

## BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

### Global Opinion Report No. 185

August 14-20, 2011

Presentation: August 24, 2011

M. Zubair

---

<b>Introductory Note</b>	02
<b>Summary of Polls</b>	02
<b>SOUTH ASIA</b>	
• India: Great Game-Part II.....	07
• India: Give Peace A Chance.....	10
<b>SOUTH EAST ASIA</b>	
• More than eight in ten Filipinos Hopeful Of Peace Between The Government And MILF	12
<b>EAST EUROPE</b>	
• Polish Presidency Of The Council Of The European Union	15
• Neighbouring Countries' Attitude To Poland	17
• Polish-German Relations	18
<b>WEST EUROPE</b>	
• Germany: Four Million Households Switch Energy Provider	20
• No Appetite For Any More Bailouts In Eurozone (Multi-country survey)	21
• UK: Following the riots in England, concern about crime and anti-social behaviour increases to highest level in two years	23
• UK: Despite Protests, Students Are Happy With University	24
• Pessimism Among Public Sector Leaders Over Impact Of Cuts	25
• More Underemployed Britons Suffering Than Americans	26
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>	
• Parents, Americans Much More Positive About Local Schools	29
• Blacks, Whites Differ on Government's Role in Civil Rights	31
• Education Is a Key Predictor of Emotional Health After 65	34
• Energy States Lead in Job Creation, Financial States Struggle	37
• Women See Value and Benefits of College; Men Lag on Both Fronts	40
• Deadly Afghanistan Crash Tops Public's News Interest	42
• Americans' Satisfaction With National Conditions Dips to 11%	47
• Most Americans See College as Essential to Getting a Good Job	49
• New Low of 26% Approve of Obama on the Economy	52
• Gallup Finds U.S. Unemployment Up in Mid-August	56
• Perry, Bachmann Generate More Positive Intensity Than Romney	60
• Congressional Job Approval Ties Historic Low of 13%	62
• Obama's Weekly Job Approval at 40%, Lowest of Administration	64
• Washington, D.C., Extends Its Lead in Economic Confidence	66
• Seven-in-Ten Americans Driving Less Due to High Gas Prices	69

• Trudeau Still Best Recent PM for Canadians, But Harper Gains Ground	69
• Canada: Consumer Confidence Drops Sharply In Wake Of Market Turmoil	70
<b>LATIN AMERICA</b>	
• Dilma Assessment Remains Stable After Seven Months Of Government	71
• Former Dominican President Mejía to Win PRD Primaries	72
<b>AUSTRALASIA</b>	
• Attitudes To Asylum Seekers Arriving By Boat In Australia	73
• Internode still tops the Internet Customer Satisfaction	75
<b>CYBER WORLD</b>	
• Americans and Their Cell Phones	76
• Twitter Users Blast The London Rioters	77

### **Introductory Note**

This report consists of 35 surveys. One of these is a multi-country survey while the rest of 34 are national surveys from various countries.

## **SUMMARY OF POLLS**

### **SOUTH ASIA**

India: Great Game-Part II.....

More than half the people polled in a CVOTER survey feel that India has been left out in the cold following the US's move to integrate some Taliban groups in government in Afghanistan once its troops move out. (CVoter)

August 2011

India: Give Peace A Chance.....

About 86 per cent of Indians polled in a CVOTER survey feel that the peace process with Pakistan should be hastened. Touchingly, almost half believe that Hina Rabbani Khar, the good-looking, young Pakistan foreign minister will positively contribute to this. (CVoter)

August 2011

### **SOUTH EAST ASIA**

More than eight in ten Filipinos Hopeful Of Peace Between The Government And MILF

Eighty-three percent of Filipino adults are hopeful of peace between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or MILF, as of the Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, done over June 3-6, 2011. The 83% consist of 38% answering very hopeful and 45% saying somewhat hopeful. (SWS)

August 08, 2011

### **EAST EUROPE**

Polish Presidency Of The Council Of The European Union

On 1 July 2011, Poland for the first time in history has held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Poles believe that the country is likely to seize the opportunities that this Presidency offers. Nearly three quarters of respondents (71%) think that it is going to improve the image of Poland in the EU and the world. Almost two thirds believe (62%) that Poland will increase its impact on EU policy. (CBOS)

June 2011

### Neighbouring Countries' Attitude To Poland

Poles believe that the attitude of most of the neighbouring countries towards Poland is positive. Slovakia and the Czech Republic, Polish Southern neighbours, are in public opinion most friendly towards Poles. About two thirds say that their attitude is positive (64% and 66% respectively). Other CBOS surveys reveal that, compared to other nations, it is the Slovaks and the Czechs that Poles like most. Over half of respondents (57%) think that the attitude of Germany to Poland is good. (CBOS)

June 2011

### Polish-German Relations

In June 2011 it was 20 years since signing the Treaty of Good Neighbourship and Friendly Cooperation between Poland and Germany. The Treaty was a supplement to the Polish - German Border Treaty signed half a year earlier, which confirmed the existing borderline between the two countries. Taking into account past historic tensions, the last twenty years have been a good period in terms of Polish-German relations. Over three quarters of respondents claim that Polish-German relations have improved over the last two decades. (CBOS)

June 2011

### Germany: Four Million Households Switch Energy Provider

In the first half of 2011, around 4.5 million households in Germany switched energy supplier. These are the findings from the new panel survey GfK EnergyTracking, which investigates consumers' supplier changing behavior in the electricity and gas markets on a monthly basis. (GfK)

August 17, 2011

### No Appetite For Any More Bailouts In Eurozone (Multi-country survey)

Bloomberg/YouGov poll shows Europe united in frustration about Eurozone crisis. Germans particularly upset at their government and a majority of Germans want Greece kicked out of Eurozone. (Yougov)

August 15, 2011

### UK: Following the riots in England, concern about crime and anti-social behaviour increases to highest level in two years

The August Economist/Ipsos MORI Issues Index shows that concern about crime has increased by 14 percentage points since July; three in ten (31%) place it amongst the most important issues facing Britain. Those who are more likely to be concerned about crime include those in urban areas (34%), and particularly in London (37%), as well as those aged 55+ (35%) and Conservative voters (36%). (Ipsos Mori)

August 18, 2011

### UK: Despite Protests, Students Are Happy With University

In the wake of student protests, displays of social unrest and questions about the future of young people, universities seem to be weathering the storm. According to the National Student Survey conducted by Ipsos MORI and commissioned by HEFCE 83% of students graduating are satisfied with their course. (Ipsos Mori)

August 17, 2011

### Pessimism Among Public Sector Leaders Over Impact Of Cuts

As the public sector enters a period of financial belt-tightening and difficult decisions, a new poll of leaders drawn from central and local government, non-departmental public

bodies and the health and education sectors by Ipsos MORI reveals deep concern about the impact of the cuts. Budget cuts are – by some distance – seen as the most important issues facing the public sector. Two-thirds of public sector leaders say that these are the most important issue facing their sector (64%). (Ipsos Mori)

August 17, 2011

#### More Underemployed Britons Suffering Than Americans

Suffering among underemployed Britons showed signs of rising before the recent riots in the United Kingdom, according to new Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data. The percentage of underemployed Britons who rated their lives poorly enough to be considered "suffering" increased from 6% to 8% between 2010 and 2011, making them twice as likely to be suffering as Britons in general (4%) and as underemployed Americans (4%). (Gallup USA)

August 19, 2011

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### Parents, Americans Much More Positive About Local Schools

Americans, and parents in particular, evaluate their community schools more positively than in any year since Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK) and Gallup started asking Americans to grade local schools in 1984. An all-time high of 37% of parents give their child's school an A grade, up sharply from 19% in 2007. Just 1% of parents assign a failing grade to their child's school. (Gallup USA)

August 19, 2011

#### Blacks, Whites Differ on Government's Role in Civil Rights

Black and white Americans have starkly different views on the appropriate role of government in dealing with civil rights in this country. A majority of blacks (59%) say that the government should play a major role in improving the social and economic position of blacks, while 19% of whites agree. A little over half of blacks (52%) say that new civil rights laws are needed in this country, while 15% of whites agree. (Gallup USA)

August 19, 2011

#### Education Is a Key Predictor of Emotional Health After 65

Older Americans with a college education are significantly more likely to be emotionally well-off than are people in this age group with less education. Among those aged 65 and older, these results hold even after statistically controlling for gender, race, marital status, employment, satisfaction with standard of living, and regional location. (Gallup USA)

