

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

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Introductory Note

This report consists of 32 surveys. Four of these multi-country surveys while the rest of 28 are national surveys from across the globe.

SUMMARY OF POLLS

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Public Confidence In State Of Ethnic Relations Decline

A new survey has found that the number of Malaysians who felt that ethnic relations in the country was 'good' declined by 12% from 78% in February 2006 to 66% in May 2011. Malaysians who believed that ethnic unity (perpaduan kaum) as "sincere and friendly" declined markedly from 54% in 2006 to 35% in 2011, a drop of 19%. On the contrary, the number of people who felt ethnic unity was "superficial" rose from 29% to 44%. (Merdeka Center Malaysia)

August 12, 2011

82% Say Family Planning Method Is A Personal Choice

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, fielded from June 3-6, 2011, found that 82% say "the choice of a family planning method is a personal choice of couples and no one should interfere with it" and 73% agree that "if a couple wants to plan its family, it should be able to get information from government on all legal methods." (SWS)

August 11, 2011

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

South Africans Rate Their Lives Worse in 2010 (Multi-country survey)

South Africans rated their lives worse in 2010 than they have in the past several years, with their ratings dropping below a 5 on a scale from 0 to 10 for the first time. South Africans' mean score of 4.7 is still among the higher ratings in sub-Saharan Africa. (Gallup USA)

August 12, 2011

WEST EUROPE

Europeans, The European Union and The Crisis (Multi-country survey)

After the fairly strong revival in optimism between the spring Standard Eurobarometer (EB73) and the autumn 2010 survey (EB74), in spring 2011 a relative majority of Europeans think that the consequences of the economic crisis for employment have not yet been fully felt and that 'the worst is still to come'. Conversely 43% of Europeans (+1 point) think that 'the impact of the crisis on employment has already reached its peak'. Therefore, the results from spring 2011 have remained stable since autumn 2010.

However, it should be noted that there has been a clear strengthening of this result since 2009. (TNS Opinion & Social)

August 2011

Europe 2020 (Multi-country survey)

Europeans seem to believe that European Union 2020 targets are realistic. They give highest importance to help the poor and enabling them to be active part of the society. While European publics considers e-economy as the least important on the list. (TNS Opinion & Social)

August 2011

Residents of UK Suggests Range of Tactics for Dealing with Riots

As rioting continues for a fourth night, a YouGov survey for The Sun has found that there is widespread support among British adults for a range of tactics to be made available to the police. 90% think the police should be able to use water cannons in the course of dealing with the rioters while 33% say police should be able to use firearms / live ammunition. (Yougov)

10 August 2011

A Healthy Outlook – Nutrition And Eating Habits Important To Children

New research from YouGov's Parent and Children Omnibus suggests that children are adopting a healthier, more considered approach towards nutrition and healthy eating. Our research reveals that 87% of British children aged 8 to 15 believe that 'eating healthily' is important. And almost all British parents surveyed believe it is important for their child/children to eat healthily (97%).

August 15, 2011

Public Attitudes To The Nuclear To The Nuclear Industry

An extra mid-year opinion survey for the Nuclear Industry Association, conducted in the wake of the Fukushima incident in Japan in March, has shown continued support among the British public for an energy policy that includes nuclear energy as well as renewables. Sixty-eight percent agree that "Britain needs a mix of energy sources to ensure a reliable supply of electricity, including nuclear power and renewable energy sources" while just 12% disagree. (Ipsos Mori)

August 14, 2011

A Quarter Of GPs Surveyed Think Their Consortium Will Be Ready To Take On Full Commissioning Responsibility By April 2013

A snapshot of GPs in England shows that while many are involved in commissioning decisions to some extent, only a quarter think that their consortium will be ready to take on full commissioning responsibility by April 2013. (Ipsos Mori)

August 11, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Obama Job Approval 50% or Higher in 16 States and D.C.

Residents of 16 states and the District of Columbia gave President Obama approval ratings of 50% or higher during the first half of 2011, led by the District of Columbia, Connecticut, Maryland, and Delaware. Idaho residents had the least positive appraisal of his performance, with 27% approving. (Gallup USA)

August 8, 2011

Democrats Enjoy Slight Edge on 2012 Congressional Ballot

Gallup's first measure of the 2012 congressional elections shows Democrats leading Republicans, 51% to 44%, in registered voters' preferences for which party's candidate they would support in their district "if the elections for Congress were being held today." (Gallup USA)

August 12, 2011

Emotional Health Higher Among Older Americans

Americans aged 60 and older demonstrate significantly better emotional health than those younger than 60 years. In fact, a septuagenarian is far more likely than someone in their 30s to have high emotional health. These results hold true even after statistically controlling for gender, race, education, marital status, employment, income, and regional location. (Gallup USA)

August 12, 2011

As Economic Confidence Drops, Obama Approval Fairly Stable

President Obama's job approval rating for the first 10 days of August is 4 percentage points lower than it was in the first week of July, significantly less of a drop than the 19-point decline in Gallup's Economic Confidence Index over the same period. (Gallup USA)

August 12, 2011

Small-Business Owners' Revenue and Hiring Expectations Down

Small-business owners turned less optimistic about future revenues and new hiring even prior to the events of recent weeks and the plunge in economic confidence. The percentage of owners anticipating that their revenues would increase over the next 12 months fell to 42% in July, down from 49% in April and 54% in January. At the same time, 18% expect their revenues to decrease. Small-business-owner revenue expectations are no better now than they were in October 2010. (Gallup USA)

August 12, 2011

Majority of Americans Ready to Legalize Marijuana

Many Americans continue to believe that marijuana should be legalized, but are not supportive of making other drugs readily available, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid)

August 09, 2011

Conservatives Ahead, Turmel Debate Does Not Affect the NDP in Canada

The Conservative Party remains popular three months after its election victory, and the New Democratic Party (NDP) has not lost ground since the appointment of a new interim leader, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll conducted in partnership with the Toronto Star has found. (Angus-Reid)

August 10, 2011

Democrats Not Eager for an Obama Challenger

Despite speculation that the Democratic base has become increasingly disillusioned with Barack Obama, rank-and-file Democrats are not eager to see other candidates challenge him for their party's nomination in 2012. Just 32% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents say they would like other Democrats to take on Obama for the nomination, while 59% say they would not. (Pew Research Center)

August 10, 2011

D.C., Hawaii Most Democratic, Utah Most Republican State in '11

Hawaii shows the largest advantage for the Democratic Party over the Republican Party among U.S. states, along with the District of Columbia, in the first half of 2011. The most Republican state is Utah. (Gallup USA)

August 11, 2011

Americans Want New Debt Supercommittee to Compromise

Six in 10 Americans say members of the new bipartisan "supercommittee" mandated to find new ways of reducing the federal budget deficit should compromise, even if the agreement reached is one they personally disagree with. This includes a majority of Republicans, independents, and Democrats. A majority of Tea Party supporters, however, say the committee should hold out for a plan they agree with, even if no agreement is reached. (Gallup USA)

August 10, 2011

Record-Low 21% Say Most in Congress Deserve Re-Election

About one in five U.S. registered voters (21%) say most members of Congress deserve re-election, the lowest percentage Gallup has found in the 20-year history of asking this question. The prior lows of 28% were recorded in 2010 and earlier this year. (Gallup USA)

August 9, 2011

U.S. Economic Confidence Plunges in Past Two Weeks

Americans' economic confidence plunged to -53 in the week ending Aug. 7, a level not seen since the recession days of March 2009. This deterioration coincided with the final wrangling over the U.S. debt ceiling and Standard and Poor's downgrade of the United States' debt rating. Economic confidence is now far worse than the -43 of two weeks ago and the -34 of a month ago. (Gallup USA)

August 9, 2011

Engaged Workers Report Twice as Much Job Creation

Employees who are engaged in their work and workplace are twice as likely to report their organization is hiring new workers as those who are actively disengaged. Workers who are emotionally disconnected from their work and workplace are far more likely to report their organization is letting people go than those who are engaged. (Gallup USA)

August 9, 2011

Plenty of Common Ground Found in Abortion Debate

Self-described "pro-choice" and "pro-life" Americans agree about nine major areas of abortion policy, while disagreeing on eight others. Among the areas of consensus, in which a majority of both groups hold the same opinion, especially large percentages are in favor of requiring informed consent for women (86% of pro-choice adults and 87% who are pro-life) and making abortion illegal in the third trimester (79% and 94%). (Gallup USA)

August 8, 2011

Tea Party Sparks More Antipathy Than Passion

More Americans consider themselves strong opponents of the Tea Party movement than strong supporters, by 20% to 14%, and the ratio is a similar 22% to 15% among registered voters. When factoring in those who support or oppose the movement but not strongly, the opposing groups are more evenly matched, with 25% of Americans in total classified as Tea Party supporters and 28% as opponents. About 4 in 10 Americans as well as registered voters say they neither support nor oppose the Tea Party. (Gallup USA)

August 10, 2011

LATIN AMERICA

65% of Dominican Drivers Admit Breaking Traffic Laws

65% of Dominican drivers admit to have broken a traffic law in a daily manner, according to a survey conducted by the polling firm Asisa, in the Dominican Republic. (ASISA)

May 2011

AUSTRALASIA

L-NP (57%) Still Has Clear Winning Lead Over ALP (43%)

The latest telephone Morgan Poll conducted over two nights this week, August 9/10, 2011, show 57% of electors would vote L-NP 57% while only 43% ALP. (A result virtually unchanged from the face-to-face Morgan Poll conducted over the last two weekends — July 30/31 & August 6/7, 2011 — L-NP (56.5%) cf. ALP (43.5%). (Roy Morgan)

August 12, 2011

New Zealand National-Led Govt. Down But Has Winning Lead

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is at 55.5% (down 2%). Support for Key's National Party is 51.5% (down 0.5%), ACT NZ 2% (unchanged), the Maori Party 1.5% (down 1.5%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged). (Roy Morgan)

August 11, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Rising Restrictions on Religion

The kinds of social hostilities that recently erupted in violence in Norway have been rising across Europe, a new report by the Pew Forum shows. Social hostilities involving religion have risen substantially in a number of European countries, including Sweden, Denmark and the U.K. The report also looks at government restrictions on religious beliefs and practices around the world. (Pew Research Center)

August 9, 2011

CYBER WORLD

Social Media Users Blast The Debt Deal

The August 2 agreement on raising the country's debt ceiling was a leading topic of conversation on both blogs and Twitter last week. And in a rarity for a partisan political issue, the news managed to unite both sides of the political spectrum. Liberal and conservative social media users agreed the deal was a bad one-albeit for different reasons. Indeed, both sides seemed to think they came out on the short end. (Pew Research Center)

August 09, 2011

Search and Email Still the Most Popular Online Activities

Search and email remain the two online activities that are nearly universal among adult internet users, as 92% of online adults use search engines to find information on the Web, and a similar number (92%) use email. Since the Pew Internet Project began measuring adults' online activities in the last decade, these two behaviors have consistently ranked as the most popular, even as new platforms, broadband and mobile devices continue to reshape the way Americans use the internet and web. (Pew Research Center)

August 9, 2011

60% Say Internet Anonymity Makes Us Less Civil, But Just 21% Want to Require Using Real Names

Even though 60% of U.S. adults believe that anonymity on the internet has made us less civil, only 21% agree with a statement suggesting it "has to go away." There is also a very high level of skepticism that requiring real names is even possible. (Ibope-Zogby)

August 08, 2011

Disproportionately High Number Of 18-25 Year Olds Download Blackberry Apps

A new report from YouGov SixthSense into the handsets and apps market has revealed that while the Apple Store is still the most popular choice for handset users when downloading apps, a disproportionately high number of 18-25 year olds download apps from BlackBerry App World. (Yougov)

August 11, 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

184-43-1. Public Confidence In State Of Ethnic Relations Decline

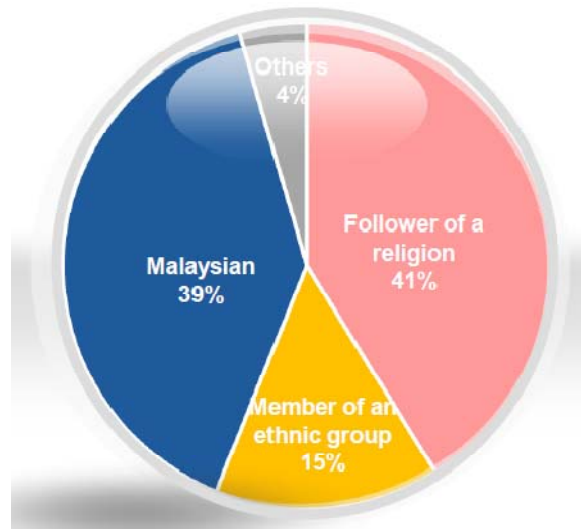
August 12, 2011

BANGI – A new Merdeka Center survey has found that the number of Malaysians who felt that ethnic relations in the country was ‘good’ declined by 12% from 78% in February 2006 to 66% in May 2011.

The same survey also found that the number of Malaysians who believed that ethnic unity (perpaduan kaum) as “sincere and friendly” declined markedly from 54% in 2006 to 35% in 2011, a drop of 19%. On the contrary, the number of people who felt ethnic unity was “superficial” rose from 29% to 44%.

The opinion poll was carried out by the Merdeka Center between 24th May and 8th June 2011 to gauge voters’ perceptions of the state of ethnic relations in the country. 1,013 registered Peninsular Malaysia voters comprising 602 Malay, 322 Chinese and 89 Indian respondents were interviewed by telephone in the poll. Respondents were selected on the basis of random stratified sampling along ethnicity, gender and state of residence. The survey was funded internally by the Merdeka Center for release to the public. This survey was a follow up of a similar poll conducted in June 2006 (available on our website www.merdeka.org).

When thinking about your identity, how would you like to be identified first?



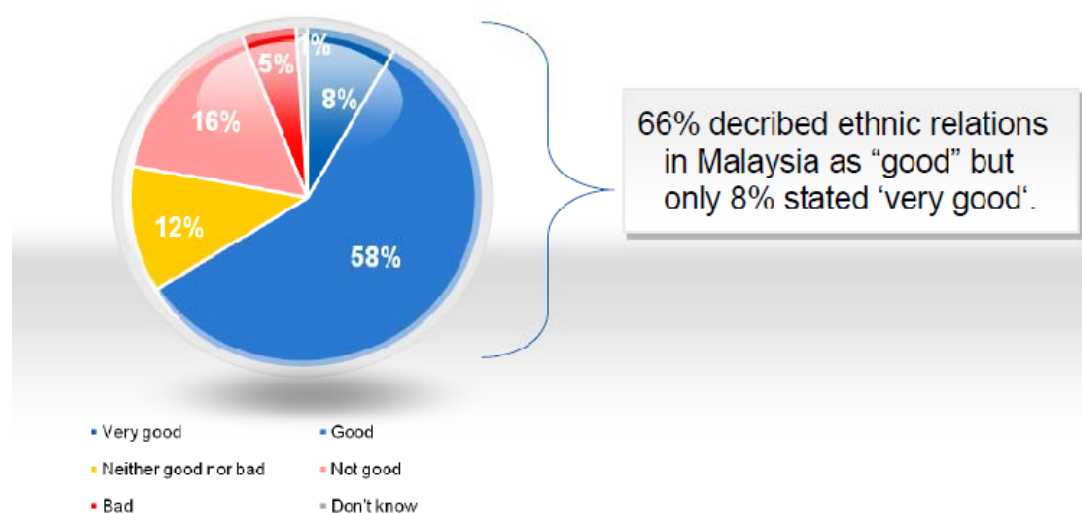
Compounding the perception that ethnic relations have taken a turn for the worse, the number of Malaysians polled who felt that people in the country were “getting closer together” declined from 64% in 2006 to 36% in 2011. Looking, only 37% of those polled felt that ethnic relations would “improve in the next ten years” compared to 43% in 2006.

It is likely that the pessimistic results of the survey could be due to the intensified discourse in the media on race and religious politics as well as the impact of incidents that have taken place since 2008 which included arson attacks on places of worship, public debate over school text books and controversial statements by public personalities.

Beneath the surface, a society still riven by distrust.

The survey also found that the level of trust placed on of the three main communities had also declined. Overall trust among respondents towards members of the Indian community declined from 37% to 31% while trust towards members of the Chinese community decreased from 47% to 42%. Trust towards the Malay community also declined marginally from 66% to 65%.

Majority feel that ethnic relations is good but numbers have fallen



A significant factor noted in this particular query was the high level of distrust reported by respondents on their fellow Malaysians from a different ethnic background. For example, 60% of Malay respondents reported that they "somewhat distrusted" or "strongly distrusted" members of the Chinese community. Correspondingly, 42% of Chinese respondents along with 16% of the Malay respondents reported distrusting "people from the Malay community".

Unsurprisingly, the survey also found that adherence to derogatory racial stereotypes continued to remain persistent. Belief in racial stereotypes declined only marginally since the last survey in 2006. For example, belief in such racist stereotypes such as "The Malays are lazy", "The Chinese are greedy" and that "The Indians cannot be trusted" declined only by 2%, 3% and 2% respectively. It is important to note that each of these stereotypes was believed by a majority of the respondents. Ironically and perhaps as a marker of how deeply ingrained these stereotypes are, even members of the stereotyped community also accepted them. For example, 57% of Malays, 50% of Chinese and 36% of Indians, respectively report acceptance of the negative stereotypes of their communities.

Nearly a quarter of the respondents report that their views on stereotypes were shaped by their own personal observations along with a slightly higher number (26%) who said they were influenced by friends while one in five noted that it was derived largely by what they consumed from the media.

Overall 82% of Malaysians polled in this survey said they were "happy to live in a multi-ethnic society like Malaysia" however this represented a 10% decline compared to 2006.

Decline in society's self efficacy in addressing race and religious issues

The survey also found that public view of the Malaysian society's maturity in handling racial and religious issues has also suffered during in the intervening years. Only 38% of respondents agreed that "our society is matured enough to discuss racial and religious matters openly" compared to 46% in 2006. On the obverse, 55% of respondents polled agree that racial and religious issues are too sensitive to be discussed openly.

In our view, the survey findings reflect a significant shift in Malaysian public thinking – the optimism of the mid-2000s appears to have given way to increased insecurities and distrust which is in part due to the current competitive political environment.

Source: <http://www.merdeka.org/>

184-43-2. 82% say family planning method is a personal choice;

73% want information on legal methods available from government

11 August 2011

Social Weather Stations

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, fielded from June 3-6, 2011, found that 82% say "the choice of a family planning method is a personal choice of couples and no one should interfere with it" and 73% agree that "if a couple wants to plan its family, it should be able to get information from government on all legal methods."

A majority 68% also agree "the government should fund all means of family planning, be it natural or artificial means".

A little over half of adults disagree that the use of pills (52%), condoms (51%), and intra-uterine device (IUD) (51%) can be considered as abortion.

Pluralities also disagree that the youth would be sexually promiscuous if family planning would be included in their curriculum (46%), and that the plan to oppose the RH Bill by not paying taxes is a reasonable protest (39%).

More now say family planning method is a couple's personal choice

To the test statement, *"The choice of a family planning method is a personal choice of couples, and no one should interfere with it"* [*"Ang pagpili ng pamamaraan ng pagpapalano ng pamilya ay personal na desisyon ng mag-asawa at walang dapat makialam"*], 82% agree, 9% neither agree nor disagree, and only 8% disagree [Chart 1].

Compared to twenty years ago, agreement with the statement has risen by 21 points from 61% in November 1990. Twenty-six percent were undecided and 13% disagreed.

Majorities in all areas agree that a family planning method is a personal choice of couples: 86% in Mindanao, 84% in the Visayas, 82% in Metro Manila, and 80% in Balance Luzon [Chart 2].

By class, 83% in class D or the *masa*, 82% in class E, and 77% in class ABC share this opinion.

Stronger call for government to provide information on legal methods

A majority 73% agree with the test statement, *"If a couple wants to plan its family, it should be able to get information from government on all legal methods"* [*"Kung nais magplano ng pamilya ang mag-asawa ay dapat makakuha sila ng impormasyon sa gobyerno tungkol sa lahat ng legal na pamamaraan"*], higher by 18 points compared to 55% in November 1990 [Chart 3]. Thirteen percent neither agree nor disagree, and only 13% disagree.

Majorities of 77% in Mindanao, 77% in the Visayas, 76% in Metro Manila, and 68% in Balance Luzon agree that couples should be able to get information on all legal methods of family planning from the government [Chart 4].

Seventy-eight percent in class E, 73% in class ABC, and 72% in class D share this view.

68% say government should fund all family planning methods, natural or artificial

To the test statement, *"The government should fund all means of family planning, be it natural or artificial means"* [*"Dapat pondohan ng gobyerno ang lahat ng uri ng pamamaraan ng pagpapalano ng pamilya maging ito ay natural o artipisyal"*], 68% agree, 15% neither agree nor disagree, and 16% disagree [Chart 5].

Majorities in all areas call for government to fund all means of family planning: 73% in the Visayas, 73% in Metro Manila, 71% in Mindanao, and 62% in Balance Luzon.

Majorities in all classes also share this opinion: 72% in class ABC, 68% in class D, and 67% in class E.

Half do not consider the use of pills, condoms, and IUD as abortion

To the test statement, *"The use of pills can also be considered as abortion"* [*"Ang paggamit ng pills ay maituturing ding "abortion" o pagpapalaglag"*], 52% disagree, 18% neither agree nor disagree, and 29% agree [Chart 6].

This is similar to the 2009 SWS surveys of reproductive-age respondents which found that 55% of Boholanos in May 2009, and 50% of Cebuanos in both July and March 2009 disagree that the use of pills can be considered as abortion.

Fifty-one percent disagree that *"The use of condoms can also be considered as abortion"* [*"Ang paggamit ng condom ay maituturing ding "abortion" o pagpapalaglag"*], similar to Cebuanos in March 2009 (53%) and July 2009 (51%), and Boholanos in May 2009 (57%) [Chart 7].

Fifty-one percent also disagree that *"The use of IUD can also be considered as abortion"* [*"Ang paggamit ng IUD ay maituturing ding "abortion" o pagpapalaglag"*], similar to 52% of Cebuanos in both March and July 2009, and 55% of Boholanos in May 2009 [Chart 8].

46% disagree that family planning education will promote sexual promiscuity

To the test statement, *"If family planning would be included in their curriculum, the youth would be sexually promiscuous"* [*"Kung magiging bahagi ng kurikulum ang aralin ukol sa pagpapalano ng pamilya, ang mga kabataan ay makikipagtalik nang walang pakundangan"*], 46% disagree, 22% neither agree nor disagree, and 31% agree [Chart 9].

This compares with the September 2008 survey which found 54% supporting the family planning education. The same support was also found in Parañaque City in February 2009 (58%), Cebu in March 2009 (52%) and July 2009 (49%), and Metro Manila in December 2009 (59%).

The June 2011 survey found majorities in the Visayas (55%) and in Metro Manila (52%), and pluralities in Mindanao (46%) and Balance Luzon (41%) supporting family planning education. By class, 51% in class E, 50% in class ABC, and 45% in class D share this opinion [Chart 10].

Plurality disagree with non-payment of taxes to oppose the RH Bill

To the test statement, *"For me, the plan of those who oppose the RH Bill not to pay their taxes is a reasonable protest"* [*"Para sa akin, ang balak na hindi pagbabayad ng buwis ng mga tumututol sa RH Bill ay isang makatuwirang protesta"*], a plurality 39% disagree, 26% neither agree nor disagree, and 32% agree [Chart 11].

Pluralities of 48% in the Visayas, 41% in Metro Manila, and 39% in Mindanao disagree with the plan to oppose the RH Bill by not paying taxes. In Balance Luzon, 37% agreed while 34% disagreed.

By class, pluralities of 45% in class ABC, 39% in class D, and 37% in class E disagree with non-payment of taxes to oppose the RH Bill.

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 $\pm 3\%$ for national percentages, $\pm 6\%$ for area percentages).

