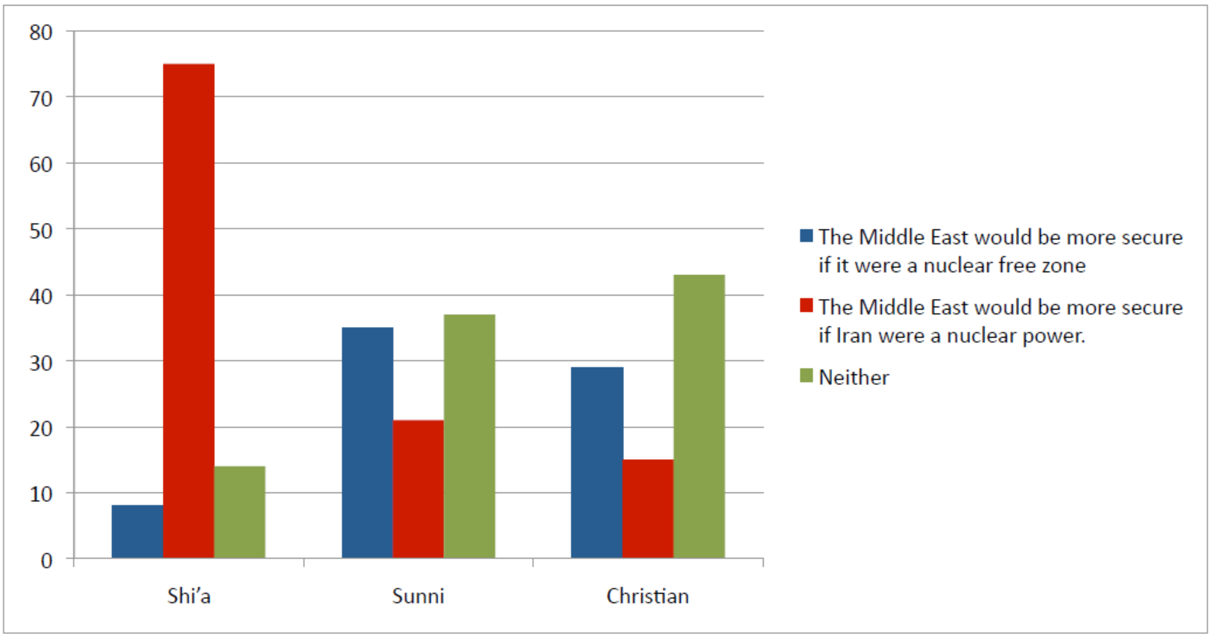
D.	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Jordan	KSA	UAE**
A: The Middle East would be more secure if it were a nuclear free zone	62	53	23	88	94	76
B: The Middle East would be more secure if Iran were a nuclear power.	6	21	39	8	1	--
Neither	33	24	31	4	4	13



Lebanon only

	Shi’a	Sunni	Christian
A: The Middle East would be more secure if it were a nuclear free zone	8	35	29
B: The Middle East would be more secure if Iran were a nuclear power.	75	21	15
Neither	14	37	43

*Improve/Worsen/No Impact



D. Majorities in five of six countries agree that "the Middle East would be more secure if it were a nuclear free zone". In Jordan, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Morocco there is scant support for Iran becoming a nuclear power.

Source: http://aai.3cdn.net/fd7ac73539e31a321a_r9m6iy9y0.pdf

182-43-2. 'Positive Uncertainty' In Egypt As Citizens Come To Terms With Their New Democracy

27.07.2011 United Kingdom

The study of over 1,000 Egyptian citizens has unearthed..

United Kingdom, 27 July 2011 – TNS, the world's largest custom research company, today released the results of the first opinion poll conducted in post-revolution Egypt. The study of over 1,000 Egyptian citizens has unearthed a 'positive uncertainty' about the country's future, where 76% of people feel optimistic about the country's future, yet almost half (41%) are still unhappy about the current situation in the country.

While 90% of those surveyed see the revolution as a positive development for Egypt, this optimism is tempered with increasing concern about continued political and social instability. TNS found that lack of trust in Egypt's governing institutions is causing the greatest concern. 68% of people are dissatisfied with the performance of the police – with 23% believing the police do not effectively exist – while 42% do not trust the media.

Over two-fifths (43%) of people say they are happy in post-revolution Egyptian society, however just 11% believe this society is now a proper democracy. Of the 28% who won't vote in September's parliamentary election, 34% say this is because they cannot trust the results.

Leendert de Voogd, Head of TNS Political & Social, explains: "While people are generally optimistic about Egypt's future, there remains a deep mistrust in the institutions still governing the country. This must be overcome if Egypt is to truly rebuild its reputation as a new democratic powerhouse."

He continues: “It is good to see that people are generally satisfied with Prime minister Essam Sharaf and with the Supreme Council of Military. But for the country to become a true democracy people need to feel empowered to vote in elections and so play a part in Egypt’s future. Our research suggests this is far from the case.”

TNS’ study also highlights common concerns that the new Egypt shares with Europe and the US. While the outside world has focused on Egypt’s security situation, it is the economy that is most worrying those on the ground – with unemployment and inflation singled out as a top worry by 43% and 48% of people respectively.

“There is clearly a trust gap between Egypt’s citizens and the police, which emerged during the revolution when police withdrew from the streets,” explains Mohamed Ahmed, Head of TNS Egypt. “However, our study found it is personal concerns about the economy rather than security or stability which are top of mind for most people – and this is something the government must address to ensure Egypt continues to move in the right direction.”

Egyptians today believe the country’s future rests on improving relationships between religious groups in the country, and with the US, Africa and the Middle East beyond. 85% named the Middle East as a critical region for Egypt to have a good relationship with, 85% other African countries and 73% the US.

De Voogd explains: “Post-revolution Egypt wants to open its doors to new markets and build a positive reputation on the world stage. The people of Egypt know that the key to this is to achieve sustained political stability and an economy which is attractive to outside investors. There is a clear desire for new partnerships to sweep away the age-old divides which held the country back. The question now is how quickly those in power can realise this ambition.”

Ahmed adds: “The simple fact that Egyptian citizens are now happier to talk openly about politics than they were pre-revolution shows how far the country has come. They are already more engaged in the politics governing their country and in Egypt’s place on the world stage – and we expect this trend to continue.”

TNS’ Political & Social team conducted this study, the first public opinion survey in Egypt, post-revolution. This survey of Egyptian citizens’ opinions and perceptions was commissioned by a private media company and undertaken through 1,000 random face-to-face Paper Aided Personal Interviews in the home, which took place during April and May 2011.

About TNS

TNS is the global leader in custom market research delivering actionable insights and research-based business advice to clients around the globe so they can make more effective business decisions. TNS offers comprehensive industry knowledge within the Consumer, Technology, Finance, Automotive and Political & Social sectors, supported by a unique product offering that stretches across the entire range of marketing and business issues, specializing in product development & innovation, brand & communication, stakeholder management, retail & shopper, and qualitative research. Delivering best-in-class service across more than 80 countries, TNS is dedicated to discovering growth opportunities for its clients in an ever-changing world. Through its pioneering and innovative culture, TNS understands the latest marketing challenges and research techniques, being the first to discover and solve new marketing issues for clients.

Source:http://www.tnsglobal.com/news/news-B52D2DB258D14B5CA2D44D7A73EE49AD.aspx

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WEST ASIA

182-43-3. Pakistanis Still Rate Military Tops Among National Institutions

Residents have less confidence in civilian government and institutions

July 29, 2011

ABU DHABI -- Gallup surveys in Pakistan show the image of the country's military took a slight bruising after reports emerged that it had no prior knowledge of the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden. In aMay 9-12 Gallup poll, 78% of Pakistanis expressed confidence in their military, down from 86% in a survey conducted mostly in the weeks leading up to the raid.

Pakistanis Most Confident in Military

% of Pakistanis confident in institutions

	April 25-May 14, 2011	May 9-12, 2011
Military	86%	78%
Financial institutions	58%	*
Judicial system and courts	56%	*
Local police	32%	*
National government	28%	31%
Honesty of elections	19%	*

*Question not asked in May 9-12 flash poll.

GALLUP

The full trends on these findings, released Friday in an Abu Dhabi Gallup Center brief on Pakistan, show that although Pakistan emerged from nearly a decade of military control in 2008, its armed forces still receive more support from Pakistanis than other key institutions. It's important to note that in many countries -- including the U.S. -- the military usually elicits high confidence. In Pakistan's case, this high confidence likely reflects the military's strong, ongoing presence in civil society and reinforces how relatively weak the civilian government and institutions still are.

Financial institutions (58%) and the judicial system (56%) also earned the trust of the majority of Pakistanis in the earlier 2011 survey. Gallup did not ask about these institutions and others in May 9-12 poll, instead only querying Pakistanis about their confidence in the military and national government.

Pakistanis' confidence in the national government, on the other hand, remained low but unscathed in the early fallout after bin Laden's death. In the May 9-12 survey, 31% of Pakistanis expressed confidence in the national government, essentially no different from the 28% measured earlier. Other civilian institutions such as the local police (32%) and the honesty of Pakistan's elections (19%) also elicited low trust.

Implications

Pakistanis' relatively weak confidence in their civilian government and institutions demonstrates the civilian leadership's inability so far to step out from the military's shadow. This is at least partly because the military has taken the lead in recent crises -- including rescuing citizens from devastating floods last year -- while the public saw the government's efforts as inadequate.

Poor confidence in local and national leadership likely do not make dealing with Pakistan's many challenges -- poverty, illiteracy, the spread of domestic terrorism, and a level of gender inequality that has limited women's contributions -- any easier.

Read more about Pakistan's challenges in an in-depth report from the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center.

The briefing looks at the long-term trends on these issues and delves into how Pakistanis' attitudes differ among men and women, the educated and uneducated, and urban and rural residents.

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 for the two surveys are based on face-to-face interviews conducted between April 25 and May 14, 2011, and May 9-12, 2011, with approximately 1,000 adults in each survey, aged 15 and older, covering urban and rural areas across all four provinces in Pakistan. Federally administered areas and Azad Jammu Kashmir were excluded from the May 9-12 study. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148709/Pakistanis-Rate-Military-Tops-Among-National-Institutions.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia%20-%20Muslim%20World

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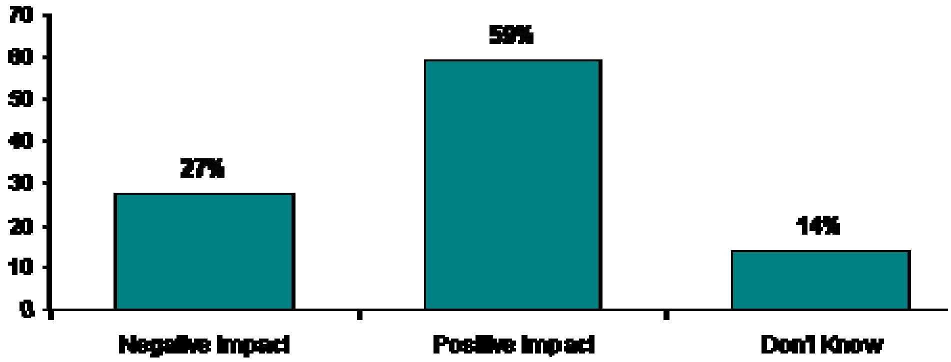
182-43-4. Majority (59%) Believe The Media Is Doing A Good Job While 27% Disagree:
Islamabad, August 1, 2011

The results of a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan indicated that more than half (59%) believe the media is doing its job well.

In a survey, a nationally representative sample of men and women from across the four provinces were asked the following question: “Some people say the media is negatively impacting people, while some say it is doing its job well. What is your view point?” Majority (59%) believe the media does its job well, while 27% believe it adversely impacts people’s perceptions. 14% said they did not know.

The results indicate that a relatively higher proportion of respondents over the age of fifty (30%) said the media was impacting people negatively, as compared to 25% under the age of thirty who said the same.

“Some people say the media is negatively impacting people, while some say it is doing its job well. What is your view point?”



Source: Gallup and Gilani Surveys

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2702 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during 3 July – 9 July 2011. Error margin is estimated to be approximately + 2-3 per cent at 95% confidence level.

Source: http://www.gallup.com.pk/Polls/010811.pdf

SOUTH EAST ASIA

182-43-5. Net Satisfaction With National Administration Performance Is "Good" +45 In Philippines

28 July 2011

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, fielded from June 3-6, 2011, found 62% of adults satisfied, 19% neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, and 17% dissatisfied with the general performance of the National Administration, for a *good* net satisfaction rating of +45 (% *satisfied* minus % *dissatisfied*), just one point below the *good* +46 in March 2011.

Although below the record-high *very good* +64 of September and November 2010, the new National Administration net rating is above those of all previous administrations, from the start of the ratings in February 1989, which reached +36 at most (November 1998) [*Chart 1, Table 1*].

Ratings were good on 5 issues, moderate on 8 issues, neutral on 3 issues, and poor on one issue

Out of seventeen specific performance issues tested, the net ratings of the National Administration were *good*on five issues, *moderate* on eight issues, *neutral* on three issues, and *poor* on one issue.

The National Administration received good net satisfaction ratings on: 1. *Being prepared for strong typhoons*(+46; first time to be rated), 2. *Helping the poor* (+44), 3. *Foreign relations* (+43), 4. *Promoting the welfare of overseas Filipino workers* (+41; new record-high), and 5. *Fighting terrorism* (+30) [*Table 2*].

The National Administration had *moderate* net ratings on: 6. *Implementing housing program for the poor*(+27), 7. *Reconciliation with Muslim rebels* (+25), 8. *Reconciliation with Communist rebels* (+23), 9. *Fighting crimes* (+23), 10. *Prosecuting tax evaders* (+22; new record-high), 11. *Deciding quickly on important problems*(+22), 12. *Suppressing private armies in Mindanao* (+17), and 13. *Eradicating graft and corruption* (+16).

The National Administration had *neutral* net ratings on: 14. *Fighting inflation* (+ 4), 15. *Ensuring that no family will be hungry* (+ 4), and 16. *Ensuring that oil firms don't take advantage of oil prices* (net 0; first time to be rated).

On the other hand, the National Administration got a *poor* net -16 on: 17. *Resolving the Maguindanao massacre case with justice*.

Record-high satisfaction with government on helping OFWs and prosecuting tax evaders

The June 2011 survey found the National Administration scoring record-high net satisfaction ratings on *Promoting welfare of overseas Filipino workers* (OFWs) and *Prosecuting tax evaders*.

The National Administration obtained a record-high *good* net satisfaction rating of +41 for *Promoting welfare of OFWs*, surpassing the previous record, *moderate* +33, in March 2000. This is its first reading under the PNoy administration [*Chart 2*].

The National Administration also obtained a record-high *moderate* +22 for *Prosecuting tax evaders*, versus the previous record of *neutral* +6 in November 1998, March 1999, and July 2000. Its last previous reading was a *poor* -11 in March 2005 [*Chart 3*].

Compared to the previous quarter, the net satisfaction rating of the National Administration stayed *good* for *Fighting terrorism* (up 1 point), *Foreign relations* (down 1 point), and *Helping the poor* (down 3 points) [*Charts 4 to 6*].

It stayed *moderate* for *Fighting crimes* (up 3 points), *Eradicating graft and corruption* (up 2 points), *Deciding quickly on important problems* (down 1 point), and *Suppressing private armies in Mindanao* (down 7 points) [*Charts 7 to 10*].

It declined from *good* to *moderate* for *Implementing housing program for the poor* (down 3 points), *Reconciliation with Muslim rebels* (down 7 points), and *Reconciliation with Communist rebels* (down 8 points) [*Charts 11 to 13*].

It stayed *neutral* for *Fighting inflation* (up 4 points) and *Ensuring that no family will be hungry* (down 1 point) [*Charts 14 to 15*].

It stayed *poor* for *Resolving the Maguindanao massacre case with justice*, though up 3 points [*Chart 10*].

National Administration ratings improved in Mindanao, class ABC

Compared to the previous quarter, the net satisfaction with the general performance of the National Administration rose from *good* to *very good* in Mindanao, stayed *good* in Balance Luzon, and declined from *very good* to *good* in Visayas and Metro Manila.

In Mindanao, it rose from +47 to +57. In Balance Luzon, it fell from +42 to +37 [*Chart 16, Table 3*].

It also fell in the Visayas, from +51 to +47, and in Metro Manila, from +50 to +48.

By class, it rose from *moderate* to *good* in class ABC, from +19 in March to +45 in June [*Chart 17, Table 4*].

It stayed *good* in class D or the *masa*, moving from +46 to +48.

However, it fell from *very good* to *good* in class E, from +50 in March to +36 in June.

Survey Background

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

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

The Social Weather Survey items on public satisfaction with the general performance of the National Administration, and its performance on specific issues, are non-commissioned. These items were included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to ***BusinessWorld***.

The satisfaction rating with the general performance of the National Administration is based on a single question, and is not an average of answers to separate questions on specific issues. The general rating is repeated in every quarterly survey, whereas only a core of the specific issue-ratings are repeated. Many issue-ratings are either included or excluded depending on their contemporary salience.

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

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

#

Chart 1

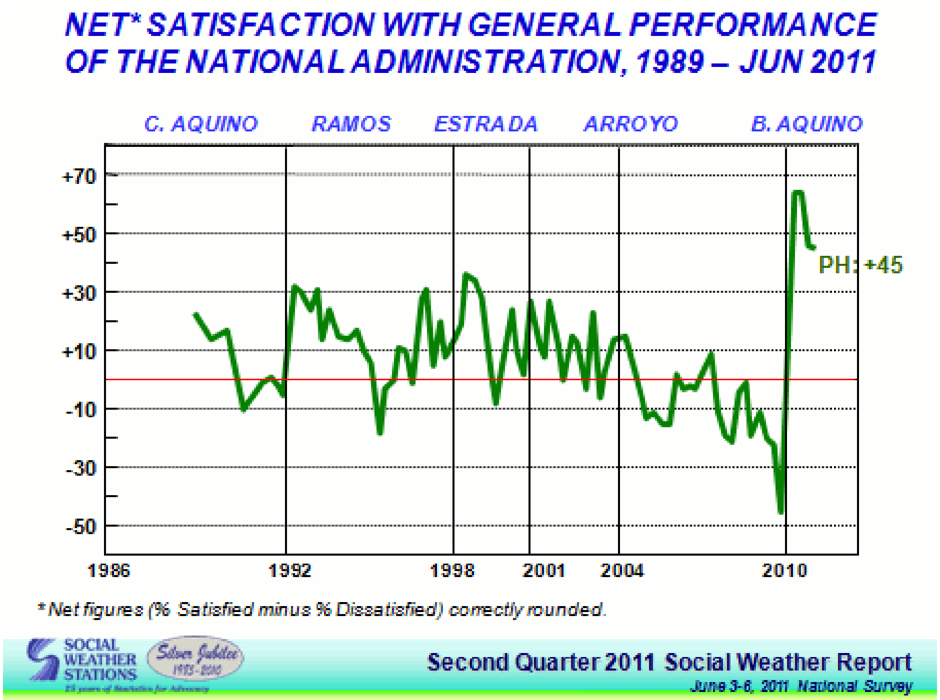


Table 2

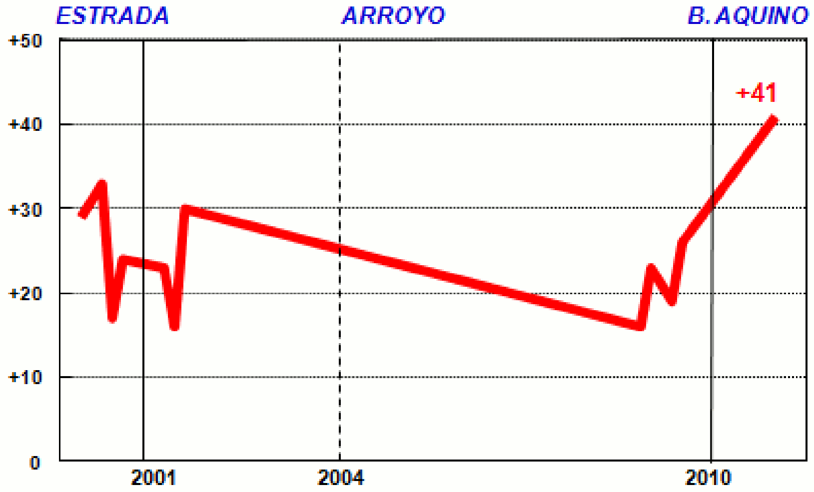
NET* SATISFACTION WITH THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, JUN 2010 – JUN 2011

	Sep10	Nov10	Mar11	Jun11	
Overall performance rating	+64	+64	+46	+45	
Being prepared for strong typhoons				+46	
Helping the poor	+52	+47	+47	+44	
Foreign relations	+52	+55	+44	+43	Good
Promoting welfare of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs)	+26 *(Dec09)*			+41	
Fighting terrorism	+30	+32	+29	+30	
Implementing housing program for the poor		+33	+30	+27	
Reconciliation with Muslim rebels	+21	+29	+32	+25	
Reconciliation with Communist rebels	+24	+27	+31	+23	
Fighting crimes	+21	+24	+20	+23	Moderate
Prosecuting tax evaders	-11 *(May05)*			+22	
Deciding quickly on important problems			+23	+22	
Suppressing private armies in Mindanao	+ 4	+17	+24	+17	
Eradicating graft and corruption	+22	+22	+14	+16	
Fighting inflation	+19	+ 7	0	+ 4	
Ensuring that no family will be hungry	+19	+11	+ 5	+ 4	Neutral
Ensuring that oil firms don't take advantage of oil prices				0	
Resolving the Maguindanao massacre case with justice	-12	-5	-19	-16	Poor

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

Chart 2

NET* SATISFACTION WITH THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION ON PROMOTING WELFARE OF OFW'S, 2000-2011



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

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1985-2010
Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart 3