August 19, 2011

#### Energy States Lead in Job Creation, Financial States Struggle

Gallup's Job Creation Index shows that Washington, D.C., as well as energy- and commodity-producing states continue to dominate the 10 best job markets during the first half of 2011, as they did over the same period in 2010. (Gallup USA)

August 19, 2011

#### Women See Value and Benefits of College; Men Lag on Both Fronts

At a time when women surpass men by record numbers in college enrollment and completion, they also have a more positive view than men about the value higher education provides, according to a nationwide Pew Research Center survey. (Pew Research Center)

August 17, 2011

#### Deadly Afghanistan Crash Tops Public's News Interest

News about the crash of a military helicopter in Afghanistan that killed 30 Americans last week refocused public attention on the long-running war there. About a quarter of the public (27%) says they followed news about the troop deaths in Afghanistan – which included members of the elite force that killed Osama bin Laden – more closely than any other news last week, according to the latest weekly News Interest Index survey. (Pew Research Center)

August 17, 2011

#### Americans' Satisfaction With National Conditions Dips to 11%

Americans' satisfaction with the way things are going in the United States has fallen back to 11%, the lowest level since December 2008 and just four percentage points above the all-time low recorded in October 2008. (Gallup USA)

August 18, 2011

#### Most Americans See College as Essential to Getting a Good Job

Most Americans see a college degree as a necessary step toward attaining quality employment. Nearly 7 in 10 U.S. adults (69%) strongly agree or agree that having a college degree is essential for getting a good job in this country, according to a recent study by Gallup and Lumina Foundation for Education. (Gallup USA)

August 18, 2011

#### New Low of 26% Approve of Obama on the Economy

A new low of 26% of Americans approve of President Barack Obama's handling of the economy, down 11 percentage points since Gallup last measured it in mid-May and well below his previous low of 35% in November 2010. (Gallup USA)

August 17, 2011

#### Gallup Finds U.S. Unemployment Up in Mid-August

Unemployment, as measured by Gallup without seasonal adjustment, is 9.0% in mid-August -- compared with 8.8% at the end of July and 9.1% in mid-August 2010. (Gallup USA)

August 17, 2011

#### Perry, Bachmann Generate More Positive Intensity Than Romney

Newly announced presidential candidate Rick Perry and Iowa Straw Poll winner Michele Bachmann generate more intensely positive reactions from Republicans who know them than does front-runner Mitt Romney. Georgia businessman Herman Cain, who finished fifth in the Iowa Straw Poll, has more intense followers than any of these three. (Gallup USA)

August 16, 2011

#### Congressional Job Approval Ties Historic Low of 13%

Americans' evaluation of the job Congress is doing is the worst Gallup has ever measured, with 13% approving, tying the all-time low measured in December 2010. Disapproval of Congress is at 84%, a percentage point higher than last December's previous high rating. (Gallup USA)

August 16, 2011

#### Obama's Weekly Job Approval at 40%, Lowest of Administration

President Obama's job approval rating dropped to 40% during the week spanning Aug. 8-14, the lowest weekly average of his administration. During this period, Obama's three-day rolling average also hit a new low of 39% for Aug. 11-13, the first such average below 40% since he took office, though it recovered to 41% for Aug. 12-14. (Gallup USA)

August 15, 2011

#### Washington, D.C., Extends Its Lead in Economic Confidence

Washington, D.C., led the nation in economic confidence during the first half of 2011 with the only positive Economic Confidence Index score (+11) in the U.S. Its 12-point increase in confidence compared with the same period a year ago expanded its lead. Maryland and Virginia -- states adjacent to the nation's capital -- are also in the top 10 in confidence, as they were in the first half of 2010. Commodity-producing states, including farm and energy states, make up most of the rest of the top 10. (Gallup USA)

August 15, 2011

#### Seven-in-Ten Americans Driving Less Due to High Gas Prices

In the online survey of a representative sample of 1,005 American adults, 68 per cent of respondents acknowledge that recent price increases in gasoline have caused financial hardship for themselves and others in their household. (Angus-Reid)

August 15, 2011

#### Trudeau Still Best Recent PM for Canadians, But Harper Gains Ground

Pierre Trudeau maintains his position as the best Canadian prime minister of the past five decades, but the current head of government has seen his numbers rise in the past year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid)

April 16, 2011

#### Canada: Consumer Confidence Drops Sharply In Wake Of Market Turmoil

18, – week's turmoil in the stock markets has severely shaken Canadian consumers' confidence in the economy, causing a significant drop in the TNS Canadian Consumer Confidence Index. After a slight drop in July (in the wake of the US debt crisis and all-round bad economic news), the Index dropped almost a full two points in August, from 99.7 to 97.6, wiping out any optimism Canadians showed in the economy during the spring and in the wake of the Federal election. (TNS Canada)

August 18, 2011

### **LATIN AMERICA**

#### Dilma Assessment Remains Stable After Seven Months Of Government

After seven months in office, President Rousseff (PT) maintains a stable level of assessment. Datafolha survey conducted between 2 and 5 August 2011 indicates that the government of the PT is considered good or excellent for 48% of Brazilians aged 16 years or more. (Datafolha)

August 08, 2011

#### Former Dominican President Mejía to Win PRD Primaries

According to the results of a nationwide poll conducted last week by regional pollster Asisa Research Group, former President Hipolito Mejia would win the Dominican Revolutionary Party's (PRD) primaries with at least 64% of the vote. (Asisa)

March 03, 2011

### **AUSTRALASIA**

### Attitudes To Asylum Seekers Arriving By Boat In Australia

Almost half of Australian suggest asylum seekers arriving by boat to land in Australia to be assessed' compared to 28% for 'sent to another country to be assessed'. Among those opting for assessment (rather than sending the boats back) an almost two-thirds majority (64%) want asylum seekers held in detention while 32% want them to live in the community. (Neilson)

August 14, 2011

### Internode still tops the Internet Customer Satisfaction

In Australia Internode (93%) and iiNet (90%) continue to maintain their lead, ahead of OPTUSnet (77%). AAPT (72%), Telstra BigPond (72%), dodo (70%), Vodafone (63%) and 3 (62%) all recorded increases in satisfaction but are still slightly lower than the industry average (74%), according to the latest Roy Morgan Internet Service Provider Customer Satisfaction Report. (Roy Morgan)

August 19, 2011

## **CYBER WORLD**

### Americans and Their Cell Phones

Mobile phones have become a near-ubiquitous tool for information seeking and communicating--83% of American adults own some kind of cell phone--and these devices have an impact on many aspects of their owners' daily lives. (Pew Research Center)

Aug 15, 2011

### Twitter Users Blast The London Rioters

Twitter users overwhelmingly focused on the U.K. riots last week, and many of them were highly angered by and critical of the chaos. While much of the mainstream news coverage involved an exploration of the causes of the anger behind the riots, social media users were much more intent on denouncing the destruction that left five people dead, more than 3,100 arrested and an estimated £200 million worth of property damage (Pew Research Center)

Aug 15, 2011

## **SOUTH ASIA**

### **185-43-1. Great Game-Part II.....**

When Hillary Clinton, arguably America's most popular power-woman, visited India recently, there was surprisingly less fuss than all the previous visits the Clintons (Bill, daughter Chelsea and, of course, Hillary) had made to the country had seen. Of course, a special platter was dedicated to Hillary at Bukhara, the fabled restaurant, but by and large the visit of the US secretary of state was unusually low-profile and did not succeed in generating the bytes that it was expected to.

Do you think Hillary Clinton has the political will to pressurize Pakistan on terror?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	25.6
Yes	46.7
No	27.7
Total	100

Base: All Respondents

The timing of the visit itself was crucial. Hillary Clinton was in the country for a new round of talks on the India-US strategic partnership, significant because it came in the aftermath of US President Barrack Obama announcing the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan. Foreign policy watchers were keenly examining it for another reason: There have been reports of the beginning of the American engagement with some Taliban groups and ISI chief Shuja Pasha, in fact, had returned from Washington just before Clinton came calling in the Subcontinent.

Yet, we did not hear enough on the Afghan scenario. While Foreign Minister SM Krishna did briefly remark that continued US pressure on Afghanistan was vital so that “Afghanistan will be in a position to defend itself against terrorism sponsored by the Taliban”, Clinton herself made soothing noises as to the fact that “drawing-down is not disengaging”. But observers have since noted that these bytes were without teeth and the discussion for the most part revolved around the civil nuclear pact and the Mumbai bomb blasts.