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

Other national Social Weather Surveys cited in this report were fielded from September 24-27, 2008, and November 12-December 1, 1990. Both surveys used face-to-face interviews of at least 1,200 adults.

SWS conducted surveys in Cebu on March 28-31, 2009 and another on July 2-5, 2009, in Parañaque City on February 14-17, 2009, and in Manila City on December 27-29, 2008. All surveys used face-to-face interviews of 600 reproductive-age respondents.

The survey in Bohol was conducted by the Holy Name University on April 7-May 13, 2008 using face-to-face interviews of 400 adults.

The family planning-related items in the September 2008 survey, the Cebu March and July 2009 surveys, and the Parañaque City February 2009 survey were commissioned by the *Forum for Family Planning and Development* for open publication.

SWS implemented the family planning-related items in the November 1990 Social Weather Survey and Manila City December 2008 survey for release as a public service.

The June 2011 Social Weather Survey items on people's opinion of family planning are non-commissioned and were included on SWS's own initiative. They are released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

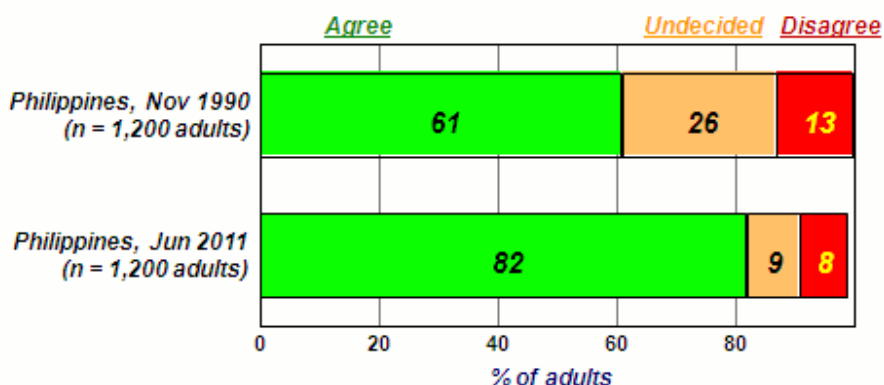
SWS employs its own staff for questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork, data-processing, and analysis, and does not outsource any of its survey operations.

#

Chart

1

Test Statement: "The choice of a family planning method is a personal choice of couples, and no one should interfere with it", NOV 1990 AND JUN 2011



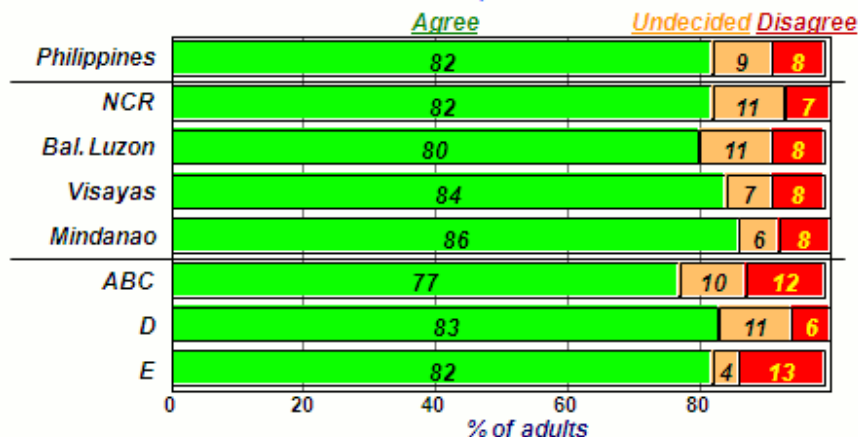
Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q. ANG PAGPILI NG PAMAMARAAN NG PAGPAPLANO NG PAMILYA AY PERSONAL NA DESISYON NG MAG-ASAWA AT WALANG DAPAT MAKIHALAM. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

Chart

2

**Test Statement: "The choice of a family planning method is a personal choice of couples, and no one should interfere with it",
BY AREA AND CLASS, JUN 2011**



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q85. ANG PAGPILI NG PAMAMARAAN NG PAGPAPLANO NG PAMILYA AY PERSONAL NA DESISYON NG MAG-ASAWA AT WALANG DARAP MAKIHALAM. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

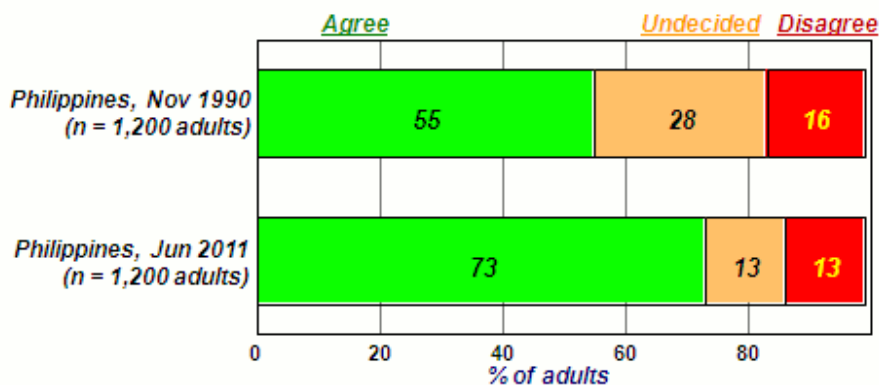


Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

3

**Test Statement: "If a couple wants to plan its family, it should be able to get information from government on all legal methods",
NOV 1990 AND JUN 2011**



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

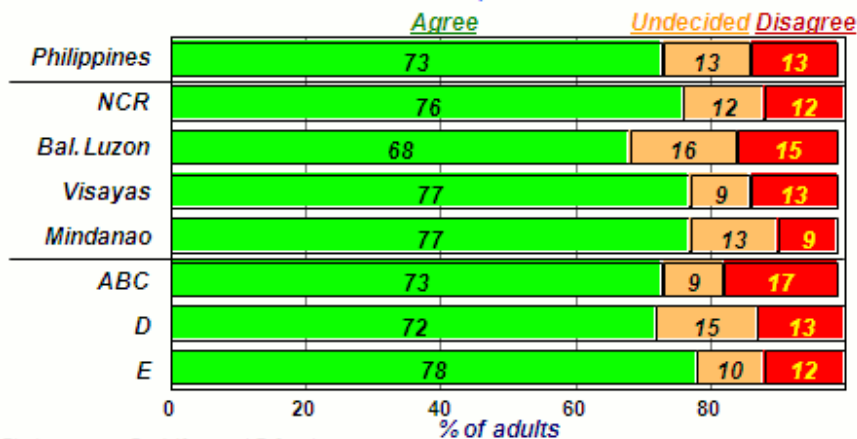
Q. KUNG NAIS MAGPLANO NG PAMILYA, ANG MAG-ASAWA AY DARAP MAKAKUHA SILA NG IMPORMASYON SA GOBYERNO TUNGKOL SA LAHAT NG LEGAL NA PAMAMARAAN. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

Test Statement: "If a couple wants to plan its family, it should be able to get information from government on all legal methods",
BY AREA AND CLASS, JUN 2011



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

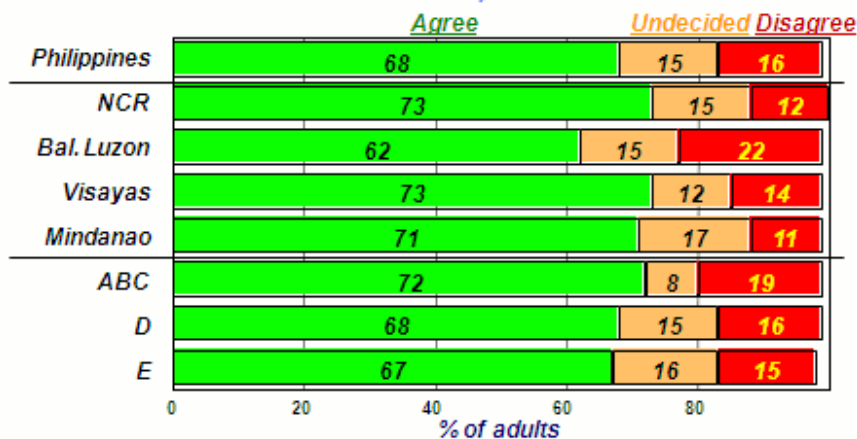
Q86. KUNG NAIS MAGPLANO NG PAMILYA ANG MAG-ASAWA AY DAPAT MAKAKUHA SILA NG IMPORMASYON SA GOBYERNO TUNGKOL SA LAHAT NG LEGAL NA PAMAMARAAN. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

Test Statement: "The government should fund all means of family planning may it be natural or artificial means",
BY AREA AND CLASS, JUN 2011



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

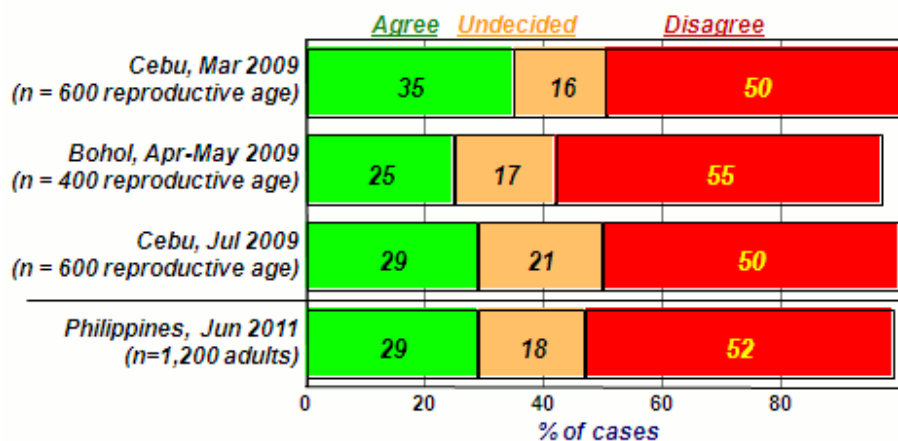
Q87. DAPAT PONDOHAN NG GOBYERNO ANG LAHAT NG URI NG PAMAMARAAN NG PAGPAPLANO NG PAMILYA MAGING ITO AY NATURAL O ARTIPISYAL. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

Test Statement: "The use of pills can also be considered as abortion", 2009-2011

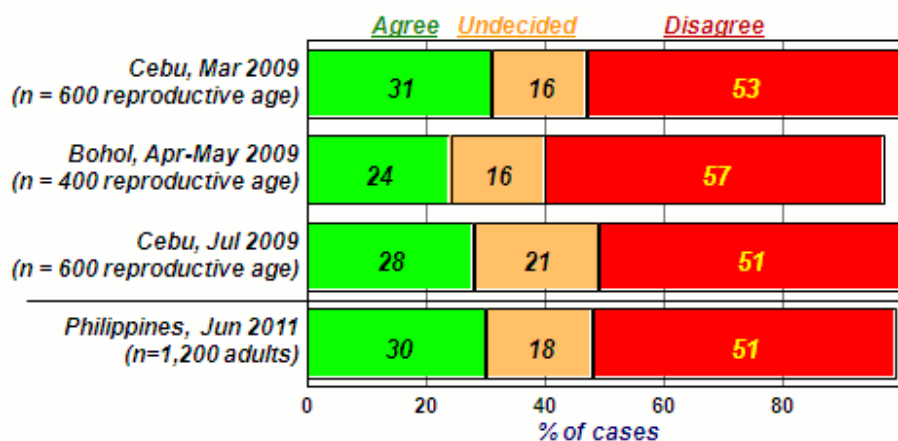


Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q. ANG PAGGAMIT NG PILLS AY MAITUTURING DING "ABORTION" O PAGPAPALAGLAG. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

Chart

Test Statement: "The use of condoms can also be considered as abortion", 2009-2011

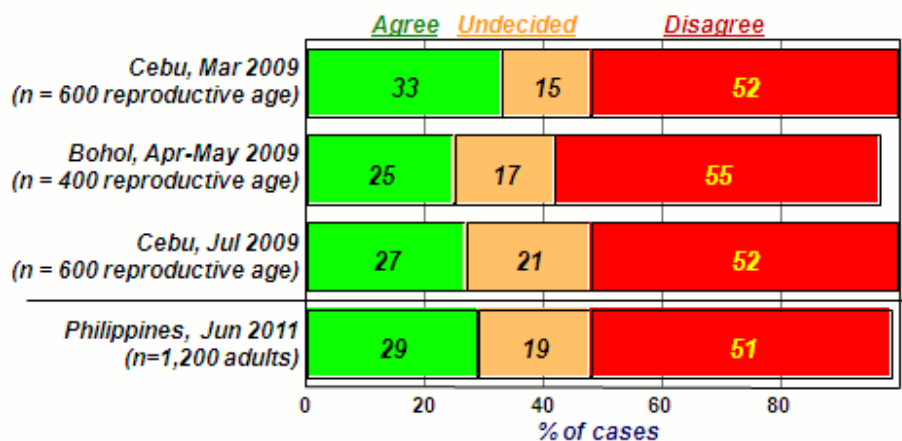


Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q. ANG PAGGAMIT NG CONDOM AY MAITUTURING DING "ABORTION" O PAGPAPALAGLAG. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

Chart

Test Statement: "The use of IUD can also be considered as abortion", 2009-2011



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q. ANG PAGGAMIT NG IUD AY MAITUTURING DING "ABORTION" O PAGRAPALAGLAG. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

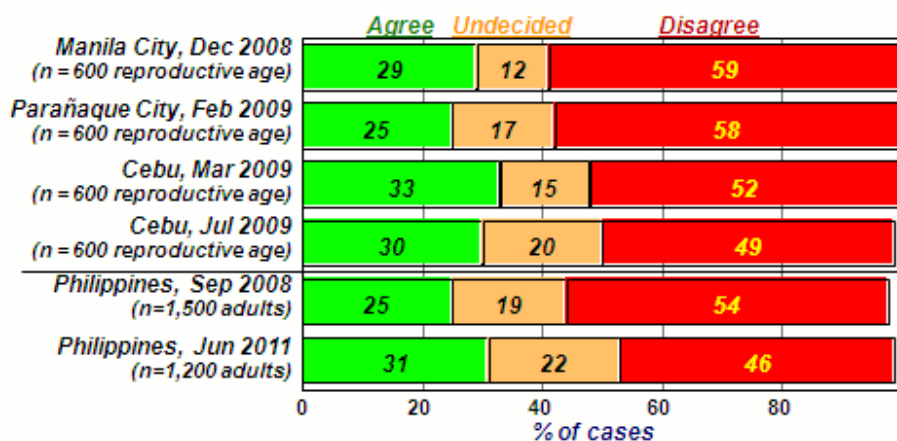


Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report

June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

Test Statement: "If family planning would be included in their curriculum, the youth would be sexually promiscuous", 2009-2011



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q. KUNG MAGIGING BAHAGI NG KURIKULUM ANG ARALIN UKOL SA PAGRAPLANO NG PAMILYA, ANG MGA KABATAAN AY MAKIKIPAGTALIK NANG WALANG PAKUNDANGAN. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)

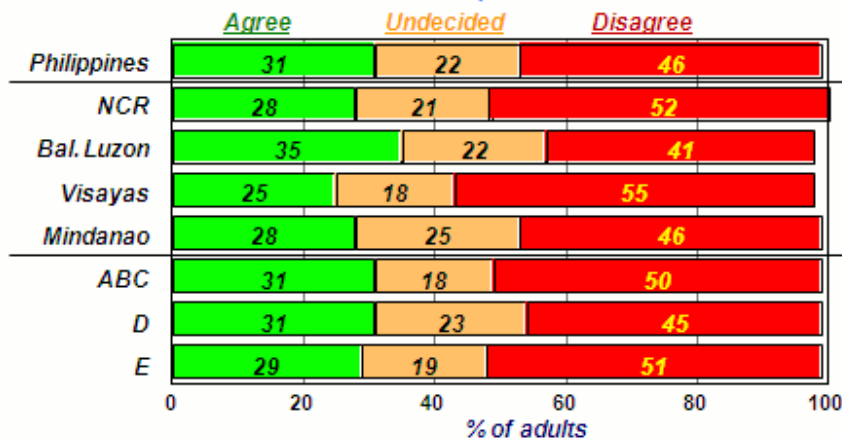


Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report

June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

**Test Statement: "If family planning would be included in their curriculum, the youth would be sexually promiscuous",
BY AREA AND CLASS, JUN 2011**



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

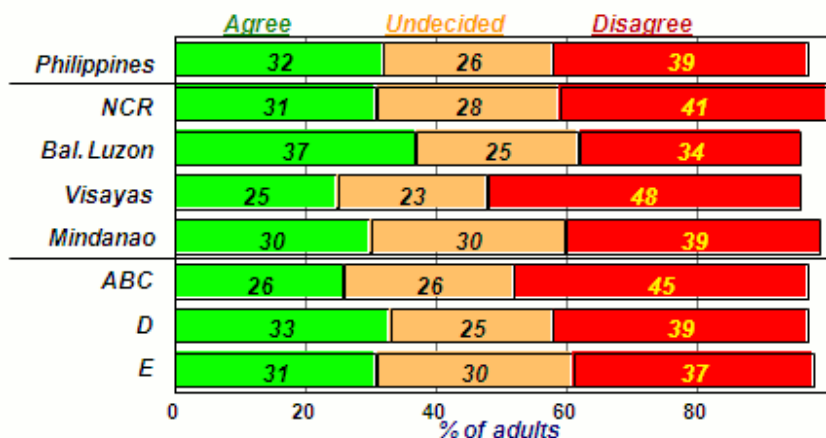
Q91. KUNG MAGIGING BAHAGI NG KURIKULUM ANG ARALIN UKOL SA PAGPAPLANO NG PAMILYA, ANG MGA KABATAAN AY MAKIKIPAGTALIK NANG WALANG PAKUNDANGAN. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

Chart

**Test Statement: "For me, the plan of those who oppose the RH Bill not to pay their taxes is a reasonable protest",
BY AREA AND CLASS, JUN 2011**



Note: Blank spaces are Don't Know and Refused responses.

Q92. PARA SA AKIN, ANG BALAK NA HINDI PAGBABAYAD NG BUWIS NG MGA TUMUTUTOL SA RH BILL AY ISANG MAKATUWIRANG PROTESTA. (LUBOS NA SUMASANG-AYON, MEDYO SUMASANG-AYON, HINDI TIYAK KUNG SUMASANG-AYON O HINDI, MEDYO HINDI SUMASANG-AYON, O LUBOS NA HINDI SUMASANG-AYON)



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
June 3-8, 2011 National Survey

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

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

184-43-3. South Africans Rate Their Lives Worse in 2010

Lack of jobs is South Africans' top concern regardless of wellbeing status
August 12, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- South Africans rated their lives worse in 2010 than they have in the past several years, with their ratings dropping below a 5 on a scale from 0 to 10 for the first time. South Africans' mean score of 4.7 is still among the higher ratings in sub-Saharan Africa.

South Africans Rate Their Lives

Among all adults aged 15 and older

■ Life today ■ Life in five years



Mean scores

GALLUP

The nearly half-point drop in South Africans' present evaluative wellbeing is one of the largest across the 11 sub-Saharan African countries that Gallup has surveyed annually since 2006. South Africans' assessments of their present lives are now on par with those in Zimbabwe and several other countries such as Cameroon, Ghana, and Nigeria.

Present Life Evaluation in Sub-Saharan Africa, Mean Scores

Among all adults aged 15 and older

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Change (in pct. pts.) 2010 vs. 2006
Nigeria	4.7	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	0.1
South Africa	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.2	4.7	-0.4
Zimbabwe	3.8	3.3	3.2	4.1	4.7	0.9
Ghana	4.5	5.2	5.0	4.2	4.6	0.1
Cameroon	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.7	4.6	0.7
Senegal	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.4	-0.2
Kenya	4.0	4.6	4.0	4.3	4.3	0.3
Uganda	3.7	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.2	0.5
Niger	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1	0.4
Chad	3.4	4.1	4.6	3.6	3.7	0.3
Tanzania	3.7	4.3	4.4	3.4	3.2	-0.4

Organized by highest score in 2010

GALLUP

Despite their relative pessimism about their present lives, South Africans are optimistic about better days ahead; their mean score of 7.7 in 2010 for their future lives stands at pre-global recession levels. Still, other countries are moving in a more positive direction. Zimbabweans, for example, rated their future lives 3.1 points higher between 2006 and 2010.

Future Life Evaluation in Sub-Saharan Africa, Mean Scores

Among all adults aged 15 and older

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Change (in pct. pts.) 2010 vs. 2006
South Africa	6.8	6.9	7.8	7.2	7.7	0.9
Ghana	7.4	8.1	7.5	7.1	7.7	0.3
Nigeria	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.5	-0.4
Zimbabwe	4.0	3.9	4.6	6.6	7.1	3.1
Cameroon	5.8	6.1	5.8	7.0	6.7	1.1
Senegal	7.1	6.6	7.1	6.6	6.7	-0.4
Niger	6.1	6.6	6.5	6.9	6.6	0.5
Chad	6.1	6.4	6.6	5.5	6.5	0.4
Uganda	5.3	6.1	5.8	6.9	6.4	1.1
Kenya	6.1	6.4	5.8	6.5	6.0	-0.1
Tanzania	5.5	5.7	5.5	4.8	5.2	-0.2

Organized by highest score in 2010

GALLUP

The latest Gallup survey results from Zimbabwe, fielded earlier this year, show life evaluation ratings remain positive; 2011 results from South Africa will be available later this fall.

Unemployment Is South Africans' Top Concern

Gallup results show that South Africa's unemployment rate at more than 20% was the highest Gallup measured across more than 100 countries in 2010. The country lost about 1 million jobs between 2008 and 2009, or about 8% of the national workforce. The South African economy contracted in 2009, while household indebtedness grew. In contrast, in neighboring Zimbabwe, economic growth has been strong after the government shifted to dollarization (use of hard currencies) to battle hyperinflation in 2009. While Zimbabwean leaders still have work to do on the country's economy, the dollarization of the economy has improved the lives of Zimbabweans.

In light of the sheer size of the job cuts, it is, perhaps, unsurprising that a lack of jobs is what South Africans say is the most important concern their families face. But what may be surprising is that even those who rate their lives higher on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, say this. Those who rate their present lives at the bottom of the scale are far more likely than others to identify poverty or a lack of money another pressing problem. South Africans, irrespective of their life evaluation ratings, express similar levels of concern about overall inflation, increases in food prices, and dearth of basics such as food and water.

Bottom Line

South Africans' change in evaluative wellbeing suggests they collectively felt the pinch of the 2008 to 2009 recession. In fact, the change in self-ratings of their present lives brought their mean score to the level of Zimbabweans' in 2010. Further, the results reveal that regardless of how South Africans rated their lives last year, all groups perceived unemployment to be the most important issue their families faced.

South Africans' consumer confidence, according to the MasterCard Worldwide Index of Consumer Confidence latest release, has improved recently, especially on the dimension of employment expectations. Such increased optimism about the job situation perhaps underscores South Africans' prioritization of job creation in the country. It will be important to continue monitoring how South Africans rate their lives as results become available, especially in comparison with the positive momentum seen in Zimbabwe.