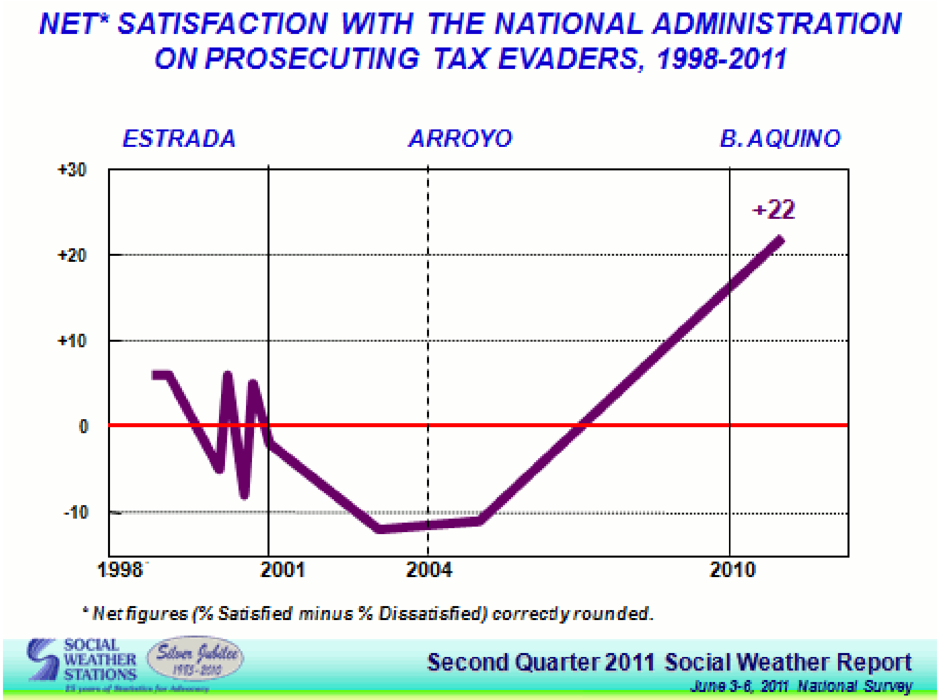


Chart 4

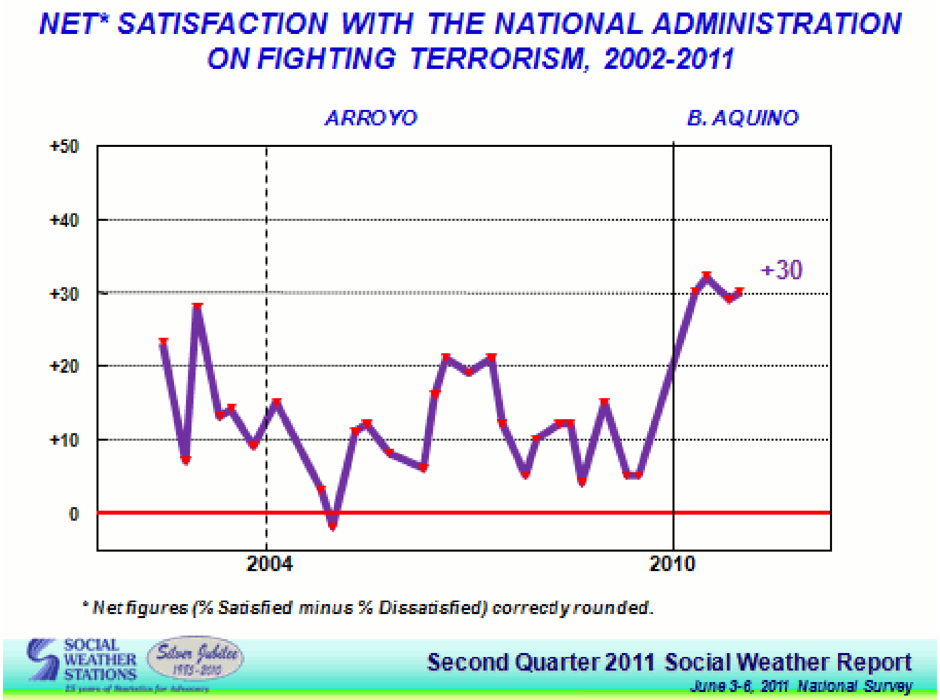


Chart 5

Chart 6

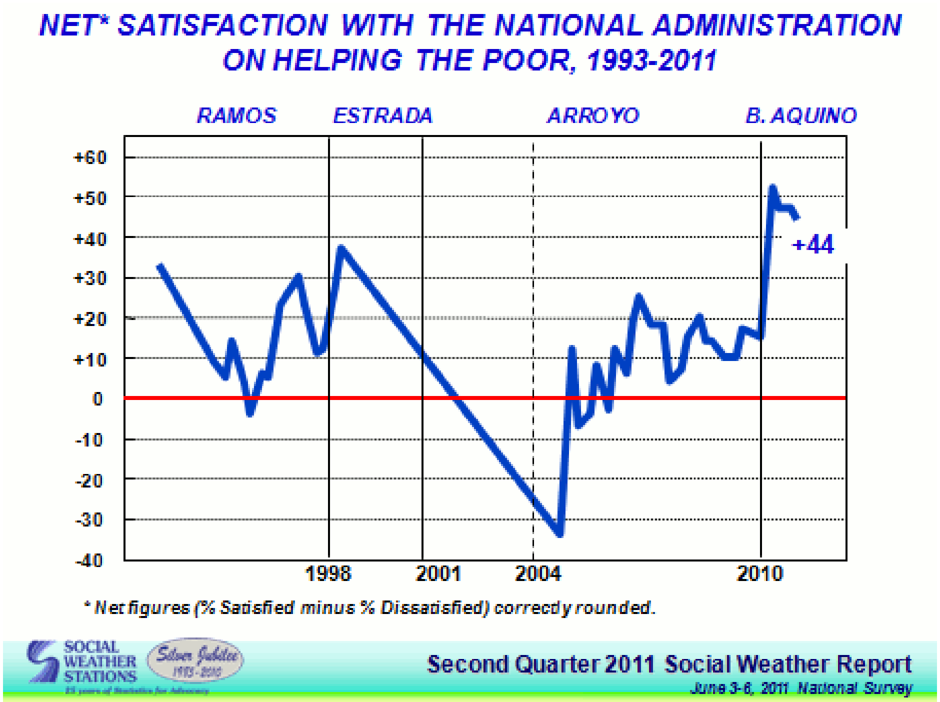


Chart 7

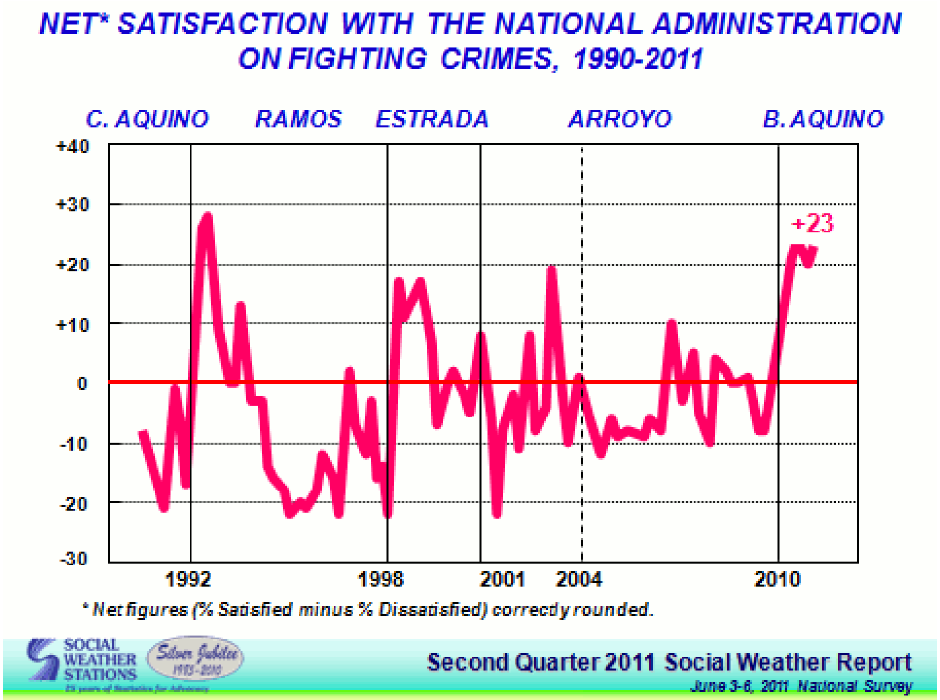


Chart 8

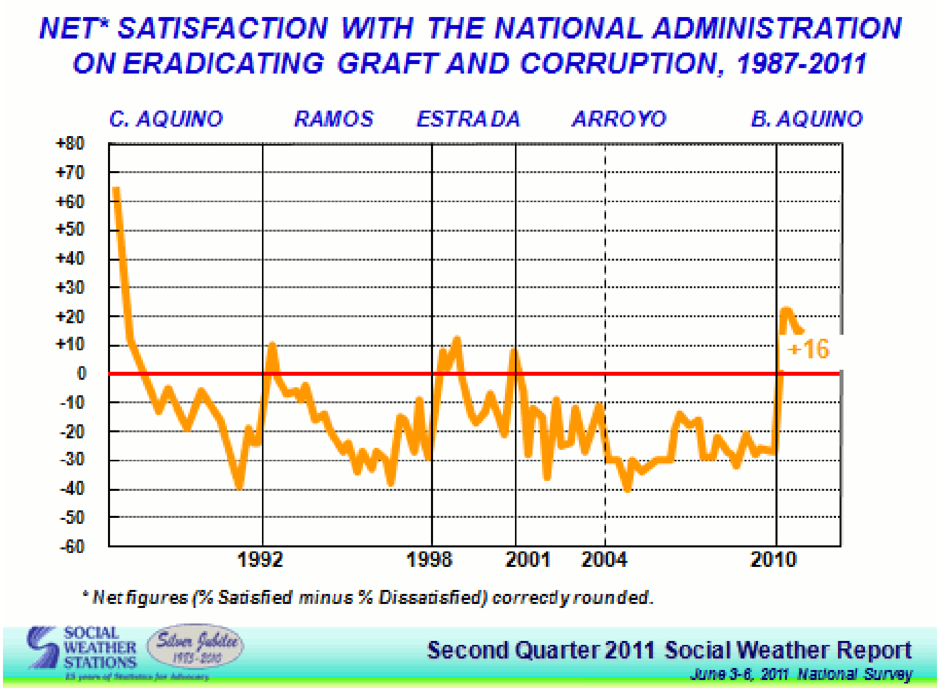


Chart 9

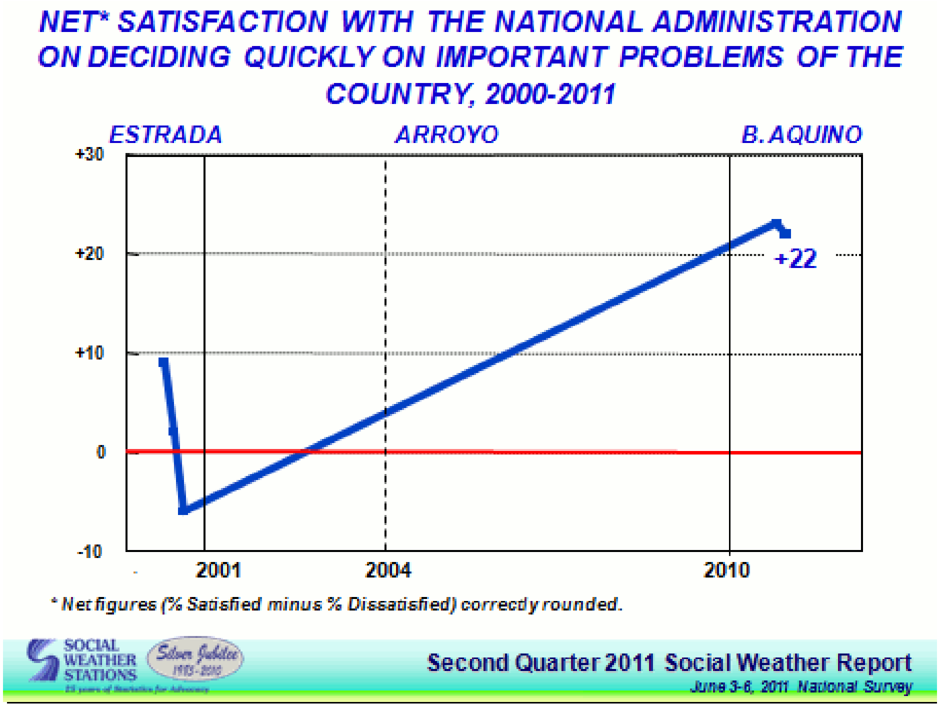


Chart 10

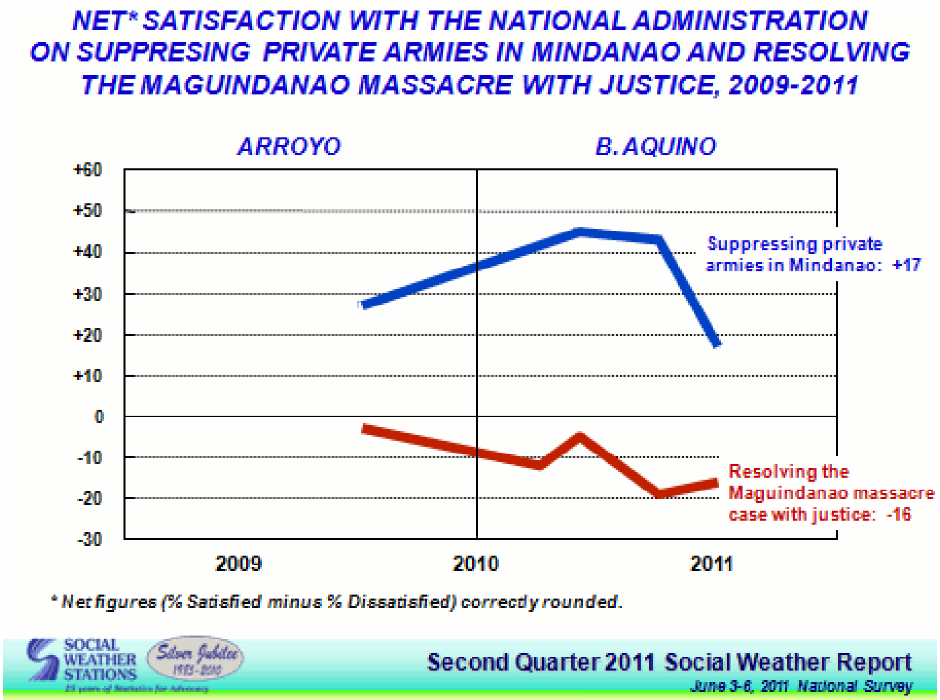


Chart 11

Chart 12

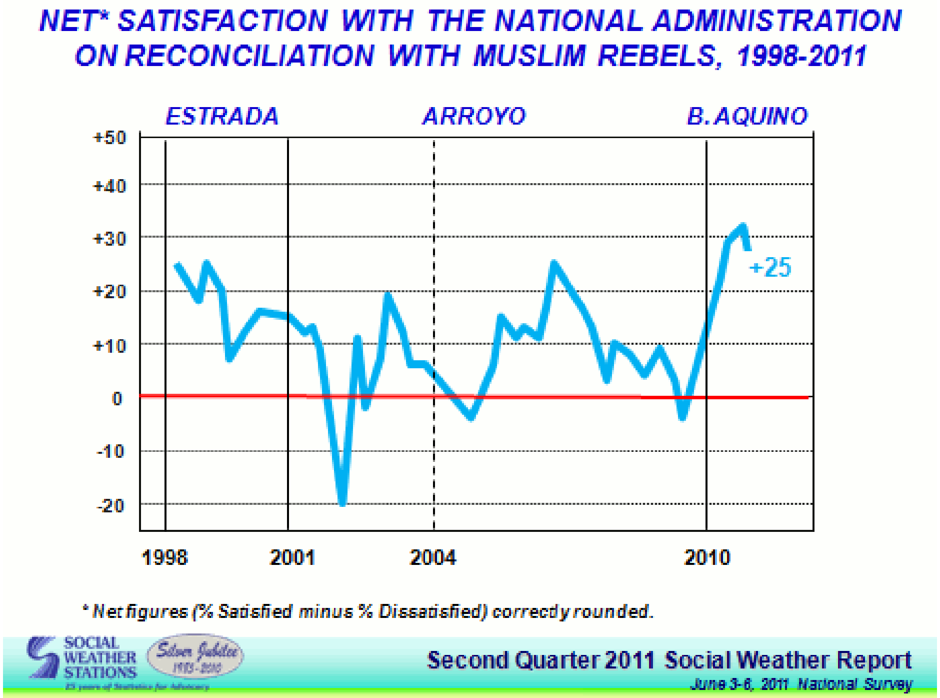


Chart 13

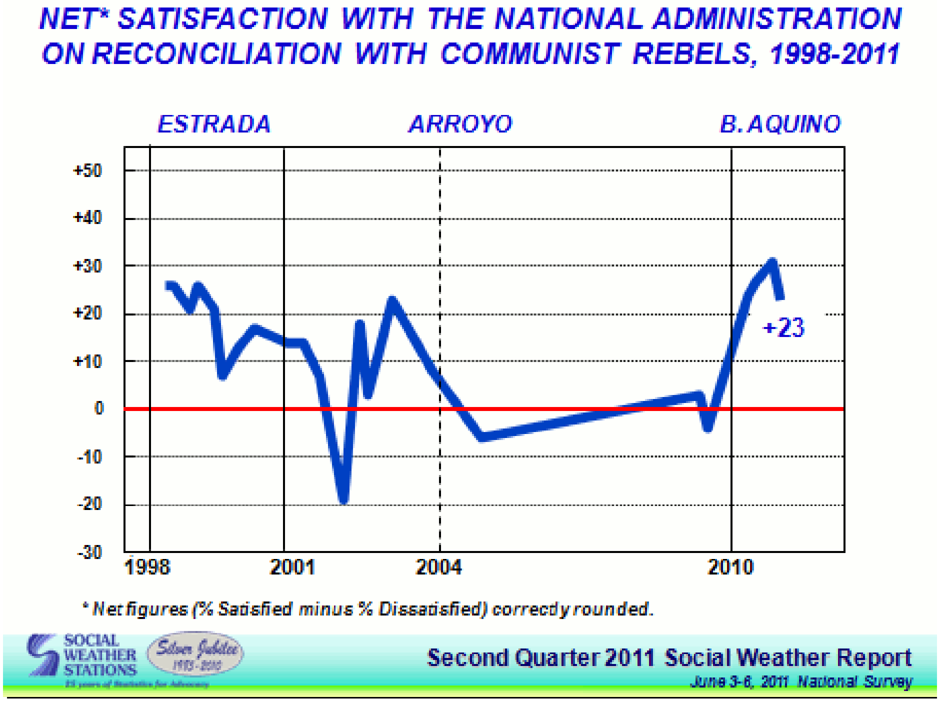


Chart 14

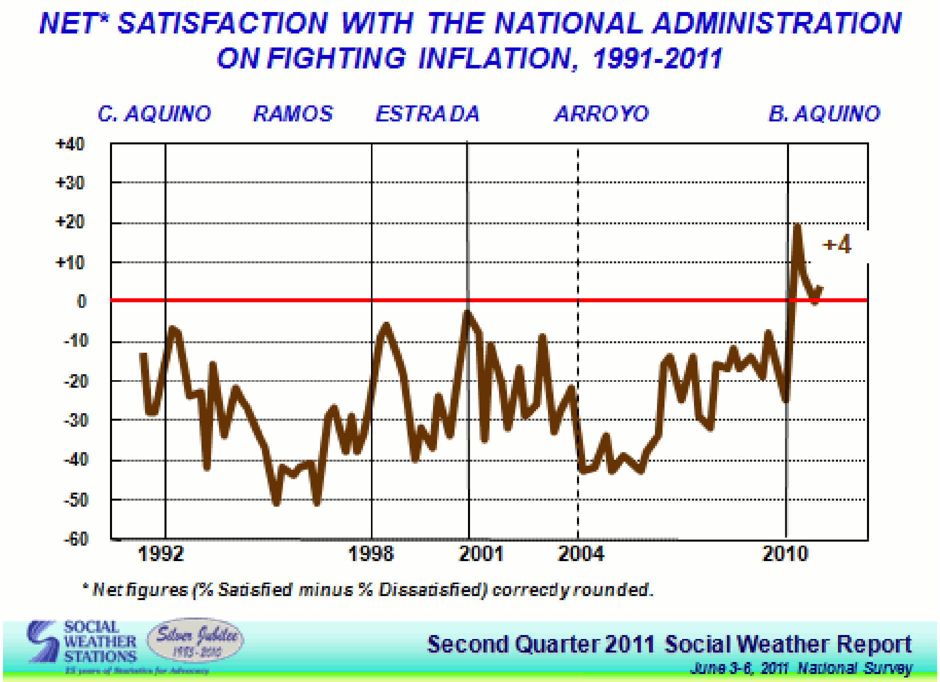


Chart 15

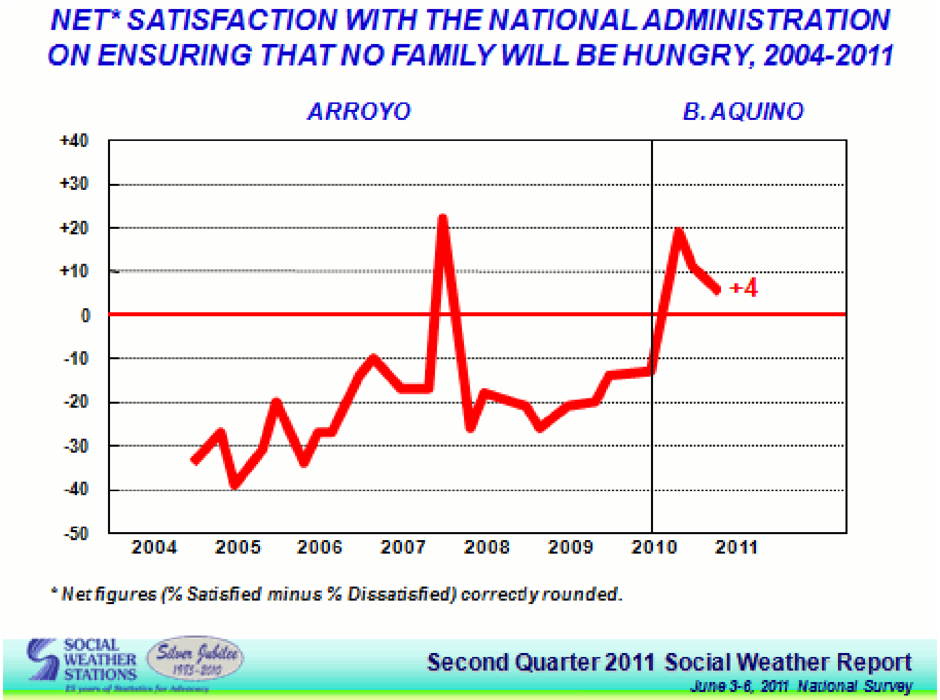


Chart 16

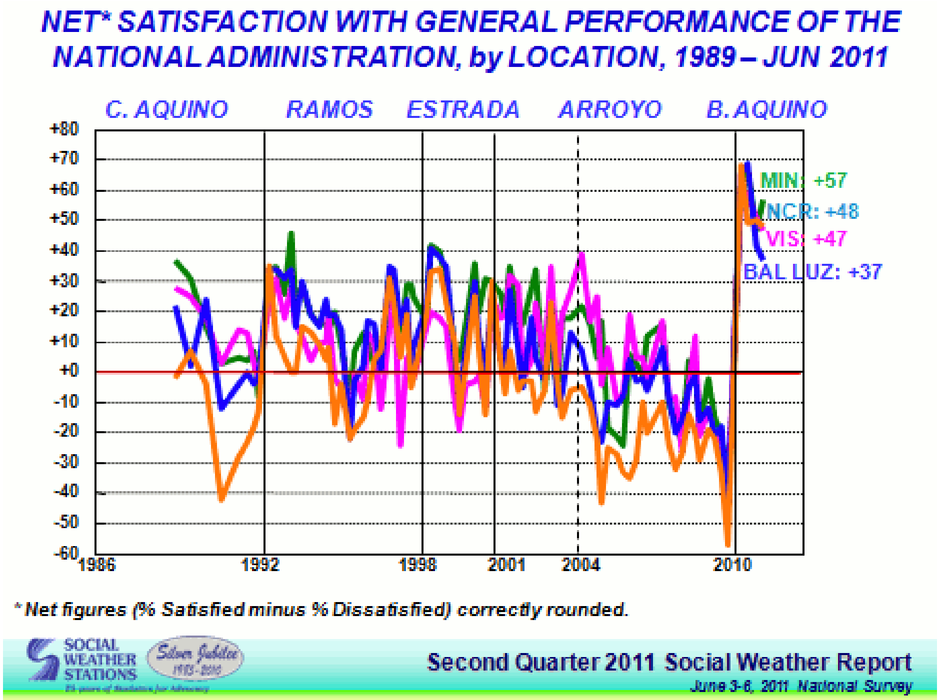
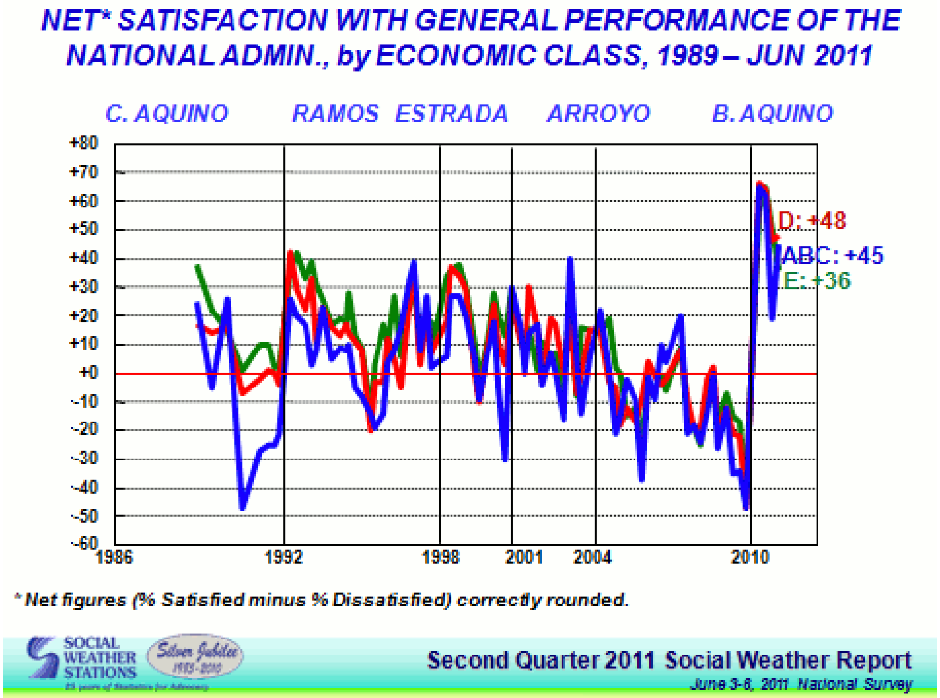


Chart 17



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

EAST EUROPE

182-43-6. Ideal Politician: Democrat? Reformer? Populist?

Russians support political democrats and reformers, get irritated by nationalists and populists who are much less favored than liberals and conservators, let alone the communists.

MOSCOW, June 28, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing towards which politicians Russians have positive or negative attitudes. For the full study please visit: http://vybory.wciom.ru/.

Over the recent twenty years Russians have known better the political terms. Whereas earlier three-quarter of Russians could not qualify "liberals" (71%), "radicals" (72%) or "populists" (78%), now most of Russians know who they are (64-66%). "Democrats" and "reformers" are rather positively perceived (55 and 53% respectively). "Nationalists" are perceived most negatively (71%). Every second respondent feel negative attitudes toward "conservators", "radicals" (51% for each) and "populists" (55%). Those who are perceived rather negatively are also "communists" (44%) and "liberals" (41%). But even "liberals" are more favored by 25% of Russians (in 1991 - only 12%), and "communists" - by 35%.

The notion "reformer" bears positive meaning for the supporters of the Fair Russia and United Russia parties (61 and 59% respectively), and non-parliament parties (71%). These respondents also have positive attitudes towards democratic politicians (62%, 64% and 68% respectively), unlike supporters of the CPRF (43%). "Conservators" and "radicals" are not welcomed by the adherents of the Fair Russia party (61% and 67%) and non-parliament parties (79% and 64%). "Liberals" are negatively perceived by those who vote for the CPRF (55%), Fair Russia (45%) and United Russia parties (40%); however, they are respected by the supporters of the LDPR and non-parliament parties (44 and 39% respectively). CPRF party` adherents favor "communists" (83%). "Populists" are negatively perceived by the supporters of the Fair Russia party (68%), and "nationalists" are negatively perceived by the supporters of the non-parliament parties (86%).

Young Russians often positively assess "radicals" (20%), "populists" (15%) and "nationalists" (14%). At the same time, respondents younger than 35 also positively perceive "democrats" (60-63%).

The financial well-being of Russians has a great impact on Russians` attitudes towards communists: 44% of respondents with low level of income and only 25% of those having high financial income perceive them positively.

For other VCIOM`s electoral and political research please visit: http://vybory.wciom.ru/

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on June 11-12, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

If a politician is called a word given below, is it a positive or negative attitude, in your opinion? *(close-ended question, one answer per each line)*

		1991	2011
Reformer	*Rather positive*	**35**	**53**
	Rather negative	**8**	**22**
	Hard to tell	**57**	**25**
Conservator	*Rather positive*	**5**	**19**
	Rather negative	**39**	**51**
	Hard to tell	**56**	**30**
Communist	*Rather positive*	-	**35**
	Rather negative	-	**44**
	Hard to tell	-	**22**
Democrat	*Rather positive*	-	**55**
	Rather negative	-	**23**
	Hard to tell	-	**22**
Radical	*Rather positive*	**17**	**15**
	Rather negative	**11**	**51**
	Hard to tell	**72**	**35**
Liberal	*Rather positive*	**12**	**25**
	Rather negative	**17**	**41**
	Hard to tell	**71**	**34**
Populist	*Rather positive*	**5**	**9**
	Rather negative	**18**	**55**
	Hard to tell	**78**	**36**

Nationalist	*Rather positive*	**3**	**9**
	Rather negative	**57**	**71**
	Hard to tell	**40**	**20**

If a politician is called a word given below, is it a positive or negative attitude in your opinion?
(close-ended question, one answer per each line)

		Total respondents	If the State Duma Elections were held next Sunday, which of t following parties would you vote for?						
			CPRF	**LDPR**	**Fair Russia**	**United Russia**	**Non-parliament parties**	**I would not participate**	**Har to tell**
Reformer	*Rather positive*	**53**	45	40	61	59	71	47	47
	Rather negative	**22**	31	31	25	19	18	24	24
	Hard to tell	**25**	24	29	14	23	11	29	29
Conservator	*Rather positive*	**19**	22	13	20	20	11	22	22
	Rather negative	**51**	46	56	61	51	79	50	50
	Hard to tell	**30**	31	31	20	29	11	28	28
Communist	*Rather positive*	**35**	83	26	33	28	46	29	29
	Rather negative	**44**	7	47	53	50	50	47	47
	Hard to tell	**22**	10	26	14	23	4	24	24
Democrat	*Rather positive*	**55**	39	48	62	64	68	47	47
	Rather negative	**23**	43	26	25	16	29	27	27
	Hard to tell	**22**	17	26	13	21	4	26	26
Radical	*Rather positive*	**15**	10	17	13	16	18	17	17
	Rather negative	**51**	60	48	67	48	64	50	50

	Hard to tell	**35**	31	35	20	37	18	33	33
Liberal	*Rather positive*	**25**	14	44	32	25	39	24	24
	Rather negative	**41**	55	24	45	40	32	43	43
	Hard to tell	**34**	31	32	24	35	29	33	33
Populist	*Rather positive*	**9**	3	9	4	11	7	12	12
	Rather negative	**55**	62	53	68	52	64	56	56
	Hard to tell	**36**	34	38	28	37	29	32	32
Nationalist	*Rather positive*	**9**	4	15	16	9	7	10	10
	Rather negative	**71**	79	67	75	69	86	72	72
	Hard to tell	**20**	16	19	9	21	7	18	18

If a politician is called a word given below, is it a positive or negative attitude in your opinion?

(close-ended question, one answer per each line)

		Total respondents	**Aged 18-24**	**Aged 25-34**	**Aged 35-44**	**Aged 45-59**	**Aged 60and above**
Reformer	*Rather positive*	**53**	55	57	60	51	46
	Rather negative	**22**	18	21	17	24	28
	Hard to tell	**25**	27	23	22	26	26
Conservator	*Rather positive*	**19**	21	20	20	18	17
	Rather negative	**51**	51	53	55	50	49
	Hard to tell	**30**	28	28	25	31	34
Commu	*Rather*	**35**	22	28	32	39	48

nist	*positive*						
	Rather negative	**44**	56	50	48	38	33
	Hard to tell	**22**	21	23	20	24	18
Democrat	*Rather positive*	**55**	60	63	58	52	46
	Rather negative	**23**	21	16	20	24	32
	Hard to tell	**22**	19	21	21	24	22
Radical	*Rather positive*	**15**	20	17	17	12	10
	Rather negative	**51**	49	52	52	51	48
	Hard to tell	**35**	31	31	31	36	42
Liberal	*Rather positive*	**25**	32	28	31	24	15
	Rather negative	**41**	38	39	41	41	43
	Hard to tell	**34**	30	33	29	34	42
Populist	*Rather positive*	**9**	15	9	12	7	6
	Rather negative	**55**	53	53	56	55	56
	Hard to tell	**36**	32	37	32	38	38
Nationalist	*Rather positive*	**9**	14	12	11	7	6
	Rather negative	**71**	68	71	72	73	70
	Hard to tell	**20**	18	18	17	20	24

If a politician is called a word given below, is it a positive or negative attitude in your opinion?

(close-ended question, one answer per each line)

		Total respondents	Financial self-assessment		
			Very good, good	Average	Bad, very bad
Reformer	*Rather positive*	**53**	54	55	47
	Rather negative	**22**	24	20	26
	Hard to tell	**25**	22	24	27
Conservator	*Rather positive*	**19**	17	19	20
	Rather negative	**51**	58	52	48
	Hard to tell	**30**	25	29	31
Communist	*Rather positive*	**35**	25	33	44
	Rather negative	**44**	55	45	35
	Hard to tell	**22**	20	22	21
Democrat	*Rather positive*	**55**	63	57	49
	Rather negative	**23**	20	21	30
	Hard to tell	**22**	17	22	21
Radical	*Rather positive*	**15**	16	15	14
	Rather negative	**51**	57	50	50
	Hard to tell	**35**	27	35	36
Liberal	*Rather positive*	**25**	37	24	23
	Rather negative	**41**	33	41	42
	Hard to tell	**34**	30	34	35
Populist	*Rather positive*	**9**	9	10	7
	Rather negative	**55**	58	54	56

	Hard to tell	**36**	33	36	38
Nationalist	*Rather positive*	**9**	10	10	9
	Rather negative	**71**	72	70	73
	Hard to tell	**20**	18	20	19

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111839.html

182-43-7. Volunteering In Russia: Youth`S Potential

75% of the young Russians are ready to participate in socially useful activity for free or for a nominal fee. 48% of Russians have voluntary experience.

MOSCOW, June 24, 2011. Anticipating Youth Day, Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data about what types of voluntary activities young Russians would participate in, as well as whether they are ready to participate or not.

Every second Russian participated in voluntary activities at least once over the recent three years (53%). Top five voluntary activities are environmentally-oriented and involve planting of greenery (18%), area cleaning (16%), helping homeless animals (10%). Charity (18%) and assistance to socially unprotected categories of citizens (12%) are popular voluntary activities as well.

The leading motive for that is the desire to be useful and to help those in need (58%). Rarer people do that to solve a specific problem (14%), or to share the way how to solve a problem, to repay good for good (12% for each). Some respondents report they do that for their own pleasure (17%), interesting time-spending (12%), to get useful skills (5%), to get new acquaintances (4%).

The most favorite voluntary activities are planting of greenery, landscaping - 27% of respondents, followed by charity (donate clothes, funds) on the second place - 24%. This is followed by help to the victims of disasters and catastrophes, assistance to socially unprotected categories of citizens (21% for each). Russians also favor ecological actions (19%) and helping homeless animals, zoo and nature reserves (18%). The shares of those who are ready to participate in educational lectures aimed at preventing drug abuse, AIDS et cet. (9%), organization of socially important events (8%), legal consultations and psychological help, public order activities (6% for each) have considerably decreased.

The young Russians, along with the retired persons, are those who are least involved in volunteering (more than one-half of such respondents have never done that). Unlike representatives of other age groups, young Russians often opt for participating in ecological actions (22 versus 11-17%) and socially-oriented activities (8 versus 1-6%). On the contrary, young respodnents rarer participate in a targeted assistance to those in need (8 versus 12-14%), victims of catastrophes (4 versus 6-7%), charity (14 versus 19-21%), greenery and landscaping (15 versus 17-21%). Volunteering led by noble motives is popular among the young respondents: desire to be helpful (48% versus 58-63% in other groups), to repay good for good (7% versus 16% among elderly respondents). Other people often become volunteers to get useful skills (8 versus 1% among respodnents), new contacts (5 versus 1% respectively).

In this group the potential of participation in most of the activities mentioned above is higher than among elder people. Twenty-three percent of those aged 18-24 and 15% of elderly persons would make assistance to the victims of catastrophes and disasters; 22 % and 14% (respectively) would help socially unprotected categories of citizens; 22% and 14% (respectively) would take part in ecological actions. The young respondents also would help homeless animals, zoos, nature reserves M (25% versus 14-19% in other groups), support the organization of socially-oriented events (17% versus 3-10% respectively), and participate in preventive talks (14% versus 4-11% respectively). Eighteen percent of the young respondents and 32% of the elderly respondents (twice more) would participate in none mentioned above.

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on June 18-19, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

Have you personally done anything voluntarily or for free or have not done anything mentioned below over the recent three years? *(close-ended question, any number of answers)*

	Total respodnents	**Aged 18-24**	**Aged 25-34**	**Aged 35-44**	**Aged 45-59**	**Aged 60and above**
Planting of greenery (flowers, trees, lawns); landscaping, improvement works	**18**	15	17	18	21	18
Charity (donate clothes, funds, et cet.)	**18**	14	21	19	19	14
Ecological actions, area cleaning	**16**	22	14	15	17	11
Assistance to socially unprotected categories of citizens (retired persons,disabled persons, street children,refugees)	**12**	8	12	14	14	12
Assistance to homeless animals, zoos,nature reserves	**10**	10	7	12	11	10
Assistance to victims of disasters or catastrophes, conflicts	**6**	4	6	7	7	6
Participation in educational talks aimed at preventing drug abuse, AIDS, crime, promoting healthy lifestyles	**6**	8	8	6	7	3
Legal consulting, psychological help	**5**	5	6	7	5	2
Organization of socially-oriented events (charity concerts, exhibitions for youth, competitions et cet.)	**4**	8	5	3	6	1

Participation in protection of public order as a part of voluntary or fire brigade	**3**	3	3	2	4	2
Done nothing mentioned above	**48**	50	47	42	46	53
Other	**2**	1	2	2	1	2
Hard to tell	**2**	2	3	3	2	1

Why did you do that?
(close-ended question, any number of answers, % of those who volunteered)

	Total respondents	**Aged 18-24**	**Aged 25-34**	**Aged 35-44**	**Aged45-59**	**Aged 60and more**
I wanted to be useful, help those in need	**58**	48	58	63	59	59
For my own pleasure, I like this	**17**	15	14	19	18	17
I wanted to combat a particular problem	**14**	15	14	17	16	10
I had enough free time, I wanted todo something	**12**	14	13	13	9	15
I wanted to repay good for good;someone helped me/will help me	**12**	7	9	10	14	16
I faced this problem too; thus I wanted to help others	**12**	12	13	9	14	10
I wanted to get useful skills, experience	**5**	8	4	6	8	1
I wanted to meet new people, friends, someone with the same views	**4**	5	4	4	4	1
Other	**7**	11	7	3	9	4
Hard to tell	**4**	5	4	3	4	6

Which activity of the mentioned below would you do voluntarily/for free/for a nominal fee?
(close-ended question, any number of answers)

	Total respodnents	**Aged 18-24**	**Aged 25-34**	**Aged 35-44**	**Aged45-59**	**Aged 60and more**
Planting of greenery (flowers, trees, lawns;	**27**	23	26	29	32	22

landscaping, improvement works						
Charity (donate clothes, funds, et cet.)	**24**	22	26	28	26	17
Assistance to victims of disasters or catastrophes, conflicts	**21**	23	26	22	22	15
Assistance to socially unprotected categories of citizens (retired persons, disabled persons, street children, refugees)	**21**	22	22	24	21	14
Ecological actions, area clea ning	**19**	22	18	19	21	14
Assistance to homeless animals, zoos, nature reserves	**18**	25	19	19	15	14
Participation in educational talks aimed at preventing drug abuse, AIDS, crime, promoting healthy lifestyles	**9**	14	11	11	7	4
Organization of socially-oriented events (charity concerts, exhibitions for youth, competitions et cet.)	**8**	17	10	5	8	3
Legal consulting, psychologi cal help	**6**	6	7	8	5	3
Participation in protection of public order as a part of voluntary or fire brigade	**6**	9	8	6	6	3
Done nothing mentioned above	**22**	18	19	19	21	32
Other	**1**	0	2	1	1	2
Hard to tell	**7**	7	5	5	7	8

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111713.html

182-43-8. Why Do People Get Tired Of Politics?