With the dilution of provisions in NSG guidelines, do you think India got the short shrift in the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	29.3
Yes	35.4
No	35.3
Total	100

Base: All Respondents

Clinton clarified that the civil nuclear deal between the two countries is not going to be affected by the new Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) guidelines on the enrichment and reprocessing (ENR) technology. She pressed New Delhi to ratify the Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) “within this year”. But while this may yet be, what is seriously disappointing, observers feel, is the way India seems to have been left out in the cold on the critical Afghanistan issue.

On one hand, what the US wants is for India to support and facilitate the US and NATO troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. This cannot materialize, as experts have noted, without Pakistan’s collaboration. But the price that Pakistan wants for its cooperation is to keep India’s influence in Afghanistan at bay. India, on the other hand, has strategic interest in the great game country. For one, there is considerable investment made in the Afghan reconstruction and this needs to be safeguarded. Secondly, there is also the strategic interest in ensuring that a Pakistan-backed



Taliban regime does not return to Kabul which will have serious implications vis-à-vis cross-border terrorism in India.

**With US and allied forces all set to leave Afghanistan, do you think India is prepared to face the consequences?**

	Valid Percent
Can't Say	23.8
Yes	59.1
No	17.1
Total	100

Base: All Respondents

But with the US now reportedly talking to some Taliban groups, India seems to be on a losing wicket in the great game. Some analysts have argued that India should insist on having a future role in Afghanistan by training Afghan security personnel. However, New Delhi has failed to insist on this role and the US for its part has shown little interest, given the fact that this almost certainly will elicit objections from Pakistan. That our own foreign policy mandarin failed to address this biggest Afghan question of them all is a failing. Had more significant steps been taken, Clinton's India tour would undoubtedly have generated much more excitement than it did.

A recent CVOTER survey of 1216 randomly selected respondents across 28 states in India threw some more light on public perception of foreign policy issues and the success of Clinton's visit in regard to these. One of the most important questions asked to the people was whether they believed Clinton (and thus the US) had the political will to pressurize Pakistan on terror. A majority of more than 49 per cent of the respondents saw a positive role for the US in this regard and expressed faith in the current Democratic dispensation pressurizing Pakistan. This, of course, may be when it suits the US's own interests.

**Has America's and NATO's decision to integrate Taliban in government left India in the lurch in Afghanistan?**

	Valid Percent
Can't Say	26.5
Yes	49.6
No	23.9
Total	100

Base: All Respondents

What was surprising but heartening was the perception that with the US troops leaving Afghanistan, India is prepared to face the consequences. Despite experts going to town saying India seems to have been left in the cold, a majority of respondents about 59 per cent had faith in our foreign policy and feel that the country is prepared to face the implications of the US withdrawal. However, a majority of Indian also feel that the US's decision to engage with the Taliban and include them in the government of Afghanistan has left India in a lurch. Almost half the people polled agreed with this view.

Opinion was split, on the other hand, on whether India has got the short shrift in the Indo-US nuclear deal with the dilution of provisions in the NSG guidelines. While a majority of 35.4 per cent agree with this view, an equal number (35. per cent) disagree. Perhaps, we will have to wait a while to really know how that one unfolds.

**Methodology:** National representative sample of 1216 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 28 states in India during 22nd to 25th July 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error  $\pm 3\%$  at national level.

Source: [http://teamevoter.com/2011/newsletter81/newsletter\\_8issue1\\_2011.pdf](http://teamevoter.com/2011/newsletter81/newsletter_8issue1_2011.pdf)

### **185-43-2. Give Peace A Chance.....**

About 86 per cent of Indians polled in a CVOTER survey feel that the peace process with Pakistan should be hastened. Touchingly, almost half believe that Hina Rabbani Khar, the good-looking, young Pakistan foreign minister will positively contribute to this...

Hina Rabbani Khar, the recently-elevated, Western-educated, good-looking Pakistani Foreign Minister may have been in the news for all the wrong reasons on her maiden official trip to India recently, but her visit certainly seems to have lightened

the atmosphere as far as the fraught-with-tension Indo- Pak ties go. Khar caught the eye of the Indian media, the electronic channels in particular, with her sense of style and expensive luxury accessories that accompanied her strictly-correct salwar kameezes. Indeed, it was not her covered head and full sleeves mandatory uniforms given that she represents an Islamic republic that caught public imagination as much as her Birkin bag and elegant pearls.

<b>Will the new Pakistani foreign minister Hina Rabbani Khar be able to provide new momentum to the Indo-Pak peace process?</b>	
	<b>Valid Percent</b>
<b>Can't Say</b>	<b>16.8</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>49.5</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>33.7</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**Base: All Respondents**

As one of the youngest foreign ministers in the world met one of the oldest (SM Krishna), editors and other serious foreign policy watchers noted that while appropriate noises were made, the joint-statement that came out as a result of this high-level engagement was indeed sparse. In fact, Rabbani, despite her degree in economics and that fact that her achievements include presenting (in a stuttering voice) Pakistan's budget, has often been dismissed as a political lightweight. Analysts also point out, and rightly so, that any Pakistan Foreign Minister, does not need to come equipped with too much of a mind of his or her own since it is the country's military bosses and not its elected government that dictates foreign policy in that country. In such a scenario, it is often questioned, what use is it welcoming a mere minister of the neighbouring state with expectations of a serious breakthrough?

But despite the skeptics, one should not discount all symbolism. While no "real" achievement may have been made during the Rabbani visit vis-à-vis India-Pakistan ties that have traditionally been so fraught with tension, what this latest visit seems to have done nonetheless is bring down temperatures and create a more positive environment for peace talks

between the two countries, which routinely view each other with suspicion. India, it may be remembered, had suspended, all diplomatic ties with Pakistan, following the Mumbai attacks a couple of years ago. Foreign Secretary Nirupama Roy's visit to Islamabad earlier this year was one of the first high-level interaction between the two countries. This was followed up by Rabbani's visit to India and now some experts believe that, this in turn, may just pave the way for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Pakistan the first by an Indian premier after Atal Bihari's Vajpayee's historic breakthrough many moons ago.

<b>Should India take steps to hasten the peace process?</b>	
	<b>Valid Percent</b>
<b>Can't Say</b>	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>86.7</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**Base: All Respondents**

India's geographically sensitive location and historically tense ties with its neighbours leave it in a particularly vulnerable state, as we have seen continuously from the terror strikes at different locations in the country. While home grown terror is becoming a reality, what cannot be understressed is Pakistan's role in sponsoring terrorism in the country perhaps as a direct result of its obsession with Kashmir. It is high time that the two countries got over their mutual animosity and mistrust and started focusing on good governance and development for their citizens.

A recent CVOTER survey that polled the opinions of 1337 randomly selected respondents across 28 states in India in July end, seems to have come out with precisely such a message for the political and military leaderships of the two neighbouring countries. Despite our legacy of terror, an overwhelming majority of more than 86 per cent of the people polled believe that India should take firm steps to improve its ties with Pakistan and hasten the peace process in the Subcontinent.

A majority of about half the people polled also believes that, in this context, the new Pakistan foreign minister Hina Rabbani Khar will be able to give a new momentum to the rebuilding of ties between the two countries with her youth and fresh ideas. We don't know whether this will come to pass, but at least, the visit seems to have infused fresh hope within the people.

<b>Do you think the arrest of ISI-backed lobbyist Ghulam Nabi Fai in the US exposed Pakistan's role in Kashmir for good and is a setback?</b>	
	<b>Valid Percent</b>
<b>Can't Say</b>	<b>25.9</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>53.9</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>20.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**Base: All Respondents**

About 53 per cent of the people, meanwhile, also believe that the arrest of Gulam Nabi Fai in the US and his exposure as an agent working for the ISI and trying to illegally influence the Kashmir debate will adversely affect the mutual building of trust between the two countries, and rightly so. Fai, as has since emerged, was close

to various political establishments in Washington, and routinely held seminars and conferences on Kashmir to which speakers from all over the world (including Indian intellectuals) were invited. But as it turns out these activities and other propaganda that he indulged in to push Pakistan's case on Kashmir were all funded by the ISI. Obviously, disclosures such as these and evidence that the ISI has been indulging in blatant anti-India activities will only throw a spanner in the works as far as India-Pakistan ties go.

On the other hand, more than 81 per cent of Indians polled in this survey are of the unanimous opinion that India should take the leadership role in the region that US secretary of state Hillary Clinton mentioned earlier. For the world's largest democracy, currently also its emerging economic superpower, that should be a natural state of affairs.

#### **Methodology:**

National representative sample of 1337 randomly select respondents by CATI across 28 states in India during 2 & 30th July 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +/-3% at national level.