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted Sept. 11-Oct. 3, 2010, in South Africa. For results based on the total sample of national adults in South Africa, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3.8 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/148970/South-Africans-Rate-Lives-Worse-2010.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing

WEST EUROPE

184-43-4. Europeans, The European Union and The Crisis

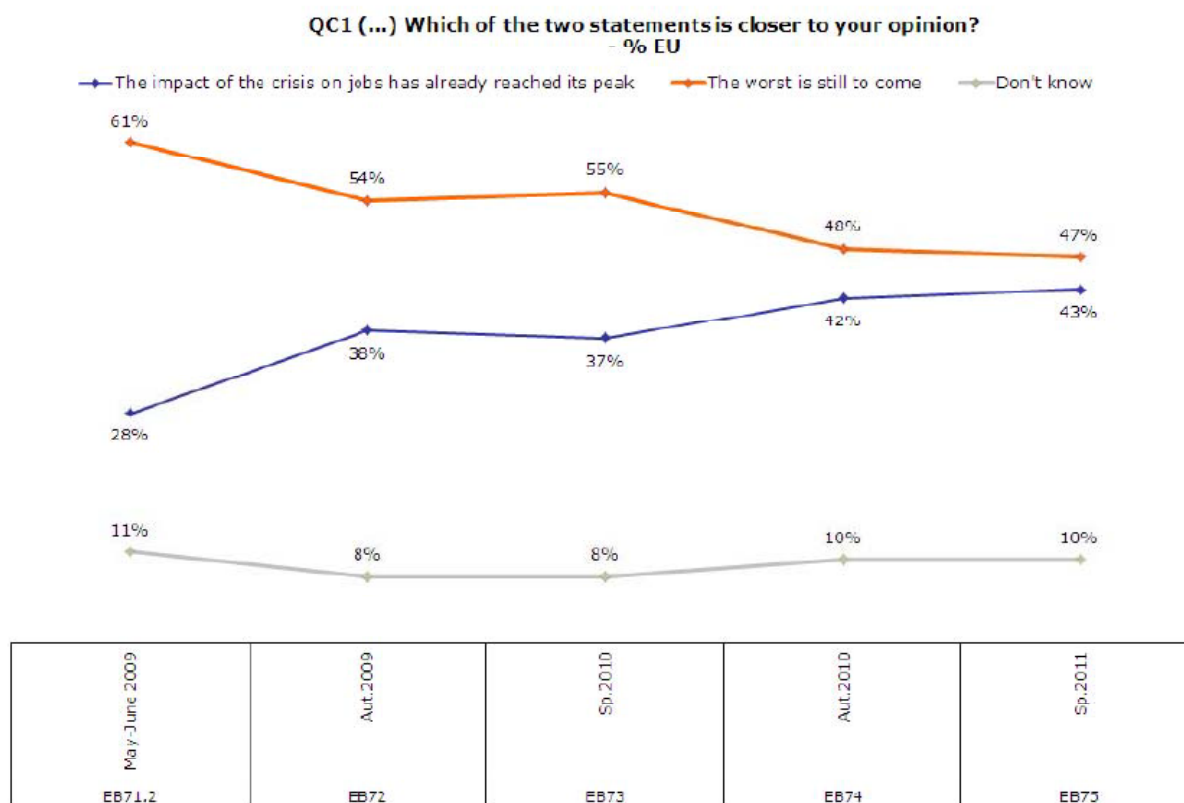
The economic forecasts for 2011-2012, published on 13 May 2011, confirmed a gradual economic recovery in the European Union countries, despite an acceleration in inflation due to an increase in the cost of raw materials. They also highlighted the significant difference in outlook from one Member State to another.

This is the context within which the spring 2011 Standard Eurobarometer (EB75) was conducted between 6 and 26 May 2011. The full report of the Eurobarometer is made up of several volumes. The first volume analyses the results of the historical indicators of the Standard Eurobarometer. Three other volumes cover the state of European public opinion on the financial and economic crisis; the Europe 2020 strategy; the European Union budget. The current volume examines the financial and economic crisis.

The general analysis, as well as the socio-demographic analyses, is based on the average of the 27 Member States. This average is weighted to reflect the actual population of each Member State. The averages for previous years represent the results obtained in all the Member States which made up the Union at the time when the survey was conducted.

1. HAS THE CRISIS REACHED ITS PEAK?

After the fairly strong revival in optimism between the spring Standard Eurobarometer (EB73) and the autumn 2010 survey (EB74), in spring 2011 a relative majority of Europeans think that the consequences of the economic crisis for employment have not yet been fully felt and that ‘the worst is still to come’ (47%, -1 point since autumn 2010)³. Conversely 43% of Europeans (+1 point) think that ‘the impact of the crisis on employment has already reached its peak’. Therefore, the results from spring 2011 have remained stable since autumn 2010. However, it should be noted that there has been a clear strengthening of this result since 2009 (+15 points since May-June 2009).



The results vary considerably from one European Union country to another. The impression that the crisis is already ‘behind us’ is dominant in 12 Member States. The reverse is true in 13 others, where the worst is still seen as ‘yet to come’. Finally, opinion is evenly divided in Italy and Poland. At the time of the autumn 2010 survey the feeling that the crisis was ‘behind us’ was

the majority opinion in 13 Member States, whereas the worst was seen as 'yet to come' in 13 countries, with respondents in Luxembourg evenly divided.

Portugal (15%), Greece (19%) and Ireland (31%), which are suffering most from the crisis, are among the countries least likely to say that the impact of the crisis on employment has already reached its peak. Furthermore, in three of the six largest Member States the proportion of 'optimists' is below the European average (43%): the United Kingdom (33%), France (35%) and Spain (40%). Opinions are very similar, whether interviewees are within or outside the euro zone (see the table on the following page). However, the EU15 countries are more pessimistic (49%) than the NMS12 (42%).

Some countries are more optimistic than in autumn 2010, in particular Romania (42%, +13 points), Denmark (68%, +12 points) and Ireland (31%, +10 points). Conversely, there is greater pessimism now than in autumn 2010 in Finland (52%, +8 points), Hungary (44%, +8 points) and Portugal (80%, +7 points), but also in Germany (38%, +5 points), which had seen a significant improvement in the last survey.

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

	The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak	The worst is still to come	DK
EU27	43%	47%	10%
Age			
15-24	48%	42%	10%
25-39	44%	47%	9%
40-54	43%	48%	9%
55 +	39%	50%	11%
Education (End of)			
15-	33%	55%	12%
16-19	42%	49%	9%
20+	48%	43%	9%
Still studying	50%	40%	10%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	27%	65%	8%
From time to time	38%	52%	10%
Almost never	48%	43%	9%

Some countries are more optimistic than in autumn 2010, in particular Romania (42%, +13 points), Denmark (68%, +12 points) and Ireland (31%, +10 points). Conversely, there is greater pessimism now than in autumn 2010 in Finland (52%, +8 points), Hungary (44%, +8 points) and Portugal (80%, +7 points), but also in Germany (38%, +5 points), which had seen a significant improvement in the last survey.

Methodology: The methodology used is that of the Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General Communication ('Research and Speechwriting' Unit). A technical note concerning the interviews carried out by the institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is appended to this report. It specifies the interview methodology as well as the confidence intervals.

Download the detailed report from the link given below

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb75/eb75_cri_en.pdf

184-43-5. Europe 2020

The European Commission launched the Europe 2020 strategy in March 2010 with the aim of enabling the European economy to emerge from the current financial and economic crisis by preparing for the main challenges of the 2010-2020 decade. For this reason a number of initiatives have been launched to encourage a smart, sustainable and inclusive European economy. The Eurobarometer surveys have measured public assessments of the Europe 2020 strategy since the spring 2010 Standard Eurobarometer 73. Therefore, it is possible to start to have some perspective on the various indicators and to follow their evolution over time.

In the spring 2011 Standard Eurobarometer (EB75) Europeans were asked about their perceptions of the Europe 2020 strategy, focusing on four main points: first, what importance did they give to the European Commission's seven initiatives for the Europe 2020 strategy? Next, did they think that the targets set by the European Commission for the Europe 2020 strategy were achievable? Thirdly, European citizens were asked about the actions proposed for each of the strategy's flagship initiatives: which measures should the European Union prioritise? Finally, once aware of the targets and actions to be implemented for the Europe 2020 strategy, do Europeans think that the direction the European Union is taking to emerge from the crisis is the right one? As these questions had previously been asked in the Eurobarometers of spring 2010 (EB73) and autumn 2010 (EB74), the evolutions in European public opinion will be analysed.

The full report of the spring 2011 Standard Eurobarometer 75 consists of several volumes. The first volume analyses the results of the historical indicators of the Standard Eurobarometer. Three other volumes cover the state of European public opinion on the financial and economic crisis, the Europe 2020 strategy, and the European Union budget. The current volume examines the Europe 2020 strategy.

The general analysis, as well as the socio-demographic analyses, is based on the average of the 27 Member States. This average is weighted to reflect the actual population of each Member State. The averages for previous years represent the results obtained in all the Member States which made up the Union at the time when the survey was conducted.

THE PERCEIVED IMPORTANCE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EUROPE 2020 INITIATIVES

- Europeans put social and environmental initiatives first -

Interviewees were first asked to assign a level of importance to the seven initiatives defined by the European Union (EU) for the Europe 2020 strategy. In order to do this, they gave a score between 1 and 10 to each initiative, where 1 meant that they considered it 'not at all important' and 10 'very important'. Then the percentages were aggregated into three categories of response: 'important' for the scores of 7 to 10, 'quite important' for 5 and 6, and 'not important' for 1 to 4. The same question was asked a year ago in the spring 2010 Standard Eurobarometer (EB73).

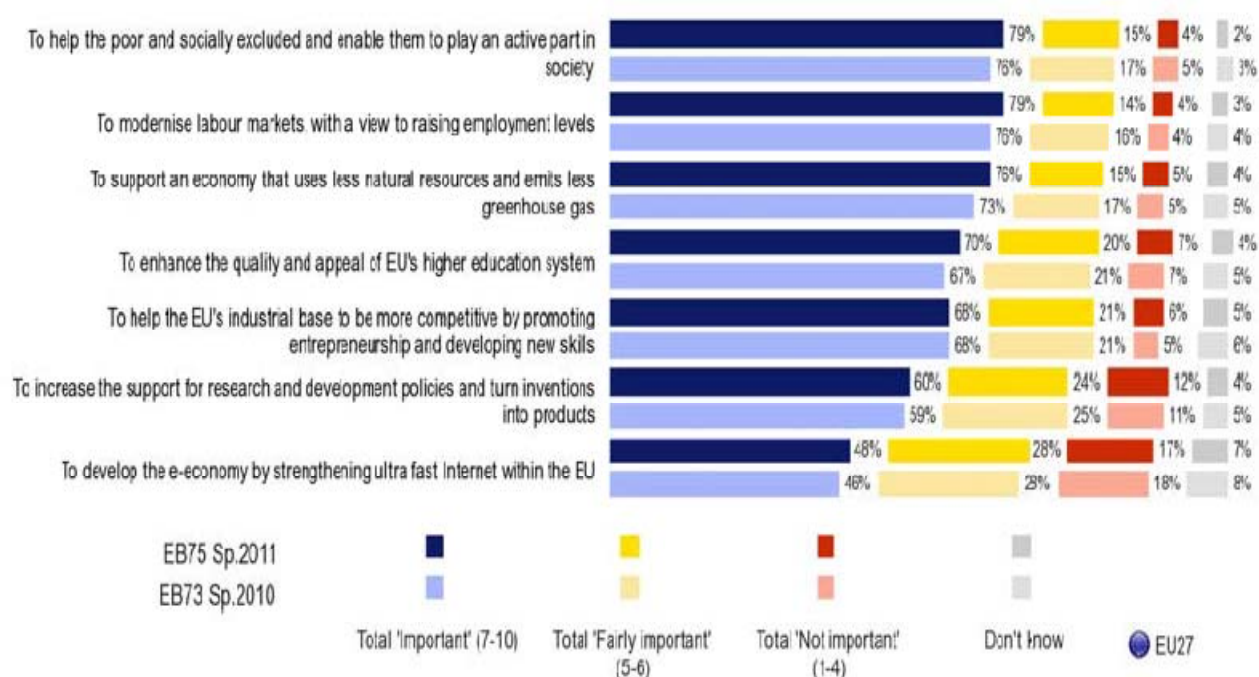
It is noticeable firstly that six of the seven initiatives are considered important by an absolute majority of Europeans: this is evidence of the public demand for action to emerge from the crisis and prepare the European economy for the coming decade. Secondly, social and environmental measures continue to lead the ranking of initiatives which are perceived as the most important.

Public perceptions of the importance of these initiatives have remained broadly unchanged in the last year; however there is a general trend towards improvement: perceived importance has grown for six of the seven initiatives. Furthermore, the initiatives which were already regarded as the most important in spring 2010 are those which record the greatest increase in support in spring 2011. Therefore, the ranking given a year ago has been reinforced.

More specifically, over three-quarters of Europeans say that it is important to ‘help the poor and socially excluded and to enable them to take an active part in society’ (79%, +3 points), ‘to modernise the employment markets by aiming to increase the level of jobs’ (79%, +3 points) and ‘to encourage an economy which uses fewer natural resources and gives out fewer greenhouse gases’ (76%, +3 points). Thus, combating exclusion, employment and sustainable development feature in the top three initiatives seen as the most important for the Europe 2020 strategy.

Next, three initiatives were regarded as important by between 60% and 70% of respondents. Although there are some slight national differences in the ranking, the main message is that an absolute majority of citizens in almost all the Member States agree that the top six initiatives are important. There is only one exception: the UK on the question of support for research and development policies (where a relative majority, 47%, say that this initiative is ‘important’). National views are more divided on the development of the e-economy. There is thus a consensus within both European and national opinion on the importance of the Union’s initiatives for the Europe 2020 strategy. It seems that overall these initiatives meet the main expectations of Europeans.

QB1. For each of the following initiatives, please tell me how important or not you think they are in order for the EU to exit the present financial and economic crisis and prepare for the next decade. Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where ‘1’ means that you think this initiative is “not at all important” and ‘10’ means that it is ‘very important’.



2. OPINION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION’S TARGETS FOR EUROPE 2020

- *The Europe 2020 targets seem realistic to the majority of Europeans* -

Having ranked the various initiatives by their importance, Europeans were asked to say how realistic the EU’s Europe 2020 strategy targets were for guiding the European economy. At least half the respondents consider the Union’s eight targets to be ‘about right’, with the margin oscillating between 50% for ‘reduce by one quarter between now and 2020 the number of Europeans living underneath the poverty line’ and ‘enable at least 40% of the younger generation to have a qualification or a diploma’, and 61% for ‘three-quarters of men and women aged between 20 and 64 years should have a job.’ Thus an absolute majority of Europeans consider all

the quantifiable objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy to be ‘about right’, in other words achievable⁴.

This question was asked in the previous autumn 2010 Eurobarometer survey (EB74) and the analysis then showed a slight trend in comparison to spring 2010: a decline in the percentage of Europeans considering the objectives to be realistic was accompanied by a rise in the number finding them ‘too ambitious’. This trend has ceased in the spring 2011 survey and has even reversed: the percentage of Europeans who say that the objectives are credible has increased slightly, while ‘too ambitious’ responses are very slightly down or unchanged for all the tested items.

The analysis reveals certain quite marked national traits in this assessment of the Europe 2020 strategy objectives.

Respondents in Italy are most likely to consider all these objectives to be realistic, with each item receiving a rating 10 to 19 points higher than the European average.

In contrast, interviewees in Cyprus are often the most likely to doubt the feasibility of the targets, with the highest proportion of ‘too ambitious’ responses for three of the eight objectives. In Germany a very high proportion of interviewees consider that it is unrealistic to expect at least 40% of the younger generation to have a diploma or qualification (58% compared to a European average of 30%).

Swedish opinion stands out sharply from the European average by a marked preference for a more ambitious approach. Respondents in Sweden are much more likely than the European average to say that all the objectives are ‘too modest’; for example, ‘at least 40% of the younger generation to have a qualification or a diploma’ is considered too modest by 69% of interviewees in Sweden (compared to 16% of Europeans) and ‘reducing to 10% the number of young people leaving school without a qualification’ by 56% (compared to 27% of Europeans). The proportion of ‘too modest’ responses is also at least ten points above the European average in Belgium for seven of the eight objectives, and in Luxembourg for six of the eight. This is also the case in Austria for the three objectives which relate to the environment and sustainable development.

Behind the slight trend towards improvement noted at a European level since the last survey in autumn 2010, a number of developments in particular Member States have been observed. The proportion of ‘too modest’ responses has increased, or remained the same, for all the targets tested in Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, the Netherlands, Romania, Sweden and the United Kingdom, suggesting increased optimism as to the achievability of the different Europe 2020 strategy objectives.

Conversely, there has been a rise, or no change, in the rate of ‘too ambitious’ responses for each of the eight objectives in Spain, Portugal and Romania: respondents in these countries are more sceptical than in autumn 2010 about the feasibility of the Europe 2020 strategy objectives.

Methodology: The methodology used is that of the Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General Communication (‘Research and Speechwriting’ Unit). A technical note concerning the interviews carried out by the institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is appended to this report. It specifies the interview methodology as well as the confidence intervals.

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb75/eb75_eu20_en.pdf

184-43-6. Residents of UK Suggests Range of Tactics for Dealing with Riots

9 Out Of 10 British Adults Say Police Should Be Able To Use Water Cannon On Rioters And One Third Support Use Of Live Ammunition

10 August 2011

As rioting continues for a fourth night, a YouGov survey for The Sun has found that there is widespread support among British adults for a range of tactics to be made available to the police: 90% think the police should be able to use water cannons in the course of dealing with the rioters.

33% say police should be able to use firearms / live ammunition.

77% support using the army to help deal with the situation.

57% feel David Cameron is dealing with the situation badly.

85% believe either a majority or most of those taking part in the riots will go unpunished.

YouGov's nationally representative survey of 2,534 British adults provides the first look at public opinion on the unrest, rioting and looting that has spread across England in recent days.

Thinking about the riots in London and other cities in Britain, what do you think is the MAIN cause of the riots?

	Majoritarian		Minority		Gender		Age		Social grade				Region				
	Can	Lab	Can	Lab	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	London	South	Midlands	North	Scotland
Weighted Sample	2304	871	855	178	1206	870	826	180	1200	1200	1200	1334	1000	307	642	625	230
Unweighted Sample	2304	871	855	177	1206	869	180	1200	1200	1200	1200	1334	1000	307	641	627	228

Do you think Boris Johnson and David Cameron were right to come home from their holidays to help handle the riots?

	Right	Wrong	Don't know
Crime/terrorism	42	55	44
Government	26	28	23
Government's	8	18	4
Unemployment	5	3	8
Social tensions	5	5	3
Far-righting	3	2	4
Other (please specify)	5	4	8
Don't know	5	2	5

	Right	Wrong	Don't know
Right	91	65	60
Wrong	3	2	3
Don't know	5	2	5

9 out of 10 respondents (90%) thought that the police should be able to use water cannon in the course of dealing with rioters. The potential use of other tactics also proved very popular with mounted police (84%), curfews (82%), tear gas (78%), tasers (72%) and plastic bullets (65%) all attracting support from a large majority.

In addition, a third (33%) thought police should be able to use firearms / live ammunition to deal with the riots, while over three quarters (77%) supported the involvement of the army in quelling the unrest.

Public opinion is divided over how the police have dealt with the situation up until now. While a majority (52%) felt that the police were dealing with the situation either 'very well' or 'fairly well', a sizeable minority (43%) thought they were dealing with it either 'very badly' or 'fairly badly'.

Politicians fared substantially less well in the eyes of the public. Just over a quarter (28%) felt Prime Minister David Cameron was dealing with the situation well, compared to a majority (57%) who felt that he was dealing with things badly.

The results for Home Secretary Teresa May and London Mayor Boris Johnson were similarly negative, with 58% and 54% respectively thinking they were dealing with the situation badly.

In the longer term, the public were sceptical that those taking part in the unrest would be punished. More than two thirds (67%) believed that a majority of those rioting will 'probably get away with it' while a further 18% felt that most or all would escape punishment.

Over one in five (23%) expect the riots to last until the weekend while a similar number (21%) believes that they will continue beyond then.

Joe Twyman, Director of Political and Social Research at YouGov said: "It is clear from the data that a majority of the population feels that politicians have handled the unrest badly so far. There is also significant support for making a wide range of new tactics available to the police. However, this is clearly a rapidly changing situation and we shall continue to monitor public opinion to investigate how things develop."

Source: <http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-EnglandRiotResults.pdf>

184-43-7. A Healthy Outlook – Nutrition And Eating Habits Important To Children

15 August 2011

New research from YouGov's Parent and Children Omnibus suggests that children are adopting a healthier, more considered approach towards nutrition and healthy eating. Our research reveals that 87% of British children aged 8 to 15 believe that 'eating healthily' is important. And almost all British parents surveyed believe it is important for their child/children to eat healthily (97%).

Most British children receive nutritional education from their parents with 79% stating that their mum and 52% stating their dad had spoken to them about 'healthy eating'. However, children also received advice from their teacher (69%), other family members (22%), friend (18%) and doctor (13%).

Nutritional labelling on food also helps educate and address eating habits. However, just under half of British children have looked at a food label to find out nutritional information about food (43%). And only 34% of British children have looked at the traffic light colour coding system - endorsed by the Food Standards Agency.

Jamie Oliver's crusade to improve school dinners resulted in a new set of rules coming into force in schools across the country. And two years on, healthy standards remain - 30% of children rated their school dinners as 'healthy' and 10% 'very healthy'. Parents voiced similar

sentiment - 32% 'healthy' and 8% 'very healthy'. However, there is still work to be done as 13% of children rated their school meals as 'unhealthy' and 5% as 'very unhealthy'.

Though the majority of British children appear to have adopted a healthy attitude towards nutrition, what they actually eat on a day to day basis is a very different matter indeed. 17% of children surveyed eat crisps every day. Nearly two thirds of children surveyed eat crisps at least a few times a week (64%). Sweets (58%), chocolate (56%) and biscuits (57%) were also stated as being consumed more than once a week. Over a quarter of children eat chips at least a few times a week (26%).

However, healthy snacks are also popular - just 3 in 10 (30%) British children eat cereal bars at least a few times a week, over half of British children eat fruit every day (52%) and almost three quarters eat fruit more than once a week (84%) indicating that most children get at least one of their five a day regularly.

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 535 British parents and 535 British children. Fieldwork was undertaken 22nd July – 26th July 2011. The survey was carried out online. YouGov's Children Omnibus interviews 500 children aged 8 to 15 in Great Britain weekly with results in 4 days.

Source: <http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-healthyOutlookChildrenNutrition.pdf>

184-43-8. Public Attitudes To The Nuclear To The Nuclear Industry

Published: 4 August 2011

Fieldwork: 17 - 23 June 2011

An extra mid-year opinion survey for the Nuclear Industry Association, conducted in the wake of the Fukushima incident in Japan in March, has shown continued support among the British public for an energy policy that includes nuclear energy as well as renewables.

Sixty-eight percent agree that "Britain needs a mix of energy sources to ensure a reliable supply of electricity, including nuclear power and renewable energy sources" while just 12% disagree.

This is despite a decline in both favourable opinion of the nuclear industry and support for replacement nuclear newbuild since the Fukushima incident. In fact, there remains more favourable opinion than unfavourable opinion (28% compared to 24%) and more support than opposition for newbuild (36% compared to 28%).

Almost half the public (47%) disagree that "the Nuclear industry has done its best to inform and educate people about nuclear energy and its safety measures" while just 25% agree.

Among those who oppose replacement nuclear newbuild, mentions of safety concerns and risk are up nine points from last November (to 38%).

Technical details

Ipsos MORI interviewed face-to-face a nationally representative sample of 994 adults at 153 sampling points across Great Britain in the period 17-23 June 2011. The interviews were carried out on our Capibus Omnibus survey and the data weighted to reflect the population of Great Britain aged 16+.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2834/Public-attitudes-to-the-nuclear-to-the-nuclear-industry.aspx>

184-43-9. A Quarter Of GPs Surveyed Think Their Consortium Will Be Ready To Take On Full Commissioning Responsibility By April 2013

Published: 11 August 2011

Fieldwork: 4th July 2011

A snapshot of GPs in England shows that while many are involved in commissioning decisions to some extent, only a quarter think that their consortium will be ready to take on full commissioning responsibility by April 2013

Views are split on the government's plans for clinically-led commissioning; two in five think it will be worse for patients than GP-led commissioning but 28% think it will be better and the same proportion think it will make no difference

A new survey of GPs in England for KPMG by Ipsos MORI shows that just a quarter (25%) of the GPs surveyed believe their consortium will be ready to take on full commissioning responsibility by April 2013. Half of GPs say their consortium will be ready for full commissioning responsibility by April 2014 and a further 10% by the following year.