Most of Russians are confident that people got tired of politics. Respondents point to the lack of real actions and deceiving people.

MOSCOW, June 24, 2011. Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the data describing whether people are tired of politics as well as the reasons why.

As twenty years ago, the majority of Russians believe that the people around got tired of politics (75%). They are basically the supporters of the CPRF (82%), LDPR parties (81%) and absentees (81%), as well as 45-59-year-old respondents (79%) and those who do not use the Internet (79%). Those who report tiredness of politics are mainly those respondents who are not satisfied with the development of democracy in Russia (78%). Twelve percent of respondents are not agree with this statement: they are basically non-parliament parties` adherents (25%) and Internet users (15-16%).

Those who got tired of political promises mention the lack of real actions among reasons (62%), followed by deceiving the ordinary citizens (41%). The share of those who are far removed from the political life has increased over the recent twenty years (from 8 to 16%). On the contrary, fewer respondents report they cannot figure out who is right (from 20 to 14%). Other 14% of respondents complain about the impotence of the federal power. The shares of those who do not want to know anything about the politics (6%) and those who are tired of the helplessness of democrats (5%) are in the minority. Only 8% of Russians recognize that they are not tired of politics.

For other electoral and political research please visit: http://vybory.wciom.ru/

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on June 11-12, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

Do you agree that people have got tired of politics recently?
(close-ended question, one answer)

	1991	2011
Agree	74	**75**
Not agree	9	**12**
I cannot say definitely// Hard to tell	17	**13**

Do you agree that people have got tired of politics recently?
(close-ended question, one answer)

	Total respondents	CPRF supporters	LDPR supporters	Fair Russia supporters	United Russia supporters	Non-parliament parties` supporters	I would not take part in elections
Agree	**75**	82	81	79	71	68	81
Not agree	**12**	10	5	9	15	25	9
I cannot say definitely// Hard to tell	**13**	8	14	12	14	7	10

If you feel that you are somewhat tired of politics, then could you tell us why? *(close-ended question, one answer)*		
	1991	**2011**
Many statements, no real actions	**65**	**62**
I am tired of watching how ordinary citizens got deceived	**39**	**41**
I am too far from that; I have my own life and my own problems	**8**	**16**
I cannot figure out who is wrong	**20**	**14**
I cannot stand the helplessness of the federal power anymore	**16**	**14**
I do not want to know anything about the politics	**4**	**6**
I cannot stand the helplessness of the democrats anymore	**5**	**5**
I am not tired of politics	**5**	**8**
Other	**1**	**1**
Hard to tell	**8**	**2**

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111838.html

182-43-9. Recalling Nations Participating In The WWII: Russians Forgave Germans And Have A Dislike For The Poles

The attitudes of Russians toward representatives of a particular nation do not depend on the memory about the World War II: Russians equally favor the Italian people, our enemy, and the French people, our allies.

MOSCOW, June 21, 2011. On the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow, 22 June, Russian Public Opinion Research Centre (VCIOM) presents the data concerning the current attitudes of Russians towards nations participating in the World War II.

Today the attitudes of Russians towards Germans do not differ a lot from the attitudes of Russians toward other nations participated in the World War II, including the allies of the USSR. Germans hold third position among the likes of Russians (index of attitudes toward this nation* - 36 points), sharing it with the Finns and the English people, and giving way to the French people, Italians (39 points for each) and Japanese (31). The least favored nations among nations-participants of the WWII are the Poles a (15 points) and Americans (18 points).

In general, most of Russians are indifferent to all the nations who participated in the WWII (52-60% are indifferent to them).

The young respondents tend to have positive attitudes to the countries that participated in the WWII, rather than elderly respondents. The Englishmen are favored by 40% of respodnents younger than 35 and only 29% of the elderly persons. The same thing can be applied to the

Germans (37-42% versus 30% respectively), French people (43 versus 33% respectively), Japanese (42 versus 32% respectively).

The higher the level of education is, the more positive attitudes respondents have toward nations. Germans are favored by 24% of respodnents with low level of education and 44% of those with high level of education, Americans - 18 and 37% respectively, Englishmen - 19 and 45% respectively, Italians - 22 and 55% respectively, Poles - 16 and 29% respectively, Finns - 23 and 41% respectively, French - 23 and 44% respectively, Japanese - 21 and 45% respectively.

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on June 18-19, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

What is your general attitude towards representatives of the following countries?
(close-ended question, one answer per each line)

	Likes, interest	*Indifferent, no emotions*	*Dislikes, irritation*	*Hard to tell, ambiguous feeling*	*Index (the difference between positive and negative evaluations)*
Italy	**39**	**55**	**3**	**3**	**36**
France	**39**	**56**	**3**	**3**	**36**
Japan	**38**	**52**	**7**	**3**	**31**
England	**35**	**56**	**6**	**3**	**29**
Germany	**36**	**55**	**7**	**3**	**29**
Finland	**34**	**58**	**5**	**3**	**29**
United States	**31**	**54**	**13**	**3**	**18**
Poland	**26**	**60**	**11**	**3**	**15**

***Index of attitudes towards representatives of a particular nation** shows how Russians perceive representative of a particular nation and is calculated as a difference between positive and negative evaluaitons. The higher the value of the index is, the better the attitudes of the respodnents are toward a particular nation. The value of the index can vary from -100 to 100 points.

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

Source: http://wciom.com/news/press-releases/press-release/single/111697.html

WEST EUROPE

182-43-10. London 2012: Support 'High' Among Londoners Despite 'Unfair' Ticketing

Published:26 July 2011

Fieldwork:8 - 13 July 2011

About 57% of Londoners feel the ticket sales for the 2012 Olympics was "not fair", but this has not dented the support for the event being held in the city, an Ipsos MORI survey for BBC London has found.

Of the 1,000 people surveyed, 73% backed London hosting the Games, with 38% saying they felt "more positive" about the event now than in 2010.

Almost seven out of 10 people said the event would benefit east London, the economy and improve sports facilities.

But 52% people felt London's transport system would not be able to cope. The BBC-commissioned survey by Ipsos MORI interviewed 1,000 adults living in London, by telephone, between 8 and 13 July.

The survey, which was conducted after the results of the second ballot for tickets came through, showed people were disappointed with the process.

About 31% bid for tickets in the first round, of which 2% got all their tickets but 67% were left empty-handed.

Of those people who got some or none of the tickets in the first round, 31% tried their luck for a second time, but again more than half of them did not get any tickets.

Following the two ballots, 57% said they felt the process was "not fair".

But across the capital, support for the the Games has risen from 69% in 2006, a year after London won the bid to host the Olympics, remaining constant at 73% in 2010 and 2011.

About 65% of people said they were "very or fairly excited" about the Games, with the level of enthusiasm highest in the 18 to 34 age group.

But the capital was split on the question of whether the event delivered value for money. On the capital's transport, 55% felt in 2010 that the system would not be able to cope with the pressure of handling tens of thousands of visitors during the Games fortnight. That figure stands at 52% this year.

But almost seven out of 10 commuters said they would not change their daily travel plans just for the Games, although TfL are hoping for a 30% drop in commuters.

About one in five Londoners said they planned to leave the city during the Olympics, with 47% of those saying they wanted "to avoid the Olympics".

The survey also found that just under half the people interviewed hardly knew anything about the Cultural Olympiad - a series of cultural events that have been taking place across the country until the Games.

The survey suggested that despite scepticism people in the capital were beginning to see the benefits of Games, and 67% felt London's mayor and the government were doing a "fairly good job" in preparing for the event.

About seven out of 10 people said the regeneration of east London and the benefits to the economy justified the money being spent on the Olympics, while more than 60% felt the Games would boost tourism, improve sport facilities and increase jobs and was "good for Britain generally".

A spokesperson for Ipsos MORI said:

“Increased publicity with the Games just a year away seems to have led to an increase in public support, although there are continuing concerns over transport. London’s transport system has been a key issue for years and general disruption linked to the Games is a real concern. So far however, government is seen as doing better on managing the games than many other issues – and they may well give both Boris Johnson and indeed David Cameron, a summer boost next year.”

Technical note

Between 8th and 13th July, 2011, Ipsos MORI interviewed 1,000 adults aged 18+ living in London, by telephone.

The results of previous surveys, in 2006 and 2010, conducted by the same methodology, are given where there are identical questions.

Data are weighted to match the profile of the London adult population. Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to multiple responses, computer rounding the decimal points up or down or to the exclusion of don't know, refused or not stated responses.

Results are percentages based on all 1,000 respondents unless stated otherwise. An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than one half of one percent, but above zero.

Source:http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2830/London-2012-Support-high-among-Londoners-despite-unfair-ticketing.aspx

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182-43-11. Yougov Olympics Results – One Year To Go

27 July 2011

With one year to go until the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in London, a new YouGov survey shows British opinion is divided over support for the Games and the benefits hosting will bring.

- 40% are interested in the London Olympic Games with one year to go
- 44% think London should have bid for the Games, 42% disagree
- 55% think the Games will be good for London generally
- Athletics is the most popular sport with 68% choosing it as one of their top five sports
- Of our list of sports which could be added to the Olympic Games in future, squash was the most popular, with 29% thinking it should be included

In YouGov's nationally representative survey of 2,783 British adults, 44% said that, with the benefit of hindsight, London should have bid for the 2012 Olympics, just ahead of 42% who felt they should not.

Four out of ten people (40%) said they were either 'very interested' or 'fairly interested' in the London Olympics. In contrast, nearly six in ten (58%) said they were either 'not very interested' or 'not at all interested'.

However organisers can perhaps take comfort from the fact that just days before the Royal Wedding a YouGov survey measuring interest in that event found a very similar result, with 56% of people either 'not very interested' or 'not at all interested'.

When it came to the benefits the Olympics would bring to London, a majority (55%) felt that the Games would be good for London generally, with a similar number (54%) believing the Games would mean 'better sports facilities available for years afterwards'.

However, nearly two thirds (65%) did not feel that the Games would be 'good for people like me' and six out of ten (60%) were disappointed by the way tickets had been sold.

Better than the rest?

Among the 1,100 respondents interested in the Olympics, 42% thought the London Olympics would be better than the 2004 Athens Olympics, 24% thought they would be an improvement on the Beijing Games in 2008 and 22% thought they would surpass those held in Sydney in 2000. Looking forward to 2016, 30% expect the London Games to be better than those set to be held in Rio de Janeiro.

Athletics emerged as the most popular Olympic sport among those interested in the Games, with over two thirds (68%) selecting it as one of their favourites. Swimming was second most popular, selected by just under half (48%) of those interested, with diving third with 27%.

When we asked respondents which Olympic sport they would prefer to compete in if they could, athletics again emerged as the most popular, with one in five (20%) of those interested in the Games selecting it. For women, swimming was the second most popular (14%), while men preferred football (14%).

From a list of sports not currently included in the Olympics, squash was the most popular option for inclusion in future Games, selected by 29% of those interested in the Games. Rugby sevens, set to be added in 2016, and netball were both just behind on 27% and 26% respectively.

Joe Twyman, Director of Political and Social Research at YouGov, said ‘Although some people still need to be convinced about the London Olympics, with a year to go the benefits to London are recognised by a majority of people and, as we saw with the Royal Wedding, interest across the nation is likely to increase as we get closer to the event itself.’

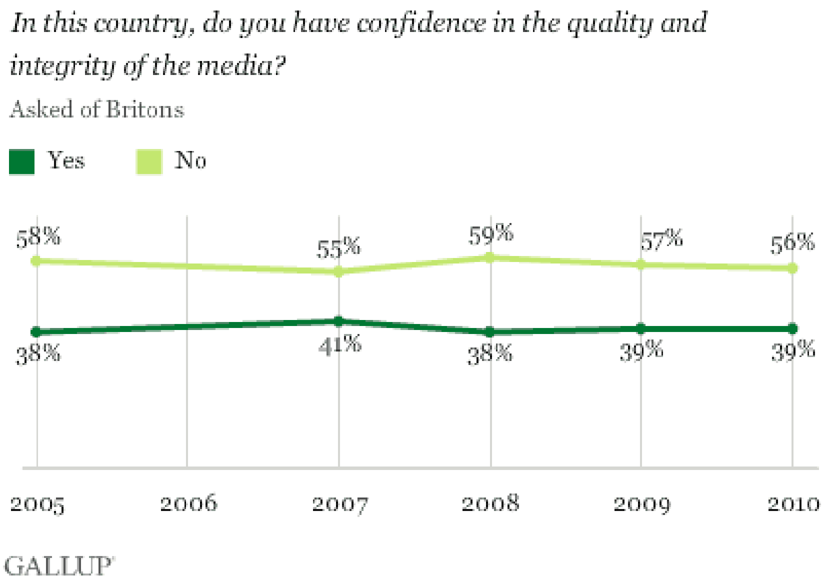
Source: http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-olympics1YearToGo.pdf

182-43-12. Majority of Britons Distrusted Media Before Hacking Scandal

Britons still more confident than Americans

July 27, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The "whole disgraceful and sorry episode" of media phone hacking in the United Kingdom is another scandal that has shaken people's confidence "to the core," Prime Minister David Cameron said earlier this week. Gallup surveys, however, show the British public hasn't placed much faith in its media for some time. Since 2005, a majority of Britons have lacked confidence in their media.



These findings reflect the results from Gallup surveys in the United Kingdom well before the British media found themselves facing an independent inquiry into their ethics, practices, and culture, as well as claims that the *News of the World* hacked phones and made payoffs to the police.

Although majorities of Britons have consistently said they are not confident in the quality and integrity of their media, they are neither the most likely nor the least likely across the EU to feel this way. The French, Germans, Hungarians, and Greeks surveyed in 2010 were far more critical of their media, with nearly two-thirds or more saying they are not confident. Americans, too, were more distrusting; 69% said they lacked confidence.

In this country, do you have confidence in the quality and integrity of the media?

	Yes	No
Ireland	58%	40%
Luxembourg	55%	41%
Slovenia	54%	41%
Spain	52%	42%
Denmark	49%	45%
Lithuania	48%	40%
Netherlands	48%	49%
Malta	48%	39%
Belgium	47%	41%
Cyprus	46%	49%
Portugal	43%	36%
Romania	43%	42%
Finland	42%	54%
United Kingdom	39%	56%
Slovakia	38%	47%
Sweden	37%	55%
Austria	37%	55%
Poland	37%	49%
Italy	35%	48%
Bulgaria	34%	42%
Germany	33%	64%
France	32%	63%
Czech Republic	32%	56%
Greece	16%	77%
Hungary	14%	75%
EU median	42%	48%
United States	30%	69%

May-August 2010

GALLUP

Britons' distrust may not entirely be an indictment of the media's performance, however. Gallup's work with researchers at the University of Georgia in the U.S. found confidence in the quality and integrity of the media is negatively associated with measures of press freedom in countries where people are not afraid to express their political views. This suggests people in free societies may simply feel freer to criticize their media.

Implications

It's too early to tell to what extent the phone hacking scandal will affect Britons' already jaded views of their media. Taken together, these findings suggest that regardless of how Britain's media react to the current scandal, and whether press reforms emerge from the ongoing inquiry, it will likely be difficult to change residents' minds about them.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted between May and August 2010 in the countries referenced in this article. For results based on the total sample of national adults in the United Kingdom, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±3.7 percentage points. For results based on the total sample of national adults in all countries surveyed, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of ± 3.5 percentage points to a high of ±4.0 percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148679/Majority-Britons-Distrusted-Media-Hacking-Scandal.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=USA

182-43-13. UK Citizens Satisfied With Their Cities, but Not as Optimistic

Young Britons less satisfied but more optimistic than older Britons

July 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Most Britons (86%) are satisfied with the city or area where they live. However, less than half (47%) say their city is getting better as a place to live, according to Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data, while 30% say it is getting worse.

City Satisfaction and Optimism in the United Kingdom

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the city or area where you live?

Is the city or area where you live getting better or getting worse as a place to live?

	U.K. adults
Satisfied	86%
Dissatisfied	13%
Getting better	47%
Staying the same*	22%
Getting worse	30%

*Volunteered response

Jan. 2-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

Young Adults Less Satisfied but More Optimistic About Where They Live

Young adults in the U.K. are less satisfied but more optimistic about the city or area where they live than are older adults. More than 8 in 10 adults aged 18 to 29 say they are satisfied with the city or area they live in, slightly less than older adults who say the same. However, 58% of 18- to 29-year-olds say where they live is getting better -- significantly more than older Britons who the say the same, even after controlling for income. Older Britons aren't significantly more likely to say the city or area where they live is getting worse than younger Britons; they are more likely to say things are staying the same.

City Satisfaction and Optimism in the United Kingdom, by Age

	18 to 29	30 to 44	45 to 64	65+
Satisfied	81%	85%	87%	91%
Dissatisfied	18%	14%	13%	8%
Getting better	58%	53%	42%	37%
Staying the same*	14%	17%	24%	31%
Getting worse	27%	29%	32%	28%

*Volunteered response
Jan. 2-June 30, 2011
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

City Satisfaction and Optimism Among Income, Gender, Education Groups

Higher income Britons tend to be more satisfied with where they live than those in lower income groups, rising to 90% satisfaction among those earning 4,516 or more pounds monthly (equivalent to roughly $90,000 annually in U.S. dollars.) Higher income Britons are also more likely to say that where they live is getting better. On both measures, however, the differences by income group are not large.

City Satisfaction and Optimism in the United Kingdom, by Income

Monthly household income in pounds

	0 to 1,385	1,386 to 2,725	2,726 to 4,515	4,516+
Satisfied	83%	85%	89%	90%
Dissatisfied	17%	14%	11%	10%
Getting better	46%	47%	55%	53%
Staying the same*	19%	20%	19%	22%
Getting worse	33%	31%	24%	25%

*Volunteered response
Jan. 2-June 30, 2011
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

There are generally no differences in city satisfaction by education level or gender. However, city optimism does increase with education level.

Bottom Line

Closely monitoring resident perceptions of the community where they live is especially important for city leaders who seek to engage, retain, and attract residents.

Young adults' optimism about the future of their community is a positive sign for city leaders who seek to encourage young talent to move to and work in their areas. Leaders might also capitalize on that optimism by trying to engage young residents in local initiatives and projects. Seniors are no more pessimistic than young people; however, their dampened optimism remains a challenge for local leaders.

View all Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index questions and methodology.

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. 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 6,884 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the United Kingdom, 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 ±1.8 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 5 cell phone respondents and 29 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within regions. 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, education, region, adults in the household, and cell phone status. Demographic weighting targets are based on the most recently published population data from the Census Bureau for Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, and Wales. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148733/Citizens-Satisfied-Cities-Not-Optimistic.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing

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182-43-14. Labour Holds Seven-Point Lead Over Conservatives in Britain

(07/25/11) -

Prime Minister David Cameron maintains the highest approval rating of the three main party leaders.The Labour Party continues to garner the backing of two-in-five decided voters in Britain, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of a representative sample of 2,002 British adults also shows that the approval rating for Ed Miliband has reached the highest level of his tenure.

Voting Intention

Across Britain, 41 per cent of decided voters and leaners (unchanged since March) say they would support the Labour candidate in their constituency in the next General Election.

The Conservative Party is second with 34 per cent (+1), followed by their coalition partners—the Liberal Democrats—with 10 per cent (=).

The United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) is next with six per cent, followed by the Scottish National Party (SNP) with three per cent, the Green Party also with three per cent, and the British National Party (BNP) with two per cent.

Labour remains dominant in the North (50%) and holds a six-point lead over the Conservatives in London (44% to 38%) and Midlands and Wales (41% to 35%). The Tories are first in the South of England (40% to 31%). In Scotland, Labour holds a nine-point advantage over the SNP (44% to 35%).

Approval

Throughout 2011, the approval rating for Prime Minister David Cameron has remained at 41 per cent, while Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg dropped another point and is now at 29 per cent—his lowest numbers since the coalition formed the government in May 2010.

Conversely, the approval rating for Ed Miliband increased by two points since March to 35 per cent, the best showing he has posted since becoming Labour's leader.

Methodology: From July19 to July 20, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,002 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source:http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/43963/labour-holds-seven-point-lead-over-conservatives-in-britain/

NORTH AMERICA

182-43-15. Most Americans Embarrassed by Lack of Deal on Debt Ceiling

(07/31/11) -

Two-in-five respondents would raise the debt limit, even if it leads to higher government spending and a higher national debt.

Most adults in the United States are clearly disappointed with the way the discussions on raising the debt ceiling have evolved, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,001 American adults, 85 per cent of respondents consider it an embarrassment to America that the politicians in Washington have not reached an agreement on the federal debt ceiling.

In addition, 78 per cent of Americans believe that the image of the United States abroad has suffered greatly as a result of these discussions, and that the economic crisis in America will become greater if an agreement is not reached.

Across the country, three-in-four respondents (74%) have closely followed news stories related to the negotiations to raise the federal debt ceiling.

The Politicians

The three main participants in the discussions are having a hard time connecting with the population. Only 38 per cent of Americans approve of the way President Barack Obama has dealt with the negotiations, just three-in-ten (29%) approve of how Speaker of the House John Boehner has performed, and one-in-five (21%) feel the same way about Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.

None of the three politicians has emerged as a true consensus builder, with 70 per cent of respondents thinking Obama deserves "most" or "some" of the blame for the failure of the negotiations. The figure is equally high for Boehner (73%) and Reid (71%).

Only 48 per cent of respondents are confident that an agreement will be reached before the Aug. 2 deadline.

Raising the Debt Limit

About two-in-five Americans (42%) would raise the debt limit, even if it leads to higher government spending and a higher national debt. Conversely, three-in-ten (31%) think the debt limit should not be raised, even if the government goes into default and the nation's economy is hurt.

Democrats (57%) and Independents (43%) are more likely to side with the argument to raise the debt limit, while Republicans (46%) would prefer not to raise the current level—along with respondents who agree with the core policies of the National Tea Party movement (51%).

The Deficit

Half of Americans (50%)—including 74 per cent of Republicans, 70 per cent of Tea Party Movement endorsers, and 49 per cent of Independents—think the best way to reduce the budget deficit is to cut existing programs. Only 28 per cent of respondents—including 43 per cent of Democrats—would prefer to raise taxes.

The 2012 Election

Since an Angus Reid Public Opinion survey conducted in January 2011, there has been little change in the way Americans feel about the 2012 presidential race. More than a third of respondents (37%) would either vote or are leaning towards voting for the Democratic nominee, while 29 per cent would vote or are considering voting for the Republican nominee.

Analysis

The survey shows an American public that has become desperate for answers, overly embarrassed by their politicians, and deeply troubled about two issues: the possibility of the economic crisis worsening, and permanent damage to America's image overseas.

It is evident that there are no political winners in the debt ceiling debate. The three main politicians are keeping the base content, but are not succeeding in getting their message across. More than two-thirds of Americans blame them all equally for the failure of the negotiations, and none of them can get the endorsement of two-in-five Americans on their performance.

As expected, Tea Party followers are calling for cuts to existing programs and a decision to keep the debt limit as is, along with most Republicans. Democrats flatly reject these two choices, but Independents are split. They tend to side more with the argument to raise the debt limit, but are more likely to call for cuts to existing programs.

Methodology: From July 29 to July 30, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,012 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

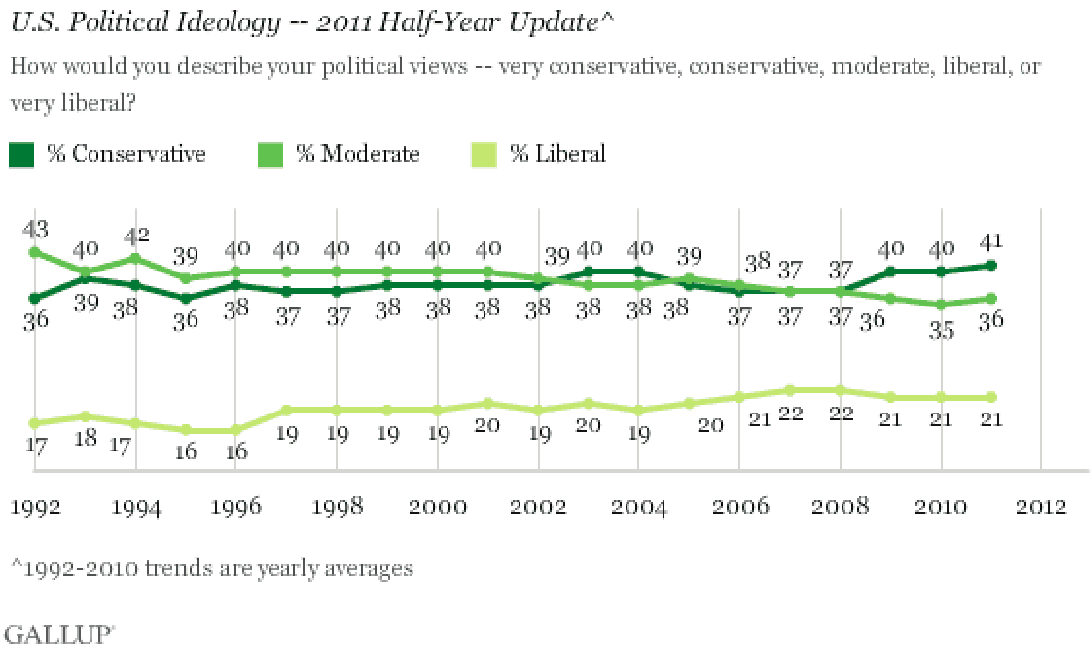
Source:http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/43967/most-americans-embarrassed-by-lack-of-deal-on-debt-ceiling/

182-43-16. U.S. Political Ideology Stable With Conservatives Leading

Most Republicans are conservative, but one in five is "very conservative"

August 1, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' political ideology at the midyear point of 2011 looks similar to 2009 and 2010, with 41% self-identifying as conservative, 36% as moderate, and 21% as liberal.



If this pattern continues, 2011 will be the third straight year that conservatives significantly outnumber moderates -- the next largest ideological bloc. Liberalism has been holding steady for the past six years, averaging either 21% or 22%, although notably higher than the 17% average seen in Gallup polling during the early to middle '90s.

Longer term, the Gallup ideology trend, dating from 1992, documents increased political polarization in the country. The percentage of moderates has fallen to the mid-30s from the low 40s, while the combined percentage either liberal or conservative is now 62%, up from 53%.

The 2011 half-year results are based on more than 10,000 U.S. national adults interviewed across 10 Gallup and *USA Today/*Gallup surveys conducted from January through June.

Hard Right Republicans Outnumber Hard Left Democrats

A much higher proportion of Republicans call themselves "very conservative" or "conservative" (71%) than Democrats call themselves "very liberal" or "liberal" (38%). Democrats are as likely to call themselves moderates as liberals.

Additionally conservative Republicans are a bit more likely to call themselves very conservative than liberal Democrats are to identify as very liberal. As a result, hard right Republicans outnumber hard left Democrats by more than 2 to 1, 21% vs. 9%.

Relatively small and equally matched proportions of independents put themselves at the far right and far left of the political spectrum. The plurality of independents (44%) says they are moderate.

Political Ideology of U.S. Adults -- Detailed Responses

How would you describe your political views -- very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?

	National adults	Republican	Independent	Democrat
	%	%	%	%
Very conservative	11	21	8	5
Conservative	30	50	27	18
Moderate	36	24	44	39
Liberal	15	3	14	29
Very liberal	6	1	6	9
No opinion	2	*	1	1
	100	100	100	100

*Less than 0.5%
January-June 2011

GALLUP

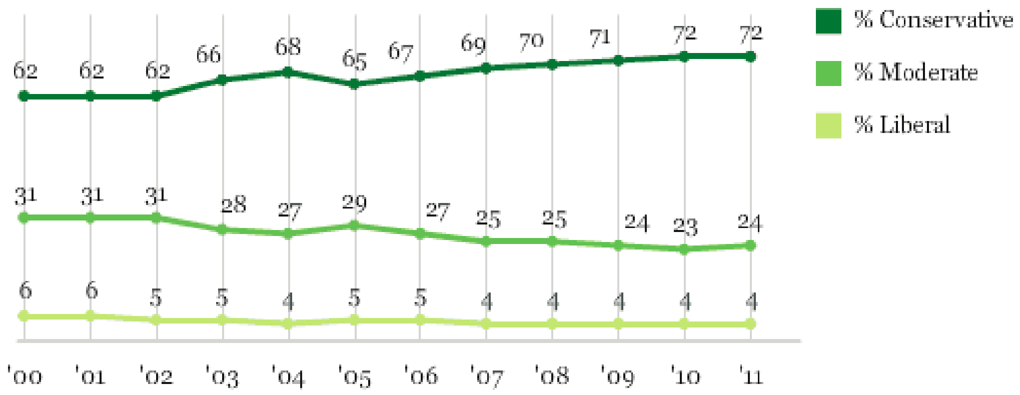
No Apparent Change in Partisans' Ideological Leanings

Gallup has previously described an increasing polarization of Republicans and Democrats, ideologically, with Republicans becoming more conservative and Democrats more liberal. Thus far in 2011, the ideological outlook of both groups, as well as of independents, is similar to what it was in 2010.

Among Republicans, conservatives currently outnumber moderates by nearly 3 to 1, 72% vs. 24%, while very few are liberal (4%).

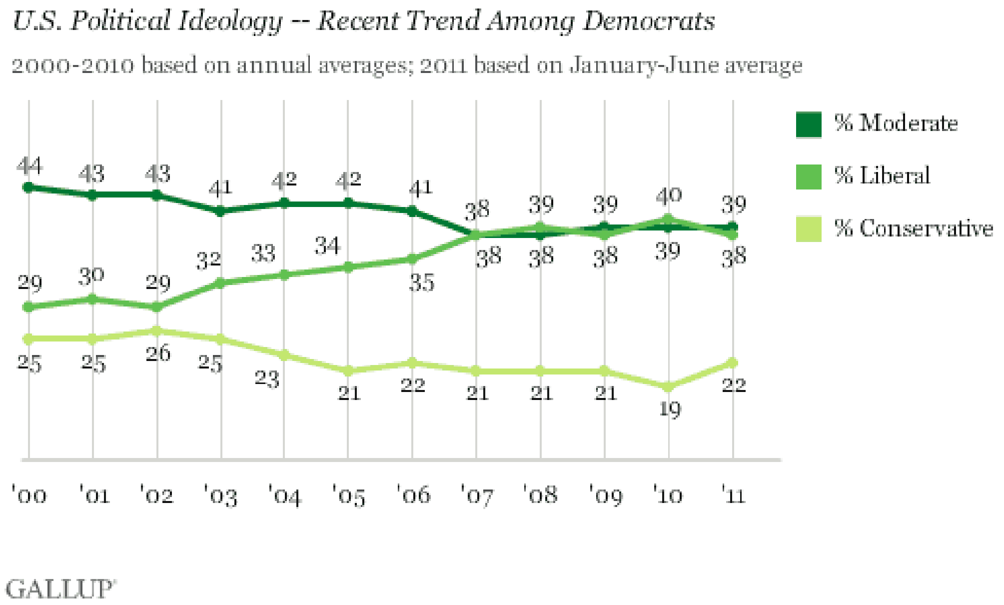
U.S. Political Ideology -- Recent Trend Among Republicans

2000-2010 based on annual averages; 2011 based on January-June average

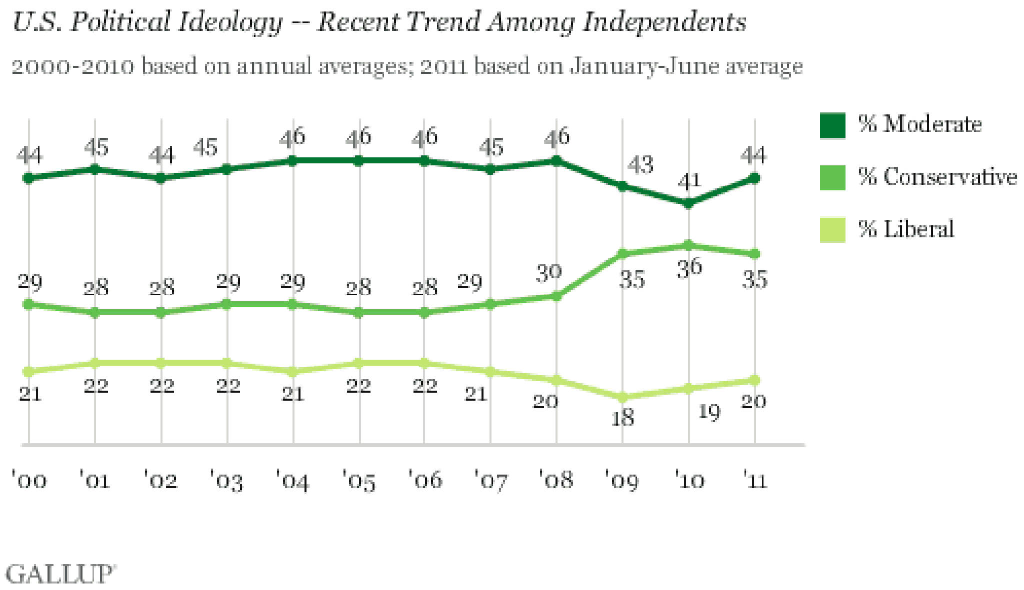


GALLUP

Democrats' ideological profile is similar to what it has been since 2007, following a gradual increase in those calling themselves liberal and decreases in those identifying themselves as moderates and conservatives. Currently, about 4 in 10 Democrats are liberal, another 4 in 10 are moderate, and about 2 in 10 are conservative.