Source: [http://teamevoter.com/2011/newsletter811/newsletter\\_8issue1\\_2011.pdf](http://teamevoter.com/2011/newsletter811/newsletter_8issue1_2011.pdf)

---

### **SOUTH EAST ASIA**

#### **185-43-3. 83% Hopeful Of Peace Between The Government And The Moro Islamic Liberation Front**

August 08, 2011

Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey:

Eighty-three percent of Filipino adults are hopeful of peace between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or MILF, as of the Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, done over June 3-6, 2011.

The 83% consist of 38% answering *very hopeful [talagang umaasa]* and 45% saying *somewhat hopeful [medyo umaasa]* to the question, "Are you very hopeful, somewhat hopeful, somewhat not hopeful, or not hopeful at all that there will be peace between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or MILF?" ["Kayo po ba ay talagang umaasa, medyo umaasa, medyo hindi umaasa, o talagang hindi umaasa na magkakaroon pa ng kapayapaan sa pagitan ng pamahalaan at ng mga rebeldeng Moro Islamic Liberation Front o MILF?"].

The remaining 17% who are not hopeful consist of 8% saying *somewhat not hopeful [medyo hindi umaasa]*, and 9% saying *not hopeful at all [talagang hindi umaasa]* [Chart 1].

The survey found public satisfaction with the National Administration on *Reconciliation with Muslim rebels* higher among those who are very/somewhat hopeful of peace between the government and the MILF than among those who are not.

It also found that among those not hopeful of peace, the most common obstacle cited is that "the peace process has taken too long to resolve".

#### **Hope highest in Mindanao**

Those *very hopeful* of peace between the government and the MILF are 59% in Mindanao, 38% in Visayas, 30% in Balance Luzon, and 25% in Metro Manila.

Those *somewhat hopeful* are 53% in Metro Manila, 52% in Balance Luzon, 42% in Visayas, and 31% in Mindanao.

The remaining 22% in Metro Manila, 19% in the Visayas, 17% in Balance Luzon, and 10% in Mindanao are either *somewhat not hopeful* or *not hopeful at all*.

#### **Higher ratings on Reconciling with Muslim Rebels among those who hope for peace**

Among those *very hopeful* of peace between the government and the MILF, 53% are satisfied with the National Administration on *Reconciliation with Muslim rebels*, 25% are undecided, and 22% are dissatisfied, for a *good* net satisfaction rating of +31 (% satisfied minus % dissatisfied) [Chart 2].

Among those *somewhat hopeful*, the National Administration had a *moderate* net satisfaction rating of +27 (48% satisfied, 21% dissatisfied).

Among those *somewhat not hopeful*, it had a *moderate* net rating of +18 (46% satisfied, 28% dissatisfied).

Among those *not hopeful at all*, it obtained a *neutral* net rating of -5 (36% satisfied, 41% dissatisfied).

The SWS report on public satisfaction with the National Administration on specific issues, which found a moderate net satisfaction rating of +25 on Reconciliation with Muslim rebels, was first reported by *BusinessWorld* on July 25, 2011, and was posted at the SWS webpage ([www.sws.org.ph](http://www.sws.org.ph)) on July 28, 2011.

#### **Biggest obstacles to the peace process**

The 17% *not hopeful* of peace between the government and MILF were then asked, "*In your opinion, what is the biggest obstacle that makes you feel not hopeful that there will still be peace between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or MILF?*" ["*Sa inyong palagay, ano po ang pinakamalaking balakid kung bakit hindi na kayo umaasa na magkakaroon pa ng kapayapaan sa pagitan ng pamahalaan at ng mga rebeldeng Moro Islamic Liberation Front o MILF?*"].

The most cited group of obstacles was "*the peace process has taken too long to resolve*", given by 17% [Table 1].

The next most cited groups are "*ideological differences*", given by 12%, and "*religious differences*", given by 10%.

Groups that obtained single-digit scores are "*the MILF is not following the law*" (9%), "*the MILF is demanding separation*" (9%), "*people make money out of the war in Mindanao*" (6%), "*the Muslim rebels are treacherous*" (5%), "*the government and MILF cannot get along*" (5%), "*the MILF has unmet demands*" (5%), "*the government is incapable and insincere*" (3%), and "*the corruption in government*" (1%).

Four percent gave other reasons, and 15% had no answer.

The verbatim responses are available for review at the SWS Library.

#### **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.

The Social Weather Survey items on the peace process between the government and the MILF, and public satisfaction with the general performance of the National Administration and

its performance on specific issues, are non-commissioned. These items were included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to ***BusinessWorld***.

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

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

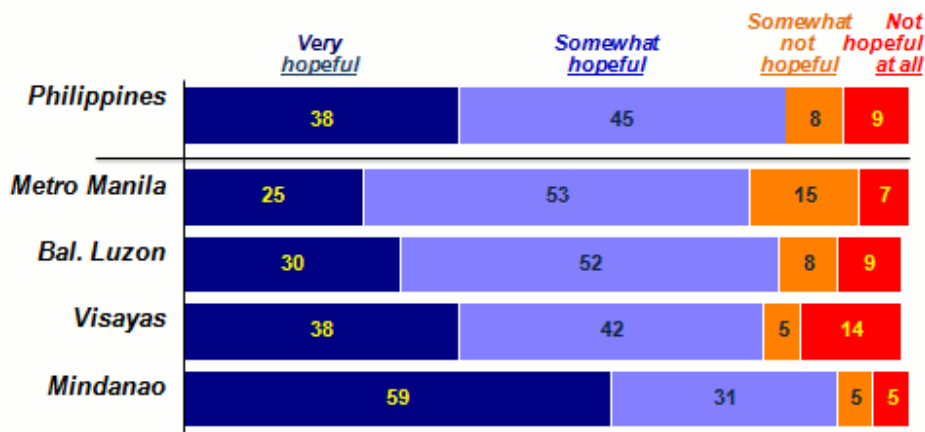
[SWS terminology for Net Satisfaction Ratings: +70 and above, "excellent"; +50 to +69, "very good"; +30 to +49, "good"; +10 to +29, "moderate", +9 to -9, "neutral"; -10 to -29, "poor"; -30 to -49, "bad"; -50 to -69, "very bad"; -70 and below, "execrable"]. A single-digit net satisfaction is considered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

#

**Chart**

**1**

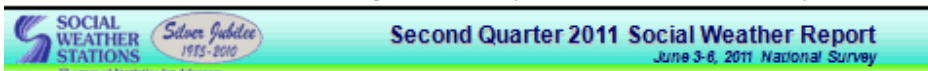
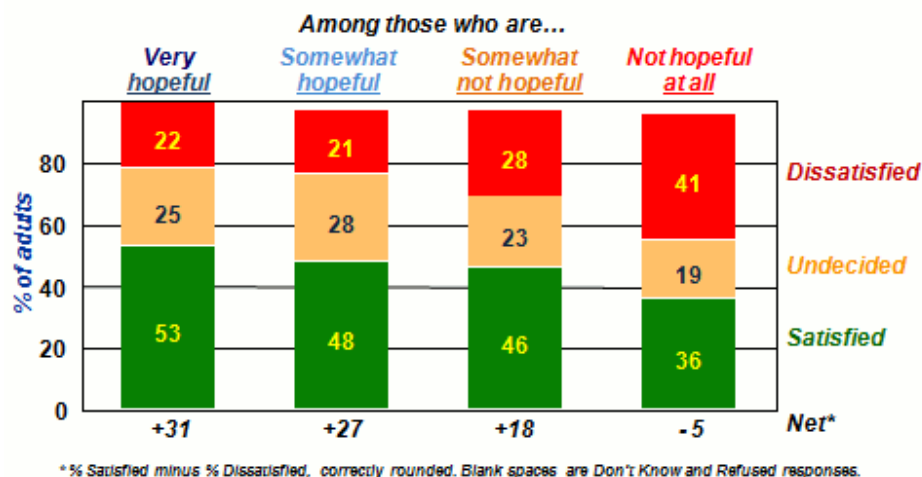
**EXTENT OF HOPE OF PEACE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILF, BY AREA, JUN 2011**



Note: Blank spaces are Don't know responses.  
 Q121. Kayo po ba ay... (TALAGANG UMAASA, MEDYO UMAASA, MEDYO HINDI UMAASA, TALAGANG HINDI UMAASA) na magkakaroon pa ng kapayapaan sa pagitan ng pamahalaan at ng mga rebeldeng Moro Islamic Liberation Front o MILF?