Half (46%) expect to be in a position to take on shadow budgets by April 2013 – with a quarter (23%) expecting to be able to take on shadow budgets by April 2012. Three in ten say they “don't know” when their consortia will be ready to take on shadow budgets or full commissioning responsibility (29% and 32% respectively).

On balance, the GPs surveyed believe that the government's revised plans for clinically-led commissioning will be worse for patients than its original proposals for GP-led commissioning. Just under two in five (37%) say it will be worse for patients. However, a significant minority (28%) say it will be better for patients than GP commissioning and the same proportion believe it will make no difference (28%).

Half of the GPs surveyed have already factored in QIPP (Quality, innovation, Productivity and Prevention) into their consortia plans for 2011/12 (53%). However, three in ten GPs say they “don't know” if QIPP has been considered in their plans (29%).

Financial expertise (40%) and care pathway re-design (36%) are considered to be the most important areas of expertise for consortia over the next 12 months, according to the GPs surveyed. Expertise in commissioning strategy (27%) is also seen as important. Other important areas are contracting (22%), performance management (21%) and health needs assessment (20%).

Most GP practices are actively involved in the commissioning decisions of their consortia. A third (34%) of GPs surveyed say that over three-quarters of the practices in their consortium are regularly involved in commissioning decisions, while around one in five (18%) say that under a quarter are regularly involved. Two in five (38%) of the surveyed GPs say they are *personally* involved in commissioning decisions. However, three in five (60%) say they are either not very (37%) or not at all involved (23%).

Technical details

One hundred GPs practising in England were surveyed online on the 4th July 2011. Quotas were set by region to ensure a representative spread, and interviews were conducted across a range of sizes of consortium. Where percentages do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding, the exclusion of “don't know” categories, or multiple answers.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2831/A-quarter-of-GPs-surveyed-think-their-consortium-will-be-ready-to-take-on-full-commissioning-responsibility-by-April-2013.aspx>

NORTH AMERICA

184-43-10. Obama Job Approval 50% or Higher in 16 States and D.C.

Idaho residents least approving, at 27%

August 8, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Residents of 16 states and the District of Columbia gave President Obama approval ratings of 50% or higher during the first half of 2011, led by the District of Columbia, Connecticut, Maryland, and Delaware. Idaho residents had the least positive appraisal of his performance, with 27% approving.

Top 10 States, Obama Job Approval

	% Approve
District of Columbia	83
Connecticut	60
Maryland	59
Delaware	59
New York	57
Massachusetts	57
Hawaii	56
Vermont	54
Illinois	54
New Jersey	54

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

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Bottom 10 States, Obama Job Approval

	% Approve
Idaho	27
Wyoming	32
Utah	32
Oklahoma	32
West Virginia	33
Arkansas	33
Montana	36
Kentucky	37
North Dakota	37
Alabama/Kansas (tie)	38

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

These results are based on aggregated Gallup Daily tracking data from January through June, consisting of nearly 90,000 interviews nationally. Obama averaged 47% approval on a nationwide basis during this time. Each state's data is weighted so it is demographically representative of the state's population. The full data for each state can be found on page 2 of this report.

Obama's support is greatest in the East, with 8 of his 10 highest approval ratings occurring in states located in the Northeast or Mid-Atlantic region of the country. The 2 non-Eastern states ranking among the 10 highest are Obama's home states of Hawaii and Illinois.

States giving Obama his lowest approval ratings are more varied regionally, with several in the West but also including Southern and Midwestern states.

Steady State Approval Ratings

Obama's national half-year average approval rating of 47% matches his average nationwide approval rating for all of 2010. As such, there has been little meaningful change since 2010 in his ratings at the state level as well.

The president did receive a 50% or higher approval rating in a few more states during the first half of 2011 than he did in 2010 -- 16 compared with 12, along with the District of Columbia in both time periods. His approval rating crept back to the 50% level in Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota in the first part of 2011 after being below that level in those states in 2010.

Implications

As President Obama prepares for his re-election bid next year, his approval ratings nationally and at the state level bear watching. Typically, presidents with approval ratings above 50% get re-elected, though George W. Bush won re-election in 2004 with a 48% approval rating at the time of the election.

Thus, a key for Obama is to try to push his national approval rating back above the 50% mark before November 2012, and to have it at or above that level in as many states as possible, given that the presidential election will be determined by the winner of the greater number of state electoral votes. Currently, a majority of states show approval ratings below 50%, though whether Obama is victorious will also depend in part on who his GOP challenger is, whether a significant third-party candidate runs, and the degree to which the president's supporters turn out to vote.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Jan. 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 89,965 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Sample sizes for individual states range from lows of 180 for the District of Columbia and 242 for Hawaii to a high of 8,549 for California. Margins of error for most states are ± 4 percentage points or less.

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/148874/Obama-Job-Approval-Higher-States.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

184-43-11. Democrats Enjoy Slight Edge on 2012 Congressional Ballot

Twice as many voters say Tea Party endorsements are a negative rather than a positive
August 12, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup's first measure of the 2012 congressional elections shows Democrats leading Republicans, 51% to 44%, in registered voters' preferences for which party's candidate they would support in their district "if the elections for Congress were being held today."

Generic Congressional Ballot -- Based on Registered Voters

If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your congressional district -- [the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate]? (If undecided or other) As of today, do you lean more toward -- [the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate]?

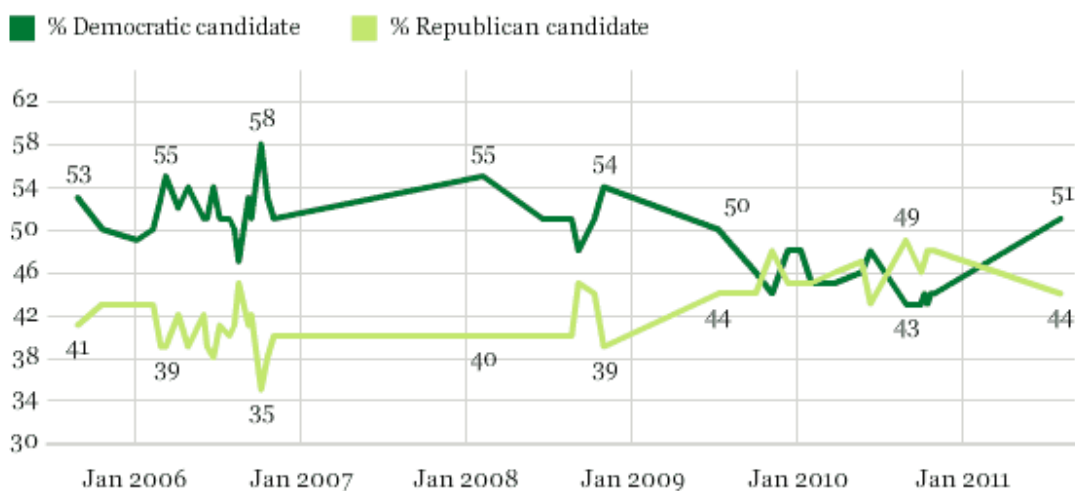
	Aug 4-7, 2011
	%
Democratic Party's candidate	51
Republican Party's candidate	44
Other/Undecided	6

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The poll was conducted Aug. 4-7, after Standard & Poor's downgrading of the U.S. government's credit rating last week but prior to this week's volatility in the stock market, including the 635-point stock market drop on Monday, Aug. 8.

The seven-percentage-point edge for Democratic congressional candidates, nationally, contrasts with ties or Republican leads in most Gallup polls leading up to the 2010 midterm elections. However, the Democratic advantage is not as large as those they enjoyed in the 2006 and 2008 congressional election cycles -- each of which produced a Democratic majority in Congress. The Democrats averaged a 10-point lead over Republicans among registered voters in the year prior to the 2008 elections and an 11-point advantage leading up to the 2006 elections, with individual polls showing them ahead by as much as 23 points.

Generic Congressional Ballot -- August 2005-August 2011



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Tea Party Endorsements Could Do More Harm Than Good

Gallup also asked registered voters how a Tea Party endorsement would affect their likelihood of voting for a congressional candidate. The effect is nearly 2-to-1 negative, with 42% saying they would be less likely to vote for such a candidate versus 23% saying they would be more likely. About a third say it would make no difference or are unsure.

Among registered voters, most Republicans say a Tea Party endorsement would either make them more likely to vote for a candidate (44%) or make no difference (42%), while most Democrats say it would make them less likely to vote for a candidate (66%). Independents' reactions are similar to the national average, with 25% more likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by the Tea Party and 38% less likely.

Effect of Tea Party Endorsement on Congressional Vote -- Based on Registered Voters

Thinking again about how you might vote for Congress, would you, personally, be -- [more likely to vote for a candidate for Congress who was supported by the Tea Party movement, would it not make a difference to your vote, (or would you be) less likely to vote for a candidate for Congress who was supported by the Tea Party movement]?

	More likely	No difference	Less likely	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
Registered voters	23	30	42	5
Republicans	44	42	12	2
Independents	25	32	38	6
Democrats	8	21	66	5

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

These results echo those of a separate question in the new survey showing that, by 20% to 14%, more Americans strongly oppose the Tea Party movement than strongly support it.

Bottom Line

The Democratic Party may be better positioned today to win seats in the 2012 congressional elections than it was leading up to the 2010 midterms that resulted in its loss of 63 House seats and majority control. However, the Democrats' advantage is currently not as strong as that seen in 2006, when they regained majority control from the Republicans, or in 2008, when they maintained it.

To re-establish a more favorable positioning with voters, the Republican Party will have to deal carefully with the national Tea Party movement. While most Republicans say Tea Party endorsements either make no difference to their vote or increase their likelihood of supporting a candidate, at this point the effect on the all-important independent vote is more negative than positive.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 4-7, 2011, with a random sample of 1,319 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. The survey includes an oversample of 376 non-Hispanic blacks, consisting of 88 interviews done as part of the random national sample and 288 interviews with blacks who had previously participated in national Gallup Polls and agreed to be re-interviewed at a later date. The data from the national sample and re-interviews are combined and weighted to be demographically representative of the national adult population in the United States and to reflect the proper proportion of blacks in the overall population.

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 1,204 registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage point

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents by 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/148964/Democrats-Enjoy-Slight-Edge-2012-Congressional-Ballot.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

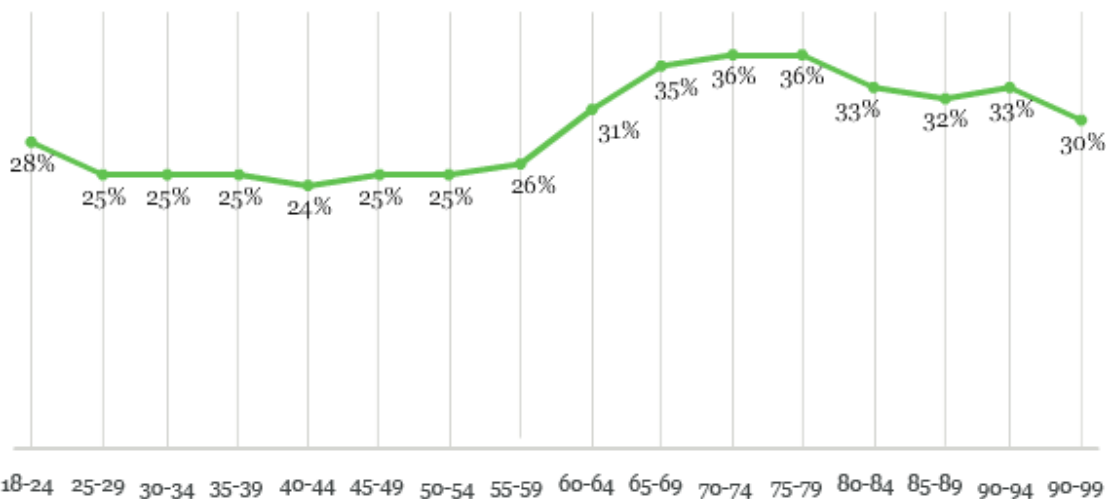
184-43-12. Emotional Health Higher Among Older Americans

Even among people in their 80s and 90s, emotional health remains high
August 12, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans aged 60 and older demonstrate significantly better emotional health than those younger than 60 years. In fact, a septuagenarian is far more likely than someone in their 30s to have high emotional health. These results hold true even after statistically controlling for gender, race, education, marital status, employment, income, and regional location.

High Emotional Health Increases With Age

Percentage of Americans whose Emotional Health Index score is greater than 90



January 2010-June 2011

Gallup-Healthways Wellbeing Index

GALLUP

This analysis, based on more than 500,000 interviews conducted between January 2010 and June 2011 as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, measures Americans' Emotional Health Index (EHI) scores, based on self-reports of positive and negative daily emotions as well as clinical diagnosis of depression. Specifically, Americans are asked whether they felt "a lot of" each of the following emotions the day before the survey: smiling/laughing, learning/doing something interesting, being treated with respect, enjoyment, happiness, worry, sadness, anger, and stress. Emotionally well-off Americans are defined as those whose EHI scores are over 90, out of a maximum of 100. Rather than focusing on just happiness or enjoyment, this large set of questions, including respondents' medical diagnoses of depression, provides a more comprehensive view of emotional health.

Across all age groups, an average 28% of Americans are classified as emotionally well off. Less than one in three Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 has high emotional health. Emotional health is slightly lower, and highly stable, among Americans in their mid-20s through their 50s. Starting with Americans in their early 60s, the percentage of those with good emotional health jumps to 31% and is at least 30% among every succeeding age group through age 99.

It should also be noted that Gallup's telephone interview samples may not reach older Americans who are physically impaired or residents of nursing homes and who may have lower emotional health; however the difference is probably not enough to account for the gap in emotional health between those above and below age 60.

Bottom Line

The relationship between emotional health and age tells a tale of two populations: the young and the restless on one hand; the old and the content on the other. In other words, older Americans report much better emotional health, even after holding other demographic variables

constant. While many other factors can influence emotional health, these results suggest that, in spite of the tendency to dread aging in the U.S., senior status may be a time to look forward to.

Frank Newport contributed to this article.

Emotional Health Index - Scores 0 through 100

Sample sizes and margin of error, by age

Age	Sample Size	Margin of Error
18-24	28,385	0.6%
25-29	21,768	0.7
30-34	25,903	0.7
35-39	29,669	0.7
40-44	35,859	0.6
45-49	42,957	0.6
50-54	53,419	0.5
55-59	55,657	0.5
60-64	60,243	0.5
65-69	50,388	0.6
70-74	41,414	0.6
75-79	32,464	0.7
80-84	25,147	0.8
85-89	12,856	1.1
90-94	3,558	2.1
95-99	580	5.3

January 2010-June 2011

Gallup-Healthways Wellbeing Index

GALLUP

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2, 2010, through June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 520,267 working adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Margins of error for subgroups have a maximum margin of sampling error of ± 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 phones numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

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

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148994/Emotional-Health-Higher-Among-Older-Americans.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

184-43-13. As Economic Confidence Drops, Obama Approval Fairly Stable

Obama's average down 9% from early July to early August

August 12, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Obama's job approval rating for the first 10 days of August is 4 percentage points lower than it was in the first week of July, significantly less of a drop than the 19-point decline in Gallup's Economic Confidence Index over the same period.

Obama Job Approval and Gallup Economic Confidence Index

July 1-7 and Aug. 1-10, 2011

	Economic Confidence Index	Obama Job Approval
July 1-7, 2011	-34	46
Aug. 1-10, 2011	-53	42
Change	-19	-4
Percentage drop	56%	9%

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Presidents often get the credit or take the blame for economic conditions, and as a result a president's job approval rating can take a major hit when the economy sours. The wrangling in Washington over the debt ceiling in July and early August, coupled with Standard and Poor's downgrade of the U.S. credit rating and the major gyrations in the stock market, resulted in a significant plunge in Gallup's Economic Confidence Index in recent weeks. The Economic Confidence Index was at -34 for the first week in July, and has averaged -53 in the first 10 days of August.

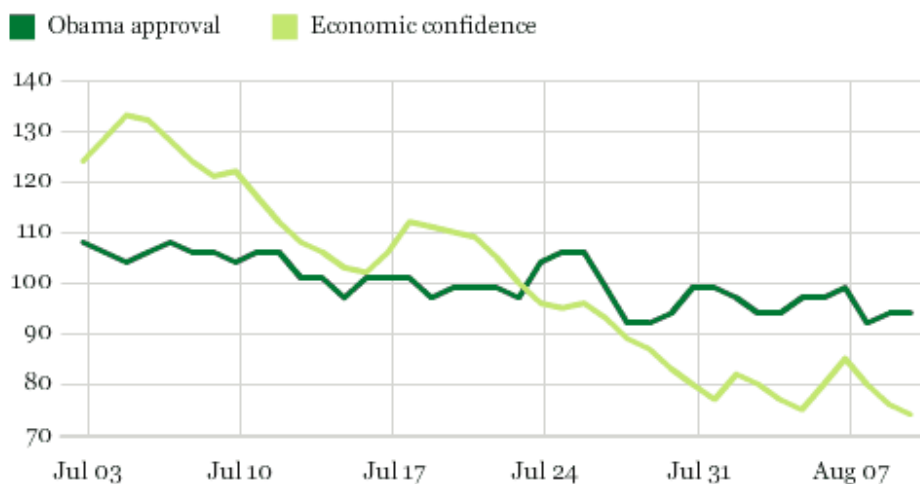
President Obama's job approval rating drifted slightly downward over the same period of time, but not to nearly the same extent, from an average of 46% in the first week of July to an average of 42% in the first 10 days of August.

Overall, economic confidence showed a 56% decrease over this time period, while Obama's approval rating dropped 9%.

The accompanying graph displays Gallup's Economic Confidence Index and Obama's job approval rating on an indexed basis for July 1 through August 10. Both of these measures are indexed to their average during this time period, such that scores above 100 indicate a higher than average score, and below 100 a lower than average score.

Obama Job Approval and Economic Confidence July 1-Aug. 10, 2011

Indexed to average for each measure during July 1-Aug. 10



GALLUP

These trends show that economic confidence has dropped to a significantly greater extent over this July 1-Aug. 10 time period than has Obama's job approval rating.

Implications

Changes in a president's job approval rating reflect a number of different factors, both domestic and international. Over the course of his presidency, changes in Obama's job approval ratings have not always been highly correlated with changes in economic confidence -- in part because he came into office with high approval ratings at a time when economic confidence was even lower than it is now.

But there is little doubt that a president's job approval rating often reflects Americans' views of the economy. The job approval ratings of Presidents George H.W. Bush and Carter dropped into the 20% range in the later part of their first and only terms as a result of bad economies, and of course, both lost their bids for re-election. Bill Clinton maintained high approval ratings even while embroiled in the Monica Lewinsky scandal, in part due to the surging economy.

So far, President Obama's job approval rating has on a relative basis held its own amid the recent string of economic and political events -- dropping 4 points when comparing his weekly average at the beginning of July to his average for the first 10 days of August, substantially less severe than the drop in Gallup's Economic Confidence Index over the same time period.

Explore President Obama's approval ratings in depth and compare them with those of past presidents in the [Gallup Presidential Job Approval Center](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking July 1-7 and Aug. 1-10, 2011, with weekly samples of random sample of approximately 3,100 and 3,500 adults, respectively, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

For results based on any weekly samples of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points. For the three-day rolling average samples used for the indexed comparison graph included in this analysis, 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 by 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/148976/Economic-Confidence-Drops-Obama-Approval-Fairly-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/148976/Economic-Confidence-Drops-Obama-Approval-Fairly-Stable.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

[Stable.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/148976/Economic-Confidence-Drops-Obama-Approval-Fairly-Stable.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

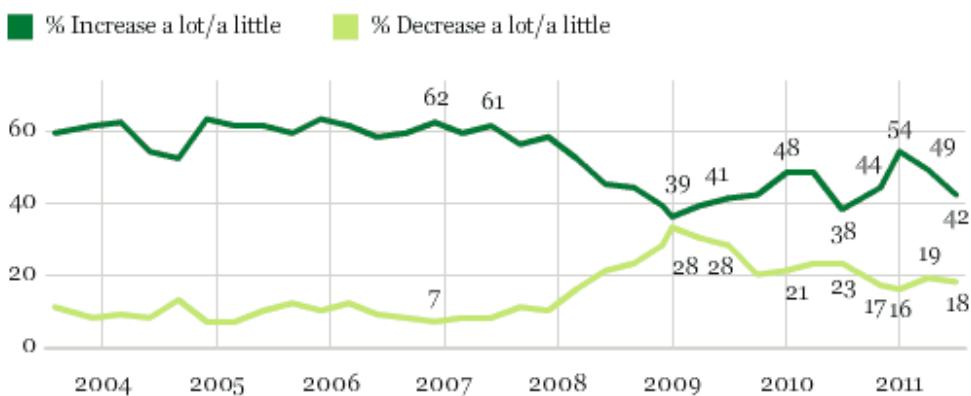
184-43-14. Small-Business Owners' Revenue and Hiring Expectations Down

Wells Fargo-Gallup Small Business Index remained at zero in July
August 12, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Small-business owners turned less optimistic about future revenues and new hiring even prior to the events of recent weeks and the plunge in economic confidence. The percentage of owners anticipating that their revenues would increase over the next 12 months fell to 42% in July, down from 49% in April and 54% in January. At the same time, 18% expect their revenues to decrease. Small-business-owner revenue expectations are no better now than they were in October 2010.

Wells Fargo-Gallup Small Business Index

What is your best estimate of your company's revenues over the next 12 months?



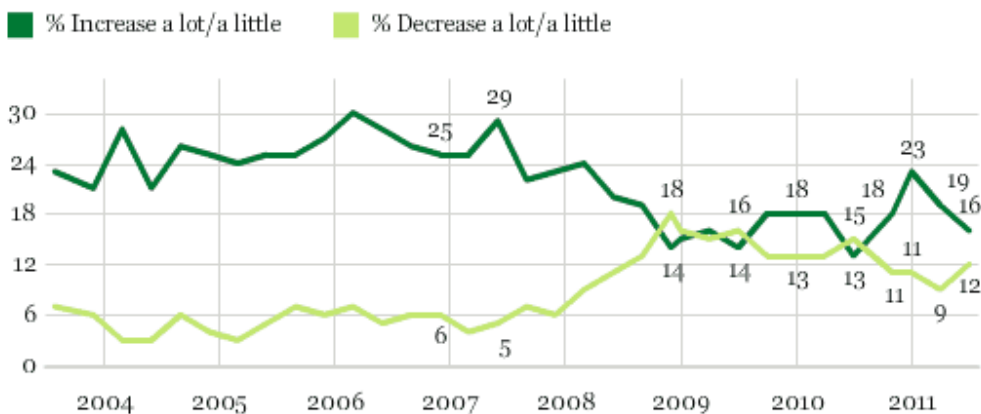
August 2003-July 2011

GALLUP

The percentage of small-business owners expecting the overall number of jobs at their company to increase over the next 12 months also fell in July, to 16% from 19% in April and 23% in January. Simultaneously, 12% of owners expect a decrease in the number of jobs at their companies over the next 12 months. Small-business hiring and firing intentions are now the lowest since this time a year ago.

Wells Fargo-Gallup Small Business Index

Over the next 12 months, do you expect the overall number of jobs or positions at your company to increase a lot, increase a little, stay the same, decrease a little, or decrease a lot?