By 44% to 35%, more independents are moderate than conservative -- with the percentage conservative continuing to be a notch higher than it was from 2000 to 2008. Another 20% are liberal, similar to the national average. Conservatism among independents increased fairly sharply in 2009, from 30% to 35%, largely explaining the expansion of conservatism nationally at that time, and it has held at that level since then.



Bottom Line

The U.S. political culture is a broad mix of conservatives, moderates, and liberals, with conservatives continuing to be the largest group by a slight, but statistically significant, margin over moderates. This pattern first emerged in 2009, driven by increased conservatism among independents, and has since persisted. Partly as a result, the country is more polarized today than it was in 1992.

All three ideology groups coexist under a divided federal government that has struggled to reach agreement on how to raise the nation's debt ceiling. The source of congressional leaders' difficulty unifying their own members on the matter is evident in the finding that even within the parties there exists a mix of moderates and liberals (in the case of Democrats) and strong conservatives and not-so-strong conservatives (in the case of Republicans) tugging their respective parties in different directions.

Survey Methods

Results are based on the combined data for 10 separate *USA Today/*Gallup polls conducted from January through June 2011.

For results based on the total sample of 10,265 national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±1 percentage point.

Party breakdowns for this 2011 midyear report are based on 3,094 Republicans, 3,940 independents, and 3,054 Democrats. For results based on samples of these sizes, 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.

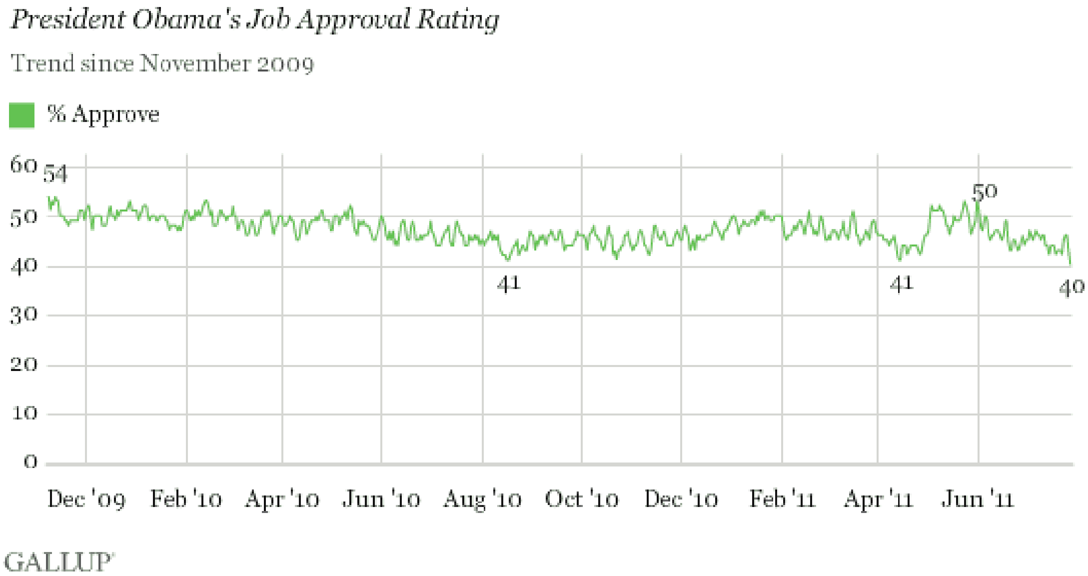
Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148745/Political-Ideology-Stable-Conservatives-Leading.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-17. Obama Approval Drops to New Low of 40%

Similar to his approval rating for handling the debt ceiling negotiations

July 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Obama's job approval rating is at a new low, averaging 40% in July 26-28 Gallup Daily tracking. His prior low rating of 41% occurred several times, the last of which was in April. As recently as June 7, Obama had 50% job approval.



Obama's approval rating averaged 46% in June and was near that level for most of July; however, it has stumbled in the past few days, coinciding with intensification of the debt ceiling/budget battle in Washington.

Obama's 40% overall approval rating nearly matches the recent 41% approval Americans gave him forhandling the debt ceiling negotiations. Though Americans rate Obama poorly for his handling of the situation, they are less approving of how House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid are handling it. Gallup does not include ratings of Congress or congressional leaders in its Daily tracking, and thus, there is no overall job approval rating of Boehner, Reid, or Congress directly comparable to Obama's current 40% overall job approval rating.

Obama's job approval rating among Democrats is 72%, compared with 34% among independents and 13% among Republicans. In the prior three weeks, his average approval rating was 79% among Democrats, 41% among independents, and 12% among Republicans.

Americans' Ratings of the Economy Also More Negative Amid Stalemate

The debt crisis may be contributing to a generally sour mood for Americans that stretches beyond political ratings. For example, Gallup's Economic Confidence Index, which is also tracked daily, averaged -49 July 26-28, down 8 points in the last week and down 19 points since early July. The current index score is the worst Gallup has measured since March 2009.

The index consists of two questions, measuring Americans' ratings of current economic conditions and their assessments of whether the economy is getting better or worse. Currently, 52% say economic conditions are poor, the highest since August 2010. And 75% of Americans say economic conditions are getting worse, a level not seen since March 2009.

Implications

The inability of U.S. lawmakers to agree on the debt ceiling has apparently shaken Americans' confidence in the economy and now seems to be taking its toll on the president's public support, with Obama's approval rating at a new low. As the debt ceiling talks drag on, his ratings, as well as those of Congress (last measured at 18% in early July), could decline further. By the same token, if an agreement is reached, it could restore some degree of public confidence in U.S. political leaders and in the economy.

Survey Methods

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 26-28, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,463 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 ±3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone 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.

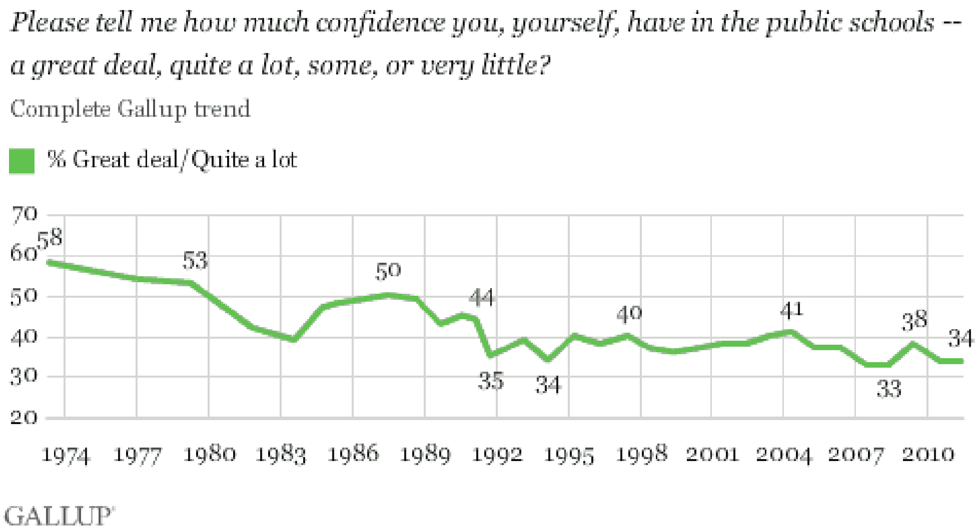
Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148739/Obama-Approval-Drops-New-Low.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-18. Near Record-Low Confidence in U.S. Public Schools

Confidence level has held largely steady amid recession and budget cuts

July 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans continue to express near record-low confidence in U.S. public schools -- holding in the range seen throughout the past few years of tumult for the U.S. economy and state budgets. The 34% who say they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in public schools is unchanged from last year and statistically similar to what Gallup has found since 2005.



The findings are from Gallup's annual update on confidence in institutions, conducted June 9-12. Nearly all institutions -- including public schools -- have seen historically low confidence in recent years. This year brought little improvement beyond a slight uptick in confidence in newspapers and television news. Public schools currently rank in the middle of the pack of institutions tested -- 8^{th} out of 16 -- in the general range of the presidency, U.S. Supreme Court, and medical system. The current rating is down significantly when compared with confidence levels seen throughout the 1970s and at points in the late 1980s, when about half or more Americans expressed confidence in U.S. public schools.

While low, the steady nature of the confidence Americans have placed in public schools in recent years is noteworthy considering the budget challenges U.S. states have faced over this period. At least 34 states and the District of Columbia have cut funding for K-12 schools and other education programs since the recession began, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Many school systems got a lifeline in 2009 when the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act directed about $100 billion to help fund public education and save teachers' jobs. Americans' confidence in U.S. public schools did trend somewhat higher that year, to 38%, but not enough to be statistically meaningful. Now, with stimulus funding running out this year, many education programs and jobs are again at risk.

Young, Less Educated Most Confident in U.S. Public Schools

The youngest U.S. adults -- perhaps those with the most recent direct experience with the nation's public schools -- express slightly more confidence in public schools than do older Americans. Those with a college degree or some college education are less confident than those with a high school education or less. Democrats and liberals tend to express more confidence than Republicans and conservatives. The South and Midwest also fare better than the East and West.

Americans' Confidence in Public Schools

% "Great deal"/"quite a lot" among key subgroups

	% Great deal/Quite a lot
National adults	34
18- to 29-year-olds	40
30- to 49-year-olds	31
50- to 64-year-olds	34
65-year-olds and older	35
High school or less	41
Some college	28
College graduates	29
Postgraduates	32
East	28
Midwest	38
South	42
West	28
Men	36
Women	33
Democrats	43
Independents	29
Republicans	33
Liberals	40
Moderates	34
Conservatives	31

June 9-12, 2011

GALLUP

Implications

Americans' already low confidence in U.S. public schools may be at risk of tumbling further if ongoing budget challenges trigger more headlines about states cutting back on education. While confidence in public schools largely held steady through the recession, it is clear that public education has fallen in Americans' eyes over the past two decades -- and that it will take significant effort to restore that confidence. Americans tend to rate local public schools, and their children's own school, better than the nation's schools as a whole, and local schools have trended in a more positive direction in recent years. This underscores that every school and educator plays a role in how Americans view public education. Further, since education is a key part of the institutions and infrastructure component of a society's wellbeing, improvements have the opportunity to bolster the productivity and growth of every U.S. stateand city.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted June 9-12, 2011, with a random sample of 1,020 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/148724/Near-Record-Low-Confidence-Public-Schools.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-19. Obama Rates Higher Than Boehner, Reid on Debt Situation

Half of Republicans approve of Boehner's handling of the situation

July 28, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans are more likely to approve of the way President Obama is handling the negotiations to raise the federal debt ceiling than they are to approve of the handling of the situation by Speaker of the House John Boehner or Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, although opinions about all three are more negative than positive.

Next, please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the way each of the following is handling the negotiations to raise the federal debt ceiling. How about...[RANDOM ORDER]?

Sorted by "approve"

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/No opinion
	%	%	%
President Barack Obama	41	52	8
Speaker of the House John Boehner	31	48	21
Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid	23	52	25

Gallup Daily tracking, July 27, 2011

GALLUP

These results are from a special one night *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted July 27, as Speaker Boehner was marshaling support for Thursday's House vote on his version of a new budget plan.

President Obama's 41% approval rating on handling the situation is 10 percentage points higher than Boehner's and 18 points higher than Reid's. However, more Americans have an opinion about Obama's handling of the situation than is the case for the other two men, so when those with no opinion are factored out of the results, Obama's advantage is lessened. Among those with an opinion about his handling of the situation, the president has 44% approval and 56% disapproval, compared with 39% and 61% for Boehner and 31% and 69% for Reid.

Democrats More Loyal to Obama Than Republicans Are to Boehner

One notable challenge for Speaker Boehner is rank-and-file Republicans' relatively low level of support for his handling of the situation. Half of Republicans approve of Boehner's handling of the debt crisis, compared with 75% of Democrats who approve of Obama's handling. Reid does worst of all among rank-and-file identifiers with his own party, receiving 36% approval among Democrats (36% of Democrats also disapprove of Reid's handling the situation, with the remainder not having an opinion).

Independents will be a critically important group in next year's presidential election. At this point, a little more than a third of independents approve of how Obama is handling the debt situation, slightly more than approve of Boehner's handling.

Percentage Who Approve of the Handling of Negotiations to Raise the Federal Debt Ceiling, by Partisanship

	President Barack Obama	Speaker of the House John Boehner	Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
Republicans	10	50	13
Independents	35	30	21
Democrats	75	17	36

Gallup Daily tracking, July 27, 2011

GALLUP'

A Third of Tea Party Supporters Disapprove of Boehner's Handling of Situation

Tea Party supporters have been among the most vocal participants in the current debt crisis debate. Many observers suggest that the pressure Tea Partiers are putting on newly elected freshman Republican House members is a reason the parties have not been able to strike a debt agreement so far. House Speaker Boehner is attempting to broker a deal to get the debt ceiling raised while at the same time reflecting the intense sentiments of Tea Party followers.

Boehner does slightly better among all Tea Party supporters -- 61% approval and 33% disapproval -- than he does among all Republicans -- 50% approval and 35% disapproval. These differences reflect the fact that in this survey, less than half (46%) of Republicans identify as Tea Party supporters, and that this group has a much different view of Boehner's efforts on the debt situation than those who are not Tea Party supporters. Republicans who support the Tea Party approve of Boehner's handling of the debt situation by 65% to 30%, while Republicans who are not Tea Party supporters split evenly, 38% approve and 40% disapprove, with the rest having no opinion. This difference is significant despite the smaller sample sizes involved, and suggests that Boehner is having more trouble pleasing the moderate and liberal wing of his party than he is the conservative wing.

Implications

It is too early to determine the long-term impact of the current debt ceiling crisis on the political fortunes of President Obama, Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Reid, and the other politicians who have been in the middle of the unfolding drama. The current short-term data suggest that to date none of those involved receive glowingly positive reviews from the American public. More Americans disapprove than approve of the way Obama, Boehner, and Reid have each handled the situation.

Obama does better than the other two, based in large part on the high approval rating he receives from his fellow Democrats. Boehner receives significantly less loyalty from Republicans, half of whom approve of his handling of the situation. This no doubt reflects the current divisions within the Republican Party, with conservatives and Tea Party supporters pressing for a rigid stance against compromise and tax increases, while other Republicans are more inclined to push for a settlement with Obama and the Democrats. At this point, the former group is the most supportive of Boehner, which suggests that he faces more problems from the moderate wing of his party than from the conservative Tea Party wing. The fact that as many Republicans who do not support the Tea Party say they disapprove of how Boehner is handling the situation as say they approve highlights his leadership challenges.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today/*Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 27, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,007 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones 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/148718/Obama-Rates-Higher-Boehner-Reid-Debt-Situation.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-20. Obama Loses Ground in 2012 Reelection Bid

In GOP, Romney Leads, Attentive Like Perry, Bachmann Most Visible

July 28, 2011

2012 Generic Ballot Now Split, as Fewer Independents Back Obama

	March 2011	May 2011	July 2011
All registered voters	%	%	%
Obama reelected	47	48	41
Prefer Republican	37	37	40
Other/DK (Vol.)	16	15	19
	100	100	100
	Obama +10	Obama +11	Obama +1
Independent voters			
Obama reelected	40	42	31
Prefer Republican	34	35	39
Other/DK (Vol.)	26	24	30
	100	100	100
	Obama +6	Obama +7	Repub. +8

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The sizeable lead Barack Obama held over a generic Republican opponent in polls conducted earlier this year has vanished as his support among independent voters has fallen off. Currently, 41% of registered voters say they would like to see Barack Obama reelected, while 40% say they would prefer to see a Republican candidate win in 2012. In May, Obama held an 11-point lead.

This shift is driven by a steep drop-off in support for Obama among independents. The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 20-24 among 1,501 adults and 1,205 registered voters finds that just 31% of independent voters want to see Obama reelected, down from 42% in May and 40% in March. Where Obama held a slim seven-point edge among independent registered voters two months ago, a generic Republican holds an eight-point edge today.

This is consistent with a drop in Obama's approval among all independents. Currently, a majority (54%) disapprove of Obama's performance for the first time in his presidency. His approval among independents has slipped to 36% from 42% last month and 49% in late May. (See "Public Wants a Debt Ceiling Compromise, Expects a Deal Before Deadline.")

GOP Race Wide Open, Particularly Among Tea Party Supporters

Who would you most like to see nominated?	All Rep/ Lean R	Tea Party	Not Tea Party
	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	21	16	25
Rick Perry	12	16	8
Sarah Palin	11	12	10
Michele Bachmann	11	14	8
Ron Paul	9	9	8
Herman Cain	8	12	5
Newt Gingrich	3	2	4
Tim Pawlenty	3	2	3
Jon Huntsman	2	2	2
Rick Santorum	1	2	*
Other	1	1	1
None/DK/Too early	20	12	25
	100	100	100
N	546	285	251

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q20. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. First choice shown. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Meanwhile, there is no greater clarity to the GOP nomination race. Only about a quarter of voters (24%) have given a lot of thought to their 2012 options. That rises to just 30% among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents. Overall, Romney continues to hold a significant lead among Republican voters: 21% say they would like to see him win the nomination. Rick Perry gets the support of 12%; 11% back Sarah Palin, 11% Michele Bachmann, 9% Ron Paul and 8% Herman Cain. No other candidate receives more than 3% of the support of Republican-oriented voters. Perry and Palin have not yet said whether they will run.

The race for the support of Tea Party backers is even more up-for-grabs, with five candidates (Romney, Perry, Bachman, Palin and Cain) all garnering the support of between 12% and 16%.

Perry Fares Well Among Most Attentive

While Texas Gov. Rick Perry is a relatively new name in discussions of the GOP race, he is drawing strong interest from highly attentive Republicans.

Perry Draws Support from Engaged Republicans and Tea Party Backers

Who would you most like to see nominated as GOP candidate?	All Rep/ Lean R	*Thought given to election* A lot	Less/ None	Tea Party Rep/ Lean R	*Thought given to election* A lot	Less/ None
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	21	15	23	16	11	19
Rick Perry	12	22	7	16	29	7
Sarah Palin	11	9	11	12	8	14
Michele Bachmann	11	13	10	14	14	14
Ron Paul	9	7	10	9	7	11
Herman Cain	8	12	6	12	16	10
Newt Gingrich	3	3	3	2	1	2
Tim Pawlenty	3	3	2	2	3	1
Jon Huntsman	2	2	2	2	1	3
Rick Santorum	1	1	1	2	2	2
Other/None/DK	20	11	24	13	8	17
	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	546	180	366	285	126	159

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q20. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. First choice shown. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Among Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters who say they have given a lot of thought to the candidates, 22% support Perry, 15% Romney, 13% Bachmann and 12% Cain.

And Perry's lead is substantial among highly attentive Tea Party supporters. Perry has the backing of 29% of Republicans and Republican-leaners who agree with the Tea Party. That is nearly double the backing for the next closest candidate, Herman Cain (16%). The overall frontrunner, Mitt Romney, receives the backing of 11% of highly engaged Tea Party voters.

Tea Party Intensity Continues

Early signs suggest that Tea Party supporters remain the most engaged and committed segment of the Republican base. Republicans and Republican-leaning independent voters who agree with the Tea Party are more than twice as likely as other Republicans to have given a lot of thought to the 2012 election (44% vs. 18%). They also are much more likely to say they are very closely following campaign news (36% vs. 16%), and significantly more committed to voting in their state's Republican primary or caucus next year (83% vs. 69%).

Tea Party Republicans More Engaged in 2012 Election

	All Rep/ Lean Rep	Tea Party	Not Tea Party
	%	%	%
Given a lot of thought to 2012 election	30	44	18
Following news about 2012 candidates very closely	25	36	16
Very likely to vote in Republican primary	75	83	69

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. July 20-24, 2011. Q18 & Q64. Based on registered voters. Following campaign news very closely from July 14-17, 2011 omnibus. PEW1e. Based on general public.

Some of these differences can be explained by the demographic profile of Tea Party Republicans. In particular, Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party movement are significantly older and more highly educated than those who do not. (See a demographic profile of Tea Party Republicans here.) But even when these demographic characteristics are taken into account, agreement with the Tea Party is strongly linked with campaign interest and commitment to voting.

Yet it is important to note that even among those who say they are very likely to vote in the 2012 primaries, only about half of Republican and Republican-leaning voters say they agree with the Tea Party movement. The other half either disagrees or has no opinion either way.

Bachmann the Most Visible Candidate

Which Possible GOP Candidate Have You Heard Most About Recently?

	General Public			Republicans and Republican-leaners		
	May 12-15	June 16-19	July 21-24	May 12-15	June 16-19	July 21-24
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Michele Bachmann	1	5	23	1	7	25
Mitt Romney	7	27	13	9	36	16
Sarah Palin	2	8	7	3	10	7
Donald Trump	16	2	4	17	2	3
Rick Perry	*	*	3	*	*	3
Newt Gingrich	12	5	1	12	4	1
Ron Paul	2	1	1	3	1	2
Jon Huntsman	*	*	1	*	*	1
Tim Pawlenty	1	1	1	2	1	1
Other	--	--	3	--	--	4
Don't know	50	45	44	43	33	40
	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1,006	1,003	999	410	418	395

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-24, 2011 omnibus. PEW3. Other category from previous surveys not shown because of changes in candidates mentioned. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding and changes in other category.

While not a clear frontrunner, Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann is currently the most visible candidate in the GOP field. When asked what possible candidate they've heard the most about in the news recently, almost a quarter of Americans (23%) offer Bachmann's name.

But candidate visibility has fluctuated widely over the past few months. In mid-June, Americans said they were hearing the most about former Romney (27%). Now, Romney rates second, with 13% saying they have heard the most about him recently. Just two months ago, Donald Trump and Newt Gingrich were the most visible candidates in the field.

Rick Perry has the support of many highly-engaged Republican voters, but his public visibility remains limited. Just 3% of Americans -- and the same percentage of Republicans and Republican leaners -- say he is the potential candidate they have been hearing the most about. Similarly, fewer than 1% cite Herman Cain as the candidate they have been hearing the most about recently.

Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2074/barack-obama-2012-presidential-election-republican-nomination-mitt-romney-rick-perry-michele-bachmann-tea-party

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182-43-21. GOP Makes Big Gains Among White Voters

Especially among the Young and Poor

July 22, 2011

As the country enters into the 2012 presidential election cycle, the electorate's partisan affiliations have shifted significantly since Obama won office nearly three years ago. In particular, the Democrats hold a much narrower edge than they did in 2008, particularly when the partisan leanings of independents are taken into account.

GOP Gains Among Whites, Particularly Young and Low Income

	2008		2011		
	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Rep gain
	%	%	%	%	
All voters	39	51	43	47	+4
White	46	44	52	39	+6
Black	6	88	8	86	+2
Hispanic	28	66	22	64	-6
Among whites					
18-29	42	49	52	41	+10
30-49	49	42	55	36	+6
50-64	45	45	50	41	+5
65+	46	44	51	39	+5
$75k+	52	41	54	40	+2
$30-75k	47	46	54	38	+7
<$30k	37	52	47	43	+10

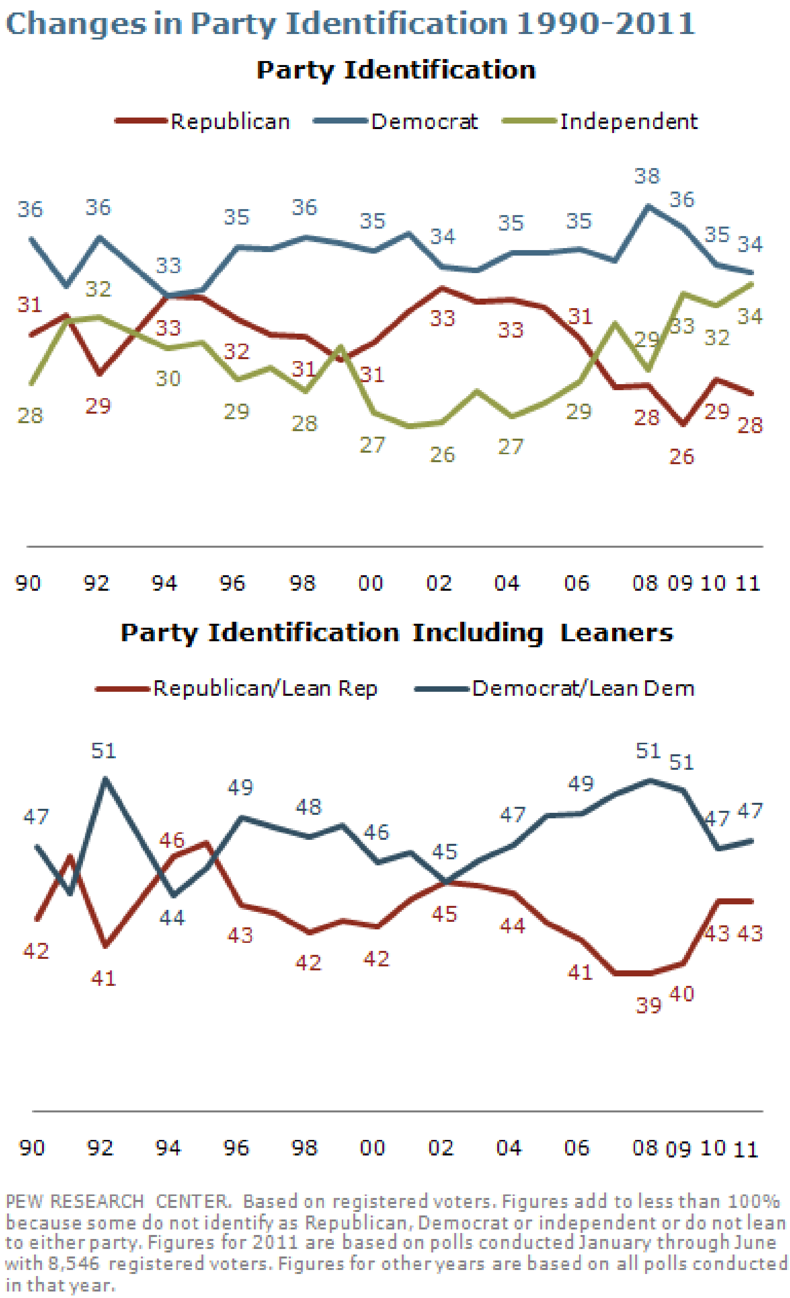
PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Based on all registered voters interviewed in each year. Figures read across, with the percent not identifying with or leaning to either party not shown.

Notably, the GOP gains have occurred only among white voters; a two-point Republican edge among whites in 2008 (46% to 44%) has widened to a 13-point lead today (52% to 39%). In sharp contrast, the partisan attachments of black and Hispanic voters have remained consistently Democratic.

While Republican gains in leaned party identification span nearly all subgroups of whites, they are particularly pronounced among the young and poor. A seven-point Democratic advantage among whites younger than age 30 three years ago has turned into an 11-point GOP advantage today. And a 15-point Democratic advantage among whites earning less than $30,000 annually has swung to a slim four-point Republican edge today.

Yet, the Republican Party's growth has been limited in two important ways. First, the steep gains in GOP leaning that helped the party in the 2010 midterms have not continued, as the overall balance of partisan attachments has held steady in the first half of 2011. Second, while more independents say they "lean" toward the Republican Party, the GOP has not gained in actual party affiliation since 2008 -- just 28% of registered voters, in both years, call themselves Republicans. Instead, the growth category continues to be political independents, with a record high 34% of registered voters choosing this label in 2011.

Tracking Party Identification and Party Leaning



Analysis of the overall balance of partisan identification in all Pew Research Center polling conducted in each year -- updated with data from the first six months of 2011 -- finds that as the number of Democrats has fallen from a quarter-century high in 2008, the number of self-proclaimed independents has continued to grow. As a result, there are now as many independent voters as Democrats (34% each) -- the first time this has occurred in more than two decades of Pew Research Center surveys, and, by all indications, the highest percent independent since party identification was first measured in the late 1930s.

While the number identifying as Republicans has remained relatively flat (28% in both 2008 and 2011), more independent voters lean to the GOP than did so in 2008 (16% now, 11% then). When leaners are combined with partisans, Democrats only have a four-point advantage among registered voters -- 47% of voters are Democrats or lean to the Democratic Party while 43% are Republicans or lean to the GOP. In 2008, Democrats held a 12-point advantage over Republicans (51% to 39%).

Most of this shift in the balance of partisan attachment occurred prior to this year. The sharp gains in Republican leanings between 2009 and 2010 have not continued into the first half of 2011. (See a detailed table at people-press.org for a full demographic breakdown of party identification in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.)

Democrats' Advantage over Republicans Narrows

	2008			2011		
	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Margin	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Margin
	%	%		%	%	
All voters	39	51	D+12	43	47	D+4
Men	44	46	D+2	47	43	R+4
Women	35	56	D+21	40	52	D+12
White	46	44	R+2	52	39	R+13
Black	6	88	D+82	8	86	D+78
Hispanic	28	66	D+38	22	64	D+42
18-29	32	60	D+28	39	52	D+13
30-49	41	50	D+9	44	47	D+3
50-64	40	51	D+11	43	48	D+5
65+	41	49	D+8	47	45	R+2
College grad+	41	51	D+10	44	48	D+4
Some college	40	50	D+10	46	45	R+1
HS or less	37	53	D+16	41	49	D+8
$75,000 or more	47	46	R+1	49	44	R+5
$30,000-$74,999	40	52	D+12	46	46	Even
Less than $30,000	28	62	D+34	34	56	D+22
Northeast	34	55	D+21	37	53	D+16
Midwest	38	51	D+13	46	45	R+1
South	42	48	D+6	45	47	D+2
West	38	53	D+15	43	46	D+3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Based on registered voters. Figures read across, with the percent not identifying with or leaning to either party not shown. Figures for 2011 are based on polls conducted January through June (N=8,546). Figures for 2008 are based on all polls conducted in that year (N=27,395). Whites and blacks are non-Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race and are reported only when polls were conducted in both English and Spanish.