## Chart

**SATISFACTION WITH THE PRESENT NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION ON RECONCILIATION WITH MUSLIM REBELS, BY EXTENT OF HOPE OF PEACE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILF, PHILIPPINES, JUN 2011**

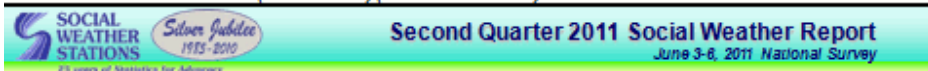


## Table

**BIGGEST OBSTACLE TO PEACE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILF: GROUPED RESPONSES, PHILIPPINES, JUN 2011 (Base: 17% who are not hopeful of peace between the government and the MILF)**

The peace process has taken too long to resolve	17%
There are ideological differences	12
There are religious differences	10
The MILF is not following the law	9
The MILF is demanding separation	9
People make money out of the war in Mindanao	6
The Muslim rebels are treacherous	5
The government and MILF cannot get along	5
The MILF has unmet demands	5
The government is incapable and insincere	3
The corruption in government	1
Others	4
Don't know/None/Undecided	15

Q122. IF SOMEWHAT/NOT HOPEFUL AT ALL (CODES 3-4 IN Q121): Sa Inyong palagay, ano po ang pinakamalaking balakid kung bakit hindi na kayo umaasa na magkakaroon pa ng kapayapaan sa pagitan ng pamahalaan at ng mga rebeldeng Moro Islamic Liberation Front o MILF? (OPEN-ENDED) (ONE ANSWER ONLY)



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

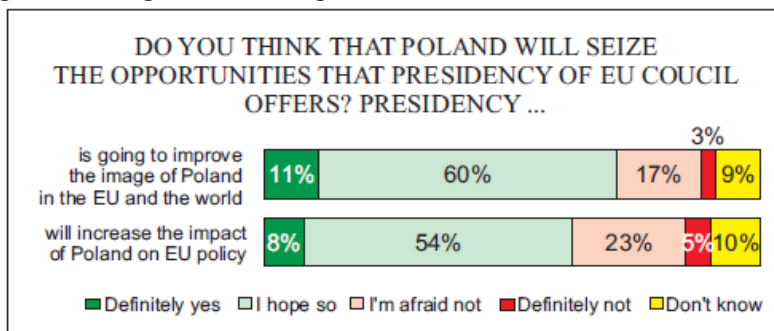
## EAST EUROPE

**185-43-4. Polish Presidency Of The Council Of The European Union**

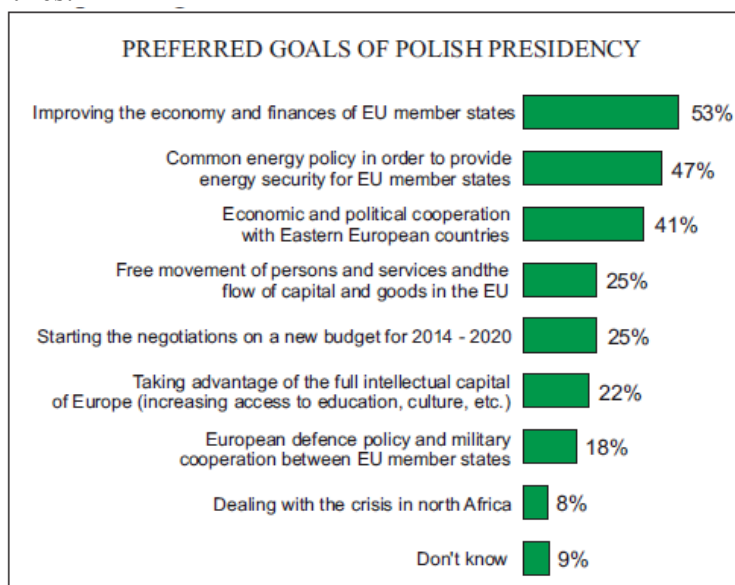


On 1 July 2011, Poland for the first time in history has held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Poles believe that the country is likely to seize the opportunities that this Presidency offers. Nearly three quarters of respondents (71%) think that it is going to improve the image of Poland in the EU and the world. Almost two thirds believe (62%) that Poland will increase its impact on EU policy.

Among Poland's priorities for its Presidency are issues concerning the budget for 2014 - 2020, development of the EU internal market, energy policy, developing Eastern Partnership and strengthening European defence policy. There are also other challenges that Poland is faced with, such as supporting democratic transformations in North Africa and solving the problem of refugees coming from this region.

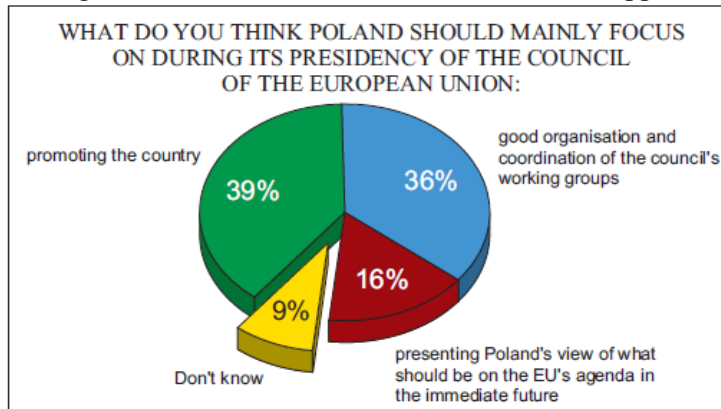


Respondents were presented a list of Polish targets for the Presidency. In public opinion, the most vital issues on the list are economic ones. The majority of people (53%) mentioned the need to boost EU economy and finance as the most crucial targets and a quarter said that it is essential to enhance free movement of persons and services as well as the flow of capital and goods in order to make EU market more competitive. Respondents also believe that one of the most important tasks is to develop a common energy policy to provide energy security for EU member states as well as to tighten economic and political cooperation with Eastern European countries.





Fewer people stated that among the key targets of Polish Presidency should be: starting the negotiations on the budget for 2014 - 2020, taking advantage of the intellectual capital of Europe, developing European defence policy and tightening military cooperation between EU member states. It appears that Poles rely most on NATO in terms of their security, and when it comes to defence regulations within the EU, the issue does not appear to be pressing.



What may seem surprising is that dealing with the crisis in North Africa, and with the so called Arab revolution, was mentioned least frequently as the most significant task of our Presidency. The fact that Poland is not involved in that region in any significant way as well as the large distance separating our country from North Africa is probably the reason why Poles are not vitally interested in how the situation develops in the countries of that region.

What the Presidency of the Council of the European Union mostly involves is chairing and coordinating EU working groups and, only to a small extent, defining the goals for the EU. It also offers an opportunity to promote the country and improve its image. It seems that Poles understand it well and, therefore, expect that during the country's Presidency it will prove itself to be a skilful coordinator rather than the leader of the EU.

In public opinion, the main focus during Poland's Presidency should be on promoting the country in the EU (39%) and on successful management of the Council's works (36%). Fewer people believe that the country ought to present its view of what should be on the EU's agenda. (16%).

Poles are realists and do not expect that the Presidency of the Council of the European Union will allow Poland to influence EU policy to a great extent. The majority (77%) think that regardless of which country holds the Presidency, the greatest influence over EU policy still have the biggest member states, such as Germany, France and Great Britain.

Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2011/06\\_2011.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2011/06_2011.pdf)

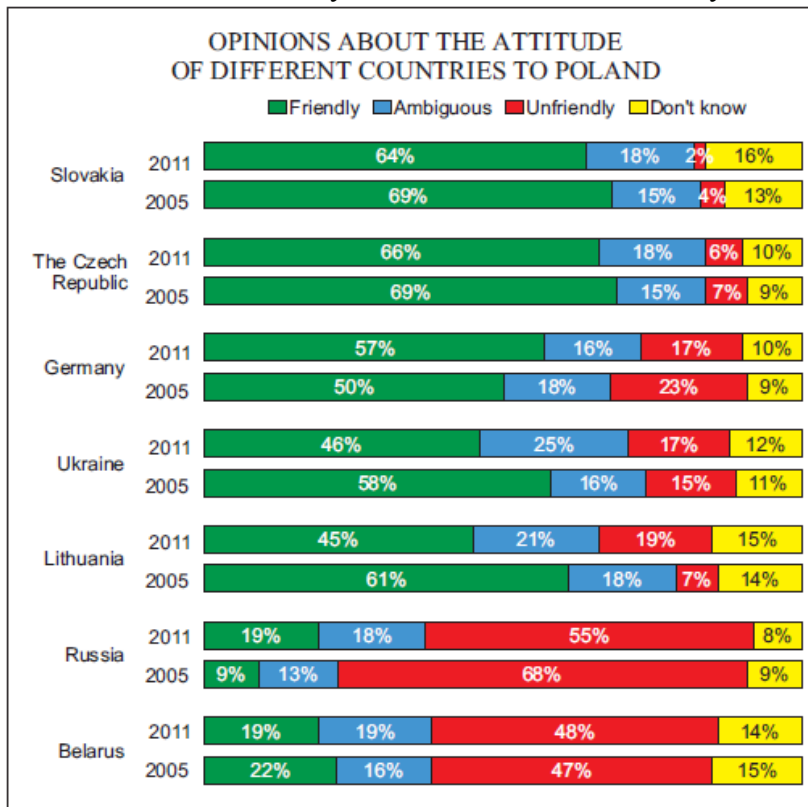
#### **185-43-5. Neighbouring Countries' Attitude To Poland**

Poles believe that the attitude of most of the neighbouring countries towards Poland is positive. Slovakia and the Czech Republic, Polish Southern neighbours, are in public opinion most friendly towards Poles. About two thirds say that their attitude is positive (64% and 66% respectively). Other CBOS surveys reveal that, compared to other nations, it is the Slovaks and the Czechs that Poles like most. Over half of respondents (57%) think that the attitude of Germany to Poland is good.