August 2003-July 2011

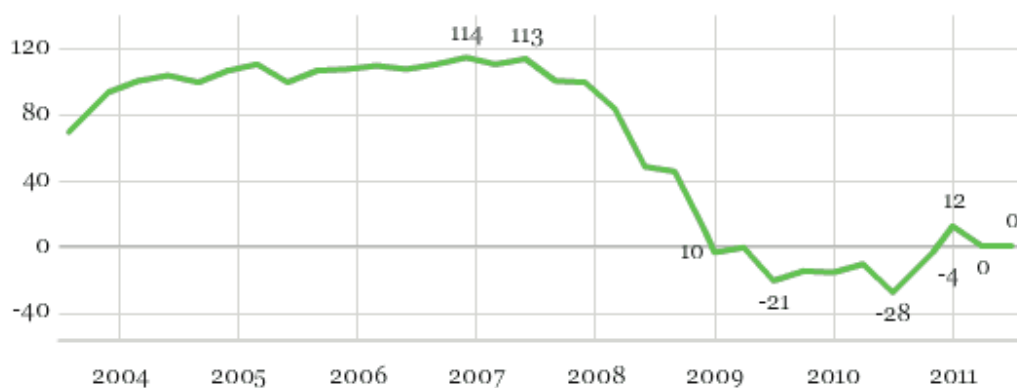
GALLUP

Small Business Owners Remained Neutral on the Economy in July

The Wells Fargo-Gallup Small Business Index was zero in July. This suggests that small-business owners continue to be essentially neutral on the U.S. economy. They are no more optimistic now than they were in April, before events that have driven economic confidence -- and presumably, small-business-owner confidence -- considerably lower during recent weeks.

Wells Fargo-Gallup Small Business Index

The Small Business Index consists of owners' ratings of their businesses' current situations and their expectations for the next 12 months, measured in terms of their overall financial situations, revenue, cash flow, capital spending, number of jobs, and ease of obtaining credit.



Index conducted quarterly August 2003-July 2011; results for July 2011 are based on 605 interviews conducted with small-business owners conducted July 6-12, 2011.

GALLUP

April's and July's similar optimism levels are consistent with Gallup's Economic Confidence Index, which shows consumer confidence down in April and rising in May before falling back in June and early July.

The Wells Fargo-Gallup Index consists of small-business-owners' ratings of the present situation and their expectations for the future. In July, assessments of the present situation improved, to -10 from -14, as a result of modest improvements in small-business owners' assessments of their cash flows, hiring, and their companies' financial situations.

These improvements in present situation evaluations were offset by a similarly slight decline in optimism about the next 12 months, to +10 from +14. This is mostly because of concerns over revenues and cash flows, resulting in reduced hiring intentions and capital spending.

The Small Business Index tends to be a precursor of future economy activity. It peaked at the end of 2006 and matched that peak in June 2007, prior to the beginning of the recession late that year. The index consistently declined through 2008 and into mid-2009, the time when economists declared the recession officially over. It improved modestly thereafter as the economy recovered more slowly than anticipated, before slipping to a new low in July 2010. The Index recovered significantly after that, turning positive in January 2011, but has slipped to neutral over the past two quarters.

Implications

The July decline in small-business-owner expectations for revenues and cash flows from April is consistent with recent declines in Gallup's Economic Confidence Index. The sharp drop in consumer confidence throughout July and early August can only add to the uncertainty facing today's small-business owners.

Even before the events of recent weeks, small-business owners reported they were pulling back on their hiring intentions for the next 12 months. This is consistent with Gallup's unemployment and underemployment measures that suggest no improvement from a year ago.

Given the lack of business revenue and cash-flow visibility today, these hiring expectations may well worsen in the months ahead.

It is essential for policymakers to focus on increasing small-business-owner revenue and cash-flow expectations if the U.S. economy is going to not only avoid recession but begin growing significantly. The latest report of the Federal Open Market Committee suggesting the economy will remain weak for the next couple of years does not seem encouraging in this regard. While the FOMC's intention to keep interest rates low during that time can help with operating costs, it is much less likely to stimulate much-needed consumer spending and generate new hiring.

Survey Methods

Results for the total dataset are based on telephone interviews with 604 small-business owners, conducted July 6-12, 2011. For results based on the total sample of small-business owners, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Sampling is done on an RDD basis using D&B sampling of small businesses having \$20 million or less of sales or revenues. The data is weighted to be representative of U.S. small businesses within this size range nationwide.

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/148967/Small-Business-Owners-Revenue-Hiring-Expectations-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/148967/Small-Business-Owners-Revenue-Hiring-Expectations-Down.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

[Down.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/148967/Small-Business-Owners-Revenue-Hiring-Expectations-Down.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

184-43-15. Majority of Americans Ready to Legalize Marijuana

(08/09/11) -

As was the case last year, most respondents believe the “War on Drugs” has been a failure.

Many Americans continue to believe that marijuana should be legalized, but are not supportive of making other drugs readily available, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,003 American adults, 55 per cent of respondents support the legalization of marijuana, while 40 per cent oppose it.

The groups that are the most supportive of making cannabis legal in the U.S. are Democrats (63%), Independents (61%), Men (57%) and respondents aged 35-to-54 (57%).

However, only 10 per cent of Americans support legalizing ecstasy. Smaller proportions of respondents would consent to the legalization of powder cocaine (9%), heroin (8%), methamphetamine or “crystal meth” (7%), and crack cocaine (7%).

Across the country, 64 per cent of respondents believe America has a serious drug abuse problem that affects the entire United States, while one-in-five (20%) perceive a drug abuse problem that is confined to specific areas and people. One-in-twenty Americans (5%) think America does not have a serious drug abuse problem.

Only nine per cent of respondents believe the “War on Drugs”—the efforts of the U.S. government to reduce the illegal drug trade—has been a success, while two thirds (67%) deem it a failure.

Analysis

The survey shows a country that is concerned about the effects of drugs, and at the same time deeply disappointed with the efforts of the U.S. government to deal with the drug trade.

However, as has been outlined in Angus Reid Public Opinion surveys conducted in 2009 and 2010, a majority of Americans are calling for the legalization of marijuana. Cannabis is definitely not seen as a substance that is as harmful as other illegal drugs, as evidenced in the minuscule level of support for the legalization of cocaine or heroin.

Methodology: From August 4 to August 5, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 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/43975/majority-of-americans-ready-to-legalize-marijuana/>

184-43-16. Conservatives Ahead, Turmel Debate Does Not Affect the NDP in Canada

(08/10/11) -

While 45 per cent of Canadians think the NDP should replace Turmel as interim leader, only 29 per cent of NDP voters concur.

The Conservative Party remains popular three months after its election victory, and the New Democratic Party (NDP) has not lost ground since the appointment of a new interim leader, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll conducted in partnership with the *Toronto Star* has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, 39 per cent of decided voters and leaners would support the governing Tories in the next federal election.

The official opposition NDP is second with 31 per cent, followed by the Liberal Party with 19 per cent, the Bloc Québécois with six per cent, and the Green Party with four per cent. The results of this survey closely mirror the outcome of the May 2011 federal election.

The Conservatives are leading in their traditional stronghold of Alberta (75%) and maintain a large advantage over their rivals in Ontario (44%). The NDP is virtually tied with the Tories in British Columbia. The Liberals have their best showing in Ontario (26%, tied with the NDP).

Three parties—the Conservatives, the NDP and the Bloc—are holding on to at least four-in-five voters who supported them in the May 2011 election. The retention rate is lower for the Liberals (70%) and the Greens (65%).

Approval Ratings and Momentum

Across the country, 40 per cent of Canadians approve of the way Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper is doing his job. Green leader Elizabeth May gets a positive assessment from 28 per cent of Canadians.

The approval rating for the three interim leaders is lower: Liberal Bob Rae at 23 per cent, the NDP's Nycole Turmel at 22 per cent, and the Bloc's Vivian Barbot at five per cent.

The five federal party leaders posted a negative momentum score this month, with May (-4) and Rae (-6) outperforming Harper (-10), Turmel (-12) and Barbot (-16). The image of the NDP has not suffered, as the party is the only one that does not post a negative momentum score this month.

The Turmel Appointment

Overall, 43 per cent of Canadians have been following news stories related to interim NDP leader Turmel “very closely” or “moderately closely.” Two-in-five respondents (41%) are “very concerned” or “moderately concerned” that Turmel was a member of the federal Bloc Québécois

and the provincial Québec Solidaire party, while half (51%) are “not too concerned” or “not concerned at all.”

In Quebec, unworried respondents outnumber those who are troubled by a 2-to-1 margin (64% to 30%). Only 29 per cent of people who voted for the NDP in the last federal election are preoccupied with the Turmel matter, while 67 per cent are not concerned. Across the country, 45 per cent of respondents think the NDP should “definitely” or “probably” replace Turmel as interim leader, while 35 per cent disagree with this course of action. However, only 34 per cent of Quebecers and 29 per cent of NDP voters believe a change at the helm of the official opposition is necessary.

Analysis

The federal parties are maintaining the same level of support they had in the last election, despite having to endure three leadership changes. Prime Minister Harper’s approval rating has improved since the campaign, and Rae is posting better numbers than those of his two predecessors: Michael Ignatieff and Stéphane Dion. Barbot is not well known, and May has been connecting better with Canadians, even though many respondents are not ready to issue an opinion on her performance.

The Turmel controversy seems to be affecting Canadians who are currently not interested in supporting the NDP, and therefore has not had an immediate effect on the fortunes of the official opposition. The level of support for the NDP remains high, and although Turmel is not particularly liked, the level of animosity towards her appointment is not leading the base to question her role as Jack Layton’s interim replacement.

Methodology: From August 8 to August 9, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. 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 Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

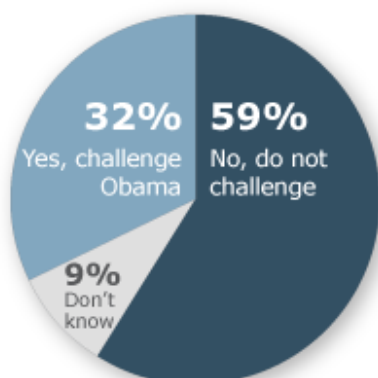
Source:<http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/43979/conservatives-ahead-turmel-debate-does-not-affect-the-ndp-in-canada/>

184-43-17. Democrats Not Eager for an Obama Challenger

August 10, 2011

Would you like to see other Democratic candidates challenge Barack Obama for the party's nomination for president in 2012?

Based on Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents



PewResearchCenter | The Washington Post

Despite speculation that the Democratic base has become increasingly disillusioned with Barack Obama, rank-and-file Democrats are not eager to see other candidates challenge him for their party's nomination in 2012. Just 32% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents say they would like other Democrats to take on Obama for the nomination, while 59% say they would not.

Should Dems Challenge Obama?

Would you like other Dems to challenge Obama for nomination?	Nov 2010		Aug 2011		% change in 'Yes'
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
All Dem/Dem leaners	38	58	32	59	-6
Democrat	34	62	32	63	-2
Cons/Mod Dem	39	58	30	65	-9
Liberal Dem	28	71	33	62	+5
Ind, Lean Dem	47	50	34	49	-13

Follow 2012 candidates

Very/fairly closely	--	--	21	70	--
Not too/at all closely	--	--	40	52	--

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 4-7, 2011. "Don't know" responses not shown. Figures for attentiveness to 2012 candidates based only on Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents.

There has been little change in Democrats' views about whether Obama should face a nomination challenge since last fall. In November, shortly after the midterm election, 38% of Democrats and Democratic leaners favored a primary challenge to Obama while 59% were opposed.

Far fewer Democrats want to see Obama challenged for the nomination than supported a primary challenge to Bill Clinton in December 1994. At that time, 66% of Democrats and Democratic leaners wanted to see Clinton challenged, shortly after the GOP won control of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

The latest survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and The Washington Post, conducted August 4-7, 2011 among 428 Democrats and independents who lean to the Democratic Party, finds little difference between liberal Democrats and the party's conservatives and moderates in opinions about whether Obama should face a challenge for the nomination. Only about a third in each group want to see Obama challenged (33% of liberal Democrats, 30% of conservative and moderate Democrats). In November, conservative and moderate Democrats had been somewhat more inclined than liberals to say they wanted challengers to Obama (39% vs. 28%).

Independents who lean to the Democratic Party also are less likely to favor a primary challenge to Obama than last November. Currently, 34% express this view, compared with 47% in November 2010.

Perhaps reflecting concerns about the outcome of the general election, Democrats and Democratic leaners who are following news about the 2012 presidential candidates very closely are much less likely to favor a primary challenge to Obama than are those who are following the election less closely (21% vs. 40%).

Source:<http://people-press.org/2011/08/10/democrats-not-eager-for-an-obama-challenger/?src=prc-headline>

184-43-18. D.C., Hawaii Most Democratic, Utah Most Republican State in '11

North Dakota and Louisiana tilt more Republican than they did in 2010

August 11, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Hawaii shows the largest advantage for the Democratic Party over the Republican Party among U.S. states, along with the District of Columbia, in the first half of 2011. The most Republican state is Utah.

Top 10 Democratic States

% Democratic/Lean Democratic minus
% Republican/Lean Republican

	Democratic advantage
	Pct. pts.
District of Columbia	68
Hawaii	24
Maryland	22
Connecticut	20
New York	20
Massachusetts	20
Vermont	17
Rhode Island	16
Illinois	15
Delaware	14

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

The results are based on interviews with more than 170,000 U.S. adults as part of Gallup Daily tracking from January through June, including 1,000 or more adults in 41 states. Each state's data are weighted to be demographically representative of that state's adult population.

Nationwide, Democrats had a slight advantage in the first half of 2011 in the Gallup tracking data, with 44% of Americans identifying as or leaning Democratic and 40% identifying as or leaning Republican.

Gallup classifies states as being more Democratic, or more Republican, based on the difference between the percentage of state residents who identify as or lean Democratic and the percentage who identify as or lean Republican.

These figures take the partisan leanings of independents into account. This gives a truer sense of the relative strength of each party in a state, given wide disparities in the percentage of political independents. These range from lows of 30% independent identification in the District of Columbia and 31% in Pennsylvania to highs of 60% in Rhode Island and 59% in Alaska. Many states with high proportions of independents are dominated by one party electorally.

The most Democratic states are concentrated largely on the East coast -- among the top 10, only Hawaii and Illinois are not located in New England or the Mid-Atlantic region. The four most Republican states are in the West, with 5 of the top 10 coming from that region. The patterns for party affiliation by region are similar to what Gallup finds for presidential job approval.

The most balanced states politically in the first half of 2011 were Virginia and Mississippi (both are evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats), Colorado (with a one-percentage-point Republican advantage), Missouri, Arizona, and Arkansas (with two-point Republican advantages), and Georgia (with a two-point Democratic advantage).

Top 10 Republican States

% Democratic/Lean Democratic minus
% Republican/Lean Republican

	Democratic advantage
	Pct. pts.
Utah	-32
Idaho	-29
Wyoming	-27
Alaska	-19
North Dakota	-18
Kansas	-16
Nebraska	-14
Alabama	-13
Montana	-11
South Carolina	-9

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

The party affiliation estimates are based on the entire state adult population, and do not necessarily reflect each party's electoral strength within a state. A state's voting electorate may be tilted slightly more to one party than the basic affiliation figures due to differences in turnout between Republicans and Democrats in the state and perhaps the strength of the respective party organizations in the state.

Party Affiliation Largely Stable in 2011

Gallup earlier this year documented significant shifts in party affiliation at the national and state levels since President Barack Obama took office. But the political environment appeared to stabilize between 2010 and the first half of 2011, with essentially no change in party affiliation at the national level, and little meaningful variation in the states.

North Dakota and Louisiana are two states that did show meaningful change in party affiliation during the first half of 2011. North Dakota shifted from a slight Republican advantage of 3 points in 2010 to a more substantial 18-point Republican lead in 2011. Louisiana moved from a 3-point Democratic advantage last year to a 6-point Republican advantage thus far in 2011.

But those states were the exceptions. Nine of the most Democratic states in 2010 are also among the top 10 in the first half of 2011, with California dropping out and Illinois entering. Eight of the top 10 Republican states are the same between the two time periods, with New Hampshire and South Dakota falling out of the top 10, and North Dakota and South Carolina moving in.

Implications

The first half of 2011 looked a lot like 2010 politically in the United States, with Democrats enjoying a slight advantage in party affiliation nationally. The president's approval rating between the two time periods was also stable.

But that stability may not continue in the second half of 2011, with President Obama's approval rating slipping to 44% in July and further to 41% thus far in August as the nation struggles with the national debt and weak economy.

Whether those trends continue and affect the way Americans align themselves with the political parties, and how that positions the parties heading into the 2012 elections, will become clearer in the coming months.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking January 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 177,600 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Sample sizes for individual states range from lows of 363 for the District of Columbia and 505 for Delaware to a high of 17,001 for California. Margins of error for most states are ± 3 percentage points or less.

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

respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

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

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

Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148949/Hawaii-Democratic-Utah-Republican-State.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

184-43-19. Americans Want New Debt Supercommittee to Compromise

Only Tea Party supporters take hard-line stance

August 10, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Six in 10 Americans say members of the new bipartisan "supercommittee" mandated to find new ways of reducing the federal budget deficit should compromise, even if the agreement reached is one they personally disagree with. This includes a majority of Republicans, independents, and Democrats. A majority of Tea Party supporters, however, say the committee should hold out for a plan they agree with, even if no agreement is reached.

As you may know, as part of the agreement to raise the debt ceiling, Congress will appoint a special committee to look at ways to further reduce federal spending and the national debt. If that committee does not reach an agreement, the law would impose major cuts in most federal spending including Medicare and defense. What would you like the members of this committee who represent your views on spending and the debt to do?

	National adults	Republicans	Independents	Democrats	Tea Party supporters
	%	%	%	%	%
Hold out for plan you agree with, even if it prevents committee from reaching an agreement	35	42	36	29	53
Agree to compromise plan, even if it is a plan you disagree with	60	55	57	67	41
Don't know/Refused	5	3	7	4	6

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

The debt ceiling legislation passed last week mandates Congress to appoint 12 members of the new bipartisan Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction by Aug. 16. The committee has until Nov. 23 to develop its proposals for reducing the deficit.

Standard and Poor's downgrading of the U.S. credit rating on Friday, along with the generally downward movement of the stock market in recent weeks, may have reinforced Americans' pre-existing preference for political compromise. Democrats (67%) are the most inclined to say the committee should seek compromise, but a majority of Republicans (55%) and independents (57%) agree.

Among the one in four Americans who identify themselves as "supporters of the Tea Party movement," 53% would rather have lawmakers hold out for a plan they agree with, while 41% advocate compromise. Fourteen percent of Americans view themselves as *strong* Tea Party supporters, and 58% of this group (about 31% of all Republicans) takes the hard-line stance.

Increasing Taxes Leads Among Five Potential Approaches to Reduce Federal Debt

Asked about potential approaches the subcommittee may consider to reduce federal debt, a majority of Americans support increasing taxes on higher-income Americans, increasing tax revenues by making major changes to the current federal tax code, and cutting federal programs other than Medicare, Social Security, and defense. Less than half support the idea of cutting either defense spending or Medicare and Social Security costs as a way to reduce the deficit.

Support for Each of the Following as a Way to Reduce Federal Debt

	National adults	Repub- licans	Indepen- dents	Demo- crats	Tea Party supporters
	%	%	%	%	%
Increasing income taxes for upper-income Americans	66	45	64	83	37
Increasing tax revenues by making major changes to federal tax code	60	51	60	67	53
Cutting spending other than defense, Social Security, and Medicare	59	73	60	49	78
Cutting defense spending	47	22	52	58	27
Making significant changes to Social Security and Medicare to reduce their cost	42	47	46	35	53

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

There is little consensus across political lines on any of these five approaches, underscoring the difficulties ahead for the bipartisan supercommittee. A majority of Republicans favor two of the approaches -- cutting spending other than defense, Social Security, or Medicare, and changing the tax code to increase revenues. A majority of Democrats agree on the idea of reforming the tax code, but also favor increasing income taxes on upper-income Americans and cutting defense spending.

Implications

Taken as a whole, Americans clearly want their elected representatives in Washington to reach a compromise on the next step in the efforts to reduce the federal deficit. While the relatively small segment of the population that supports the Tea Party favors holding out for a plan they agree with, a majority of Republicans, independents, and Democrats mandate compromise.

There are, however, strongly divergent opinions across political lines on the issue of exactly how to reduce the deficit. Republicans and Democrats agree on the idea of reforming the tax code to bring in more revenues, but disagree on other proposals.

The federal budget legislation passed last week mandated that defense and Medicare would be cut back if the new supercommittee is not able to reach an agreement on a different plan, and if a balanced budget amendment is not passed. A majority of independents and Democrats would accept cutting defense spending, but Republicans would not. On the other hand, less than half of any political group other than the Tea Party favors cutting back on Medicare and Social Security.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 4-7, 2011, with a random sample of 1,319 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 by 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/148919/Americans-New-Debt-Supercommittee-Compromise.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

184-43-20. Record-Low 21% Say Most in Congress Deserve Re-Election

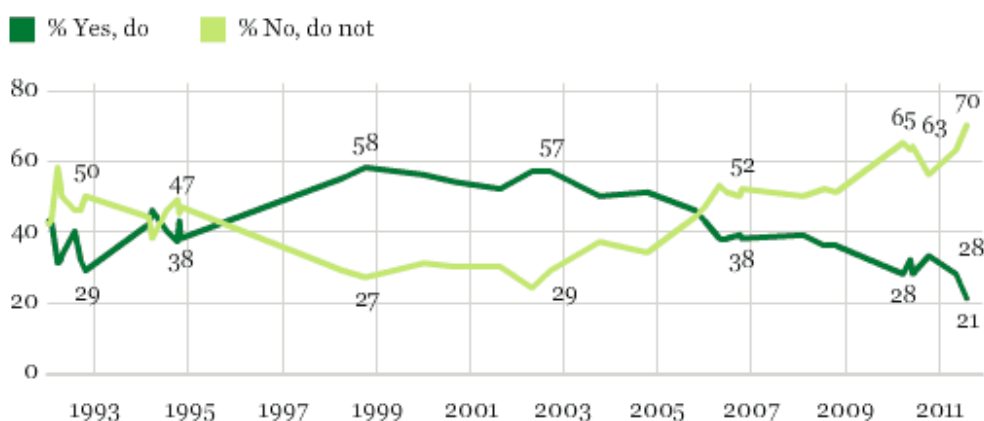
Slim majority still say their own member deserves re-election

August 9, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- About one in five U.S. registered voters (21%) say most members of Congress deserve re-election, the lowest percentage Gallup has found in the 20-year history of asking this question. The prior lows of 28% were recorded in 2010 and earlier this year.

Please tell me whether you think each of the following political office-holders deserves to be re-elected, or not. How about -- most members of Congress?

Based on registered voters



GALLUP

The percentage who say most members of Congress deserve re-election is slightly higher, 24%, among the larger population of national adults than among the eligible voting electorate.

The findings are from an Aug. 4-7 *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted in the days after Congress and the president reached an agreement on legislation to raise the federal debt ceiling, but before Monday's 600-point drop in the stock market.

Gallup has asked whether most members of Congress deserve re-election leading up to prior congressional elections, and has found lower support for incumbents' re-election usually precedes significant turnover of congressional seats in the coming election, such as in 1992, 1994, 2006, 2008, and 2010. Although Congress has experienced significant change in the past three elections, voters still remain dissatisfied with the performance of that institution.

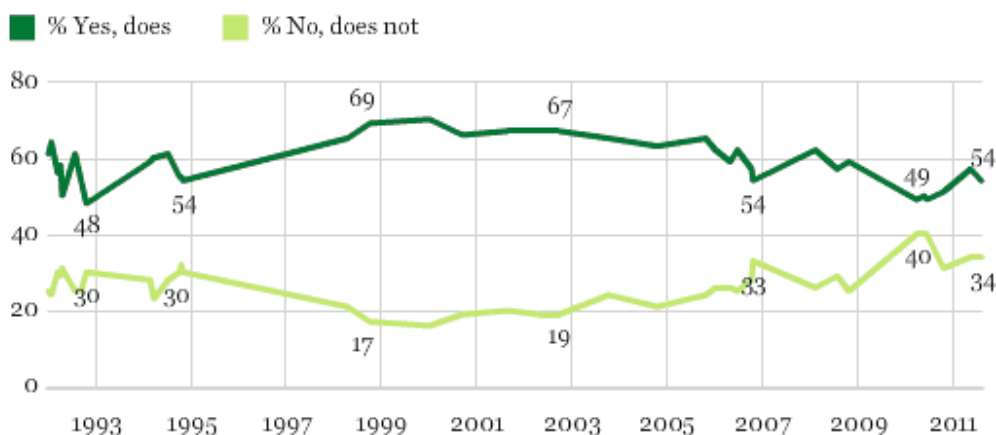
Independent voters are especially critical of Congress, with 14% saying most members deserve re-election, compared with 24% of Republican and 26% of Democratic voters. Democrats and independents are significantly less likely now than in May (36% and 23%, respectively, at that time) to endorse re-electing most members of Congress, while Republicans (26% in May) show only a minimal decline.