Republicans have made sizable gains among white voters since 2008. Currently, 52% of white voters either identify as Republicans or lean to the GOP, compared with 39% who affiliate with the Democratic Party or lean Democratic. In 2008, Republicans held only a two-point lead among white voters (46% to 44%).

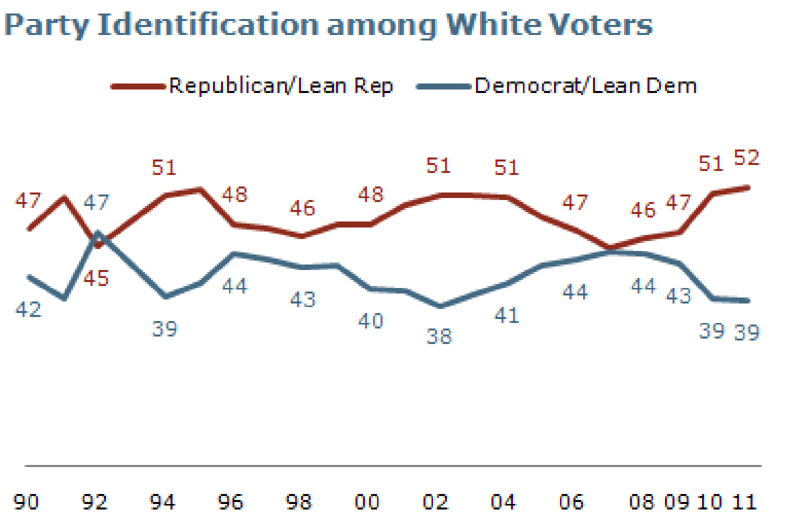
There has been no change in party identification among African American or Hispanic voters. Large majorities of African American (86%) and Hispanic voters (64%) continue to identify as Democrats or lean Democratic.

The Democratic Party's advantage among young voters has declined from 28 points in 2008 to 13 points in the first half of 2011. The Democrats' edge among voters ages 30 to 64 also has narrowed (from 10 points to three points). And Republicans now hold a two-point lead among voters ages 65 and older (47% to 45%); Democrats held an eight-point lead among seniors in 2008 (49% to 41%).

Republicans also have made gains among both men and women. In surveys conducted through June, Republicans have a four-point advantage among men (47% to 43%) and trail by 12 points among women (52% to 40%). In 2008, Democrats held a two-point edge among men and a 21-point advantage among women

Republican gains have been substantial among voters with family incomes under $75,000. Notably, Democrats held a 12-point advantage among middle income voters ($30,000-$74,999) in 2008, but now as many identify with the Republican Party as with the Democratic Party. Democrats continue to maintain their advantage among lower income voters, but it is smaller now than in 2008.

GOP Gains among Young White Voters



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Based on white non-Hispanic registered voters. Figures add to less than 100% because some do not identify with or lean to either party. Figures for 2011 are based on polls conducted January through June. Figures for other years are based on all polls conducted in that year.

The Republican Party's wide lead among white voters is not unprecedented. The current 12-point advantage in leaned party affiliation among whites is on par with the GOPs lead among whites from 2002-2004 and in 1994. And as with the national trend, there has been virtually no shift in partisanship among whites from 2010 to the first half of 2011.

Unlike 2008, Republicans now have the advantage across virtually all groups of white voters. Most notably, Republicans now have an 11-point lead over Democrats (52% to 41%) among whites under the age of 30. In 2008, Democrats held a seven-point edge among this group (49% to 42%).

Republicans Make Substantial Gains Among Young and Low-Income Whites

	2008			2011		
	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Margin	Rep/ In Rep	Dem/ In Dem	Margin
	%	%		%	%	
All whites	46	44	R+2	52	39	R+13
Men	51	40	R+11	56	35	R+21
Women	42	49	D+7	48	43	R+5
18-29	42	49	D+7	52	41	R+11
30-49	49	42	R+7	55	36	R+19
50-64	45	45	Even	50	41	R+9
65+	46	44	R+2	51	39	R+12
College grad+	46	47	D+1	50	43	R+7
Some college	48	43	R+5	54	38	R+16
HS or less	45	44	R+1	53	36	R+17
$75,000 or more	52	41	R+11	54	40	R+14
$30,000-$74,999	47	46	R+1	54	38	R+16
Less than $30,000	37	52	D+15	47	43	R+4
Northeast	39	51	D+12	44	45	D+1
Midwest	43	46	D+3	52	38	R+14
South	53	38	R+15	57	35	R+22
West	45	47	D+2	50	41	R+9
Religious preference						
White Protestant	55	36	R+19	60	32	R+28
White evangelical	65	28	R+37	71	23	R+48
White mainline	45	45	Even	49	40	R+9
White Catholic	41	49	D+8	50	40	R+10

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Based on white non-Hispanic registered voters. Figures read across, with the percent not identifying with or leaning to either party not shown. Figures for 2011 are based on polls conducted January through June. Figures for 2008 are based on all polls conducted in that year.

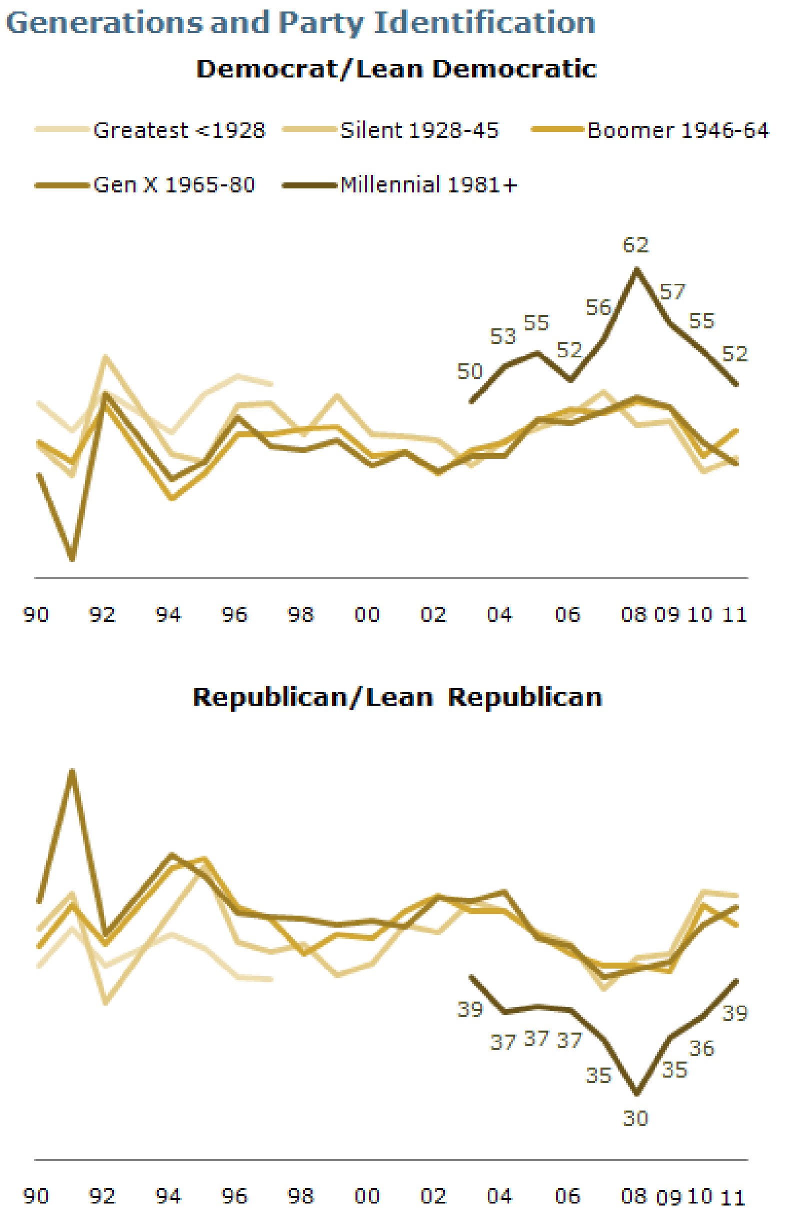
While the GOP's gains have been particularly evident among young whites, they have picked up support across all age groups as well. Among white voters ages 30 to 49, the Republican lead over Democrats has grown from seven points to 19 points. Among voters ages 50 to 64, who were evenly split in 2008, Republicans now have a nine-point advantage. The GOP' had a slight two-point edge among white voters 65 and older three years ago; that has increased to 12 points in the first half of 2011.

Republicans also have widened their advantage among white men from 11 points in 2008 to 21 points now. Republicans now have a five-point lead among white women; in 2008 Democrats had a seven-point lead over Republicans among white women voters.

Democrats have lost their edge among lower income white voters. In 2008, Democrats had a 15-point lead among white voters with family incomes less than $30,000. Republicans now have a four-point edge among this group. The GOP's lead among middle income white voters also has grown since 2008, and Republicans maintain a substantial advantage with higher income white voters.

Republicans have made gains among whites with a high school education or less. The GOP's advantage over Democrats has grown from one point in 2008 to 17 points in 2011 among less educated whites. Republicans have made smaller gains among whites voters who have college degrees.

Generations: Fewer Millennials Leaning Democratic



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Based on registered voters. Figures for 2011 are based on polls conducted January through June. Figures for 2008 are based on all polls conducted in that year.

The Millennial generation -- those born after 1980 -- were a topic of much discussion in the 2008 election. These young voters -- the oldest turned 27 that year, and are turning 30 now -- leaned Democratic by roughly two-to-one in the 2008 election, and their commitment to Barack Obama, and relatively high voter turnout, was a substantial factor in the election's outcome.

While these voters remain the most Democratically oriented generation today, the advantage has narrowed substantially since 2008. Currently, 52% of Millennial voters are Democrats or lean to the Democratic Party while 39% are Republicans or lean to the GOP. This 13-point edge is less than half the size of the 32-point edge Democrats held three years ago.

Among voters in other generations, Democrats have lost adherents while Republicans have gained. But these changes have not been as large as those among Millennials.

Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2067/2012-electorate-partisan-affiliations-gop-gains-white-voters

182-43-22. Public Wants Debt Ceiling Compromise, Expects a Deal Before Deadline

GOP Widely Viewed as "More Extreme in Its Positions"

July 26, 2011

The public overwhelmingly favors a compromise in the debt ceiling standoff. And even as negotiations aimed at resolving the issue show little progress, a majority thinks that Barack Obama and congressional Republicans will reach a deal before the Aug. 2 deadline on a possible government default.

Substantial Support for Debt Ceiling Compromise

Lawmakers who share your views on this issue should ...	July 20-24 %
Be willing to compromise, even if it means they strike a deal you disagree with	68
Stand by their principles, even it means the government goes into default	23
Don't know	8
	100

Most Think a Deal Will Happen

Will Barack Obama and Republicans resolve this issue before Aug. 2 deadline?	
Will resolve issue	56
Will not resolve issue	38
Don't know	3
	100

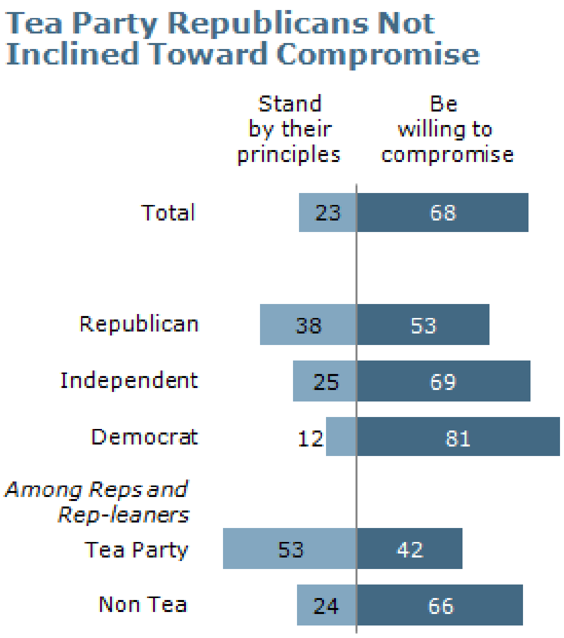
PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Fully 68% say that lawmakers who share their views on this issue should compromise, even it means striking a deal they disagree with. Just 23% say lawmakers who share their views should stand by their principles, even if that leads to default.

There is broader support for compromise today than on the eve of a possible government shutdown earlier this year. In early April, 55% favored a compromise even if that resulted in a budget deal they disagreed with, while 36% wanted their leaders to stand by their principles even if it led to a shutdown.

Large majorities of Democrats (81%) and independents (69%) favor a compromise to avoid default, but Republicans are more divided: 53% favor a compromise, while 38% say lawmakers who share their views should stand by their principles even if it leads to a default.

Among all Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, 53% of those who agree with the Tea Party favor lawmakers standing by their principles even if it means the government goes into default. Just 24% of Republicans and GOP leaners who do not agree with the Tea Party express this view.

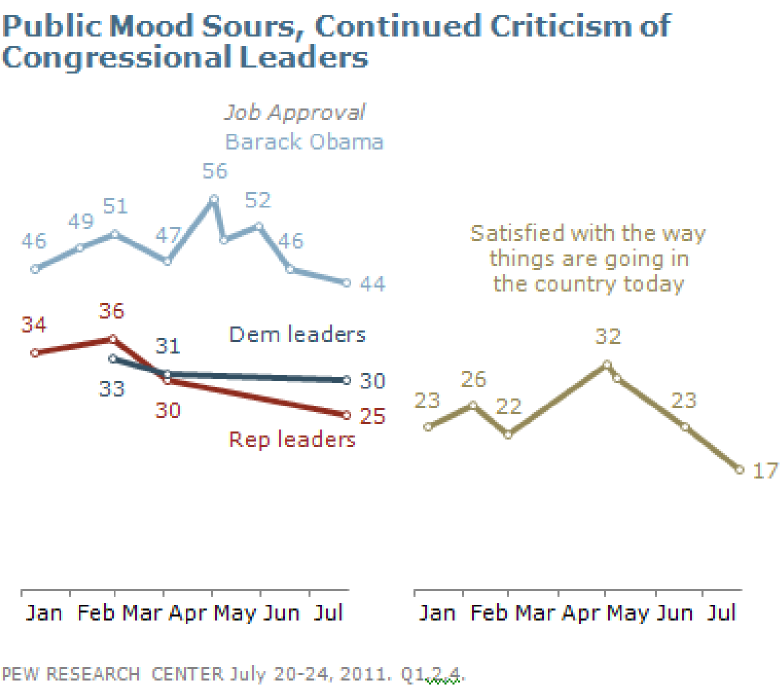


PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q32.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 20-24 among 1,501 adults, finds continued public optimism about prospects of a last-minute debt-ceiling deal. More than half (56%) say they think Obama and the Republicans will resolve the issue before Aug. 2. This is little changed from a *Washington Post*/ABC News survey conducted July 14-17 (54% will resolve issue).

Most Americans feel a personal stake in the efforts to resolve the debt-ceiling impasse. Nearly two-thirds (65%) say their own personal finances would be affected by a failure to increased the government's ability to borrow; 32% say their finances would not be affected. More specifically, 45% are worried that a failure to meet the Aug. 2 deadline would harm their investments and retirement savings, and 46% are worried that they might lose government services and benefits that affect them personally.

The survey finds that the ongoing stalemate over raising the debt ceiling may be taking a toll on views of national conditions. Just 17% say they are satisfied with the way things are going in the country, down from 23% last month and the lowest measure since late 2008, during the financial crisis.



Barack Obama's job approval ratings remain mixed -- 44% approve of his job performance while 48% disapprove. But Obama's ratings are far less positive than they were in May, immediately after the death of Osama bin Laden (56% approve).

Just a quarter (25%) approve of the job that Republican leaders in Congress are doing, down 11 points since February. Ratings for Democratic congressional leaders (30% approve) are little changed from earlier this year.

Republicans hold a 10-point lead over the Democrats as the party better able to reduce the federal budget deficit (43% to 33%), while running about even with Democrats on taxes, jobs and Social Security. The GOP's advantage on the deficit is larger than it was in May (three points), but about the same as in April (12 points).

GOP Leads on Deficit, But Is Seen as More Extreme

Which party can do better job of ...	Rep Party	Dem Party	Neither (vol.)	Both/ DK (vol.)	Advan-tage
	%	%	%	%	
Reducing budget deficit	43	33	9	15=100	**R+10**
Dealing w/ taxes	43	40	6	14=100	R+3
Improving job situation	39	39	7	14=100	0
Making Social Security financially sound	38	40	7	15=100	D+2
Which party ...					
Is more extreme in its positions	50	35	2	13=100	**R+15**
Can better manage the federal government	40	38	14	9=100	R+2
Is more influenced by special interests	39	37	1	23=100	R+2
Can bring about needed changes	36	43	9	11=100	D+7
Governs in more honest/ethical way	30	42	20	9=100	**D+12**
Is more concerned w/ needs of people like me	30	51	11	8=100	**D+21**
Is more willing to work w/ opposition leaders	26	51	12	10=100	**D+25**

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q26-27. Significant differences in **bolded colors**. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

However, Republicans are viewed much more negatively than the Democrats on several important traits and characteristics. Notably, 50% view the Republican Party as "more extreme in its positions." Far fewer (35%) say this phrase better describes the Democratic Party. Majorities of Democrats (64%) and independents (51%) view the GOP as more extreme, as do about a third of Republicans (35%).

As was the case in April, the Democrats also lead by wide margins as the party more willing to work with political leaders from the other party (by 25 points) and more concerned with the needs of typical Americans (by 21 points). Democrats continue to hold a smaller lead on honest governance (12 points).

Despite the intense focus in Washington on the debt and deficit, more Americans continue to view the job situation as their biggest economic concern. Nearly four-in-ten (39%) cite the job situation as the national economic issue that most worries them; 29% cite the federal budget deficit, while smaller percentages say rising prices (15%) and problems in the financial and housing markets (11%) are their biggest economic worries. Even among Republicans, as many cite the job situation (34%) as the deficit (37%) as the biggest economic problem.

Jobs Remain Top Concern, More Say Spending Cuts Would Help

Economic issue that worries you most	Mar 8-14 %	July 20-24 %	Change
Job situation	34	39	+5
Budget deficit	24	29	+5
Rising prices	28	15	-13
Financial/Housing mkts	10	11	-1
Other/Don't know	4	6	
	100	100	
Major cuts in federal spending would ...			
Help job situation	18	26	+8
Hurt job situation	34	27	-7
Not much of an effect	41	39	-2
Other/Don't know	7	8	
	100	100	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q7, Q28. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The public's views of the impact of large cuts in federal spending on the job situation have changed in recent months. Currently, as many say such cuts would help the job situation as hurt it (26% vs. 27%). In March, more saw cuts in spending as harmful rather than helpful (34% vs. 18%); the shift since March has come across partisan lines.

Yet the plurality view, held by 39%, is that cutting federal spending won't affect the job situation one way or the other.

In keeping with their desire to see compromise, there is no change in the public's view that the best way to reduce the federal budget deficit is through a combination of both cutting major programs and increasing taxes. Six-in-ten (60%) say that both are in order; just 19% say that the focus should be mostly on cutting major programs while even fewer (8%) say the focus should be mostly on raising taxes. The proportion supporting a mixed approach of funding cuts and tax increases is about the same as it was last December (65%).

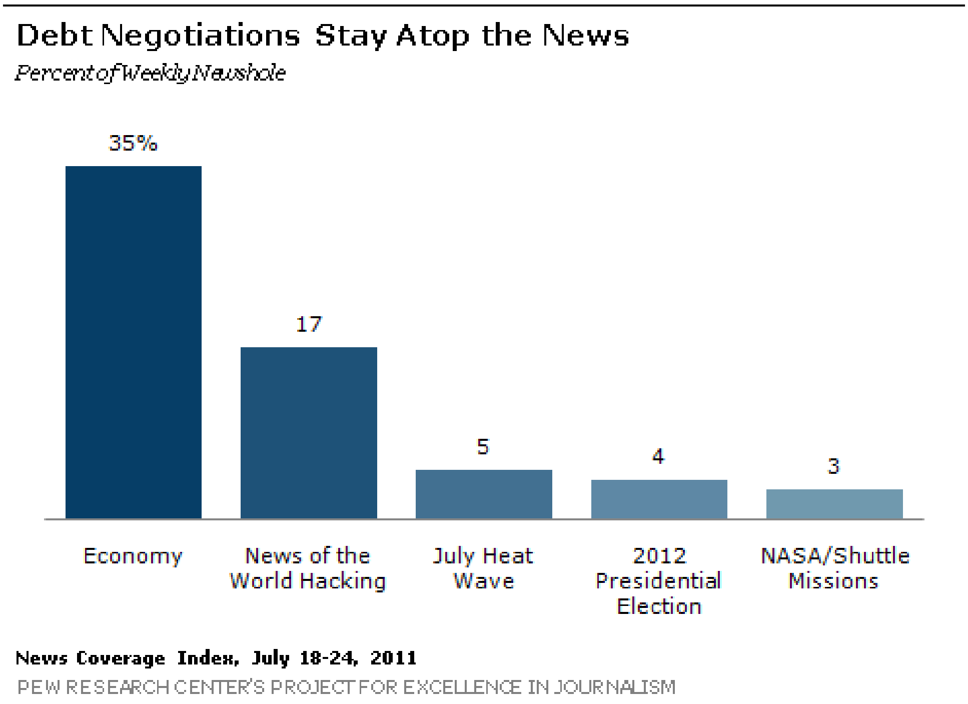
Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2071/debt-limit-ceiling-tea-party-compromise-deficit-reduction

182-43-23. For a Second Straight Week, It's the Debt Crisis and Tabloid Scandal

July 27, 2011

Two stories that have become fixtures in the headlines -- the deadlocked debt debate and the intensifying News of the World phone hacking scandal -- accounted for more than half of last week's newshole, relegating other significant events to secondary status in the media.

During the week of July 18-24, the U.S. economy was the No. 1 story at 35% of the newshole, almost tied with the previous week's level of interest (37%), according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.



That marked the fifth week in a row that the economy topped the mainstream news agenda, the coverage almost entirely driven by bipartisan disagreement over raising the debt limit and how to trim the budget deficit. That storyline accounted for more than three-quarters of the economic coverage last week.

Overall last week, economic coverage was biggest in cable and radio news -- the two sectors that include the ideological talk shows -- where it accounted for nearly half of all coverage on both platforms.

Meanwhile, coverage of the hacking scandal surrounding Rupert Murdoch's media empire -- which last week included his testimony before the British Parliament -- rose to 17% of the newshole, up from 12% and 6% the two previous weeks.

That high level of media interest in its own industry is somewhat unusual. Last week's coverage made the scandal the second-biggest media story since PEJ began tracking coverage in January 2007. The No. 1 media-focused story (26%) occurred the week of April 8-13, 2007, when radio talk host Don Imus lost his job for making racist and sexist remarks on the air.

The sustained and expanding nature of the story was unusual, too -- last week was the third consecutive week that the *News of the World* scandal ranked among the top five stories. Only one other media-focused story -- the release of troves of secret government information through open-source whistleblower Wikileaks -- lasted as long in the spotlight, (it was a top-five story for three straight weeks in December 2010). That story, however, decreased in media attention each week over that period, while the *News of the World* scandal has thus far increased each week.

The No. 3 story last week was a major heat wave that made its way from the Midwest to the East Coast, accounting for 5% of the newshole. By the end of the week, news outlets were reporting that as many as 34 people had died due to the extreme heat.

The U.S. presidential campaign came in at No. 4, at 4%. In recent weeks, the public and media attention to the deficit debates in Washington have easily overshadowed the campaign as a major story. Indeed, since July 4, the campaign has only accounted for 4% of the newshole.

The No. 5 story, at 3% of the newshole, was the end of the final mission of the NASA shuttle Atlantis. That marked the end of an era, and news organizations took the opportunity to reflect on the decades of space exploration by the U.S. program.

The week's No. 6 story (at 2%) was the worst attack in Norway's postwar history when one man allegedly orchestrated a bombing and a shooting that left nearly 100 people dead. The July 22 attack occurred late in the week, which may explain the relatively low level of coverage in the News Coverage Index.

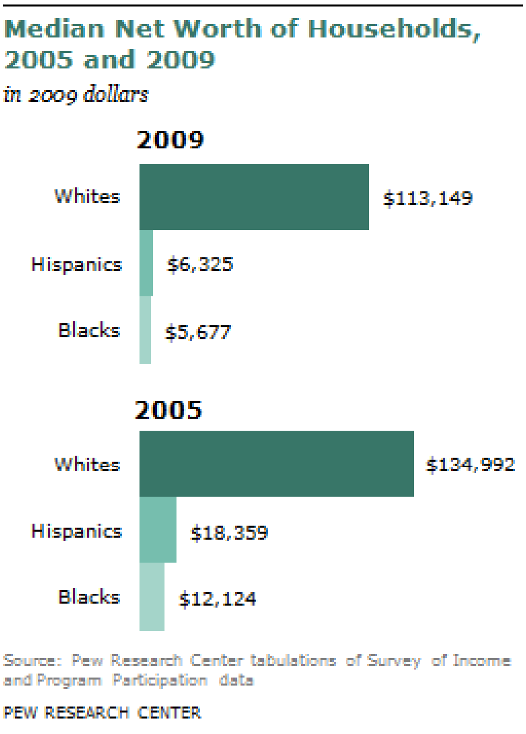
Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2073/-debt-ceiling-limit-rupert-murdoch-phone-hacking-scandal-news-corporation-news-of-the-world

182-43-24. Wealth Gaps Rise to Record Highs Between Whites, Blacks and Hispanics

Twenty-to-One

By Rakesh Kochhar, Richard Fry and Paul Taylor, Pew Research Center's Social & Demographic Trends

July 26, 2011

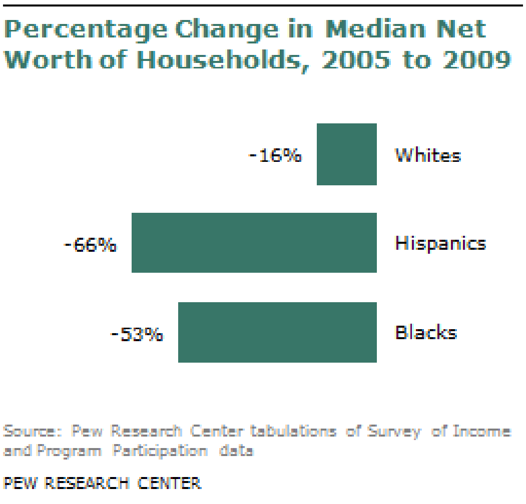


The median wealth of white households is 20 times that of black households and 18 times that of Hispanic households, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of newly available government data from 2009.

These lopsided wealth ratios are the largest since the government began publishing such data a quarter century ago and roughly twice the size of the ratios that had prevailed between these three groups for the two decades prior to the Great Recession that ended in 2009.

The Pew Research Center analysis finds that, in percentage terms, the bursting of the housing market bubble in 2006 and the recession that followed from late 2007 to mid-2009 took a far greater toll on the wealth of minorities than whites. From 2005 to 2009, inflation-adjusted median wealth fell by 66% among Hispanic households and 53% among black households, compared with just 16% among white households.

As a result of these declines, the typical black household had just $5,677 in wealth (assets minus debts) in 2009, the typical Hispanic household had $6,325 in wealth and the typical white household had $113,149.



Moreover, about a third of black (35%) and Hispanic (31%) households had zero or negative net worth in 2009, compared with 15% of white households. In 2005, the comparable shares had been 29% for blacks, 23% for Hispanics and 11% for whites.

These findings are based on the Pew Research Center's analysis of data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), an economic questionnaire distributed periodically to tens of thousands of households by the U.S. Census Bureau. It is considered the most comprehensive source of data about household wealth in the United States by race and ethnicity. The two most recent administrations of SIPP that focused on household wealth were in 2005 and 2009. Data from the 2009 survey were only recently made available to researchers.[1]

Plummeting house values were the principal cause of the recent erosion in household wealth among all groups, with Hispanics hit hardest by the meltdown in the housing market.

From 2005 to 2009, the median level of home equity held by Hispanic homeowners declined by half -- from $99,983 to $49,145 -- while the homeownership rate among Hispanics was also falling, from 51% to 47%. A geographic analysis suggests the reason: A disproportionate share of Hispanics live in California, Florida, Nevada and Arizona, which were in the vanguard of the housing real estate market bubble of the 1990s and early 2000s but that have since been among the states experiencing the steepest declines in housing values.

White and black homeowners also saw the median value of their home equity decline during this period, but not by as much as Hispanics. Among white homeowners, the decline was from $115,364 in 2005 to $95,000 in 2009. Among black homeowners, it was from $76,910 in 2005 to $59,000 in 2009. There was little or no change during this period in the homeownership rate for whites and blacks; it fell from 47% to 46% among blacks and was unchanged at 74% among whites.[2]

Household wealth is the accumulated sum of assets (houses, cars, savings and checking accounts, stocks and mutual funds, retirement accounts, etc.) minus the sum of debt (mortgages, auto loans, credit card debt, etc.). It is different from household income, which measures the annual inflow of wages, interest, profits and other sources of earning. Wealth gaps between whites, blacks and Hispanics have always been much greater than income gaps.

The 2005 to 2009 time frame allows for a before-and-after look at the impact of the Great Recession. However, those dates do not align perfectly with the downturn, which ran from December 2007 to June 2009, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

In 2005, both the stock and housing markets were still rising. Thus, had the base year for these measurements of wealth been closer to the top of these markets in 2006 or 2007, the recorded declines are likely to have been even steeper.

Moreover, since the official end of the recession in mid-2009, the housing market in the U.S. has remained in a slump while the stock market has recaptured much of the value it lost from 2007 to 2009. Given that a much higher share of whites than blacks or Hispanics own stocks -- as well as mutual funds and 401(k) or individual retirement accounts (IRAs) -- the stock market rebound since 2009 is likely to have benefited white households more than minority households.

Read the full report including the report methodology at pewsocialtrends.org

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1. Data on the wealth of households are also collected in the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) and the Panel Survey of Income Dynamics (PSID), neither with as large a sample size as SIPP. The SCF was last conducted in 2010 and the PSID last collected wealth data in 2009. However, the final sets of data from those surveys were not available as of the writing of this report.

2. The homeownership rates cited in this report are derived from SIPP data. They differ from homeownership rates published by the Census Bureau from other data sources.

Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2069/housing-bubble-subprime-mortgages-hispanics-blacks-household-wealth-disparity

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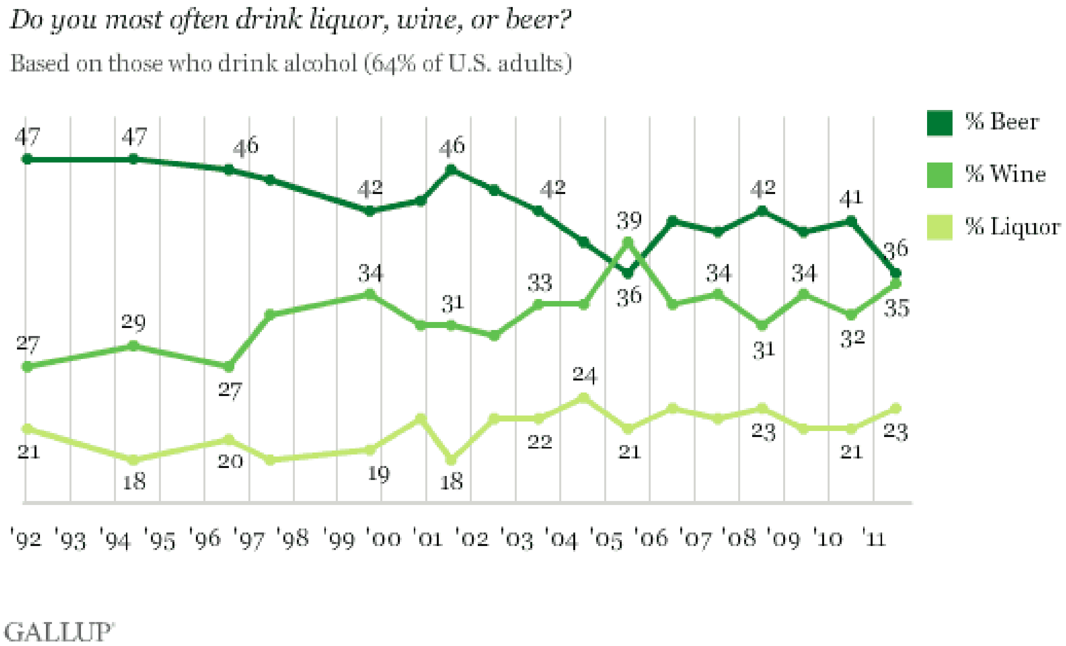
182-43-25. Wine Matches Beer in U.S. Drinkers' Preferences This Year

Preference for beer drops most among 18- to 34-year-olds

July 27, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- For only the second time in two decades, wine ties beer as the top choice when U.S. drinkers are asked whether they most often drink liquor, wine, or beer. Gallup now finds nearly as many U.S. drinkers naming wine (35%) as beer (36%), while liquor still registers a distant third at 23%.