The number of people who see the attitude of Lithuania and Ukraine as positive is nearly the same. Almost half of respondents claim that these countries' approach is friendly (45% and 46% respectively).

More than half of respondents (55%) claim that Russia's attitude to Poland is negative. Belarus is also thought to be ill disposed towards Poland (48%).

The comparison of present attitudes to Poland with opinions from 2005 reveals that opinions about Slovakia and the Czech Republic are stable, the attitude of Germany has improved and opinions about the approach of Lithuania and Ukraine have deteriorated. In case of Lithuania, considerably more people speak now of negative feelings towards our country than in 2005. What might have contributed to this state are conflicts over Polish minority rights in Lithuania (e.g. the fact that Polish diacritics cannot be used in documents) and a general deterioration in Polish-Lithuanian relations. The attitude of Ukraine to Poland is now less frequently assessed as positive and more frequently as ambiguous - neither good nor bad. It is connected with a shift of power that has taken place over that time in Ukraine. The previous survey was conducted shortly after the success of Orange Revolution, which was supported by Poles, and after pro-Western candidate Viktor Jushchenko was chosen the President of Ukraine. Conversely, the last research was done when Victor Janukovych was the head of this country.



In the last six years, the perceived attitude of Belarus to Poland has not changed. However, with regard to Russia we may see improvement. There are visibly more people who now believe that this country's attitude to Poland is friendly and fewer of those who think it is not. Still, the negative view of Russia's attitude to Poland prevails.

Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2011/06\\_2011.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2011/06_2011.pdf)

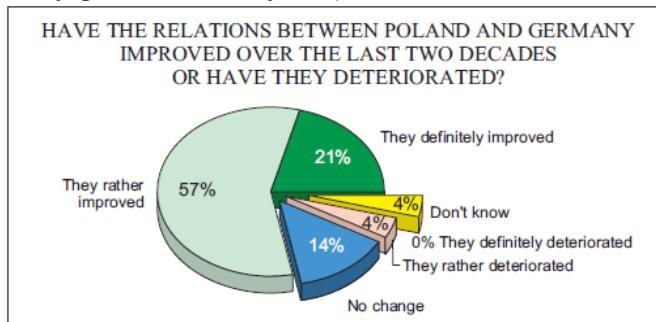
### **185-43-6. Polish-German Relations**

In June 2011 it was 20 years since signing the Treaty of Good Neighbourship and Friendly Cooperation between Poland and Germany. The Treaty was a supplement to the Polish - German

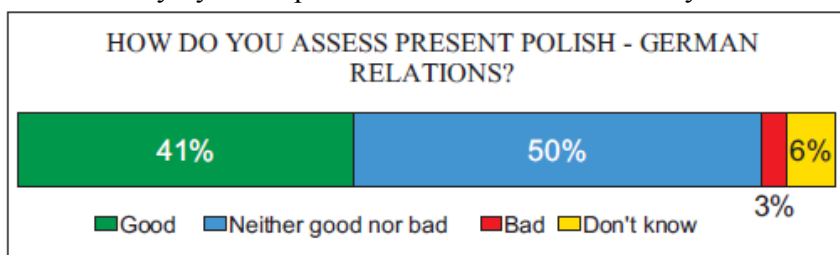
Border Treaty signed half a year earlier, which confirmed the existing borderline between the two countries. Taking into account past historic tensions, the last twenty years have been a good period in terms of Polish-German relations. Over three quarters of respondents claim that Polish-German relations have improved over the last two decades.

More than four out of five Poles believe that the relations between Poland and Germany can exist on a friendly and equal footing. Only one in eight believe that such relations are not feasible.

Yet, Polish - German relations still need attention from both Poland and Germany as there are fewer people who claim these relations are good than those who think they are average (neither especially good nor clearly bad).



In public opinion, it is still mainly historical events, especially the Second World War, that is an incentive to conflicts between Poland and Germany. Respondents listed different issues connected with World War II as the principal difficulties in Polish - German relations. This question in the survey was an open one and thus respondents could form their thoughts on their own, without any suggestions from a pollster. Most people mentioned the issue of expelling people and these people's claims for restoration of property and compensation claims filed against Poland. They also frequently mentioned in this context the name of Erika Steinbach - the president of the Federation of Expellees in Germany. Some people spoke generally about claims filed by Germany against Poland. Their answers are in a separate category since property claims were laid not only by the expelled and their heirs but also by the so called late repatriates.

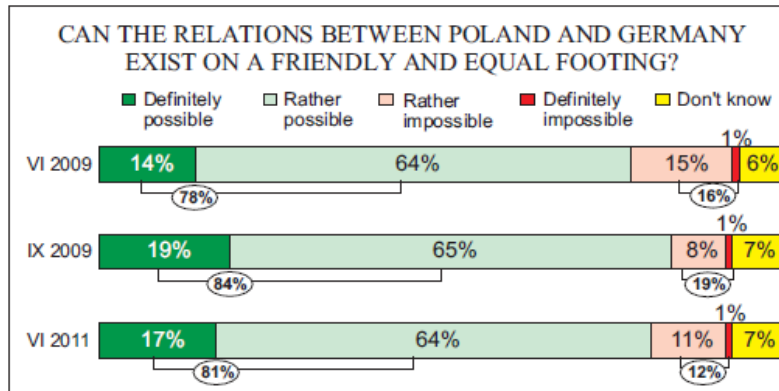


The fears as to the inviolability of the Oder-Neisse borderline between Germany and Poland and the integrity of Poland have not yet entirely subsided - they are infrequent, yet still noticeable. Other historical issues were raised sporadically. The surveyed people mentioned such problems as the lack of war reparations to Poland, faulty terminology for Nazi concentration camps in Poland and a general German tendency to weaken this country's responsibility for the war and its consequences. Some people mentioned troubles with paying compensations for Polish victims of Nazi regime.

Among present-day problems, definitely the most contentious issue is the building of the Nord Stream pipeline that threatens Polish energy security. People also mentioned difficulties on the job market resulting from Polish workers' migration to Germany. Respondents also referred to

the recent lifting of restrictions on the employment of Poles in Germany - on the whole it was perceived as a right step that came too late. The surveyed people also pointed to the need of economic cooperation between Poland and Germany and sometimes they drew attention to the fact that our neighbour is economically superior to Poland.

Some respondents mentioned problems of Polish community abroad (respondents most often used the term "Polish minority in Germany" although Poles are not regarded as a minority in this country).



There were also some general complaints made about the bad attitude of Germans towards Poles - according to these respondents Germans look down on Poles and perceive them as worse.

Over two fifths of respondents (41%) were not able to name any issue that might, in their opinion, cause serious problems in Polish - German relations and one in twenty (5%) claim that such problems do not exist. The fact that nearly half of respondents were not able to list any contentious issues might be treated as a positive sign which indirectly confirms that Polish - German relations are perceived as positive or, at least, correct.

Source: [http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public\\_opinion/2011/06\\_2011.pdf](http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2011/06_2011.pdf)

## **WEST EUROPE**

### **185-43-7. Germany: Four Million Households Switch Energy Provider**

*Findings of GfK EnergyTracking for the first half of 2011*

Nuremberg, August 17, 2011 – In the first half of 2011, around 4.5 million households in Germany switched energy supplier. These are the findings from the new panel survey GfK EnergyTracking, which investigates consumers' supplier changing behavior in the electricity and gas markets on a monthly basis.