Majority of Voters Would Re-Elect Their Own Member of Congress

Voters are more charitable in their evaluations of their own member of Congress, with 54% saying he or she deserves re-election, compared with 57% in May. The electorate has consistently been more likely to say their member of Congress deserves re-election than to say most members do. However, even though a majority believes their own representative should be re-elected, the current percentage is on the low end of what Gallup has measured historically. The lowest readings were 48% in October 1992 and 49% on two occasions in 2010.

Please tell me whether you think each of the following political office-holders deserves to be re-elected, or not. How about -- the U.S. representative in your congressional district?

Based on registered voters



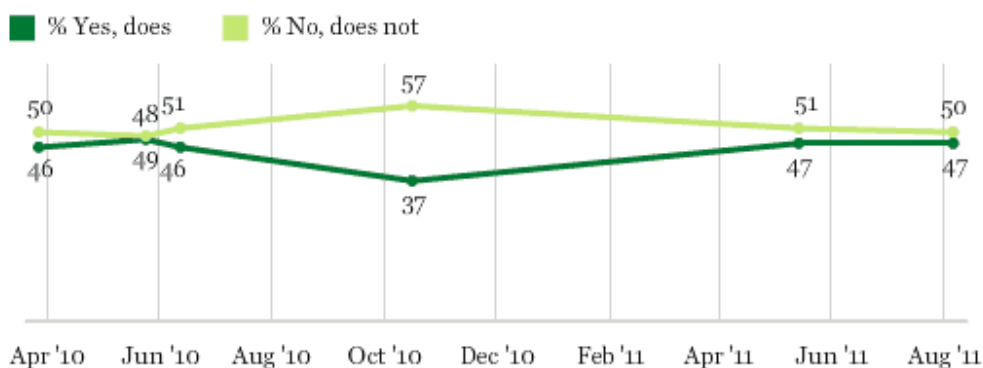
GALLUP

President Obama Appears No Worse for Wear After Debt Debate

The poll finds voters about evenly divided as to whether President Barack Obama deserves re-election, with 47% saying he does and 50% saying he does not. Those figures are unchanged compared with May of this year, but better than Gallup measured last October.

Please tell me whether you think each of the following political office-holders deserves to be re-elected, or not. How about -- President Obama?

Based on registered voters



GALLUP

That 47% re-elect number matches the president's approval rating in the Aug. 4-7 *USA Today*/Gallup poll, which is essentially unchanged from the prior measurement of 45% in July. His approval rating from Gallup Daily tracking for Aug. 5-7 was 43%. The *USA Today*/Gallup poll estimate may be slightly higher given that a substantial proportion of interviews were conducted Aug. 4, prior to Standard & Poor's downgrading the U.S. credit rating.

Obama Again Competitive With "The Republican Party's Candidate"

Additionally, Obama now has a 45% to 39% edge when voters are asked to say whether they are more likely to vote for him or for the Republican presidential candidate in the 2012 election. For much of the year, Obama and the "generic" Republican were closely matched on this measure, though in the last two months the Republican had an advantage.

This month, Gallup for the first time included a follow-up measure of undecided voters, asking if they leaned more toward Obama or the Republican candidate. When the "leanings" of undecided voters are taken into account, Obama maintains an edge, 49% to 45%, with 6% not expressing a preference or leaning for Obama or the Republican candidate.

Implications

Americans' frustrations with Congress -- already at high levels -- appear to have grown with a record number of voters saying most members of Congress do not deserve re-election. If those numbers do not improve substantially between now and November 2012, Congress could be in for another major shake-up in its membership.

President Obama is also far from assured of re-election himself, with fewer than half of voters saying he deserves re-election. However, he did seem to emerge from the intense debt ceiling negotiations in no worse shape than before -- from an electoral perspective -- and perhaps in a better position given the movement in his favor against the "Republican Party's presidential candidate."

Still, that could be a very short-lived benefit to the president. The poll was conducted prior to Monday's steep drop in U.S. stocks, and Obama's latest Gallup Daily tracking approval average including Monday interviewing fell to 40%, tying his low in that trend. Continued economic problems could change the re-election environment for Obama, particularly if it triggers a double-dip recession in the coming months.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 4-7, 2011, with a random sample of 1,319 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. The poll included an oversample of 376 blacks. The data are weighted to be demographically representative of the national adult population and to reflect the proper proportion of blacks in the overall population.

For results based on the total sample of 1,204 registered voters, 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 by region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phones numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

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

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

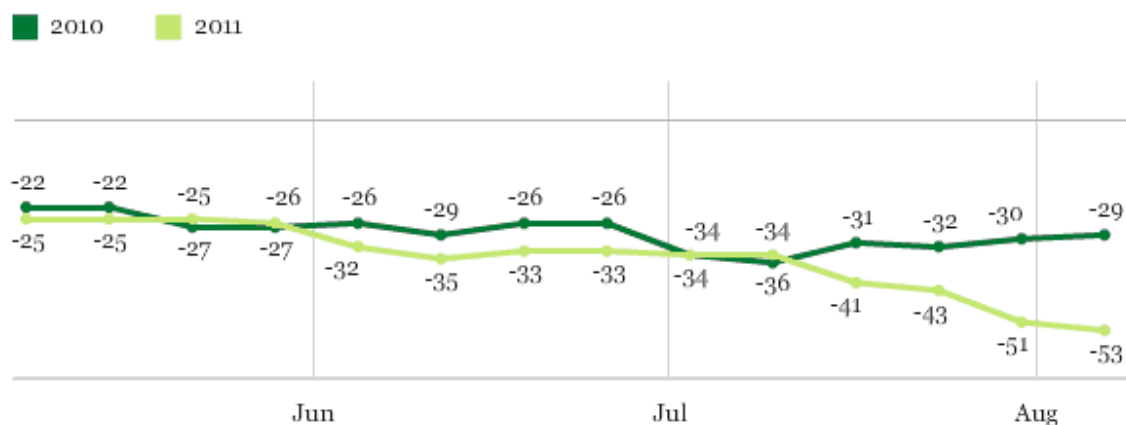
Source:http://www.gallup.com/poll/148904/Record-Low-Say-Congress-Deserve-Election.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

184-43-21. U.S. Economic Confidence Plunges in Past Two Weeks

Weekly economic confidence is at -53 in early August -- its lowest point since March 2009 August 9, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' economic confidence plunged to -53 in the week ending Aug. 7, a level not seen since the recession days of March 2009. This deterioration coincided with the final wrangling over the U.S. debt ceiling and Standard and Poor's downgrade of the United States' debt rating. Economic confidence is now far worse than the -43 of two weeks ago and the -34 of a month ago.

Economic Confidence Index by Week, 2010 and 2011



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending May 8, 15, 22, and 29; June 5, 12, 19, and 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Aug. 7. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended May 9, 16, 23, and 30; June 6, 13, 20, and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25; and Aug. 1 and 8.

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

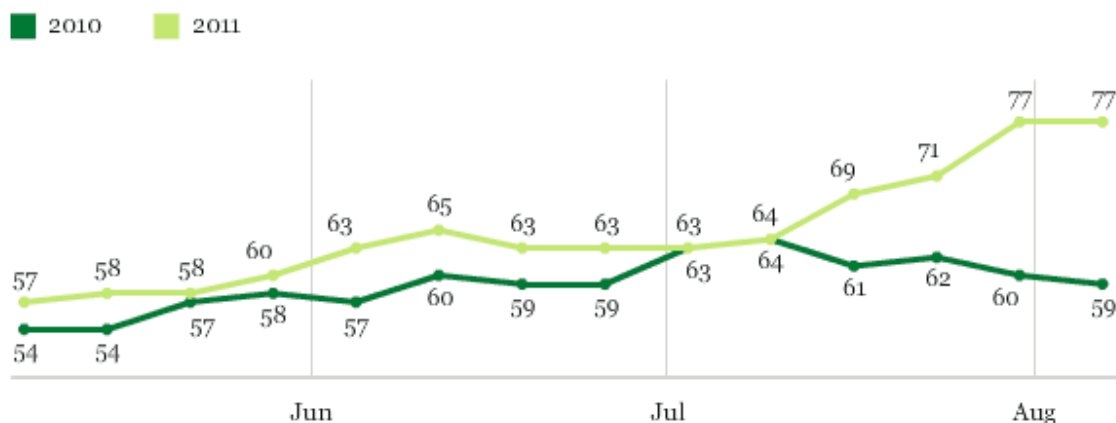
U.S. economic confidence deteriorated even faster in July and the first week of August than it did in June compared with May. This plunge in confidence contrasts with the relatively flat trend in 2010. It also places consumer perceptions of the economy in the range of March 2009 during the recession. Gallup's Economic Confidence Index hit its recession/financial crisis weekly low of -65 -- just 12 points worse than now -- during the week of Oct. 6-12, 2008.

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index combines two measures: one assessing Americans' views about whether the U.S. economy is "getting better" or "getting worse," and the second involving Americans' ratings of current economic conditions as "excellent," "good," "only fair," or "poor." The Index's inception was in January 2008. Both weekly ratings are at their lows since early 2009.

Percentage "Getting Worse" Up Substantially vs. 2010

Seventy-seven percent of Americans said the U.S. economy is getting worse in the week ending Aug. 7. This is up from 71% two weeks prior and 64% a month ago. Substantially more Americans say the U.S. economy is getting worse right now than said so at this time a year ago.

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



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending May 8, 15, 22, and 29; June 5, 12, 19, and 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Aug. 7. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended May 9, 16, 23, and 30; June 6, 13, 20, and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25; and Aug. 1 and 8.

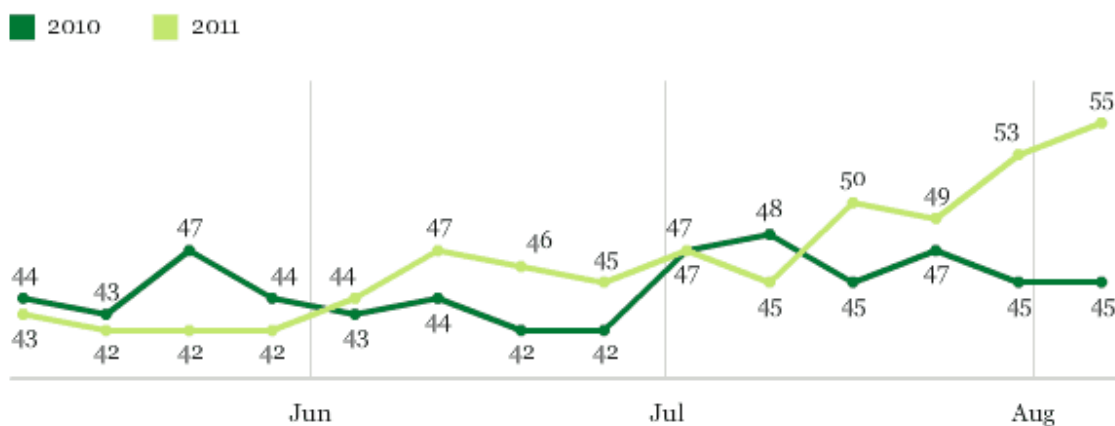
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Percentage Rating the Economy "Poor" Going Higher

Fifty-five percent of Americans rated current economic conditions "poor" in the week ending Aug. 7 -- up from 49% two weeks ago. This is 10 percentage points worse than the 45% of a month ago and a year ago.

Percentage Rating Current Economic Conditions Poor by Week, 2010 and 2011



Note: 2011 data are for weeks ending May 8, 15, 22, and 29; June 5, 12, 19, and 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Aug. 7. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended May 9, 16, 23, and 30; June 6, 13, 20, and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25; and Aug. 1 and 8.

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Monthly Economic Confidence Shows July Decline

During July overall, Americans' confidence in the U.S. economy plunged to -42 -- its lowest level since March 2009. This was fairly consistent across various demographic groups. For example, confidence among those making less than \$90,000 a year worsened by nine points to -43 while that among those making \$90,000 or more worsened by eight points to -33.

See complete demographic data on page 2.

Implications

There has been a lot of concern over the past several weeks about the federal debt ceiling debate and the potential impact "default" might have on Wall Street and the U.S. economy overall. During recent days, the same has been true regarding Friday's downgrade of U.S. debt.

The reality is that there should be more concern about the impact of these events on Americans' confidence in the economy than about their impact on Wall Street investors' confidence. The first-half GDP numbers show the U.S. economy has been growing a lot more slowly than many economists thought. Gallup Daily tracking of economic confidence during July and the first week of August suggests that this economic deterioration combined with the battle over the debt ceiling in Washington has sent consumer economic expectations plunging.

On Monday, the downgrading of U.S. government debt and fears that the economy will continue to weaken led to another plunge on Wall Street. A similar impact on economic confidence might well be expected in the days ahead. This could send Gallup's measures of consumer perceptions of the economy even closer to where they were during the depths of the recession and financial crisis.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted on a weekly basis in 2011 to the week ending Aug. 7 and in 2010 to the week ending Aug. 8. For the week ending Aug. 7, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, interviews were conducted with a random sample of 3,492 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 by 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/148889/Economic-Confidence-Plunges-Past-Two-Weeks.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

184-43-22. Engaged Workers Report Twice as Much Job Creation

Actively disengaged workers report more layoffs than hires

August 9, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Employees who are in engaged in their work and workplace are twice as likely to report their organization is hiring new workers as those who are actively disengaged. Workers who are emotionally disconnected from their work and workplace are far more likely to report their organization is letting people go than those who are engaged. Americans report these substantial differences in their organization's hiring practices even though, collectively, Gallup finds overall U.S. job creation holding steady in recent months.

Engagement and Hiring

January-June 2011

	% Hiring	% Letting go
Engaged	43	13
Not engaged	34	20
Actively disengaged	21	30

GALLUP

These findings are from a special Gallup Daily tracking series conducted January through June 2011 to thoroughly explore American workers' engagement levels. Gallup's employee engagement index is based on worker responses to 12 actionable workplace elements with proven linkages to performance outcomes, including productivity, customer service, quality, retention, safety, and profit. More recent research has found significant linkages between engagement at work and health and wellbeing outcomes.

Engaged employees are involved in and enthusiastic about their work. Those who are not engaged may be satisfied but are not emotionally connected to their workplaces and are less

likely to put in discretionary effort. The actively disengaged are emotionally disconnected from their work and workplace and jeopardize their teams' performance.

Engagement Low but Improving

Overall, in the first half of 2011, 30% of U.S. workers employed full or part time are engaged in their work and workplace, up slightly from 28% in late 2010. Job creation has also improved from +10 at the end of 2010 to +15 in June. Approximately half of U.S. workers are not engaged, and nearly one in five are actively disengaged, unchanged from late 2010.

Recent Engagement Trend

	November-December 2010	January-June 2011
% Engaged	28	30
% Not engaged	53	51
% Actively disengaged	19	19

GALLUP

Currently, the American workforce has 1.5 engaged employees for every actively disengaged employee. Gallup management research has found the ratio of engaged to actively disengaged employees varies greatly across different organizations, from more than eight engaged employees for every actively disengaged employee in the most highly motivated organizations to fewer than one engaged employee for every actively disengaged employee in the least motivated workforces. Engagement also varies across countries worldwide.

Implications

Analyzing the special Gallup Daily tracking series data cannot definitively determine the direction of the causal relationship between employee engagement and hiring practices. It is possible that employees are more engaged because of their organization's success or more disengaged because of their organization's lack of progress or the fear of layoffs. Recent research, published in the journal *Perspectives on Psychological Science* has studied the causal relationship between engagement conditions and financial performance, finding employee engagement predicts financial performance more strongly than financial performance predicts employee engagement. Leaders can use high employee engagement to improve employee retention, customer perceptions of service, and other outcomes that will then lead to better financial performance.

Overall, these findings provide a strong reminder that the general hiring patterns nationwide vary widely across employees working in different workplace environments. Workers in disengaging workplaces are more than twice as likely to report their organization is letting people go as are those in engaging workplaces. And workers in engaging workplaces are more than twice as likely to report their organization is hiring as are workers in disengaging workplaces. Job creation may partially be a result of the general economic climate, but it is also likely a function of the businesses' own success, driven by their workplace environment, performance, and strong leadership.

Gallup research has found that how leaders manage employees can significantly influence engagement and disengagement in the workplace, which in turn influences a company's bottom line and workers' health and wellbeing. This analysis suggests the most progressive organizations are those that are engaging their employees, thereby producing more and higher quality work. These same organizations also appear to be moving the job market in a positive direction.

Workplaces that disengage employees have lower productivity and are less likely hiring and more likely laying off workers. For those who wonder what they can do during a down economy to help their organization take an active role in improving the job market, one answer might be for them to engage the people they work with. Every manager can play a role in engaging workers by clarifying expectations, getting employees what they need to do their work, giving workers recognition when they do good work, encouraging employee development, helping workers connect to the broader purpose of the organization, and frequently measuring and discussing progress. The managers and departments within organizations that do these things are more likely to produce high-quality work and help their organizations grow and improve the wellbeing of their workforce.

About the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index tracks U.S. wellbeing and provides best-in-class solutions for a healthier world. To learn more, please visit well-beingindex.com.

About Gallup's Employee Engagement Index

Gallup's employee engagement index is based on decades of research studying which workplace elements matter most in driving performance outcomes across organizations throughout the world. Gallup researchers identified 12 elements that are summarized into 12 survey items. A composite of employee responses to the 12 items is used to formulate the engagement index groupings: engaged, not engaged, and actively disengaged.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup Daily tracking survey Nov. 16-Dec. 15, 2010 and Jan. 2-June 30, 2011, with random samples of 2,526 (2010) and 4,434 (2011) adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

Maximum margin of sampling error ranges for subgroups vary according to size, ranging from ± 1.9 percentage points for 2010 engagement and hiring to ± 1.5 percentage points for 2011.

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 by 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/148883/Engaged-Workers-Report-Twice-Job-Creation.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

184-43-23. Plenty of Common Ground Found in Abortion Debate

"Pro-choice" and "pro-life" Americans agree on 9 of 17 policies tested
August 8, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Self-described "pro-choice" and "pro-life" Americans agree about nine major areas of abortion policy, while disagreeing on eight others. Among the areas of consensus, in which a majority of both groups hold the same opinion, especially large percentages are in favor of requiring informed consent for women (86% of pro-choice adults and 87% who are pro-life) and making abortion illegal in the third trimester (79% and 94%).

Areas of Abortion Policy Consensus Between Pro-Choice and Pro-Life Americans

% Supporting each policy

	Pro-choice	Pro-life	Difference
	%	%	
Abortion legal when woman's life endangered	97	69	28
Abortion legal when woman's physical health endangered	96	68	28
Abortion legal when pregnancy caused by rape or incest	91	59	32
Require informed consent for abortion patients	86	87	-1
Make abortion illegal in third trimester	79	94	-15
Ban partial-birth abortions	63	68	-5
Require parental consent for minors	60	81	-21
Require 24-hour waiting period for women seeking abortion	60	79	-19
Abortion illegal in second trimester	52	90	-38

June 9-12, 2011; July 15-17, 2011

GALLUP

Pro-life and pro-choice Americans also broadly agree that abortion should be legal when a woman's life or physical health is endangered by pregnancy and when pregnancy is caused by rape or incest. Both groups favor banning "partial-birth abortions," and requiring parental consent for minors. Additionally, a slim majority of pro-choice Americans (52%) agree with 90% of pro-life Americans that abortion should be illegal in the second trimester.

Pro-Life Adults Reject Financial Burden as Abortion Rationale

The most contentious area of abortion policy has to do with abortions conducted for financial reasons. Nearly two-thirds of pro-choice adults, 64%, compared with only 9% of pro-life Americans, say abortion should be legal when the woman or family cannot afford to raise the child.

This 55-percentage-point gap in views is nearly matched by the divergence in support for first-trimester abortions, and for abortions done when the baby may be mentally or physically impaired, or when the mother's mental health is at stake. All of these positions are favored by most pro-choice Americans, compared with fewer than 40% of pro-life adults.

Additionally, most pro-life adults support three abortion-related regulations that are backed by no more than 30% of pro-choice adults. These are requiring women to be shown an ultrasound of her fetus before having an abortion, banning federal funds for clinics that provide abortions, and allowing pharmacists and healthcare providers to opt out of dispensing medicine or participating in procedures that result in abortion.

Areas of Abortion Policy Conflict Between Pro-Choice and Pro-Life Americans

% Supporting each policy

	Pro-choice	Pro-life	Differ- ence
ONLY PRO-CHOICE ADULTS FAVOR			
Abortion legal when woman or family can't afford child	64	9	55
Abortion legal in first trimester	89	35	54
Abortion legal when baby may be mentally impaired	76	26	50
Abortion legal when woman's mental health endangered	87	37	50
Abortion legal when baby may be physically impaired	75	27	48
ONLY PRO-LIFE ADULTS FAVOR			
Require ultrasounds at least 24 hours before abortion	29	73	-44
Ban federal funds for abortion providers	23	58	-35
Allow opt-out provisions for pharmacists/healthcare providers	30	61	-31

June 9-12, 2011; July 15-17, 2011

GALLUP

Gallup measured U.S. public support for the legality of abortion in each of seven specific circumstances, as well as in each trimester, in a June 9-12 national survey. A follow-up survey conducted July 15-17 measured Americans' support for several different abortion regulations that have become common across the states, as well as for abortion funding policies. Both surveys probed Americans' fundamental views on the legality of abortion as well as their abortion position using the pro-choice and pro-life labels, with similar results.

Americans' Fundamental Views and Positions on Abortion

	June 9-12, 2011	July 15-17, 2011
	%	%
LEGALITY OF ABORTION VIEW		
Legal under any circumstances	26	26
Legal under most circumstances	12	13
Legal only in a few circumstances	38	38
Illegal in all circumstances	21	20
ABORTION SELF-ID		
Pro-choice	46	47
Pro-life	48	47
Mixed/Neither (vol.)	2	2
No opinion	5	4

(vol.) = Volunteered response

GALLUP

It should be noted that support for abortion by trimester is also complex and can depend on the rationale -- as past Gallup research has found. However, broadly speaking, Americans are more supportive of legalizing abortion in the earliest stages of pregnancy than in the later stages, when the fetus is more fully developed or could survive outside the womb.

Implications

Abortion politics have been quite contentious in the United States; however, self-described "pro-life" and "pro-choice" Americans broadly agree on more than half of 16 major abortion policy matters Gallup tested in June and July. These policies generally have to do with protections for women's vital health, preventing late-term abortions, and ensuring that abortion patients and parents are fully informed before an abortion.

While such positions may not square with those taken by the leading pro-choice and pro-life lobbying groups in Washington, enacting them would greatly narrow the scope of the debate among Americans as a whole. That would leave first-trimester abortions, abortions performed when physical or mental impairments of the fetus are indicated, when the mother's mental health is endangered, and abortions performed for financial reasons as the main areas of contention over abortion. In addition, laws that require pregnant women to be shown ultrasounds, policies that allow healthcare professionals to opt out of participating in abortions, and banning federal funds to abortion providers would continue to generate controversy.