The 36% of U.S. drinkers favoring beer in Gallup's July 7-10 poll ties for the lowest Gallup has recorded for the popular beverage since initiating this measure in 1992. The other low reading came in 2005, at the same time Americans' preference for wine temporarily surged to 39%. Beer regained a solid lead at the top spot, until this year.

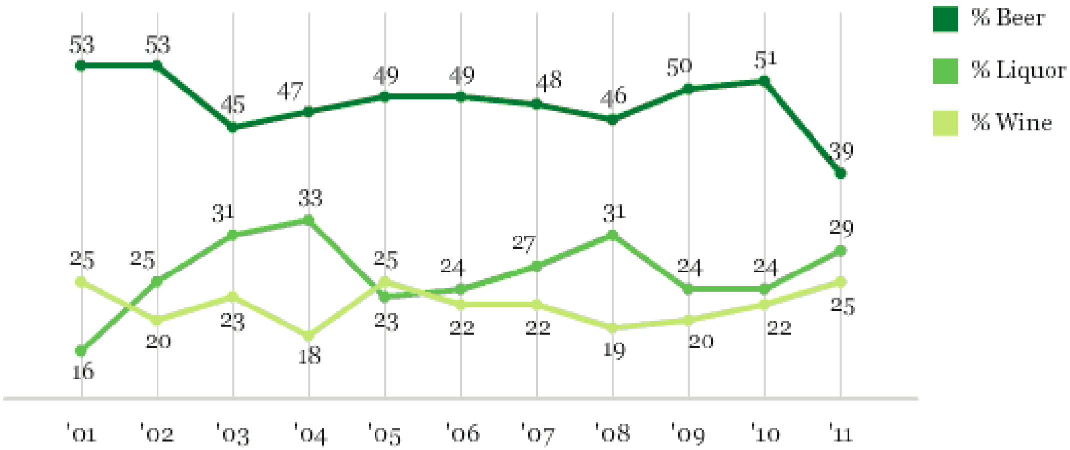
The 35% now favoring wine and 23% liquor are near the record highs for these beverages, although preferences have generally fluctuated around the current levels since about 2003.

Preference for beer declined among all age groups this year, but it fell the most among young adults -- dropping to 39% today from 51% in 2010. By contrast, middle-aged adults' preference for beer fell just three percentage points (to 41% from 44%), and older adults' fell two points (to 27% from 29%).

Younger adults' decreased preference for beer is accompanied by slight increases in their preferences for liquor and wine. Additionally, 2% of young adults this year volunteered that they most often drink cordials, up from less than 1% in 2010 and in most prior years.

Trend in Preferred Beverage Among Adult Drinkers Aged 18 to 34

2001-2011



GALLUP

Men, Young Adults, Midwesterners Exhibit Strongest Beer Preference

Gallup continues to document strong demographic differences in drink preferences, particularly along gender, age and socio-economic lines.

Nearly half of male drinkers, 48%, say they most often drink beer, followed by liquor at 26%, while 51% of female drinkers prefer wine. This pattern is consistent with prior years, although the preference for beer is down slightly among both groups compared with 2010.

Older adults tend to prefer wine, while -- despite the recent decline among young adults -- the plurality of younger and middle-aged adults favor beer.

As a result of these distinctions by age and gender, there are extremely sharp differences in drink preferences between younger men and older women, with most of the former preferring beer, and the latter, wine. Older men and younger women have somewhat more varied preferences.

Preferred Beverage Among U.S. Adult Drinkers -- by Gender and Age

	Beer	Wine	Liquor	Beer vs. wine
	%	%	%	
Male	48	20	26	+28
Female	22	51	21	-29
18 to 34 years	39	25	30	+14
35 to 54 years	41	31	23	+10
55 and older	27	47	19	-20
Men 18 to 49	53	13	28	+40
Men 50 and older	40	30	24	+10
Women 18 to 49	28	41	25	-13
Women 50 and older	17	61	16	-44

July 7-10, 2011

GALLUP

Geographically, beer enjoys its greatest popularity in the Midwest, while wine does best in the East and liquor in the South and West. Adults with no college education and those in lower-income households are also much more likely to favor beer. Nonwhites are more likely than whites to favor liquor.

Preferred Beverage Among U.S. Adult Drinkers -- by Region, Race, Income, Education

	Beer	Wine	Liquor	Beer vs. Wine
	%	%	%	
East	37	40	17	-3
Midwest	46	31	17	+15
South	29	34	28	-5
West	31	35	29	-4
White	38	36	20	+2
Nonwhite	27	33	33	-6
$75,000 or more	30	43	21	-13
$30,000-$74,999	33	38	24	-5
Less than $30,000	51	16	25	+35
College graduate	29	42	21	-13
Some college	33	32	29	+1
High school graduate or less	44	30	21	+14

July 7-10, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

The predominance of beer as Americans' favorite drink has waned over the past two decades, but that decline was punctuated this year with a five-point drop in mentions of beer, from 41% to 36%. This was driven largely by a 12-point decline among younger adults. Beer's loss corresponds with slight gains in preferences for wine and liquor, both of which consequently register near their two-decade highs in 2011.

While meaningful, this year's shifts are not much different in magnitude from those seen in 2005 -- changes that proved temporary. Whether beer continues to lose ground to other forms of liquor or rebounds may depend on the future direction of young adults' drink preferences.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 7-10, 2011, with a random sample of 1,016 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.

For results based on the sample of 666 adults who drink alcoholic beverages, one can say with 95% confidence that 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/148676/Wine-Matches-Beer-Drinkers-Preferences-Year.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

182-43-26. Most Caregivers Look After Elderly Parent; Invest a Lot of Time

Majority of caregivers have been providing care for three or more years

July 28, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The large majority of employed American caregivers -- people who work at least 15 hours per week and help care for an aging family member, relative, or friend -- are looking after an elderly parent. Specifically, 72% say they provide care to a parent and separately 67% say the person is 75 years of age or older.

PERSONAL IMPACT

7 out of 10

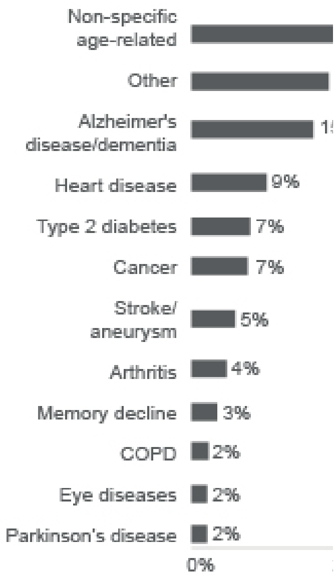
say they are caring for a parent

Majority are caring for a perso
75 years old or older

36% of caregivers say the person they are caring for lives with them

66% of caregivers live 10 m
or less away from the person tl
care for

AILMENTS OF PERSON
RECEIVING CARE



TIME SPENT ON
CAREGIVING TASKS

Average number of days per m

13 DAYS shopping, fo
preparation, housekeep
laundry, transportation
giving medication

6 DAYS eating, dressi
grooming, walking, bat
and toilet visits

The majority (55%) of caregive
have been providing care for

**3 YEARS
OR MORE**

There is no one specific ailment that afflicts the majority of people being cared for in the United States. Rather, these people suffer from a wide array of diseases or conditions. However, the 15% of caregivers who report that the person they care for has Alzheimer's disease or dementia is more than mention any other specific sickness.

These findings are from a special survey of Americans who self-identified as caregivers in Gallup Daily tracking surveys throughout 2010. Gallup recontacted those self-identified caregivers and interviewed 2,805 who were also employed at least 15 hours per week for a Pfizer-ReACT/Gallup poll specifically about caregiving.

In general, the findings from the survey reveal that caregiving has a significant impact on the life of the person providing care, including taking up a large portion of their life and a significant amount of time on a daily and monthly basis.

The majority of caregivers (55%) in the study said they have been providing care for three years or more. Another 31% reported giving care for between one year and less than three years. The remaining 15% had been providing care for a year or less. These data reveal that caregiving is generally a long-term commitment.

Errands and Day-to-Day Tasks Dominate Caregivers' Work

Caregivers report spending a lot of time on different tasks related to looking after their aging family member, relative, or friend. Caregivers appear to be spending the most time on errands and general day-to-day tasks such as going shopping, doing laundry, and providing transportation. Caregivers spend an average of 13 days per month handling these types of tasks.

Caregivers spend far fewer days -- six per month on average -- performing personal tasks such as helping the person they are caring for eat, get dressed, and go to the bathroom. This is likely tied to the finding that the majority (64%) of caregivers say the person they care for does not live with them.

Caregivers are also spending considerable time on administrative-type tasks. They report spending an average of 13 hours per month doing things like researching care services or disease needs, coordinating physician visits, and managing financial matters.

Beyond the actual work and chores of caregiving -- errands, personal items, and administrative tasks -- caregivers are fulfilling a companionship role. On a typical day spent giving care, caregivers report devoting an average of five hours providing companionship or supervision.

Implications

The Pfizer-ReACT/Gallup poll findings reveal the significant investment of time and energy caregiving for an aging family member, relative, or friend can require. Previous Gallup studies have found that working caregivers also suffer emotionally and physically. Although surely for many caregivers their efforts are a labor of love -- 72% are caring for a parent -- this doesn't mean that there aren't negative ramifications on their own personal and work lives. Ultimately, caregivers need *time*. On a regular basis, they may need days off work or time during the workday to take care of their caregiving responsibilities -- tasks that many would consider worthy of a full-time job. Employers' support on this front -- whether by being generally understanding, giving caregivers additional time off, or allowing for more flexible work schedules -- would likely go a long way to improving caregivers' lives.

See page 2 for full results on all survey questions in this article.

Survey Methods

Results for this Pfizer-ReACT/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Dec. 28, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011, with a sample of 2,805 adults, aged 18 and older, who self-identified as caregivers and were working at least 15 hours per week, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Respondents had previously self-identified as caregivers in Gallup Daily tracking surveys conducted throughout 2010 and were recontacted to participate in the survey.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±2 percentage points. For smaller groups, such as full-time employed caregivers, the maximum margin of sampling error is ±2.3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking.

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.

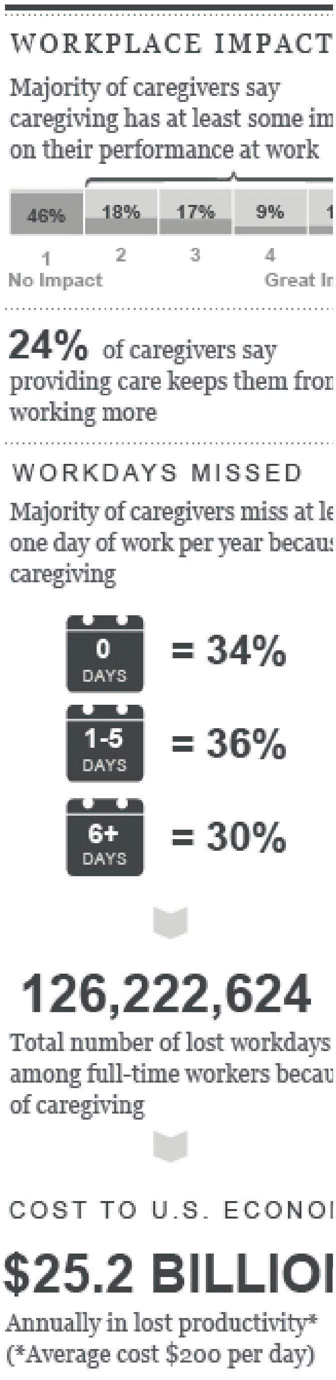
Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148682/Caregivers-Look-Elderly-Parent-Invest-Lot-Time.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

182-43-27. Caregiving Costs U.S. Economy $25.2 Billion in Lost Productivity

Nearly one-third of working caregivers miss at least six work days each year

July 27, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Working American caregivers -- those who work at least 15 hours per week and help care for an aging family member, relative, or friend -- report that their caregiving obligations significantly affect their work life.



The majority of caregivers say that caregiving has at least some impact on their performance at work. Based on a five-point scale, where five is a great impact and one is no impact, 10% of caregivers choose five and 44% pick somewhere between two and four.

Additionally, 24% of caregivers say that providing care to an aging family member, relative, or friend keeps them from being able to work more.

Most caregivers also report missing entire workdays as a result of their caregiving responsibilities. Thirty-six percent report missing one to five days per year because of caregiving duties, while 30% say they missed six or more days in the past year.

Overall, caregivers reporting missing an average of 6.6 workdays per year. With approximately 17% of the American full-time workforce acting as caregivers, this amounts to a combined 126 million missed workdays each year. This absenteeism costs the U.S. economy an estimated $25.2 billion in lost productivity per year. Including caregivers who work part time in the equation would cause absenteeism costs to climb even higher.

These findings are from a special survey of Americans who self-identified as caregivers in Gallup Daily tracking surveys throughout 2010. Gallup recontacted those self-identified caregivers and interviewed 2,805 who were also employed at least 15 hours per week for a Pfizer-ReACT/Gallup poll specifically about caregiving. All respondents answered affirmatively to the question, "Do you currently help care for an elderly family member, relative, or friend, or not?"

Most Working Caregivers in Professional Roles

Nearly one-third of all working caregivers are in a professional occupation, with another 12% each in service and management roles. Less than 5% of caregivers work in other professions such as installation/repair, transportation, and construction.

Most caregivers (71%) indicate that their employer is aware of their caregiving status, but another 28% believe that their employer is unaware. Furthermore, an analysis of knowledge of workplace support programs shows that about one-quarter or less of working caregivers have access to support groups, ask-a-nurse-type services, financial/legal advisors, and assisted living counselors through their respective workplaces.

Implications

Many caregivers face significant physical and emotional challenges on a routine basis. Given the significant effect that caregiving can have on workplace absenteeism, business leaders should be mindful of the unique realities that caregivers encounter.

Ultimately, providing an organized support system for these employees may prove to be a fruitful investment for businesses, given the high percentages of working caregivers who would like to work more if they could. Many working caregivers are likely interested in seeking support in work-life balance to help them meet their responsibilities as caregivers and employees alike, and the accessibility to assistance could potentially go a long way toward greater productivity in the U.S. workplace.

Survey Methods

Results for this Pfizer-ReACT/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Dec. 28, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011, with a sample of 2,805 adults, aged 18 and older, who self-identified as caregivers and were working at least 15 hours per week, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Respondents had previously self-identified as caregivers in Gallup Daily tracking surveys conducted throughout 2010 and were recontacted to participate in this survey.

For results based on the total sample of caregivers, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±2 percentage points. For smaller groups, such as full-time employed caregivers, the maximum margin of sampling error is ±2.3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking.

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/148670/Caregiving-Costs-Economy-Billion-Lost-Productivity.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

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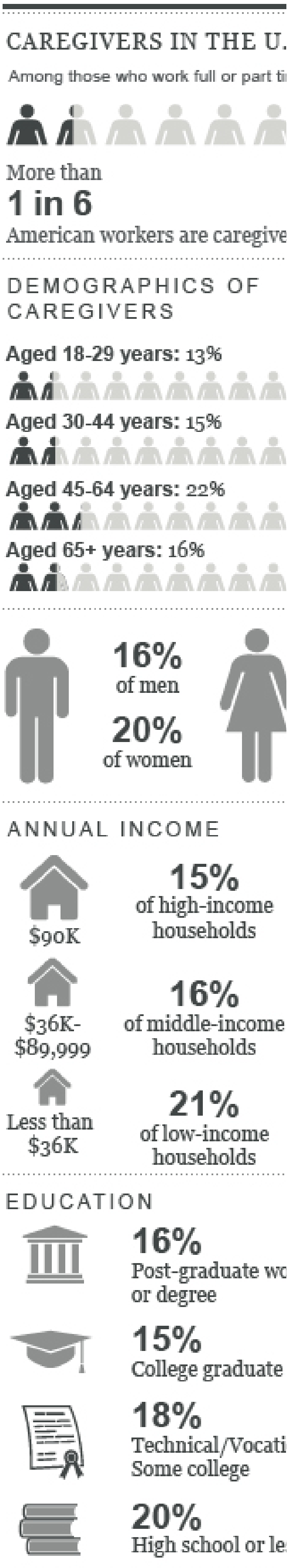
182-43-28. More Than One in Six American Workers Also Act as Caregivers

Low-income, less-educated Americans more likely to be caregivers

July 26, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- More than one in six Americans who work a full- or part-time job also report assisting with care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend.


CAREGIVERS IN THE U.
Among those who work full or part ti
More than
1 in 6
American workers are caregive
DEMOGRAPHICS OF CAREGIVERS
Aged 18-29 years: 13%
Aged 30-44 years: 15%
Aged 45-64 years: 22%
Aged 65+ years: 16%
16%
of men
20%
of women
ANNUAL INCOME
$90K
15%
of high-income households
$36K-$89,999
16%
of middle-income households
Less than $36K
21%
of low-income households
EDUCATION
16%
Post-graduate wo
or degree
15%
College graduate
18%
Technical/Vocati
Some college
20%
High school or le

Caregivers in the U.S. are diverse, with between 13% and 22% of American workers across major socioeconomic and demographic groups reporting that they fulfill a caregiver role.

These findings are from more than 200,000 surveys of employed Americans collected from January 2010 through June 2011 as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index.

The 22% of middle-aged American workers who report being a caregiver is the highest of any group. The 13% of 18- to 29-year-olds who report the same is the lowest percentage across the various groups.

Blacks (21%) and Hispanics (20%) are also among the most likely to act as caregivers. Seventeen percent of white workers say they are caregivers.

Additionally, the lower income and less educated an American is, the more likely he or she is to be a caregiver. Twenty-one percent of Americans with an annual income of less than $36,000 report that they are caregivers compared with 15% of high-income ($90,000 or more per year) households. Similarly, 20% of Americans with a high school education or less fulfill a caregiver role versus 15% of college graduates and 16% of postgraduates.

The relatively lower percentages of high-income and highly-educated American caregivers may be a reflection of their ability to pay for professional care instead of having to fulfill the role themselves. Alternatively, the pattern may be due, at least in part, to those with higher incomes and higher levels of education tending to be younger.

Women are also slightly more likely than men to be caregivers -- 20% versus 16%, respectively.

Caregiving even affects seniors, with 16% of those aged 65 or older reporting they help care for an elderly or disabled family member, relative, or friend.

Bottom Line

More than 1 in 10 American workers in all major demographic and socioeconomic groups report that they are a caregiver. Caregiving is most prevalent among those who are middle-aged, low-income, black, Hispanic, or less educated.

Previous Gallup research has also already shown that caregivers have worse emotional and physical health compared to non-caregivers.

The next article in Gallup's series will show that caregiving also involves a significant investment of time and has a large impact on the workplace.

Community and employer support for the groups most likely to be fulfilling the role of caregiver in addition to their regular employment is likely to go a long way in improving the lives of not just those giving care, but also the lives of the people they care for.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 239,639 aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 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/148640/One-Six-American-Workers-Act-Caregivers.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

182-43-29. Common State Abortion Restrictions Spark Mixed Reviews

Most Americans favor abortion consent laws; oppose clinic funding bans, late-term abortions

July 25, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Large majorities of Americans favor the broad intent of several types of abortion restriction laws that are now common in many states, but have mixed or negative reactions to others.

U.S. Support for Specific Abortion Restrictions

Do you favor or oppose each of the following proposals?

	Favor	Oppose
	%	%
A law requiring doctors to inform patients about certain possible risks of abortion before performing the procedure	87	11
A law requiring women under 18 to get parental consent for any abortion	71	27
A law requiring women seeking abortions to wait 24 hours before having the procedure done	69	28
A law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure conducted in the last six months of pregnancy known as a "partial birth abortion," except in cases necessary to save the life of the mother	64	31
A law requiring women seeking an abortion to be shown an ultrasound image of her fetus at least 24 hours before the procedure	50	46
A law allowing pharmacists and health providers to opt out of providing medicine or surgical procedures that result in abortion	46	51
A law prohibiting health clinics that provide abortion services from receiving any federal funds	40	57

July 15-17, 2011

GALLUP'

Of seven abortion restrictions tested in a July 15-17 Gallup poll, informing women of certain risks of an abortion in advance of performing it is the most widely favored, at 87%. Seven in 10 Americans favor requiring parental consent for minors and establishing a 24-hour waiting period for women seeking abortions. Nearly two-thirds favor making the specific procedure known as "partial birth abortion" illegal.

At the other extreme, 57% of Americans oppose laws prohibiting health clinics that provide abortion services from receiving any federal funds -- a policy akin to the recent efforts in Congress and some states to defund Planned Parenthood.

Americans are more mixed in their reactions to laws requiring women to see an ultrasound image of her fetus prior before having an abortion and to so-called "conscience laws" that allow pharmacists and other health providers to opt out of providing abortion services.

Partisan Gaps Dwarf Gender Differences

Gallup typically finds few differences between men's and women's attitudes about the legality of abortion in general. Consistent with that, the new poll shows relatively minor gender differences in views about the seven specific restrictions tested.

Partisan differences are much greater, although majorities of Democrats as well as most Republicans favor informed consent, parental consent, 24-hour waiting periods, and a ban on "partial birth abortion."

By contrast, Republicans and Democrats are on opposite sides when it comes to opt-out provisions and withholding federal funds from abortion providers.

U.S. Support for Specific Abortion Restrictions -- by Gender, Party ID

% Favor each restriction

	Men	Women	Republican	Independent	Democrat
	%	%	%	%	%
A 24-hour waiting period	68	70	85	67	60
Parental consent for minors	69	72	83	71	61
"Partial birth abortion" ban	67	62	72	65	59
Informed consent	84	89	95	86	84
Ban federal funds for abortion providers	43	37	58	40	25
Opt-out provisions for pharmacists and healthcare providers	47	44	62	46	33
Ultrasound requirement	48	52	66	42	49

July 15-17, 2011

GALLUP

Residents of the states where these laws have been passed may have views that differ from those of the public at large. While Gallup does not have state-level data on these questions, regional breakdowns show that residents of the South and Midwest are generally more supportive of the policies than those in the East and West. This is particularly true for attitudes on mandatory ultrasound counseling, parental consent laws, 24-hour waiting periods, and bans on funding of abortion clinics.

Most Americans Oppose Abortion in Advanced Trimesters

The abortion issue has had a relatively low profile in national politics in recent years, particularly by comparison with the activity seen at the state level. According to information compiled by theGuttmacher Institute, 19 states enacted 80 laws putting new restrictions on abortion in the first half of 2011, up from 23 such laws enacted in 2010 and shattering the previous record of 34 set in 2005.

The net result of this year's legislative activity is that, according to the Guttmacher Institute, 46 states now allow medical professionals and 43 allow at least some institutions to opt out of participating in abortions, 36 require parental involvement for minors (either notification or consent), 24 have waiting-period requirements, 19 mandate some sort of counseling, and 16 ban "partial birth" abortions.

Additionally, the Guttmacher report indicates that 39 states have limits on how late in pregnancy abortions can be performed, with exceptions for abortions necessary to protect the woman's life or health. Most of these laws prohibit abortion either after "viability," after 24 weeks, or in the third trimester.

According to recent Gallup polling, these gestation-based limits are consistent with Americans' hesitancy about late-term abortion. When asked if abortion should be legal in each of the three trimesters, 71% say it should be illegal in the second trimester and 86% in the third. This is according to a June 9-12 Gallup poll. However, 6 in 10 think abortion should be generally legal in the first trimester, consistent with prior Gallup polling showing that Americans reject overturning Roe v. Wade or banning abortion outright.

U.S. Support for Legal Abortion by Trimester

Thinking more generally, do you think abortion should generally be legal or generally illegal during each of the following stages of pregnancy?

	Should be legal	Should be illegal	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
First three months	62	35	2	1
Second three months	24	71	3	2
Last three months	10	86	2	1

(vol.) = Volunteered response
June 9-12, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

Since the 1992 *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* Supreme Court case, which lowered the constitutional hurdle for state-level restrictions on abortion, "pro-life" lawmakers and activists have focused more of their efforts on chipping away at the legality of abortion in the states than on trying to win a sweeping ban in Washington.

After nearly two decades, these efforts have resulted in a patchwork of restrictions across the states, many of which enjoy broad public support. Most Americans favor laws that require abortion providers to inform women of certain risks and consequences of abortion and give parents more control over their daughters' reproductive decisions. They are also broadly receptive to laws that protect the fetus late in pregnancy, including "partial birth abortions." While Americans might not agree with specific aspects of all of these laws as enacted, they do favor the broad outlines as described in Gallup polling.

Other abortion restrictions have less public support. Nearly as many Americans oppose as favor requiring abortion providers to conduct ultrasounds and display ultrasounds for pregnant women seeking an abortion. The issue is making news in Texas as a "pro-choice" group is challenging that state's newly enacted ultrasound requirement in federal court. And despite laws in most states permitting medical providers to opt out of participating in abortions, the slight majority of Americans oppose this. However, public opinion stands most clearly against bans on federal funds for health clinics that provide abortions, something that could help Planned

Parenthood and similar clinics thwart Republican efforts to do this at both the state and national levels.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted July 15-17, 2011, with a random sample of 1,020 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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148631/Common-State-Abortion-Restrictions-Spark-Mixed-Reviews.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-30. 80% Believe U.S. Reporters Sometimes Use Illegal Methods

80% Also Fear Media Conglomerates Have Too Much Influence

July 28, 2011

UTICA, NY - In the wake of a British media scandal involving illegal phone hacking, high percentages of U.S. likely voters believe reporters in the United States sometimes use illegal methods to learn personal information and that some media conglomerates have too much influence on how we receive news.

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll conducted from July 22-25 also finds 54% believe executives of the company accused, News Corp, share equal responsibility with those who actually may have done the phone hacking.

There is evidence that a British newspaper's journalists invaded peoples' voicemail accounts, including both that of a 13-year-old murder victim and relatives of fallen soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Do you believe this is an isolated incident in Great Britain, or that reporters in the U.S. also sometimes use illegal methods to learn someone's personal information?

Response	
Reporters in the U.S. also sometimes use illegal methods to learn someone's personal information	0%
Isolated incident in Great Britain	

	%
Not sure	3%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The owner of the newspaper in question is News Corp., the world's second-largest media conglomerate after the Disney Company. News Corp's holdings in addition to British and Australian media include U.S. companies Fox Broadcasting, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Post, Dow Jones and 20th Century Fox TV and movie production. Disney Company owns ABC TV, ESPN, Walt Disney Studios and more than a dozen cable TV networks.

How concerned are you that some media conglomerates may have too much influence on how we receive news?

Response	
Very + somewhat concerned	0%
Not very + not at all concerned	7%

Which of the following best represents how accountable the chief executives of a conglomerate should be for continued illegal activities such as those associated with the newspaper owned by News Corp?

Response	
As executives, they share equal responsibility with those who may have actually conducted the illegal activities.	4%
Executives of such large corporations can't be aware of all that goes on in individual holdings, and should not be held personally responsible.	9%
Neither	%
Not sure	%

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,297 voters. A sampling of IBOPE Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the US, was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, education to more accurately reflect the population. The margin of error is +/- 2.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups. The MOE calculation is for sampling error only.

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/2011/07/28/ibope-zogby-british-press-scandal-poll-80-believe-us-reporters-sometimes-use-illegal-methods/

182-43-31. Six in 10 Disagree With Ending Space Shuttle & Fear Others Will Surpass U.S. in Exploration

Combined NASA & Business Efforts Favored for Future Exploring

July 27, 2011

UTICA, NY - Majorities of U.S. voters disagree with the decision to end space shuttle missions and fear other nations might surpass the U.S. in space exploration. Also, future space exploration through both NASA and private companies is seen as preferable to either going it alone.

The IBOPE Zogby interactive poll conducted from July 22-25 also shows 74% say the space shuttle was a worthwhile use of government resources.

The final space shuttle mission ended with the safe landing of the Atlantis last week.

NASA has just completed its last space shuttle mission. Do you agree or disagree with the decision to end space shuttle missions?

Agree 33%

Disagree 59%

Not sure 8%

Overall, do you believe the space shuttle was a worthwhile use of government resources?

Yes 74%

No 13%

Not sure 13%

Should future space exploration be conducted through NASA or by private companies?

NASA 28%

Private Companies 17%

Both 48%

Neither 2%

Not sure 5%

How concerned are you that other nations might surpass the U.S. in their ability to explore space?

Very or somewhat concerned 60%

Not very or not at all concerned 38%

Not sure 3%

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,297 voters. A sampling of IBOPE Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the US, was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population. The margin of error is +/- 2.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups. The MOE calculation is for sampling error only.

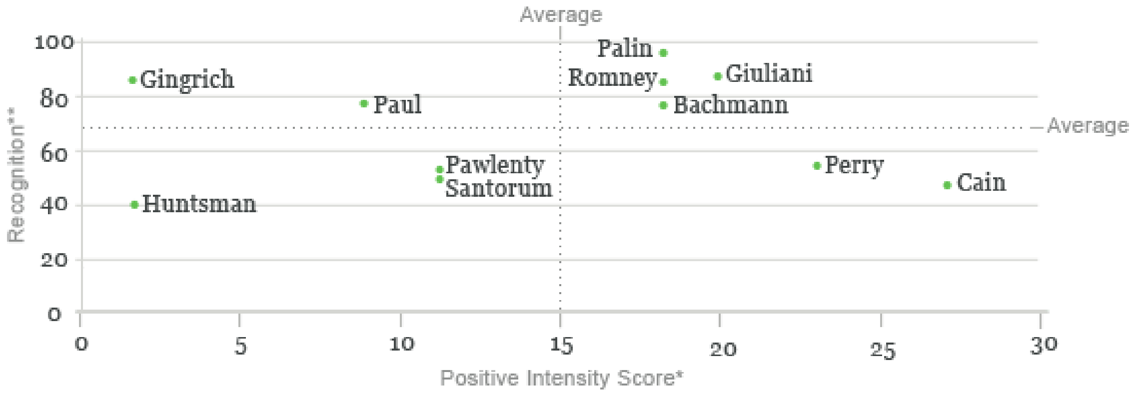
Source:http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/07/27/ibope-zogby-poll-six-10-disagree-ending-space-shuttle-fear-others-will-surpass-us-exploration/

182-43-32. Cain and Perry Top GOP Positive Intensity List

Giuliani, Bachmann, Palin, and Romney also above average

PRINCETON, NJ -- Herman Cain and Rick Perry have the highest Positive Intensity Scores among Republicans who know them. Rudy Giuliani, Michele Bachmann, Sarah Palin, and Mitt Romney trail slightly behind. There are no signs of improvement in the weaker Positive Intensity Scores of Tim Pawlenty, Rick Santorum, Ron Paul, Newt Gingrich, or Jon Huntsman.