According to the survey, consumers' affinity to switch suppliers is significantly more pronounced for electricity than gas. Since the liberalization of the electricity and gas markets, competition to win favor with consumers has become much more intense, and is today primarily carried out via the internet. The competitive environment has fundamentally changed; entry barriers have dropped and pricing battles are increasingly determining the market.

The consequences of this are extremely positive for consumers as they have the freedom to choose from a wide range of different suppliers, pricing models and tariff options. The findings of the GfK EnergyTracking consumer panel, which was launched at the beginning of 2011, show that consumers now take full advantage of the opportunities to change. In this respect, switching to a completely new supplier seems to be far more appealing for many energy customers than simply swapping to a different tariff.

At present, those tariffs that offer a fixed energy price for a certain length of time are especially popular. Around 70% of consumers who switched in the first half of 2011 opted for a fixed-price tariff of up to 12 months. In addition, numerous energy suppliers offered switchover bonuses; more than half of all energy consumers received a one-off bonus in euros when they changed supplier.

#### ***Price is not always the only argument***

When competing for customers, it is not only the price that counts. A change in consumers' motivations for switching became especially evident following the nuclear crisis in Japan. After the disaster, green power tariffs, in particular, experienced a sharp surge, although the latest data suggest this will not necessarily be sustainable. The characteristic consumer switching to green energy is under the age of 39, has an above-average salary, is more likely to live in a city and extensively researches different tariffs and suppliers before making a final decision.

Here, specifically smaller suppliers with a focus on green energy can benefit, and have already registered both greater consumer perception and an increase in the number of new contracts. In contrast, large and established energy suppliers are struggling with image problems and above all, major corporations have reported an exodus of private customers in recent months.

#### ***Internet is the number one information source***

When researching the best supplier, the internet has emerged as the number one information source. One in two customers making a switch look first at energy portals and suppliers' websites for information. However, the internet is not only an information platform, as two thirds of switchover contracts are completed directly with the new provider online. In addition, tariff calculators make it much easier to switch: enter an energy consumption estimate and the postcode, and the system generates a selection of the cheapest suppliers.

#### ***They survey***

Since January 1, 2011, GfK Panel Services has been conducting monthly interviews with 20,000 households on their behavior in the electricity and gas market in Germany in terms of made or planned supplier and contract changes. In addition, GfK can combine GfK EnergyTracking with information from the GfK Media Efficiency Panel on the complete media usage behavior of consumers and with individual target groups.

#### ***The GfK Group***

The GfK Group offers the fundamental knowledge that industry, retailers, services companies and the media need to make market decisions. It delivers a comprehensive range of information and consultancy services in the three business sectors Custom Research, Retail and Technology and Media. The No. 4 market research organization worldwide operates in more than 100 countries and employs over 11,000 staff. In 2010, the GfK Group's sales amounted to EUR 1.29 billion.

Source: [http://www.gfk.com/group/press\\_information/press\\_releases/008503/index.en.html](http://www.gfk.com/group/press_information/press_releases/008503/index.en.html)

#### ***185-43-8. No Appetite For Any More Bailouts In Eurozone***

15 August 2011

*Bloomberg/YouGov poll shows Europe united in frustration about Eurozone crisis. Germans particularly upset at their government and a majority of Germans want Greece kicked out of Eurozone.*

In a Bloomberg/YouGov pan-European poll of eurozone members Germany and France and non-eurozone members Britain and Denmark released today, the European public reported

dissatisfaction with government action in the crisis and many want to eject Greece from the eurozone.

#### ***Government support***

Germans are particularly harsh on their government's performance giving low marks for the actions of the Merkel government (15% approve; 75% disapprove) and the information given about the crisis (19% approve; 75% disapprove). In the 3 other countries polled, only Denmark supported its government's actions (39% approve; 36% disapprove). France (35% approve; 47% disapprove) and Britain (33% approve; 41% disapprove) were not as supportive.

#### ***More bailouts to save the eurozone?***

As to whether bailouts should again be used -- even if they were necessary to keep the eurozone intact -- sentiment was united in opposition. Germans (20% saying yes; 59% saying no), Britons (13% yes; 65% no), and French (27% yes; 47% no) were strongly opposed, while only Denmark showed less strong opposition (32% yes; 42% no).

"The worry for investors is the uncertainty around whether the ECB will support further bailouts," said Michael Nardis, Head of YouGov Investment Products. "Public sentiment is overwhelmingly against any more bailouts, particularly given the rest of Europe's anger directed at Greece, making this an increasingly combustible situation. Investors should consider putting some discount factor on the likelihood of further bailouts given the political climate."

#### ***Anger toward Greece; less toward other PIIGS***

Furthermore, over half of the German public and nearly half of the French, British and Danish public want to boot Greece out of the eurozone. 58% of Germans, followed by 45% of French, 45% of Britons, and 43% of Danes support ejecting Greece from the common currency.

When asked about the remaining PIIGS, respondents were much more supportive, as Portugal, Ireland, Italy, and Spain received at least 75% support across all 4 countries questioned.

#### ***France & Germany not ready to leave the euro; joining unattractive to Britain & Denmark***

While there is significant support for expelling Greece from the common currency, euro stalwarts France and Germany remain supportive of the euro itself. Only 31% of French supported withdrawing from the eurozone (while 53% supported staying in it). In Germany, 44% supported dropping the euro to 48% who supported keeping the euro.

Outside the eurozone, Britons and Danes remain opposed to joining the eurozone (only 9% of Britons approve to 85% disapproving; 37% of Danes want to join to 61% disapproving). This is among the lowest support YouGov has recorded for the euro.

"Despite the sentiment about bailouts, French and German citizens are still supportive of remaining in the common currency," said Nardis. "While this crisis has done nothing to attract British or Danish support for the euro, investors should have confidence in the short-run that a complete breakdown of the eurozone appears unlikely. However, they should continue to monitor German public support – which is wavering."

#### ***Notes to editors:***

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Fieldwork was undertaken 9th – 12th August 2011. The survey was carried out online. In each geography, a nationally representative sample of YouGov panellists, aged 18 +, were interviewed online. In Great Britain, 2700 adults were interviewed. In Denmark, 1007 adults were interviewed. In France, 1014 adults were interviewed. In Germany, 1061 adults were interviewed from 10th – 11th



August and 1041 adults were interviewed from 11th – 12th August (for the question on dropping/retaining the euro).

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

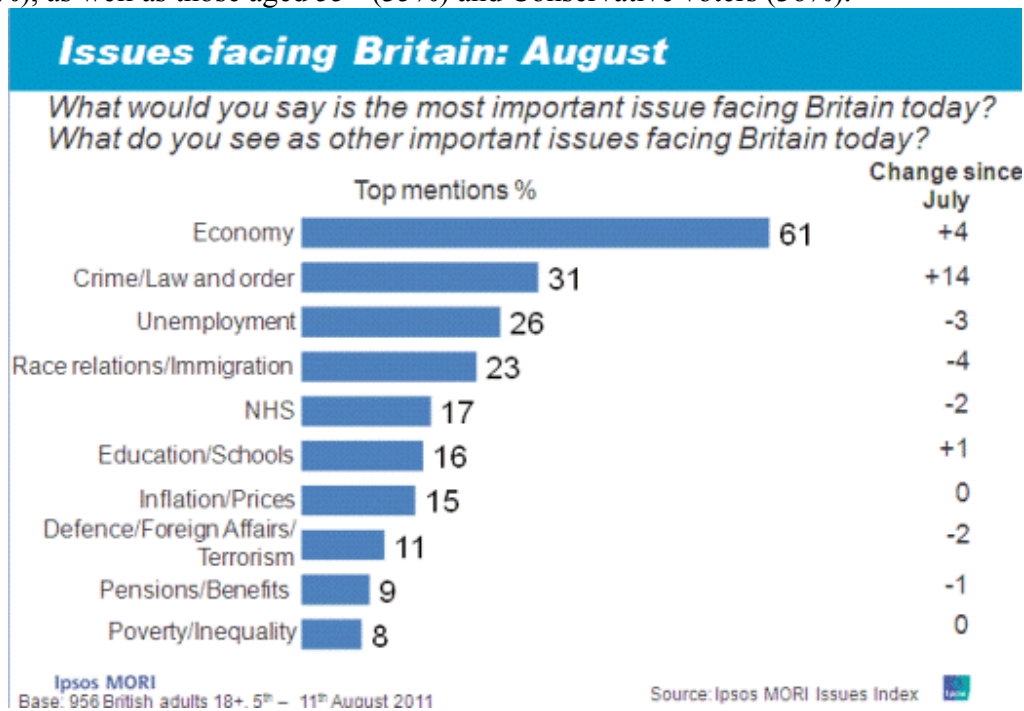
**185-43-9. Following the riots in England, concern about crime and anti-social behaviour increases to highest level in two years**

*Concern about the economy also increases following economic turmoil in the US and the Eurozone*

Economist/Ipsos MORI Issues Index August 2011

**Date:** 18 August 2011

The August Economist/Ipsos MORI Issues Index shows that concern about **crime** has increased by 14 percentage points since July; three in ten (31%) place it amongst the most important issues facing Britain. Fieldwork for this survey started on Friday 5th August, the day before the riots in Tottenham, and finished on Thursday 11th August. Those who are more likely to be concerned about crime include those in urban areas (34%), and particularly in London (37%), as well as those aged 55+ (35%) and Conservative voters (36%).