Survey Methods

Results are based on two Gallup polls, one conducted June 9-12, 2011, with a random sample of 1,020 adults, and the other conducted July 15-17, 2011, with a random sample of 1,016 adults. Both surveys are based on 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 in each survey, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

For results based on pro-choice and pro-life Americans from each survey, 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 by 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/148880/Plenty-Common-Ground-Found-Abortion-Debate.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

184-43-24. Tea Party Sparks More Antipathy Than Passion

Overall support for Tea Party movement is now 25%, a new low
August 10, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- More Americans consider themselves strong opponents of the Tea Party movement than strong supporters, by 20% to 14%, and the ratio is a similar 22% to 15% among registered voters. When factoring in those who support or oppose the movement but not strongly, the opposing groups are more evenly matched, with 25% of Americans in total classified as Tea Party supporters and 28% as opponents. About 4 in 10 Americans as well as registered voters say they neither support nor oppose the Tea Party.

Relationship to Tea Party Movement

Do you consider yourself to be -- [a supporter of the Tea Party movement, an opponent of the Tea Party movement], or neither? If supporter/opponent: Are you a strong [supporter/opponent] of the Tea Party movement, or not?

	National adults	Registered voters
	%	%
Strong supporter	14	15
Supporter	11	11
Neither	42	39
Opponent	8	9
Strong opponent	20	22
No opinion	4	4
Total supporter	25	26
Total opponent	28	31

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

Gallup has previously measured support for the Tea Party movement, but this is the first time it asked a follow-up question that probes intensity.

One of the more striking findings of the Aug. 4-7 *USA Today*/Gallup poll is that nearly half of self-described liberals, 48%, consider themselves strong opponents of the Tea Party, significantly greater than the 30% of conservatives calling themselves strong supporters. Similarly, by 39% to 31%, there are more strong Democratic opponents than strong Republican supporters. Among independents, 14% are strong supporters and an equal number are strong opponents.

Relationship to Tea Party Movement -- by Political Ideology and Party ID

Based on national adults

	Strong supporter	Supporter	Neither	Opponent	Strong opponent
	%	%	%	%	%
Conservatives	30	17	41	5	3
Moderates	5	8	53	11	20
Liberals	2	5	32	11	48
Republicans	31	17	43	4	1
Independents	14	15	48	6	14
Democrats	2	2	35	15	39

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

Adults 35 and older are slightly more likely to call themselves strong supporters of the Tea Party movement than are those 18 to 34. Also, consistent with racial differences in party identification, whites are more supportive than blacks of the Tea Party. Gallup finds little difference between men's and women's relationship to the movement.

Residents of the East are less likely than those in other regions to be strong Tea Party supporters, and the East has the highest percentage of strong opponents. The South, however, is the only region where strong supporters outnumber strong opponents (17% vs. 11%).

Relationship to Tea Party Movement -- by Demographics and Region

Based on national adults

	Strong supporter	Supporter	Neither	Opponent	Strong opponent
	%	%	%	%	%
Men	14	15	42	9	19
Women	15	7	43	8	21
White	16	12	42	8	19
Black	5	9	44	12	26
18 to 34 years	8	11	50	12	18
35 to 54 years	15	11	41	8	20
55 and older	17	11	40	8	20
East	10	10	38	9	30
Midwest	14	13	42	8	20
South	17	13	42	12	11
West	15	7	46	4	22

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 4-7, 2011

GALLUP

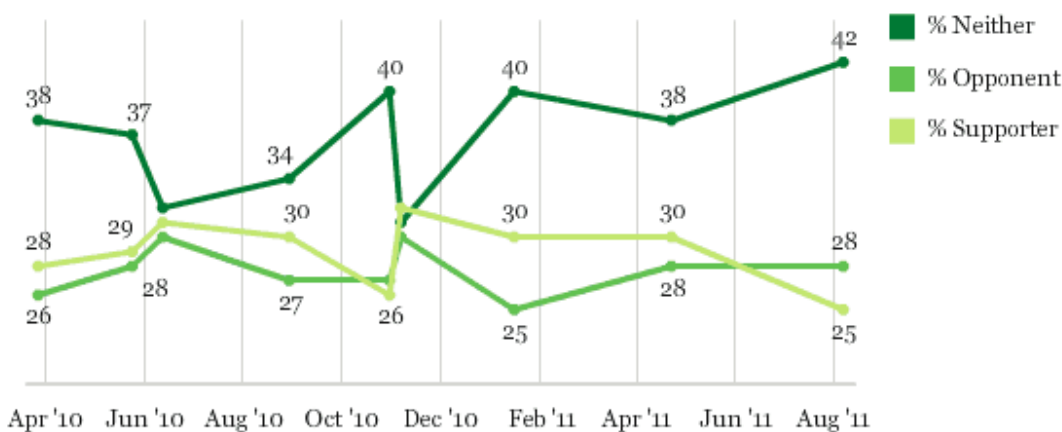
Tea Party Support Dips to New Low

At 25%, overall support for the Tea Party among U.S. adults is similar to the previous low of 26% found in October 2010. Support increased to 32% last November -- immediately after the 2010 midterm elections -- and held at 30% in January and April of this year before dropping to the current new low.

Overall opposition to the Tea Party movement, now 28%, is about average for where it has been since early 2010, while the 42% saying they are neither supporters nor opponents is a new high.

Trend in U.S. Adults' Overall Support for Tea Party Movement

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



GALLUP

Bottom Line

The national Tea Party movement appears to have lost some ground in popular support after the blistering debate over raising the nation's debt ceiling in which Tea Party Republicans in the U.S. House and Senate fought any compromise on taxes and spending. Fourteen percent of Americans consider themselves strong supporters of the Tea Party movement, and, perhaps not coincidentally, 12% of the public consists of conservative Republicans who wanted members of Congress who shared their views on the budget to hold out for a deal they could agree with. That is according to a July 15-17 Gallup poll on the debt ceiling debate.

Along with the decline in overall support for the Tea Party from 30% to 25% in recent months, Gallup finds more Americans holding intensely negative feelings toward the movement than intensely positive feelings. It thus appears that, to date, the Tea Party's leadership and activities may have been more successful at galvanizing the movement's opponents than expanding its base of passionate supporters.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 4-7, 2011, with a random sample of 1,319 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. The survey includes an oversample of 376 non-Hispanic blacks, consisting of 88 interviews done as part of the random national sample and 288 interviews with blacks who had previously participated in national Gallup Polls and agreed to be re-interviewed at a later date. The data from the national sample and re-interviews are combined and weighted to be demographically representative of the national adult population in the United States and to reflect the proper proportion of blacks in the overall population.

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 376 non-Hispanic blacks, the maximum margin of error is ± 6 percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 796 non-Hispanic whites, the maximum margin of 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 by 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/148940/Tea-Party-Sparks-Antipathy-Passion.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

LATIN AMERICA

184-43-25. 65% of Dominican Drivers Admit Breaking Traffic Laws

SANTO DOMINGO.- 65% of Dominican drivers admit to have broken a traffic law in a daily manner, according to a survey conducted in March by the polling firm Asisa, where 391 drivers were surveyed in the Dominican Republic.

The results of this poll included everything from details on the kinds of violations committed as well as the frequency of them.

Among the most frequently committed violations- daily or several times per day- is “Talking/Texting on the cell phone while driving” where 28% of the respondents answered affirmatively. Secondly, 26% of drivers admit not using their seatbelts on a daily basis; the same percentage admits “speeding up when the light is yellow” is something they do every single day.

One out of four Dominican drivers admits “reckless passing” at least once a day, while 24% of respondents reported that they run through a red light at least daily. When asked about violating a “One Way Street” sign, 23% of respondents says that they do it daily, while almost one in five drivers say that they find themselves blocking an intersection in a red light every day.

If you visualize the results according to different regions of the country, you can see greater traffic law infraction incidences, specifically in Santo Domingo, where on average, one out of three drivers deliberately break the law on a daily basis.

The second city with the highest infraction incidence is Santiago de los Caballeros, where three out of ten drivers act in the same manner, while in the Eastern region the number reaches 29%.

Drivers on the Northeastern side and the residents of the Distrito Nacional get smaller ratios obtained in terms of daily infringements.

The fact that in the Eastern region of the country, almost four out of ten drivers say that they don't respect the red light at least once a day draws attention.

TEXTING ON THE CELL PHONE

Ten percent of drivers admit to having had actual collisions during the past two years as a direct result of talking, chatting or texting on their phones while driving.

This number increases significantly in Santo Domingo, where 16% of drivers admit to have crashed while using their cell phones while driving, and in the Northern region or Cibao 14% of drivers similarly assert.

Fourteen percent of those surveyed also admit to have “almost” had an accident or crash by performing the same action while driving.

THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY (AMET)

The survey also addressed the issue of Transit Authority (AMET), where almost 40% of drivers say that in recent years “respect for the AMET agents” has decreased. About a quarter of respondents say it remains unchanged.

When asked about times when AMET agents have tried to pull them over, one in four drivers admit to have ignored the order, meaning the agent ordered them to stop and the driver did not obey the order.

Over the past two years 77% of drivers have not been asked nor have offered money – bribes - to a law enforcement officer after committing a traffic violation, 23% of respondents report the opposite.

CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS, HIGHWAYS, EXPRESSWAYS AND THE SUBWAY (METRO)

53% of Dominican drivers believe that the overall traffic situation in the country has improved as a direct consequence of the construction of more efficient roads and infrastructure.

65% of drivers said the construction of tunnels and expressways significantly improved transit in general, while 62% considered that the traffic will improve further with the construction of the Santo Domingo Subway, both the first line as the second one that is under construction.

RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAFFIC PROBLEM

When asked about the primary responsibility for traffic problems in the Dominican Republic, 35% say “Drivers in general (citizens)”, followed by 19% who think the AMET are primarily responsible.

Almost one in five (18%) blames public transportation drivers (Conchos) while 14% say it is the “Government / Authorities”. Motorcyclists and drivers of heavy vehicles are mentioned by 4% respectively.

SAMPLE & METHODOLOGY

Asisa conducted a total of 391 effective interviews amongst drivers of any motor vehicle in 22 provinces of the Dominican Republic.

The surveys were conducted face to face, in home, and were distributed throughout the country, using the method of non-probabilistic sampling. Under this method, sampling quotas are set according to the population distribution in each geographical area and are drawn randomly in sectors to be included in the sample.

The results are adjusted using weights according to census data. For the study more than 30 interviewers and supervisors were used and the fieldwork was conducted with handheld computers or PDAs. The survey was conducted between March 31 and April 02, 2011.

ABOUT ASISA

Asisa Research Group is a regional polling firm with offices in Miami, Santo Domingo and Santiago de los Caballeros. The company specializes in marketing research, quantitative and

qualitative full service research and field services as well as public opinion polling in Latin America.

The company was founded in 1988 and since its beginning has been led by Lilian Pagan, psychologist, specialist in psychometrics, and MA in Research and Development from the University of New York. The company has clients in over 20 countries and conducts market research and public opinion in 30 nations of the continent.

Source: http://www.asisaresearch.com/app/en/knowless_inthemdet.aspx?id=1233

AUSTRALASIA

184-43-26. L-NP (57%) Still Has Clear Winning Lead Over ALP (43%)

Clear Majority (56%) Still Opposed To Carbon Tax But 52% Of Australians Support The 'Malaysian Solution'

Finding No. 4694 - This telephone Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two nights, August 9/10, 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of 1,006 electors. This face-to-face Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two weekends – July 30/31 & August 6/7 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of Australians aged 14+ including 1,662 electors, of all electors surveyed, 6% did not name a party.: August 12, 2011

The latest telephone Morgan Poll conducted over two nights this week, August 9/10, 2011, show 57% of electors would vote L-NP 57% while only 43% ALP. (A result virtually unchanged from the face-to-face Morgan Poll conducted over the last two weekends — July 30/31 & August 6/7, 2011 — L-NP (56.5%) cf. ALP (43.5%).

The L-NP primary vote is 49%, well ahead of the ALP 29.5%. Support for the minor parties shows the Greens 12% and Others/ Independents 9.5%.

If a Federal election were held today the L-NP would win easily according to today's Morgan Poll.

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has fallen to a record low of 94.5 with now only 42% of Australians saying Australia is 'heading in the right direction,' while 47.5% say Australia is 'heading in the wrong direction.'

Better news for the Gillard Government, during significant overseas financial and economic upheaval, is the latest **weekly Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence Rating** conducted last weekend, August 6/7, 2011, which was virtually unchanged at 108.0 (up 0.3pts from July 30/31, 2011) and up slightly on the 107.7 a month ago.

Global Warming & Carbon Tax

An equal record high 37% (unchanged since July 13/14, 2011) of Australians say about Global Warming that '*Concerns are exaggerated*' compared to 44% (down 2%) that say '*If we don't act now it will be too late*' and a further 17% (up 3%) that say '*It is already too late*', 2% can't say.

Only 38% (up 1%) of Australian electors support the Gillard Government's proposed Carbon Tax while a clear majority (56%, down 2%) opposes the Carbon Tax and 6% (up 1%) can't say.

However, when asked whether Opposition Leader Tony Abbott should overturn the Carbon Tax, Australian electors remain evenly split, now 48% (up 3%) **oppose** Abbott overturning the Carbon Tax compared to 45% (down 3%) **support** Abbott overturning the Carbon Tax, while 7% (unchanged) can't say.

Majority of Australian Electors Approve of 'Malaysian Solution'

A majority of Australians (52%) believe **asylum seekers ‘arriving by boat’** should be ‘*Sent to Malaysia and apply through normal refugee channels*’ while 37% say asylum seekers arriving by boat should be allowed to ‘*apply for immigration*’ and 11% gave another answer or can’t say. Those surveyed were asked ‘*Should asylum seekers arriving by boat be allowed to apply for immigration, or should they be sent to Malaysia and told to apply through normal refugee channels?*’

Gary Morgan says:

“The L-NP (57%) maintains a clear winning lead over the ALP (43%) on a Two-Party preferred basis according to a special telephone Morgan Poll conducted over two nights this week. This is virtually unchanged from the results of a face-to-face Morgan Poll conducted over the last two weekends (July 30/31 and August 6/7, 2011) which showed the L-NP (56.5%) cf. ALP (43.5%).

“What the Gillard Government should be concerned about is that the Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has dropped to it’s lowest ever level of 94.5 — now only 42% of Australians believe Australia is ‘heading in the right direction’ compared to 47.5% saying Australia is ‘heading in the wrong direction.’ Additionally, 72% of electors now think the L-NP will win the next Federal Election — the highest it has been since the last Election almost a year ago.

“Opposition to the Gillard Government’s proposed Carbon Tax remains strong with a clear majority of electors (56%) opposed to the Carbon Tax while only 38% support it. However, if the Carbon Tax is legislated, Australians are evenly split on whether Opposition Leader Tony Abbott should overturn the legislation if elected Prime Minister with 48% opposing Abbott overturning the Carbon Tax compared to 45% that support Abbott overturning the Carbon Tax.

“It is better news for the Government with regards to the so-called ‘Malaysian Solution’ which has recently begun with a majority of Australian electors (52%) saying asylum seekers arriving by boat should be ‘sent to Malaysia and apply through normal refugee channels’ while only 37% say asylum seekers arriving by boat should be allowed to ‘apply for immigration.’”

Electors were asked: “If a Federal Election for the House of Representatives were held today — which party would receive your first preference?”

This telephone Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two nights, August 9/10, 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of 1,006 electors. This face-to-face Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two weekends — July 30/31 & August 6/7 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of Australians aged 14+ including 1,662 electors, of all electors surveyed, 6% did not name a party.

*Telephone Morgan Polls are conducted using the same methodologies used by other major telephone polls — Nielsen, Newspoll, Galaxy. In analysing telephone Morgan Poll results, it is worth noting that telephone polls are good at capturing the response to current events and have typically been biased towards the L-NP, obtain a higher figure for Minor parties and Independents and more ‘responsive’ to current events.

Global Warming & Carbon Tax Questions

Question 1:

Electors were asked: “Which of the following is closest to your view about Global Warming?” Do you think: Concerns are exaggerated; if we don’t act now it will be too late; it is already too late?”

Of Australians (44%, down 2% since July 2011) says 'If we don't act now it will be too late' while slightly more than a third (37%, unchanged) say 'Concerns are exaggerated' and a further 17% (up 3%) say 'It is already too late.'

However, there is a clear division along party lines with clear majorities of ALP supporters (64%) and Greens supporters (66%) saying 'If we don't act now it will be too late' compared to only 28% of L-NP supporters while a majority of L-NP supporters (58%) say 'Concerns are exaggerated' compared to only 18% of ALP supporters and just 3% of Greens supporters.

<u>About Global Warming</u>	<u>Total all people aged 14+</u>									
	A	N	M	A	N	D	J	J	July	Aug
	pril	ov	ay	ug	ov	ec	an	une	13/14,	9/10,
	<u>20</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>201</u>
<u>06</u>	<u>008</u>	<u>009</u>	<u>009</u>	<u>009</u>	<u>009</u>	<u>010</u>	<u>011</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Concerns are exaggerated	13	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	37	37
If we don't act now it will be too late	67	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	46	44
It is already too late	15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	17
Can't say	5	3	4	4	4	5	3	3	3	2
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

	<u>Electors</u>	<u>Federal Voting Intention</u>							<u>Can't say</u>
	<u>Aug 9/10, 2011</u>	<u>ALP</u>	<u>L-NP</u>	<u>Lib</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>Nat</u>	<u>Greens</u>	<u>Others</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Concerns are exaggerated	38	18	58	8	5	6	3	36	27
If we don't act now it will be too late	44	64	28	8	2	1	66	31	47
It is already too late	16	17	12	2	1	2	30	29	15
Can't say	2	1	2	2	2	5	1	4	11
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Question 2:

“Prime Minister Julia Gillard has announced the Gillard Government’s Carbon Tax policy which will charge \$23 per tonne of carbon with 500 companies paying the Carbon Tax. Do you support or oppose the Gillard Government’s proposed Carbon Tax legislation?”

A majority of Australians (56% down 2%) oppose the Gillard Government’s proposed legislation to ‘place a price on carbon’ — including a clear majority of L-NP supporters (83%), however only 28% of ALP supporters and just 22% of Greens supporters oppose the proposed legislation.

Although only 38% (up 1%) of electors support the proposed legislation, a majority of ALP supporters (68%) and Greens supporters (71%) agree with the proposal but only 13% of L-NP supporters want this legislation.

	Electors					Federal Voting Inter				
	March 8-10, 2011	March 16/17, 2011	June 20 13/14, 2011	July 13/14, 2011	Aug 9/10, 2011	ALP	L -NP	Greens	Others	
Support legislation	33	38	37	37	38	8	3	71	36	
Oppose legislation	57	54	53	58	56	8	3	22	59	
Can’t say	10	8	10	5	6	4	4	7	5	
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Question 3:

“Do you support or oppose Opposition Leader Tony Abbott’s promise to overturn the Government’s proposed Carbon Tax legislation if elected?”

This question related to Opposition Leader Tony Abbott’s promise to overturn the Gillard Government’s legislation if elected. Electors were fairly evenly split with 48% (up 3%) of electors opposing Tony Abbott’s promise to overturn the Gillard Government’s proposed Carbon Tax legislation if elected and 45% (down 3%) supporting Abbott’s promise to overturn the legislation.

However, a large majority of L-NP supporters (77%) support Abbott’s promise compared to only 18% of ALP supporters and 10% of Greens supporters. A clear majority of ALP supporters (77%) and Greens supporters (86%) do not want Abbott to rescind the ‘Carbon Tax’ if elected compared to only 18% of L-NP supporters.

		Electors					Federal	
		March 8-10, 2011	March 16/17, 2011	June 20 13/14, 2011	July 13/14, 2011	Aug 9/10, 2011	ALP	L -NP
Support overturning tax	Abbott	44	44	45	48	45	18	7
Oppose overturning tax	Abbott	45	46	45	45	48	77	8

Can't say	11	10	10	7	7	5	5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

		Electors	Support or Oppose Carbon Tax		
		Aug 9/10, 2011	Support	Oppose	Can't say
		%	%	%	%
Support overturning tax	Abbott	45	5	77	15
Oppose overturning tax	Abbott	48	93	18	31
Can't say		7	2	5	54
TOTAL		100	100	100	100

Question 4:

Attitudes to Immigration of 'Boat People'

Respondents were then asked: "Should asylum seekers arriving by boat be allowed to apply for immigration, or should they be sent to Malaysia and told to apply through normal refugee channels?"

		Electors			Analysis by Voting Intention				
		Mar 2010	Jul 2010	Aug 9/10, 2011	A LP	L- NP	Gre ens	Oth n't y	Ca Sa
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sent to Malaysia and apply through normal refugee channels		64	64	52	53	57	26	58	43
Apply for immigration		26	26	37	41	29	71	32	41
Other		5	5	6	2	10	1	5	8
Can't say		5	5	5	4	4	2	5	8
TOTAL		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

During the period:

- Agricultural business Elders has been given the green light to resume exporting live cattle to Indonesia.
- The Reserve Bank has given borrowers a reprieve by keeping interest rates on hold at 4.75 per cent.

- A study into the feasibility of a high-speed rail network connecting eastern seaboard cities has found it could get passengers from Sydney to Brisbane in three hours for as little as \$75.
- The United States vowed to "stay the course" in Afghanistan after 31 US soldiers were killed when, according to local officials, the Taliban shot down their helicopter.
 - Australia, Malaysia sign refugee deal.
 - First boat arrives under Malaysia deal.
 - Inflation creeps up on fruit, utilities and holidays.
 - Rates likely to stay on hold until 2012: economist.
 - Obama calls emergency meeting as debt talks collapse.
 - US credit rating cut for first time ever.
 - US Senate passes bill to avoid debt default.
 - Telstra to move 300 jobs overseas.
 - Optus axes 250 jobs.
 - Premier Retail group closing up to 50 stores.
 - Murdoch remains B SkyB chairman as profits surge.
 - Suspect to face court over Norway attacks.
 - NBN heading for six new towns.
 - Euro, US doubts fuel Australian market panic.
 - Tiger still grounded after hearing adjourned.
 - Live cattle exports given green light.
 - Cadel Evans seals historic Tour de France win.

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. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

<u>Sample Size</u>	<u>Percentage Estimate</u>						
	<u>40%-</u>	<u>25%</u>	<u>or</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>or</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>or</u>
	<u>60%</u>	<u>75%</u>		<u>90%</u>		<u>95%</u>	
500	±4.5	±3.9		±2.7		±1.9	
1,000	±3.2	±2.7		±1.9		±1.4	
1,500	±2.6	±2.2		±1.5		±1.1	
2,000	±2.2	±1.9		±1.3		±1	

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4694/>

184-43-27. New Zealand National-Led Govt. Down But Has Winning Lead: 55.5% cf. 44.5%

Finding No. 4693 - This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone with a NZ wide cross-section of 921 electors from July 25 – August 7, 2011. Of all electors surveyed 8.5% (unchanged) didn't name a party.: August 11, 2011

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is at 55.5% (down 2%). Support for Key's National Party is 51.5%

(down 0.5%), ACT NZ 2% (unchanged), the Maori Party 1.5% (down 1.5%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged).

Support for Opposition Parties is at 44.5% (up 2%) — Labour Party 32% (up 0.5%), Greens 7% (down 0.5%), New Zealand First 4% (up 1.5%), Mana Party 0.5% (unchanged) and Others 1% (up 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 0.5 points to 128 with 57% (up 0.5%) of New Zealanders saying New Zealand is ‘heading in the right direction’ compared to 29% (unchanged) that say New Zealand is ‘heading in the wrong direction.’