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

July 11-24, 2011

GALLUP'

Perry, Giuliani, and Palin -- three of the six GOP contenders generating the highest enthusiasm among Republicans nationwide -- have not yet announced whether they are going to run for their party's nomination. Recent news reports have focused most intensely on the possibility that 10-year Texas Gov. Perry will jump into the race. If he does, one of his first challenges will be to increase his name recognition; his 56% recognition score is well below the recognition of many GOP candidates or potential candidates. On the other hand, Perry generates strong enthusiasm from Republicans who know him. His Positive Intensity Score is up to 23 for July 11-24, second only to that of the slightly less well-known Georgia businessman -- and announced candidate -- Cain.

Giuliani and Palin are the other two unannounced candidates who generate significant enthusiasm among Republicans, and, unlike Perry, both are well-known. As has been the case all year, Palin generates strong reactions on the positive and the negative side of the ledger. Twenty-six percent of Republicans have a strongly favorable opinion of the former Alaska governor, the same as for Perry and higher than Giuliani's 22%. Palin, however, also has an 8% strongly unfavorable rating (vs. 3% each for Perry and Giuliani), which pulls down her overall Positive Intensity Score.

Twenty-one percent of Republicans have a strongly favorable opinion of former Massachusetts Gov. Romney, while 3% have a strongly unfavorable opinion. He is recognized by 85% of Republicans. Bachmann's recognition score is now 78%, up 26 percentage points from early March. Bachmann's Positive Intensity Score of 18 is identical to Romney's, based on the 23% of Republicans who give her a strongly favorable rating and the 5% whose opinion is strongly unfavorable.

The other five candidates Gallup is measuring have varying degrees of recognition among Republicans, but none are yet showing signs of generating strongly positive opinions among them. Gingrich and Paul are the best known among this group, followed by Pawlenty, Santorum, and Huntsman. Gingrich and Huntsman continue to have the lowest Positive Intensity Scores of any candidate or potential candidate tested.

Implications

The campaign for the GOP presidential nomination remains unsettled as several high-profile Republicans ponder whether to jump into the race. The July 11-24 Gallup tracking data make it clear that potential candidates Perry, Giuliani, and Palin would have an immediate impact on the race if they were to enter it. Perry is the least well-known nationally of these three, but generates the strongest positive intensity from those who do know him. Giuliani and Palin are much better known, and have above-average Positive Intensity Scores.

Among announced candidates, Cain has the strongest Positive Intensity Score, although his recognition among Republicans nationwide has yet to break the 50% barrier. Bachmann is now almost as well-known as Romney, and this week they share a Positive Intensity Score of 18.

The data continue to provide sobering news for Paul, Pawlenty, Santorum, Gingrich, and Huntsman. None of these announced candidates have been able to move the needle on their below-average Positive Intensity Scores in recent weeks. Additionally, Pawlenty's, Santorum's, and Huntsman's name recognition has been static, with no new signs that their campaign efforts are attracting the attention of rank-and-file Republicans nationwide.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking July 11- 24, 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 11 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/148655/Cain-Perry-Top-GOP-Positive-Intensity-List.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

182-43-33. Amid Debt Battle, More Americans Say Economy Getting Worse

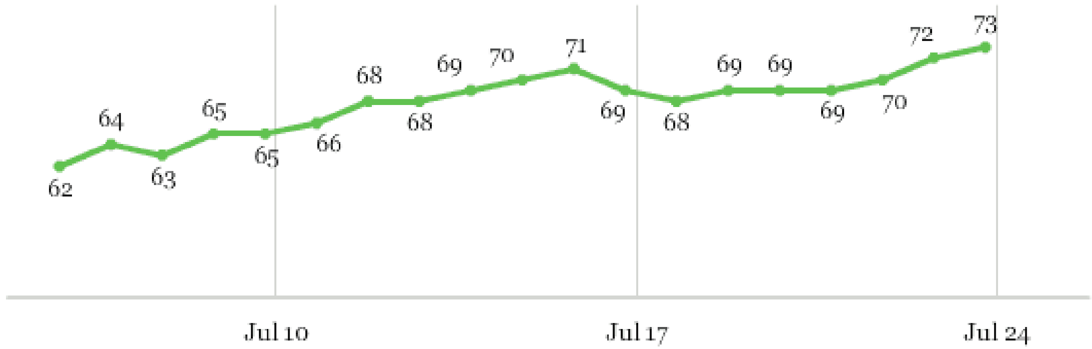
Gallup's Economic Confidence Index falls to -46 in the three days ending July 24

July 26, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Seventy-three percent of Americans in Gallup Daily tracking over the July 22-24 weekend say the U.S. economy is getting worse. This is up 11 percentage points from the three days ending July 6, and the worst level for this measure since the three days ending March 12, 2009.

Percentage of Americans Saying Current Economic Conditions Are "Getting Worse," July 2011

Rolling three-day averages beginning July 3-6



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

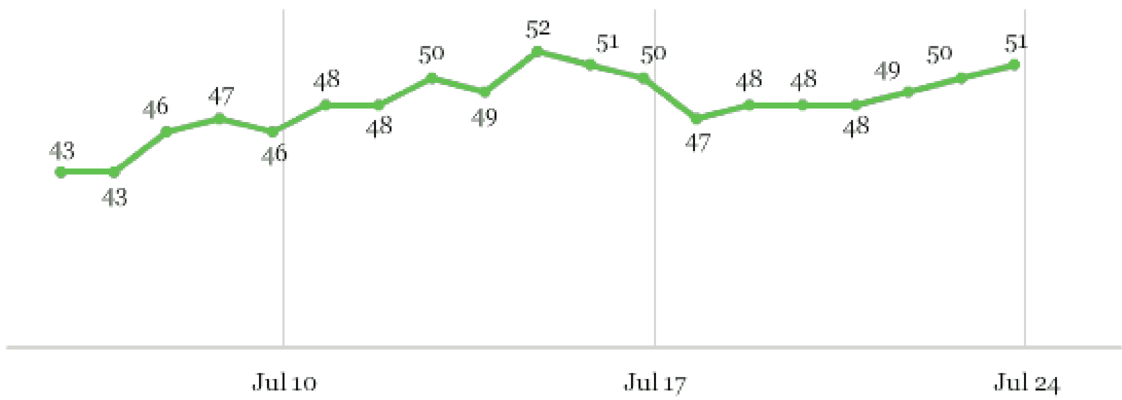
Gallup tracks consumer perceptions of the U.S. economy daily and reports the results in three-day rolling, weekly, and monthly averages. More Americans have been saying the U.S. economy is getting worse throughout June and early July than said this over most of the previous five months. However, the number of Americans feeling this way has risen further over the last few weeks.

Half Rate the Current Economy "Poor"

Fifty-one percent of Americans rated current economic conditions "poor" over the weekend. This is up from 43% in early July, reflecting a continued deterioration in many Americans' views.

Percentage of Americans Saying Current Economic Conditions Are "Poor," July 2011

Rolling three-day averages beginning July 6



Gallup Daily tracking

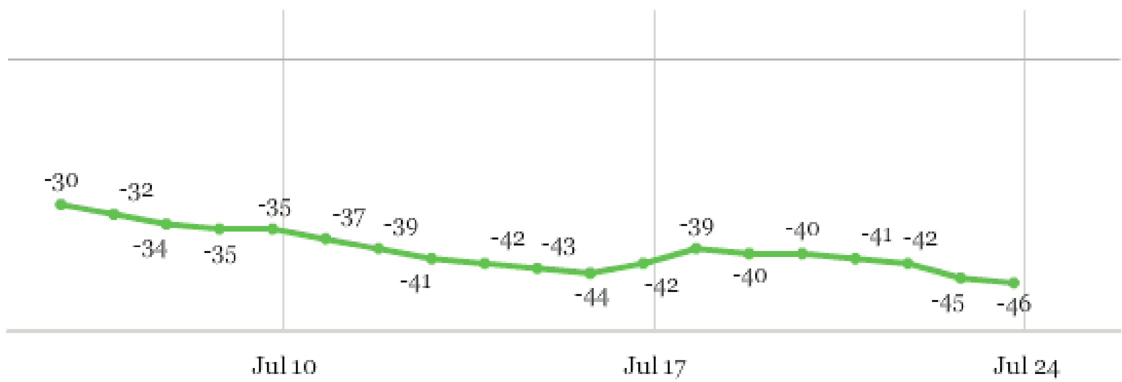
GALLUP

Economic Confidence at Recessionary Levels

As a result of the declines in Americans' assessments of the economy's current state and its future direction, Gallup's Economic Confidence Index fell sharply to -46 in the three days ending July 24 -- worsening from -41 before the weekend and -30 at the beginning of the month.

Economic Confidence Index, July 2011

Rolling three-day averages beginning July 6



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

On a weekly basis, the Economic Confidence Index fell to -43 for the week ending July 24. This is itslowest weekly level since the week ending March 22, 2009.

Implications

The president, the Treasury secretary, and congressional leaders worried openly over the weekend about what might happen in the international financial markets if a debt-ceiling increase agreement wasn't reached. They feared trouble in the Asian money markets when they opened on Sunday night and on Wall Street on Monday morning. Although there were some losses in the money markets after a debt ceiling deal failed to materialize, these were far less than might have been expected -- particularly in light of what government leaders were saying.

Still, Gallup's data show that Americans' perceptions of the future of the U.S. economy should be the real concern for policymakers and the overall economy. All of the talk about default likely has weighed on consumer confidence, as has the dismal jobs market, increasing gas prices, and the economic soft patch.

It may be that once the debt ceiling battle is resolved, economic confidence will return. In the interim, however, it appears consumer psychology is continuing to deteriorate rapidly. The Conference Board is likely to pick up on this when it reports its Consumer Confidence Index later this week. It is also likely to be reflected in an anemic back-to-school sales season in the weeks ahead.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted on a three-day rolling basis in July 2011, ending July 24. For the three days ending July 24, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, interviews were conducted with a random sample of 1,529 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.

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148637/Amid-Debt-Battle-Americans-Say-Economy-Getting-Worse.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

182-43-34. Bad Economic News Dampens Canadian Consumer Confidence: Survey

28.07.2011 Canada

Canadian consumers' are no longer showing the optimism of the last three months.

TORONTO July 27 2011 - Canadian consumers' are no longer showing the optimism of the last three months, as negative reports on employment, continuing high gas prices, the markets, and the yet to be resolved debt crisis have all taken their toll on how Canadians feel about the economy. After three successive months of gains, the TNS Consumer Confidence Index dropped in July from 100.3 to 99.7.

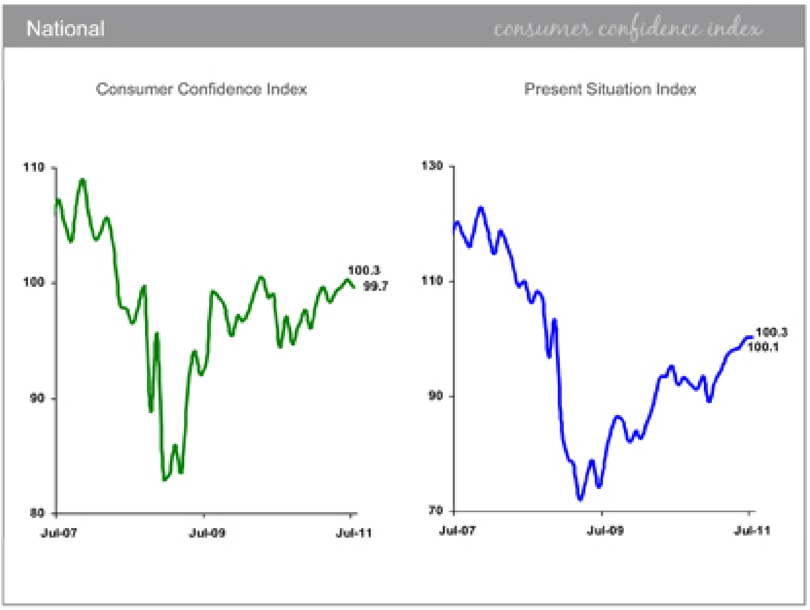
“You can only take so much bad news about the economy before you start believing it yourself.” said Norman Baillie-David, Vice President of TNS Canada and director of the marketing and social research firm’s monthly tracking study. “Despite these being the dog days of summer, economic news has been negative lately, and this eventually shows up in how people tend to feel about future prospects, and especially how they feel about making big purchases.”

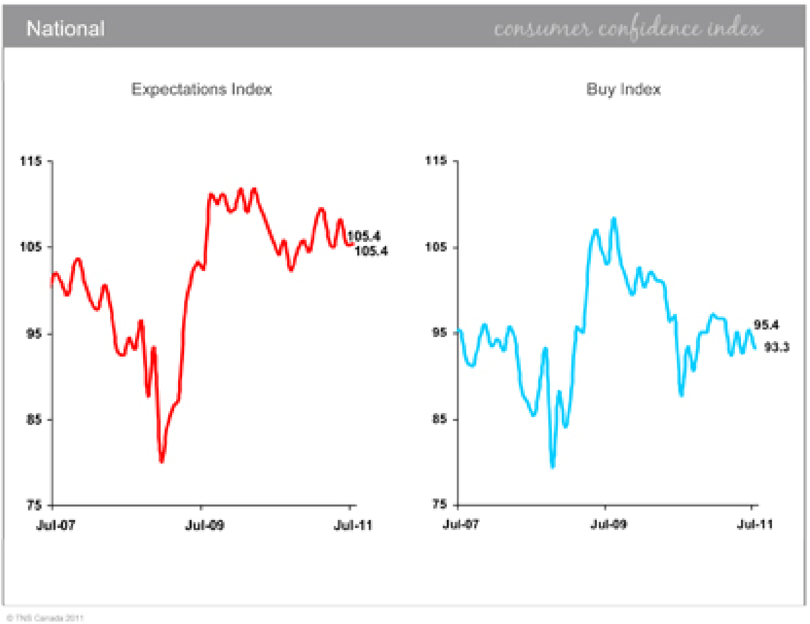
The Present Situation Index, which measures how people feel about the economy right now, was almost unchanged, up very slightly, from 100.1 to 100.3.

More importantly, the Buy Index, which measures the extent to which Canadians’ feel that now is a good time to purchase a “big ticket item”, such as a car or major household appliances, has dropped more than two full points, from 95.4 to 93.3, losing the gains that it made when people were feeling better in the Spring. “Between slow job prospects, high gas prices, and the US debt crisis (and it’s potential impact on the world economy) people are no longer sure of themselves, and big ticket buying is being put on hold.” added Mr. Baillie-David.

The Expectations Index, which measures people’s outlook for the economy six months from now, remains unchanged at 105.4.

Consumer Confidence Index tracks Canadians’ attitudes about the economy each month and is part of a global study conducted by TNS in 18 countries. Three indices are produced each month to show how confidence in the economy is changing: Present Situation Index; an Expectations Index; and a Buy Index. The Canadian fieldwork is conducted using the firm’s national bi-weekly telephone omnibus service, TNS Express Telephone. A total of 1,015 nationally representative Canadian adults were interviewed between July 11 and July 15, 2011. For a survey sample of this size, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.





About the CCI study

Seven questions make up the core survey of Consumer Confidence. While the overall CCI index uses all 7 questions to produce an index score, there are three sub-indices that rely on some of the questions.

CCI Index: Includes all 7 variables

Present Situation Index:

- How would you describe your country's current economic situation?
- How would you describe your country's current employment situation?

Expectations Index:

- What do you think will be your country's economic situation in the next 6 months?
- What do you think will be your country's employment situation in the next 6 months?
- What do you think your income will be in 6 months time?

Buy Index:

- Taking into consideration the cost of things today and the financial situation in general, to what extent would you say that now is a good or bad time to buy products such as: a house or apartment, a car, household appliances such as a washing machine, a refrigerator, a TV set etc.?

About the Director of the Canadian Study

About Norman Baillie-David: Norman ("Norm") Baillie-David is Vice President and Director of Public Opinion Research , and Head of Qualitative Research and Strategy for TNS Canada. He also leads the TNS office in the National Capital Region, as well as sitting on the TNS Global Steering Committee for Political and Social Research.

Norm is a seasoned market researcher and bilingual focus group moderator, with g g p more than twenty five years of experience in market and social research and strategy development. As a bilingual and bicultural Montrealer originally, Norman is one of those rare researchers who conducts research in a seamless and transparent manner among both English and French Canadians, with each group believing that he is "one of their own". The result is a keen insider's perspective on sentiments across the country among both English and French. Having conducted more than 1,000 surveys and many more focus groups, Norm is constantly abreast of what Canadian consumers across the country are thinking and feeling about their prospects.

Norm has designed and managed more than 1,000 surveys in a wide-variety of areas, ranging from high-technology to consumer products, and Norman is a recognized "expert" in complex survey methodology design and multivariate statistical analysis. He is in frequent demand by the media and market research industry in Canada to speak on the comparisons and contrasts of public opinion in Quebec and the rest of Canada, and has published widely. In addition, Norm has conducted assignments in more than 40 different countries around the world, and has a keen interest in cross-cultural issues, especially related to public opinion and the use of technology.

Before joining TNS Canada, Norm was Managing Partner of an Ottawa-based public opinion research and management consulting firm (2001-2009). He spent most of his preceding career at a major management consulting firm, as well as three years with a wellknown Quebec market research firm. He is a Certified Marketing Research Professional (CMRP), member of the Market Research Intelligence Association (MRIA), and he served as a President of the Ottawa Chapter from 2002 to 2004.

About TNS

TNS Canada (formerly known as TNS Canadian Facts) is the Canadian arm of TNS. TNS is the global leader in custom market research delivering actionable insights and research-based business advice to clients around the globe so they can make more effective business decisions. TNS offers comprehensive industry knowledge within the Consumer, Technology, Finance, Automotive and Political & Social sectors, supported by a unique product offering that stretches across the entire range of marketing and business issues, specializing in product development & innovation, brand & communication, stakeholder management, retail & shopper, and qualitative research. Delivering best-in-class service across more than 80 countries, TNS is dedicated to discovering growth opportunities for its clients in an ever-changing world. Through its pioneering and innovative culture, TNS understands the latest marketing challenges and research techniques, being the first to discover and solve new marketing issues for clients.

Source: http://www.tnsglobal.com/news/news-83ADE4F77718487DB47209027021C1E1.aspx

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AUSTRALASIA

182-43-35. New Zealand National-Led Government Gains And Has Winning Lead 57.5% cf. 42.5%

Finding No. 4690 - This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone with a NZ wide cross-section of 895 electors from July 11-24, 2011. Of all electors surveyed 8.5% (unchanged) didn't name a party.: July 28, 2011

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is at 57.5% (up 2.5%). Support for Key's National Party is 52% (up 3%), ACT NZ 2% (down 1%), the Maori Party 3% (up 0.5%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged).

Support for Opposition Parties is at 42.5% (down 2.5%) — Labour Party 31.5% (down 2%), Greens 7.5% (unchanged), New Zealand First 2.5% (down 0.5%), Mana Party 0.5% and Others 0.5% (down 0.5%).

If a National Election were held today the **National Party would easily be returned to Government.**

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has risen 1 point to 127.5 with 56.5% (up 0.5%) of New Zealanders saying New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction' compared to 29% (down 0.5%) that say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction.'

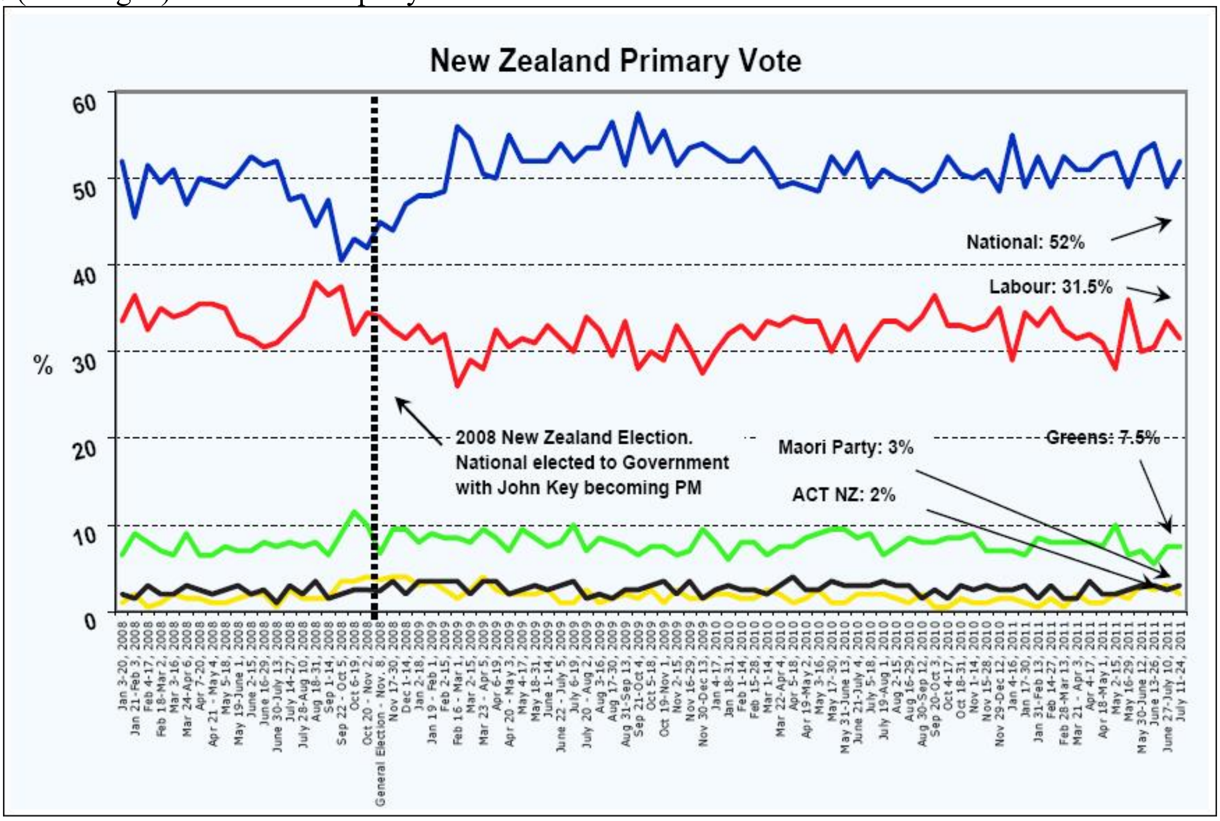
Gary Morgan says:

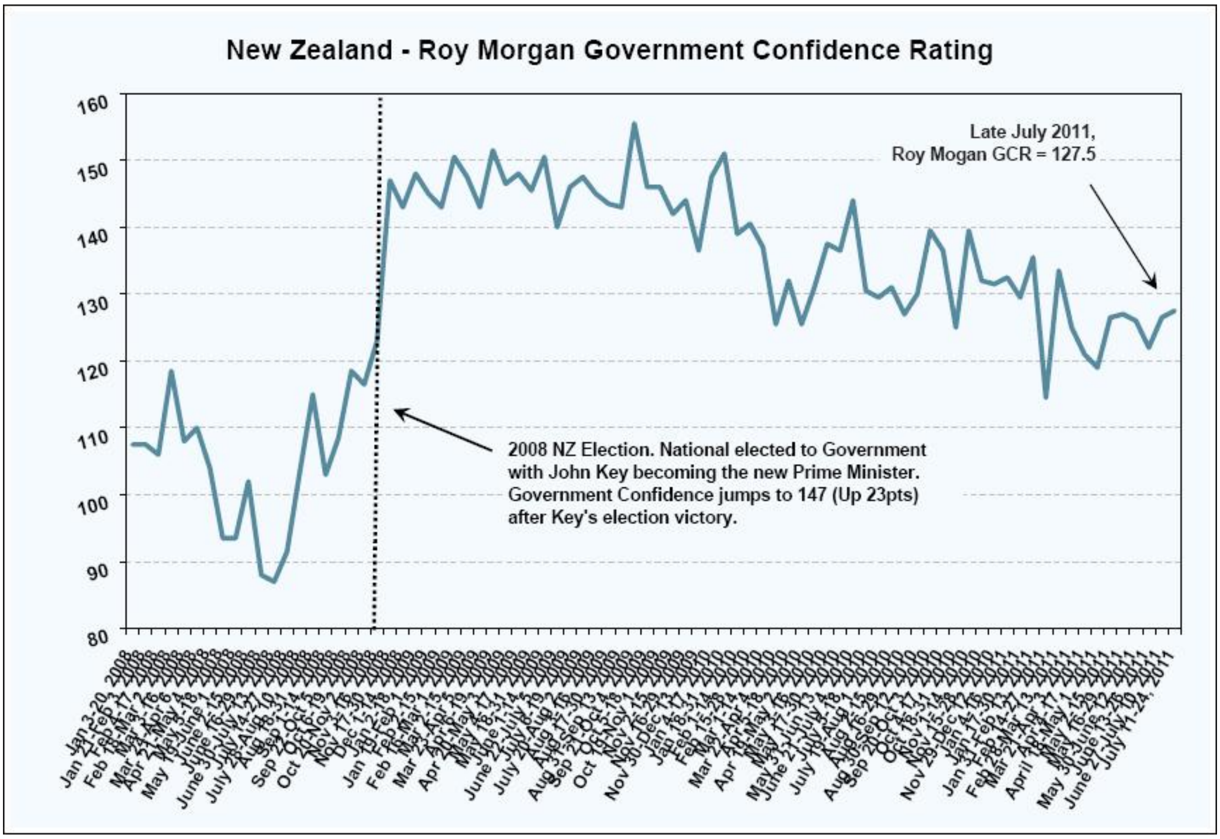
"Today's New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows an increasing lead for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government (57.5%, up 2.5%), well ahead of the Opposition Parties (42.5%, down 2.5%). A further good sign for the Key Government is the rise in the New Zealand Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating — up 1pt to 127.5 and now at its highest since mid March.

"Roy Morgan has measured nationwide support for Hone Harawira's new Mana Party for the first time at 0.5%, level with United Future, after the victory on June 25, 2011 of Harawira in a by-election for his electorate (Te Tai Tokerau) caused by his resignation from the Maori Party."

Electors were asked: *"If a New Zealand Election were held today which party would receive your party vote?"*

This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone with a NZ wide cross-section of 895 electors from July 11-24, 2011. Of all electors surveyed 8.5% (unchanged) didn't name a party.





Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. The following table gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. The figures are approximate and for general guidance only, and assume a simple random sample.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate 40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
500	±4.5	±3.9	±2.7	±1.9
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4

Source: http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4690/

182-43-36. Australians Believe Economic & Financial Issues (37%, Up 5%) Are The Most Important Problems Facing Australia And The World (35%, Up 5%).

Finding No. 4688 - In Australia, a cross-section of 1,262 men and women aged 14 or over were interviewed by telephone on July 13/14, 2011. Respondents were asked: “Firstly, what do you think is the most important problem facing the World today?” and “What do you think is the most important problem facing Australia today?”: July 26, 2011

Australians believe the most important problems facing **Australia** and the **World** are Economic and Financial issues according to the latest Roy Morgan Research conducted in mid July 2011.

Australian views on Problems facing Australia

When asked about the most important problem facing Australia, Economic & Financial issues are mentioned by 37% (up 5% since June 2011) including the Carbon Tax 12%, (up 7%) (Disapprove — 10% cf. Approve — 2%), the Economy, Economic problems & Interest Rates (9%, up 1%) and Cost of Living issues & Inflation (4%, down 2%).

A group of issues labelled 'Government, Politics, Immigration & Human Rights issues' are named by 29% (up 3%) of Australians. Within that group a high 16% (up 7%) mentioned issues about the Government, the political system, political leadership and Julia Gillard; 5% (down 4%) mentioned Refugees and asylum seekers; and 3% (down 2%) immigration policies.

Environmental issues are mentioned by 25% (up 4%) as the most important problem facing Australia — the most important Environmental Issue is the Carbon Tax 12% (up 7%) (Disapprove — 10% cf. Approve — 2%) almost equal to all other Environmental issues combined including Climate Change/ Global warming (8%, down 2%), Other Environmental issues (2%, unchanged), Pollution/ Rubbish (1%, up 1%) and Water conservation (1%, unchanged) and several smaller issues.

Australian views on Problems facing the World

The biggest **World** problems are Economic & Financial issues (35%, up 5% since June 2011), but remain well below the peak of 51% reached over two years ago in May 2009. Within the broad group of Economic issues the Economy, Economic problems, Interest rates (16%, up 7%) is ahead of Poverty & the gap between the rich and poor (8%, down 1%), Over-population (4%, down 1%) and Financial problems/ Money issues (3%, up 1%) as the most important Economic issues.

Environmental issues (mentioned by 32% of Australians, unchanged since June 2011) are the next biggest problem facing the **World** today — clearly the most important issue is still Climate Change/ Global warming (18%, down 5%) followed by Famine/ Food shortages (5%, up 2%).

Some 9% (down 5%) consider Terrorism, Wars, Security & Safety to be the biggest problem facing the **World**.

Michele Levine says:

"This latest Roy Morgan Issues Research shows that Government, political system, leadership and Julia Gillard (16%, up 7% since June 2011) and the Carbon Tax (12%, up 7%) have become the most important issues facing Australia over the past month. Overall Economic & Financial issues (Including the Carbon Tax) are now clearly the most important set of problems facing Australia — now at 37% (up 5%) — the highest since May 2009.

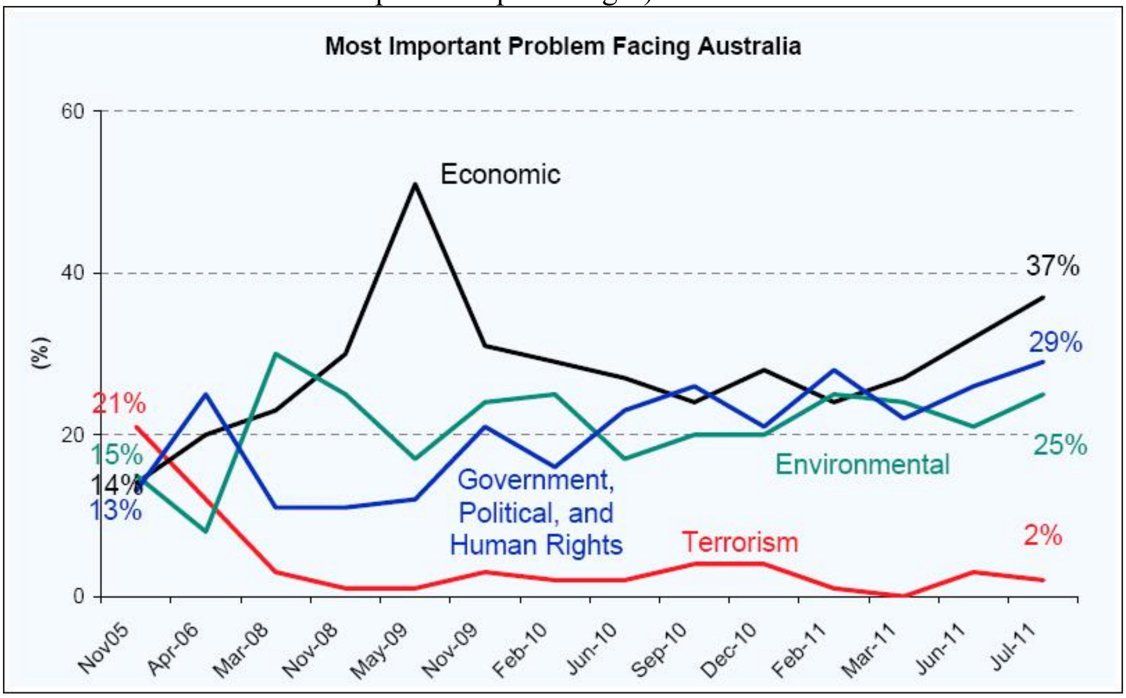
"Prior to the signing of the so-called 'Malaysian Solution' this week falling in importance over the past month are most notably the related issues of Refugees and Asylum problems (5%, down 4%) and Immigration/ Immigration policy (3%, down 2%) — at a combined 8% this is the lowest these issues have been since the Global Financial Crisis in early 2009. This result will encourage the Government that the 'Malaysian Solution' signed this week by Immigration Minister Chris Bowen may provide the resolution to the tricky issue of 'boat people' the Gillard Government has been looking for.

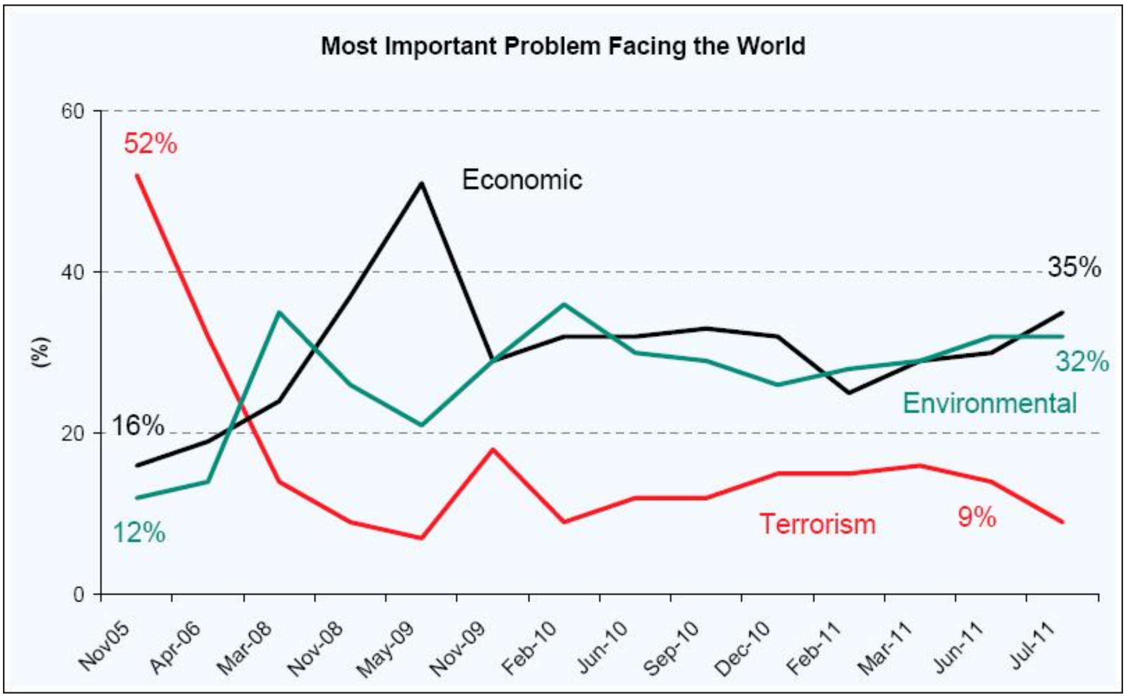
"Looking at the most important problems facing the World Economic & Financial issues (35%, up 5%) has risen strongly over the past month — driven mainly by a strong increase in those mentioning The Economy/ Economic problems/ Interest rates (16%, up 7%). Environmental issues (32%, unchanged) are still seen as a huge issue for the world, despite a drop in those mentioning Climate Change/ Global warming (18%, down 5%). Terrorism/ Wars/Security/ Safety (9%, down 5%) has dropped to its lowest since February 2010 — as the conflict in Libya has moved away from the front pages of local newspapers."

These findings come from a special Roy Morgan survey conducted in Australia on attitudes towards issues facing **Australia** and the **World** in the future.

In Australia, a cross-section of 1,262 men and women aged 14 or over were interviewed by telephone on July 13/14, 2011. Respondents were asked: "Firstly, what do you think is the most important problem facing the World today?" and "What do you think is the most important problem facing Australia today?"

The research conducted was both **qualitative** (in that people were asked to use their own words) and **quantitative** (in that the 'open-ended' responses were analysed and 'coded' so that the results could be counted and reported as percentages).





Source: http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4688/

CYBERWORLD

182-43-37. 71% of Online Adults Now Use Video-Sharing Sites

July 26, 2011

More online Americans are using video-sharing sites-- and they are doing so more frequently. As of May 2011, 71% of online adults reported watching videos on a video-sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo. A demographic portrait of these site users is in the table below.

Who uses video-sharing sites

% of internet users within each group who watch videos on a video-sharing site

Internet users	Ever use video-sharing site	Used video-sharing site 'yesterday'	N=
All Internet Users	71%	28%	846
Gender			
Men	71	32	375
Women	71	25	471
Age			
18-29	92	47	142
30-49	80	27	262
50-64	54	20	266
65+	31	11	144
Race/Ethnicity			
White, non-Hispanic	69	25	613
Black, non-Hispanic	76	28	85
Hispanic	81	39	77
Household Income			
Less than $30,000	71	26	189
$30,000-$49,999	75	36	151
$50,000-$74,999	76	25	127
$75,000+	81	32	208
Education level			
High school grad	63	18	232
Some college	75	33	215
College+	75	34	351
Geographic location			
Urban	72	33	219
Suburban	71	31	436
Rural	68	14	167

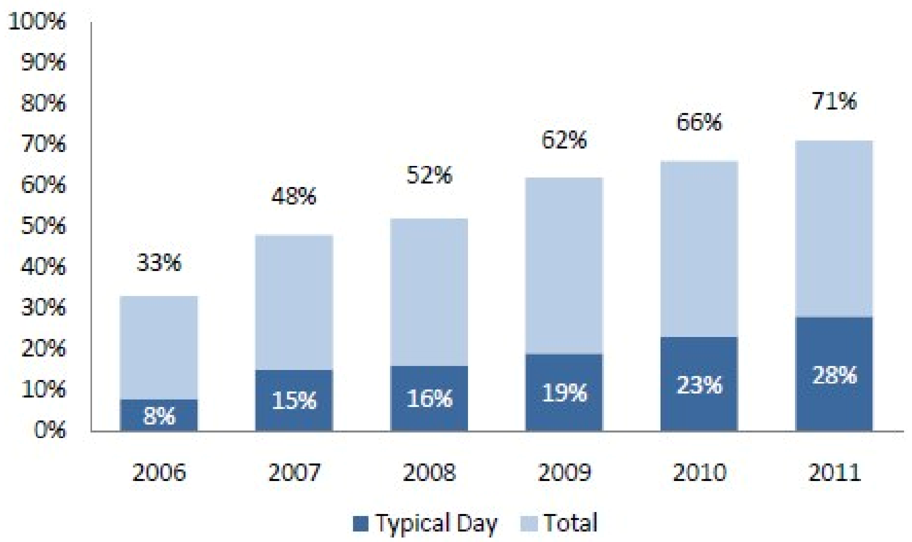
Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 26 – May 22, 2011 Spring Tracking Survey. n=2,277 adult internet users ages 18 and older, including 755 cell phone interviews. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

That represents a five-percentage-point increase from the 66% of online adults who reported being video-sharing site users a year earlier and a 38-point increase from five years ago when the Pew Internet Project took its first reading on use of such sites.

Moreover, the use of video-sharing sites on any given day also jumped five percentage points. In our May 2001 survey, 28% of online Americans said they had gone to such sites "yesterday," compared with 23% who had reported using video-sharing sites "yesterday" -- or on a typical day in May 2010.

Video-sharing site usage over time: 2006 - 2011

% of internet users who visit video sharing sites (total and on a typical day)

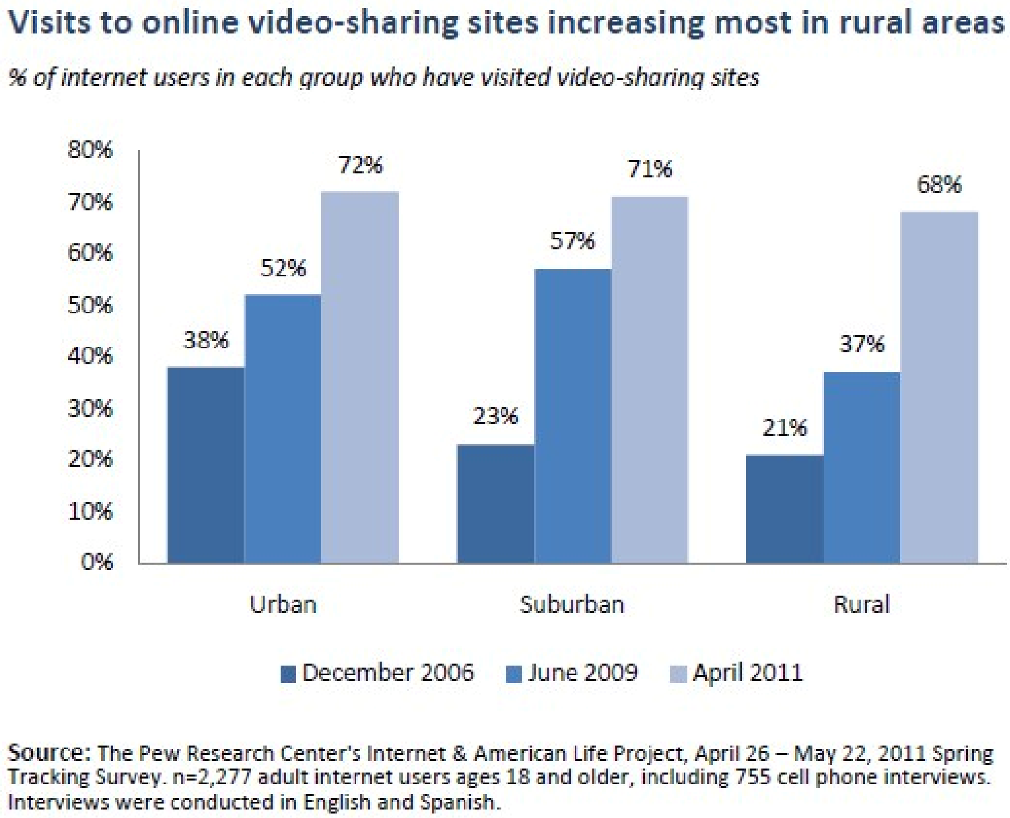


Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 26 – May 22, 2011 Spring Tracking Survey. n=2,277 adult internet users ages 18 and older, including 755 cell phone interviews. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

Rural internet users are now just as likely as urban and suburban users to have sampled video at video-sharing sites

Rural internet users are now just as likely as users in urban and suburban areas to have used these sites. Some 68% of rural internet users have gone to such sites, compared with 71% of online suburbanites and 72% of online urban residents. Those are statistically insignificant differences and show that since 2009, online rural residents have caught up to others in using these sites.

At the same time, rural internet users are still less likely to be visiting video-sharing sites on a typical day (14% vs. 31% and 33% for suburban and urban residents, respectively).



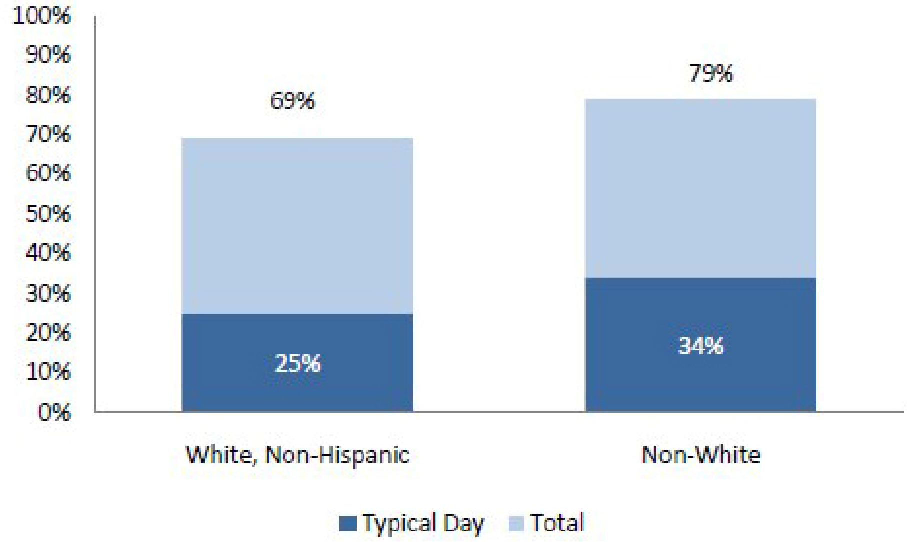
Non-whites are more likely to use video-sharing sites

Another notable and persistent trend is that non-white adult internet users have higher rates of video-sharing site use than their white counterparts, a consistent finding since 2006.[1]

Overall, 69% of white internet users said they had visited video-sharing sites, 13 points higher than in April 2009, and more than double the 31% reported when the question was first asked in December 2006.[2] At the same time, 79% of online non-whites -- African-Americans, Hispanics and others -- reported using video-sharing sites. That figure is 12 points higher than April 2009, and 41 points higher than in 2006.

African-Americans and Hispanics are more likely than whites to visit video-sharing sites.

% of internet users in each group who visit video sharing sites (total and on a typical day)



Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 26 – May 22, 2011 Spring Tracking Survey. n=2,277 adult internet users ages 18 and older, including 755 cell phone interviews. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

Parents use video-sharing sites more than non-parents

Some 81% of parents in the survey reported visiting video-sharing sites, compared with 61% of the non-parents. Parental use increased nine points from 72% in May 2010, while non-parental use dipped slightly from the 63% reported in the same survey.3 This increase might also be attributable to the fact that parents with minors at home are younger as a group than the non-parents cohort and use of video-sharing sites is linked to younger users.

Higher use of video-sharing sites coincides with the explosion of content on YouTube, including videos produced by amateurs

The rise in use of video-sharing sites is at least partly being driven by the growth in content on sites like YouTube and by user contributions. The rise in use of video-sharing sites is at least partly being driven by the growth in content on sites like YouTube and by user contributions, which then possibly encourage site visits by contributors' friends and others who pass around links about popular amateur videos. The latest statistics from YouTube are that 48 hours of content are uploaded every minute to the site and the range of contributions is striking. YouTube lists 28 different categories for channels of video that are contributed and dozens of subcategories ranging from automobiles and gaming, to activism and politics.

1. The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, Nov. 30 -- Dec. 30, 2006 December Tracking Survey, available on pewinternet.org's data sets page.

2 The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, June 18 - 21, 2009 Online Video Usage Survey.

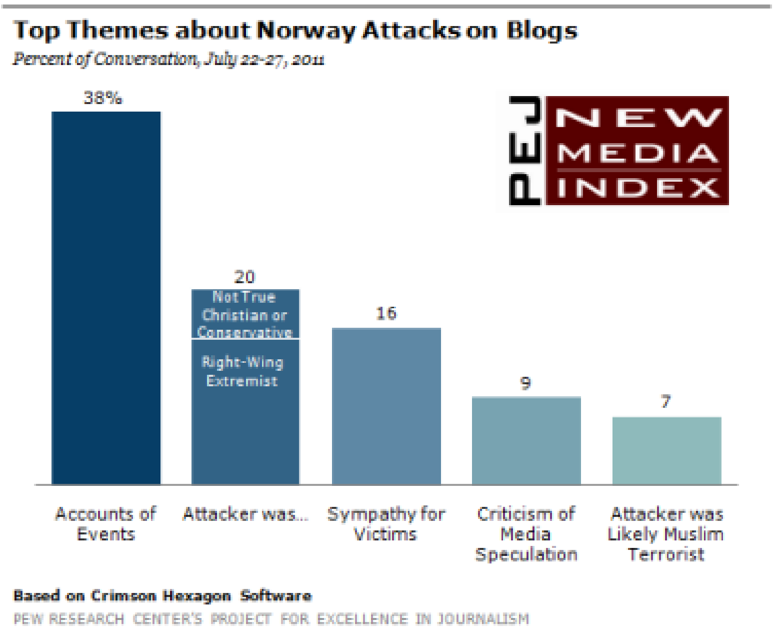
3 The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 29 – May 30, 2010 Spring Change Assessment Survey, available on pewinternet.org's data sets page.

Source: http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2070/online-video-sharing-sites-you-tube-vimeo

182-43-38. Bloggers Assess Motives of the Norway Attacker

July 28, 2011

The dramatic July 22 attacks in Norway that resulted in the deaths of at least 68 people inspired a vibrant conversation in the blogosphere last week.



While sympathy for the victims was significant, more time was devoted to conversations about the killer, Anders Behring Breivik, according to an analysis of social media conducted by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism.

In the six days following the attacks (July 22-27), the largest component of the conversation on blogs (38%) involved passing along breaking news and facts. Bloggers passed along tidbits of information in the hours that followed the two attacks and then continued to share information about the death toll, Breivik's history and the developments in his prosecution.

But fully 20% of the conversation focused on the motives and ideology of Breivik himself, a 32-year-old Norwegian who admitted he committed the murders in an attempt to "save" Norway and Western Europe from a Muslim takeover.

The most common view about him at 15% of the total conversation was that he was a right-wing extremist. As more details about the shooter emerged, including the text of his 1,500 page manifesto, bloggers attached right-wing extremism to his motivations. A number of bloggers also tied his views to those of conservative political parties in Europe and the United States.

A less common assessment of Breivik's motives, at 5%, fought back against that classification. These bloggers argued he was not a true Christian or conservative and instead was a follower of another ideology such as socialism.

Sympathy for the victims accounted for 16% of the conversation, as bloggers commiserated with those harmed in the attacks and for the country as a whole.

As is often the case with social media, a significant amount of discussion (9%) consisted of criticisms of members of the mainstream press. In this instance, bloggers denounced those who jumped to the conclusion that the attacks were part of an Islamic terrorist plot, possibly connected to al Qaeda, before anything certain was known about the suspect. Many condemned journalists, such as the *Washington Post*'s Jennifer Rubin, who declared the events should be "a sobering reminder for those who think it's too expensive to wage a war against jihadists."

Slightly less conversation, 7%, connected the attacks and Islamic terrorism, in some cases defending the early assumption in the media that Islamic terrorists were behind it.

These are the results of a special edition of the New Media Index from the Pew Research Center'sProject for Excellence in Journalism, utilizing computer technology from Crimson Hexagon. Based on almost 52,000 blog posts, this report goes beyond the normal methodology of PEJ's index of new media to look at the specific themes and tone of conversation on blogs related to the Norway attacks.

(The regular weekly list of most linked-to news stories on blogs and Twitter, and a write-up of the top news videos on YouTube, is available here. The Norway attacks did not appear in the lists of top subjects because it occurred late in the week.)

Source:http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2075/norway-anders-behring-breivik-right-wing-extremism-terrorism

182-43-39. Indonesia The Most Reliant On Mobile Internet Access Across Southeast Asia : Nielsen

11 July 2011

Jakarta, Indonesia

Almost half of all Indonesian Internet users access the net via their mobile phones and this number is set to increase, as a more significant amount intend to use this device to get online in the next 12 months, according to a report released today by global insights and measurement company, Nielsen

The report, a pre-release of data from Nielsen's inaugural Southeast Asia Digital Consumer Report* which will be available on 30 September, found that 48 percent of regular Internet users in Indonesia use a mobile phone to access the Internet making Indonesia the most reliant market in SEA country on this form of Internet access (see chart 1). This trend is set to continue, with 53 percent of Indonesian Internet users indicating they will access the Internet via their mobile phone and 30 percent via an internet capable handheld device within the next 12 months.

"Internet capable hand held devices such as mobile phones and tablets offer easy access to the Internet for many Indonesians without having to rely on the availability of high speed broadband services at their home," observes Irawati Pratignyo, Managing Director of Nielsen's Media division in Indonesia. "Certainly we are seeing all indicators point towards significant growth in Internet access via mobile and handheld devices over the next 12 months and beyond."

Although mobile Internet use is high in Indonesia, overall, the country has the lowest level of Internet penetration in Southeast Asia (SEA) and Indonesian consumers are going online less frequently than their fellow SEA consumers. Just one in five Indonesians aged 15+ (21%) use the Internet, 17 percentage points lower than the SEA regional average of 38 percent and 46 points lower than Singapore (67%), which had the highest level of Internet penetration (see chart 2). Internet penetration in Indonesia is lowest amongst those aged 50+ where only one percent of consumers are online.

For the majority of Indonesian Internet users (66%), Internet cafes are the most popular location to access the Internet, which is in contrast to the majority of SEA markets where Internet access is most common from home (67%). A large proportion of Indonesian digital consumers (46%) are also accessing the Internet from other places such as mobile phones and other portable Internet-capable devices (see chart 3).

“The location where consumers access the Internet is largely reflective of their access to a computer and high speed Internet connection at home,” states Irawati. “In markets such as Singapore, availability of Internet infrastructure and pricing plans have facilitated higher Internet penetration and at home usage. In comparison, Indonesian consumers have a greater necessity to seek other avenues of Internet access.”

Chart 1: Mobile Internet usage

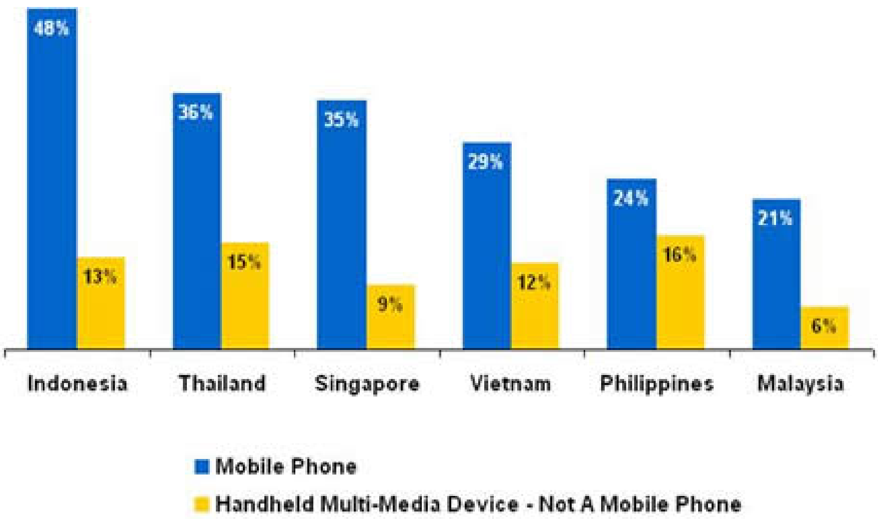
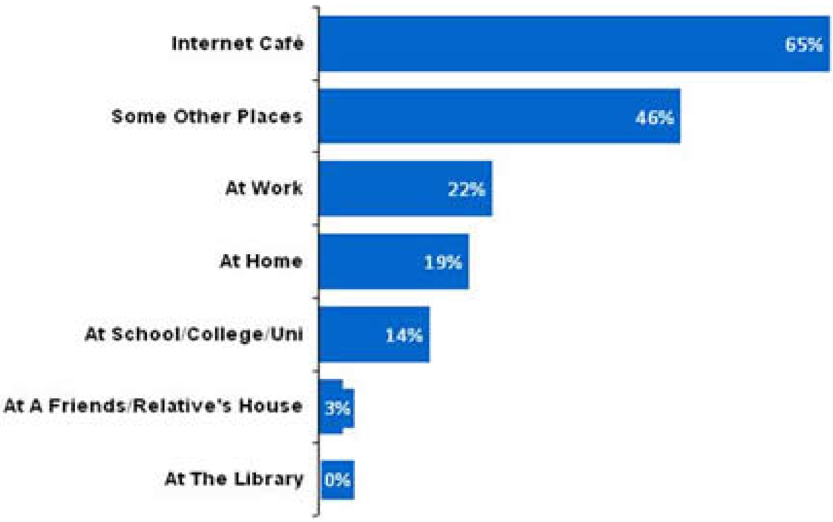


Chart 2: Southeast Asia Internet penetration

Chart 3: Most popular location for accessing the Internet



* Data and commentary contained in this press release are taken from a special pre-release of Nielsen's inaugural Southeast Asia Digital Consumer Report.Nielsen is embarking on this region-wide study of the behaviours and attitudes of digital consumers in response to the way that online media is fast becoming a mainstream media in Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore and Thailand). As such, advertisers, publishers and agencies need current and insightful metrics on which to base their decisions about how to best meet their market's needs and expectations when it comes to online content delivery.

About Nielsen

Nielsen Holdings N.V. (NYSE: NLSN) is a global information and measurement company with leading market positions in marketing and consumer information, television and other media measurement, online intelligence, mobile measurement, trade shows and related properties. Nielsen has a presence in approximately 100 countries, with headquarters in New York, USA and Diemen, the Netherlands. For more information,please visitwww.nielsen.com.

Source: http://id.nielsen.com/news/Release110711.shtml

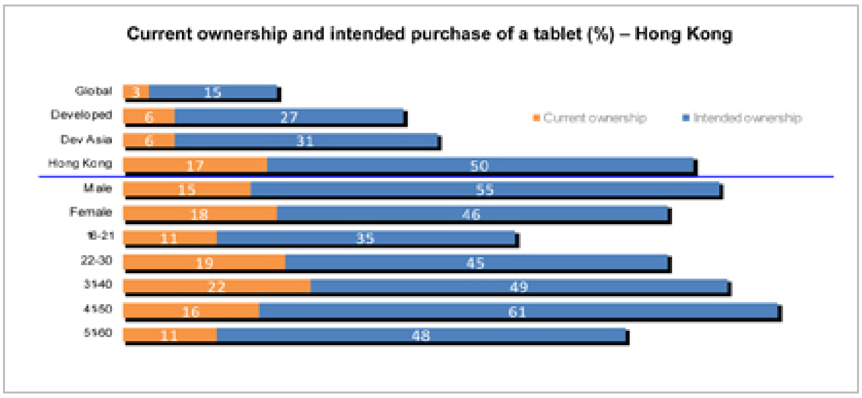
182-43-40. TNS Survey Puts Hong Kong At Forefront Of Expected Global Tablet Sales Explosion

29.07.2011 Hong Kong

Half of Hong Kong consumers say they are likely to purchase a tablet in this year

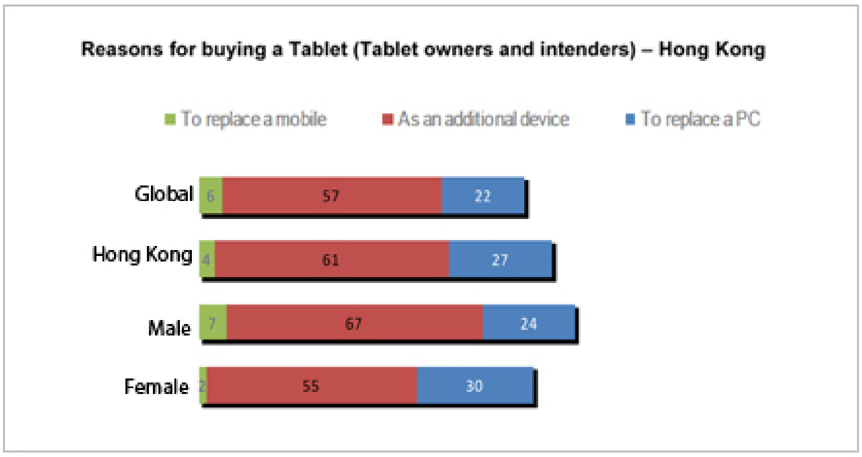
Hong Kong, July 25, 2011 – Half of Hong Kong consumers say they are likely to purchase a tablet in this year, according to a recent survey conducted by TNS, a leading consultative market research company.

The new TNS study found that 17% of Hong Kong consumers claim to own a tablet – nearly six times the global average – and that another 50% of the territory's consumers are likely to purchase a tablet.



There is an indication that for some consumers the tablet will be a replacement to their PC with 27% claiming they may purchase a tablet to replace a PC.

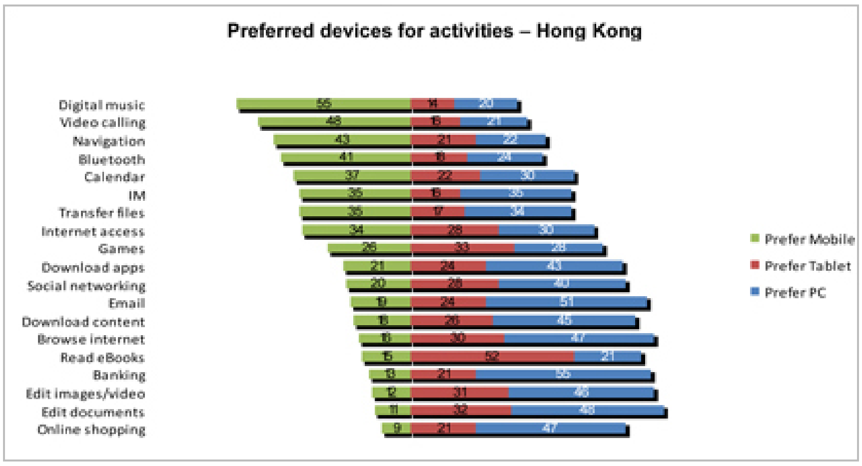
However, the majority (61%) consider the tablet they may purchase an additional device, indicating that the tablet will grow the total device market.



Smaller than a laptop and larger than a Smartphone, the tablet is gaining in popularity among Hong Kong consumers – particularly for a number of applications. Of those surveyed:

- More than 50% said they would rather read ebooks on the tablet, compared to 21% who preferred PCs and 15% who preferred mobile phones.
- 33% preferred to access games via the tablet, compared to 28% who preferred the PCs and 26% who favoured mobiles.

Despite the gains being made by the tablet, PCs still hold dominance as the preferred device in Hong Kong for banking, email and browsing on the Internet. While mobile phones is the favoured medium for music, navigation and Bluetooth applications.



About Mobile Life

Mobile Life 2011 is the largest ever global research project into today's mobile consumer. Now into its sixth year, Mobile Life provides a complete understanding of consumer experiences with mobility today and insights into how this will change tomorrow. The repost includes results of more than 25,000 hours of interviews with over 34,000 respondents in 43 countries and more than 1,000 interviews in Canada.

www.discovermobilelife.com

About TNS

TNS Canada (formerly known as TNS Canadian Facts) is the Canadian arm of TNS.TNS is the global leader in custom market research delivering actionable insights and research-based business advice to clients around the globe so they can make more effective business decisions. TNS offers comprehensive industry knowledge within the Consumer, Technology, Finance, Automotive and Political & Social sectors, supported by a unique product offering that stretches across the entire range of marketing and business issues, specializing in product development & innovation, brand & communication, stakeholder management, retail & shopper, and qualitative research. Delivering best-in-class service across more than 80 countries, TNS is dedicated to discovering growth opportunities for its clients in an ever-changing world. Through its pioneering and innovative culture, TNS understands the latest marketing challenges and research techniques, being the first to discover and solve new marketing issues for clients.

DISCOVER – A changing world: New territories, new media, new opportunities.

TNS is part of Kantar, one of the world's largest insight, information and consultancy networks.

About Kantar

Kantar is one of the world's largest insight, information and consultancy groups. By uniting the diverse talents of its 13 specialist companies, the group aims to become the pre-eminent provider of compelling and inspirational insights for the global business community. Its 28,500 employees work across 100 countries and across the whole spectrum of research and consultancy disciplines, enabling the group to offer clients business insights at each and every point of the consumer cycle. The group's services are employed by over half of the Fortune Top 500 companies.

Source: http://www.tnsglobal.com/news/news-8173DCBE904245E5992F24A79A55213B.aspx