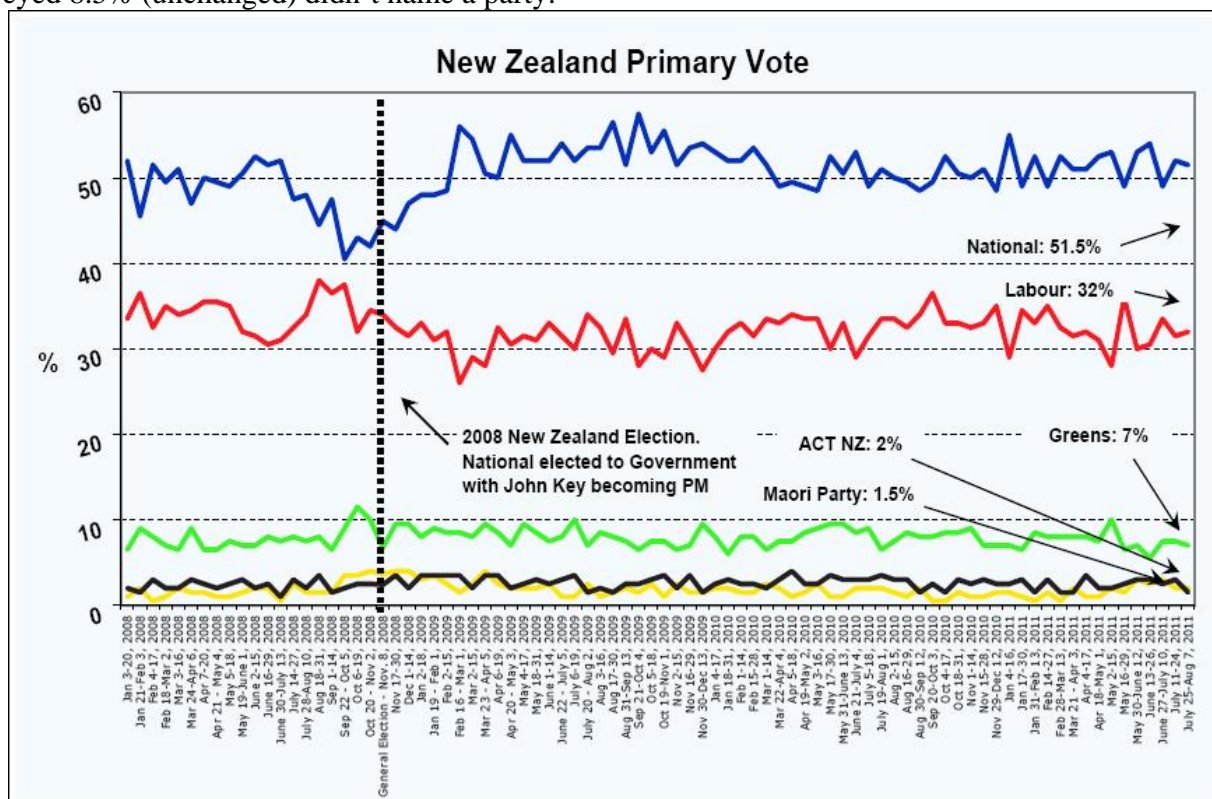
Gary Morgan says:

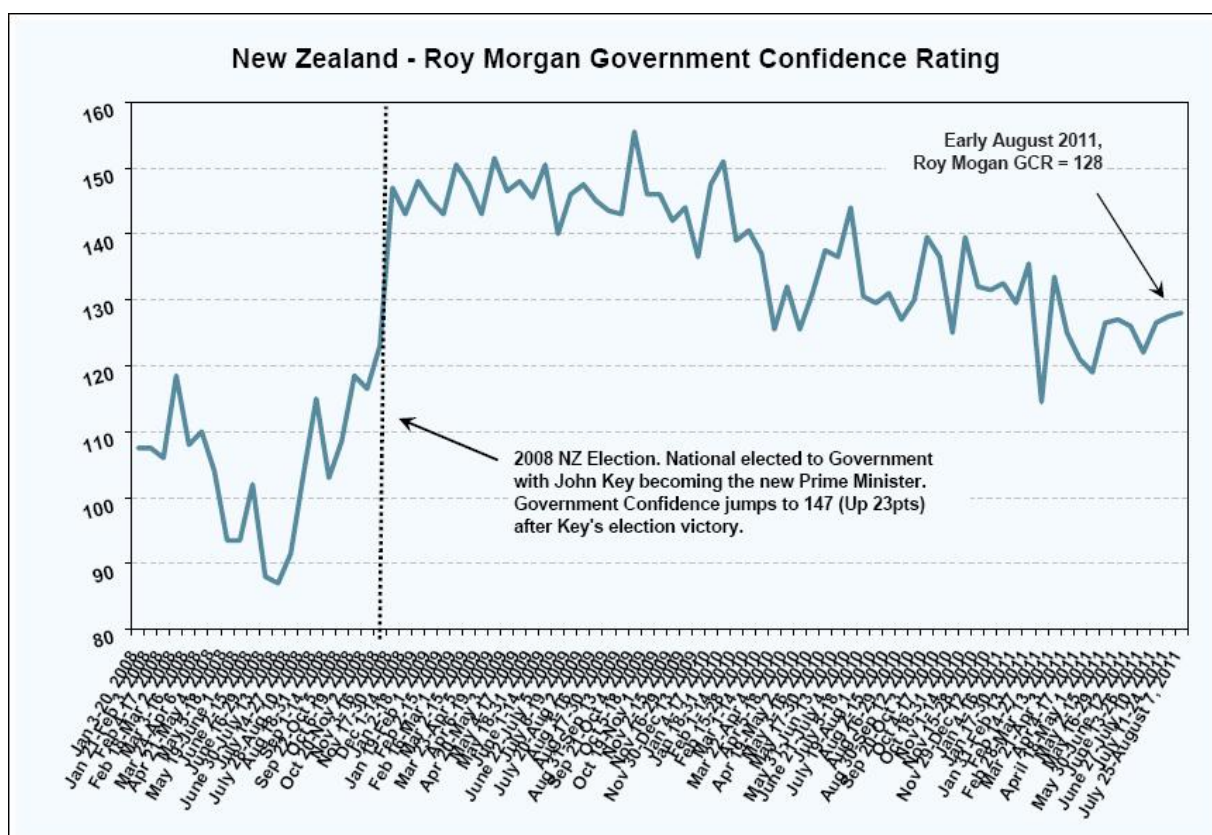
“Today’s New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows Prime Minister John Key’s National-led Government (55.5%, down 2%), well ahead of the Opposition Parties (44.5%, up 2%). National is virtually unchanged at 51.5% (down 0.5%), although the Maori Party has dropped to 1.5% (down 1.5%), the equal lowest it has been since the last New Zealand Election.

“The fall in the Maori Party vote could well be due to the formation of the rival Mana Party by former Maori Party MP Hone Harawira — Mana Party support remains at 0.5% (unchanged).”

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 921electors from July 25 — August 7, 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.

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

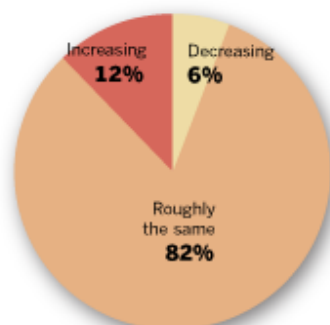
Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4693/>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

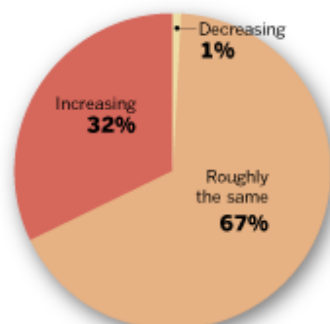
184-43-28. Rising Restrictions on Religion

One-third of the World's Population Experiences an Increase
August 9, 2011

Percentage of **countries**
where government restrictions
or social hostilities are...



Percentage of **global population**
living where government restrictions
or social hostilities are...



The kinds of social hostilities that recently erupted in violence in Norway have been rising across Europe, a new report by the Pew Forum shows. Social hostilities involving religion have risen substantially in a number of European countries, including Sweden, Denmark and the U.K. The report also looks at government restrictions on religious beliefs and practices around the world.

The report, *Rising Restrictions on Religion*, by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion and Public Life, finds that restrictions on religious beliefs and practices rose between mid-2006 and mid-2009 in 23 of the world's 198 countries (12%), decreased in 12 countries (6%) and remained essentially unchanged in 163 countries (82%).

Because several countries with increasing restrictions on religion are very populous, however, the increases affect a much larger share of people than of states. More than 2.2 billion people - nearly a third (32%) of the world's total population of 6.9 billion - live in countries where either government restrictions on religion or social hostilities involving religion rose substantially over the three-year period studied.

While Europe had the largest proportion of countries in which social hostilities related to religion were on the rise from mid-2006 to mid-2009, the study also found that social hostilities involving religion have been rising in Asia, particularly in China, Thailand and Vietnam.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2080/-religious-restrictions-social-hostilities-europe-asia>

CYBER WORLD

184-43-29. Social Media Users Blast The Debt Deal

The August 2 agreement on raising the country's debt ceiling was a leading topic of conversation on both blogs and Twitter last week. And in a rarity for a partisan political issue, the news managed to unite both sides of the political spectrum.

Liberal and conservative social media users agreed the deal was a bad one-albeit for different reasons. Indeed, both sides seemed to think they came out on the short end.

For the week of August 1-5, the news story most linked to on blogs was the debt ceiling debate, according to the **New Media Index** from the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. That topic also among the most discussed subjects on Twitter, finishing at No. 2.

Top Stories on Blogs

- 1** Debt Ceiling
- 2** Android
- 3** Osama bin Laden Killed
- 4** New iPhone
- 5** Justin Bieber

August 1-5, 2011

NEW MEDIA INDEX

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

This week's **New Media Index** is the first to use an updated methodology and larger sample to determine the top subjects on social media. The NMI now employs an expanded number of sites to track the top stories and a wider pool of sources and topics within the story lists. The new process, which helps reflect the continued growth in social media and technology, results in a simple list of ranked stories rather than the percentages used in the earlier method. For more details, see the **About the New Media Index** section below.

The drawn-out debt ceiling debate in Washington culminated in a **complex bill** that just barely averted a debt default. The most vocal users of social media strongly denounced the deal, a sentiment shared by many Americans according to polls that were released in its aftermath.

Liberals claimed that President Obama caved in to the demands of the Republicans, and specifically the Tea Party movement, in agreeing to cuts in government spending without increases in revenue.

"The reported deal on the debt ceiling is....completely one-sided-brutal domestic cuts with no tax increases on the rich and the likelihood of serious entitlement cuts in six months with a 'Super Congressional' deficit commission," decried Glenn Greenwald at **Common Dreams**.

Conservatives did not think the cuts went far enough and were concerned that the new committee would not carry through with its mission. They also felt that by increasing the debt ceiling at all, Obama and Democrats would wind up spending more money anyway.

"Make the cuts NOW. Don't wait, don't play games," demanded AJ Strata in a post appearing on **Right Turn Forever**. "This is just another surrender to the far left to give them more time to try and sell their failed policies."

Some in social media focused on peripheral issues of the debate that did not get as much attention in the **mainstream coverage**. A **report** claiming that Vice President Biden compared Tea Party Republicans to terrorists created a firestorm in the blogosphere and on Twitter. A number of bloggers highlighted a **Business Insider report** that the computer company Apple has more cash than the U.S. government. And many Twitter users flagged a **Mashable report** about White House aides who declared that Twitter itself helped influence the debt ceiling deal as it served as a platform for voters to pressure Congress into action.

The Debt Ceiling Agreement

The Note, a political blog on the ABC News web site, was one of the first outlets to **report** details of the proposed compromise. Over the next few days, people on both sides of the political spectrum weighed in with their opinions, almost all of which were negative.

Liberals saw the deal as a defeat, asserting that Democrats did not fight hard enough.

"Democrats are going to lose this one," concluded Ezra Klein of the **Washington Post**. "The first stage of the emerging deal doesn't include revenue, doesn't include stimulus, and lets Republicans pocket a trillion dollars or more in cuts without offering anything to Democrats in return."

"We've always known the Dems to be wet noodles and spineless, but if they remain this way given the piranha-like opposition, there will be nothing left of them but their bones and their dignity," protested Grey Matter at **The Angry Liberal**.

Conservatives thought the agreement was more politics as usual and would ultimately lead to more taxing and spending.

"What we know about the pending deal is that the Democrats and Republicans are agreeing to a Deficit Commission. Despite the media spin-and the spin of some Republican sycophants-the deficit commission, which will be a super committee of the Congress, will have the power to come up with new tax revenue," predicted Erick Erickson at **Red State**.

Tea Party conservatives criticized Republicans who helped create the deal, saying they were part of the D.C. establishment and not defending true conservative principles.

"It boggles the mind how these Republicans are either so stupid they can't figure out that they just bent over for the Democrats again, or that they genuinely seem to think that the American people are so stupid that we don't know what they've done," posted **BJC's Blog**.

The Tea Party further came into the conversation after Politico published a **report** that Biden accused its members of acting like terrorists in a closed door Democratic Caucus meeting. The subject touched a nerve and became something of a referendum on the Tea Party itself.

"Now, I always thought of terrorists as people who blow up buildings, commit murder and extortion you know, who terrorize! But no apparently your political opponents who disagree with you are also terrorists," responded **Shameless Politicians**.

"The tea party is the only thing keeping this country from ruination," added Rep. Steve Vaillancourt at **NH Insider**. "Malign the tea party all you want. It's a true sign that the tea party has arrived to stay, and here's a prediction. It's going to continue to get its people elected in greater numbers until they turn this great country around, until they save this country from ruin."

"This Government has to get it together fix our credit and Stop the Tea Party from taking us hostage," tweeted Henry Platt. "Mr. Vice President Biden had it rright."*

"Republicans and Tea Baggers won't be happy until they totally wreck the economy, just so they can pin the blame for their actions on Obama," wrote Ron Chusid at **Liberal Values** four days later.

Beyond the political wrangling, social media took note of several connections between the debt ceiling debate and technology companies.

Bloggers were interested in a **report** that Apple, with \$76.2 billion in cash and marketable securities, had more money than the U.S. government, with its operating cash balance of \$73.8 billion.

"The phrase 'richer than a small country' is not uncommonly heard, but this is another thing altogether," noted Joel Falconer at **The Next Web**. "Congratulations [Apple CEO] Steve Jobs-you're now more powerful than one of the largest nations on Earth.

"Should we just elect Steve Jobs as president?" asked Allison Kade at **LearnVest**.

On Twitter, the notion that Twitter **played a role** in pressuring legislators to act on debt ceiling legislations on was significant.

Many Tweets repeated the sentence, "A White House aide said that Twitter influenced the recently announced agreement on the U.S. debt ceiling."

"Twitter helped raise the debt ceiling. Social Media prevented a second recession," added Jeremy Burns.

The Rest of the Week's News on Blogs

Beyond the debt ceiling debate, the most popular subjects on blogs last week focused on technology, the May raid that killed Osama bin Laden and a popular teenage singer.

The No. 2 topic involved challenges facing Android mobile software. Two stories drew attention. One was a post on the official **Google blog** claiming that Microsoft, Oracle, Apple and other companies are waging a campaign against the Android market by filing "bogus" patents in order to make software developments for the Android expensive and difficult. The other was a blog post by **CA Technologies** warning users about Trojan spyware that could infect an Android device.

A lengthy New Yorker **story** detailing the May 1 raid by Navy SEALs that killed Osama bin Laden was the third most discussed subject.

Predictions that the new iPhone 5 will be launched in the coming months were the fourth biggest subject.

And in fifth place was pop star Justin Bieber as bloggers linked to a **Perez Hilton post** showing a video of the singer playing pranks on various fast food drive-thrus and an **X17 post** showing candid pictures of Bieber shopping.

The Rest of the Week's News on Twitter

Justin Bieber also made the list of top Twitter subjects last week, finishing as the No. 3 subject. In this case, however, most of the links were to his web site that included a **list** of concerts he will perform in Mexico and South America.

Twitter, the web site itself, was the top subject last week ahead of the debt ceiling and Bieber. The social networking site was the feature of two popular stories. One was a list of the top Twitter trends for the previous month put together by **Mashable**. The other was an **announcement** that the old version of Twitter would be discontinued soon, roughly a year after the new version of Twitter was launched.

An article from the satirical web site, The Onion, finished at No. 4. Twitterers linked to a fake report entitled, "**Obama Turns 50 Despite Republican Opposition**." The story included a made-up quote from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell: "With the host of problems this country is currently facing, the fact that our president is devoting time to the human process of aging is an affront to Americans everywhere."

A different technology-related topic, Google, was the fifth largest subject. Most of the focus was on a **study** that showed Google's new social-networking site, Google+, hit 25 million

Top Stories on Twitter

- 1 Twitter
- 2 Debt Ceiling
- 3 Justin Bieber
- 4 Satirical Article About Obama
- 5 Google

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

visitors in its first month. That growth was faster than for Facebook, Twitter, and MySpace over the same time frame.

YouTube

Although not the top video, the debt ceiling issue was also prominently featured on YouTube. Two of the top five news videos focused on the issue. The No. 2 video was a July 31 message from President Obama, posted by BarackObama.com, explaining the agreement he reached with congressional leaders.

The No. 4 video, posted by Florida Senator Marco Rubio on July 30, showed the senator discussing the debt crisis on the Senate floor and debating the issue with Massachusetts Senator John Kerry.

The No. 1 video last week was of a very different nature. The July 30 video shows an industrious yet controversial Lithuanian politician, Vilnius Mayor Arturas Zuokas, resorting to extreme measures in his fight against illegally parked luxury cars. At one point, the Mayor is seen driving over an expensive car in a tank.

Source:http://www.journalism.org/index_report/social_media_users_blast_debt_deal?src=pre-headline

184-43-30. Search and Email Still the Most Popular Online Activities

Two Activities Nearly Universal Among Adult Internet Users

August 9, 2011

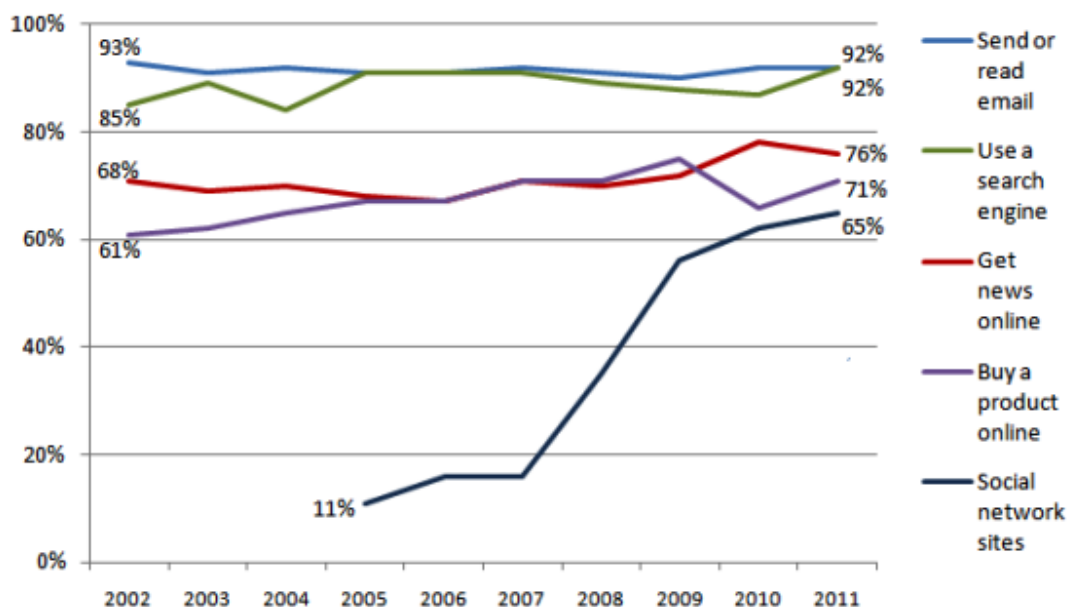
Search and email remain the two online activities that are nearly universal among adult internet users, as 92% of online adults use search engines to find information on the Web, and a similar number (92%) use email. Since the Pew Internet Project began measuring adults' online activities in the last decade, these two behaviors have consistently ranked as the most popular, even as new platforms, broadband and mobile devices continue to reshape the way Americans use the internet and web. Even as early as 2002, more than eight in ten online adults were using search engines, and more than nine in ten online adults were emailing.

Perhaps the most significant change over that time is that both activities have become more habitual. Today, roughly six in ten online adults engage in each of these activities on a typical

day; in 2002, 49% of online adults used email each day, while just 29% used a search engine

Over time, search and email are most popular online activities

% of internet users who do each activity



Source: The Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project tracking surveys, 2002-2011. Social network site use not tracked prior to February, 2005. For more activity trends, go to pewinternet.org.

daily.

Source: <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2079/-email-internet-search?src=prc-headline>

184-43-31. 60% Say Internet Anonymity Makes Us Less Civil, But Just 21% Want to Require Using Real Names

81% Believe People Will Always Find Way to Hide Identity

UTICA, NY - Even though 60% of U.S. adults believe that anonymity on the internet has made us less civil, only 21% agree with a statement suggesting it "has to go away." There is also a very high level of skepticism that requiring real names is even possible.

Also, one-half of adults say it is likely they would still post online comments if they had to provide their identity.

These results are from an IBOPE Zogby interactive poll conducted from July 29-August 1.

Each of these statements was made recently by two people who write about or work in the online industry. Which comes closest to your opinion?

Statement A: *"I think anonymity on the Internet has to go away. People behave a lot better when they have their real names down. ... I think people hide behind anonymity and they feel like they can say whatever they want behind closed doors."*

Statement B: *"Many people believe that requiring real names will solve the problems of trolls and bad behavior, but they don't -- and that policy can have negative consequences in terms of suppressing dialogue about important topics."*

Statement	
Anonymity on the Internet has to go away	1%

Requiring real names suppresses dialogue	9%
Neither	9%
Not sure	2%

Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding *Statement A was made by Randi Zuckerberg while she was still Facebook's marketing director. Statement B was made by blogger Matthew Ingram on Gigaom. Do you believe it would be possible to eliminate anonymity on the internet, or would people always find a way to conceal their identity?

Statement	
Possible to eliminate internet anonymity	8%
People would always find a way to conceal their identity	1%
Not sure	2%

Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding How likely would you be to post comments on websites if you had to provide your identity?

Response	
Very + somewhat likely	1%
Not very likely + not likely at all	8%
I never post comments on websites	6%
Not sure	4%

Do you agree or disagree with this statement: Anonymity on the internet has made our society less civil?

Response	
Agree	0%
Disagree	3%
Not sure	4%

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,153 U.S. adults. A sampling of IBOPE Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender, and education to more accurately reflect the population. The margin of error is +/- 2.2 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/2011/08/08/ibope-zogby-poll-60-say-internet-anonymity-makes-us-less-civil-just-21-want-require-using-real-names/>

184-43-32. Disproportionately High Number Of 18-25 Year Olds Download Blackberry Apps

11 August 2011

A new report from YouGov SixthSense into the handsets and apps market has revealed that while the Apple Store is still the most popular choice for handset users when downloading apps, a disproportionately high number of 18-25 year olds download apps from BlackBerry App World.

The report underlines the fact that while the Apple Store and Android marketplaces are most likely to cater to older clientele, BlackBerry App World is popular among young adults, with over a quarter (27%) of 18-24 year old app downloaders using the site – well above the average (14%) of all app users who also use BlackBerry App World.

Meanwhile, of those within the 18-24 age-bracket, women (38%) are far more likely than men (17%) to opt for BlackBerry apps.

The YouGov SixthSense report also calculates the rate at which apps are downloaded by handset users. Of those who say they have ever downloaded an app, a third says that they did so within 3 days prior to contributing to the YouGov report.

Meanwhile, over a quarter (27%) did not download an app within the 4 weeks immediately preceding their participation in the study.

In terms of the quantity of apps downloaded, 48% of those who have downloaded apps in the past say that they currently have between 1 and 10 apps; 30% say they have between 11 and 30 apps; while an app-happy 8% have hoarded 51 apps or more. Of the number of downloaders, only 44% say they have actually paid to download an app.

About SixthSense

SixthSense, part of YouGov plc, is a provider of comprehensive business intelligence. It offers a powerful type of consumer-driven market intelligence report and online information platform, designed to help businesses make better and quicker decisions.

Bespoke data is collected through YouGov's proprietary panel of over 350,000 UK consumers. Highly qualified analysts use this data to deliver insight, comment, opinion and advice on the latest market trends and conditions.

Source: <http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-EnglandRiotResults.pdf>