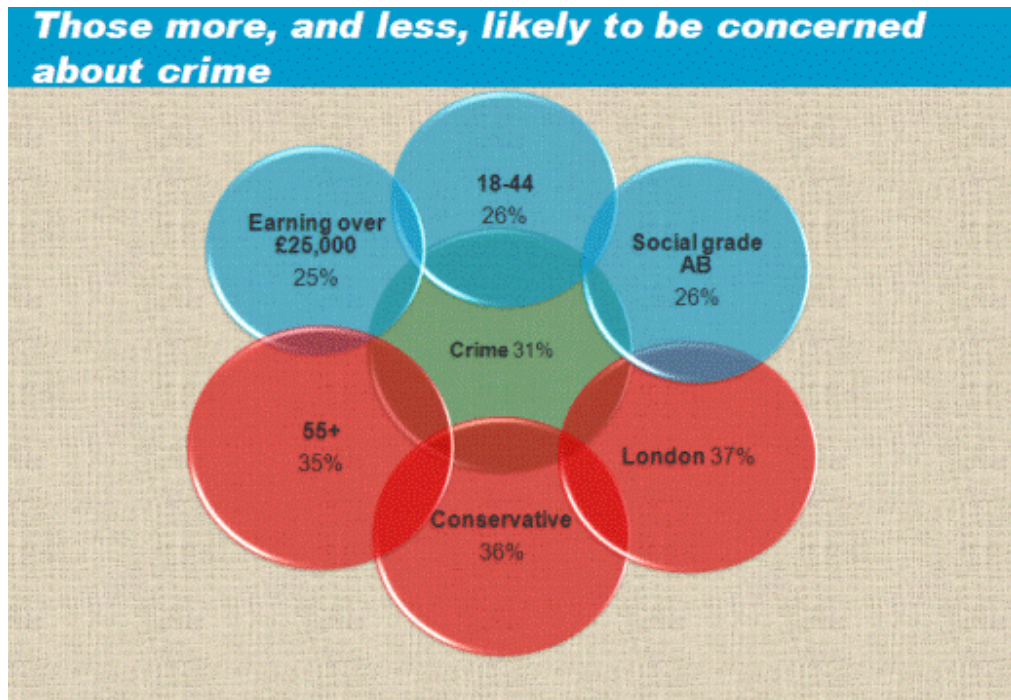
This is the highest concern about crime since August 2009 and the biggest month-on-month increase since August 2007, when it peaked at 55% following the murder of Rhys Jones and Garry Newlove. However, concern has been gradually declining over the last few years and despite the big increase this month fewer are now concerned about crime than throughout 2008.

The most important issue facing the country remains the **economy** (61%), however, which has also increased this month by four percentage points following concerns about sovereign debt in the US and Europe.

A quarter of the public (26%) is concerned about **unemployment**, rising to 31% of those aged 18-34, 33% of Londoners, and 43% of respondents from minority ethnic backgrounds.

A similar percentage (23%) are concerned about **race relations/immigration**, an issue that has fallen 8 percentage points since June.

By contrast, only 1% place the **phone hacking** scandal amongst the most important issues facing the country.



#### Technical note

Ipsos MORI's Issues Index is conducted monthly and provides an overview of the key issues concerning the country. Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 956 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. The questions are spontaneous - i.e. respondents are not prompted with any answers. Ipsos MORI's Capibus vehicle was used for this survey. Interviews were conducted face-to-face in-home between 5th- 11th August 2011 at 156 sampling points across Great Britain. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/latestnews/837/EconomistIpsos-MORI-Issues-Index-August-2011.aspx>

#### **185-43-10. Despite Protests, Students Are Happy With University**

**Date:** 17 August 2011

In the wake of student protests, displays of social unrest and questions about the future of young people, universities seem to be weathering the storm. According to the National Student Survey conducted by Ipsos MORI and commissioned by HEFCE 83% of students graduating are satisfied with their *course*.

Whether higher tuition fees will affect future surveys remains to be seen, but amongst today's graduates only 9% were dissatisfied with their course and all categories saw satisfaction levels improve or match their 2010 level.

The news was good for lecturers too, as almost 4 in 5 students said they were satisfied with the academic support they received and 84% happy with the teaching.



This year's NSS surveyed over a quarter of a million students representing 65% of final year undergraduates, the largest in 7 years. With university becoming a rite of passage, the NSS can only grow in importance as a crucial barometer for university performance and informing student choices.

Sami Benyahia, NSS Director at Ipsos MORI, said:

“A degree is now more important than ever in widening career opportunities. Tuition fees have yet to stem the appetite for higher education and at the moment students appear satisfied with the quality of their course. Faced with a multitude of options, institutions and teaching styles, the NSS allows students to make genuine choices and compare universities on the issues that matter to them. For universities it allows them to assess their own strengths and weaknesses and hopefully improve education standards and attract more students.”

The National Student Survey is an annual survey conducted by Ipsos MORI and commissioned by HEFCE on behalf of the other funding bodies. These figures come from the latest survey of around 267,000 university final year undergraduates around the UK in 2011. A summary of results is shown in a table below. More details are available on our website [www.ipsos-mori.com/nss](http://www.ipsos-mori.com/nss) or on the Unistats web-site ([www.unistats.com](http://www.unistats.com)) which gives data on all students in the survey.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/latestnews/834/Despite-protests-students-are-happy-with-University.aspx>

---

### **185-43-11. Pessimism Among Public Sector Leaders Over Impact Of Cuts**

Date: 17 August 2011

As the public sector enters a period of financial belt-tightening and difficult decisions, a new poll of leaders drawn from central and local government, non-departmental public bodies and the health and education sectors by Ipsos MORI reveals deep concern about the impact of the cuts.

Budget cuts are – by some distance – seen as the most important issues facing the public sector. Two-thirds of public sector leaders say that these are the most important issue facing their sector (64%).

More specifically, nearly two-thirds of senior managers and directors within the public sector (63%) do not think that the government's policies will improve the state of public services in the long term, and concern is particularly pronounced within the health and education sectors.

However, while there is clear unease at the pace of change within the public sector, there is support for the substance of the government's proposed reforms. Overall, leaders are split on whether they agree with the government's objectives and priorities for their sectors (38% of those who believe they understand the government's objectives agree, 35% disagree), but underlying this there is a great deal of support for greater public control of services and more autonomy for local providers. Indeed, seven in ten leaders think that people and local service providers should have more control over how public services are provided locally (70% and 73% respectively).

There is also some support for the government's flagship Big Society idea: those who think it will be a good thing for their sector outnumber those who think it will be a bad thing by three to one, although a similar proportion think it will make no difference. (Though it should be noted that fieldwork took place before the riots in England and the greater prominence this has given to plans to fix Britain's 'broken society'.) The local government sector, central to the success of the concept, is the most supportive of the Big Society (46% of those who say they know of the Big Society think it will be a good thing). This suggests that the government may yet find itself able

to bring along public service leaders in its drive to implement wide-ranging reforms amid economic gloom.

However, support for the government's ideas varies within the public sector. Although those in local government have embraced the principle of local control (82% think that local service providers should have more control), a significant minority of central government leaders (22%) remain unconvinced that local service providers should have more control over how public services are provided locally.

**Helen Cleary, Head of Political Research at Ipsos MORI said:** "While there is clearly support for many of the principles underlying the government's reforms, as the spectre of cuts hardens into reality and continues to dominate the minds of leaders it will remain difficult to convince them that public services can emerge unscathed."

#### **Technical details**

The Ipsos MORI Public Sector Leaders Survey is an omnibus survey of chief executives, directors and senior managers in the public sector. The Summer 2011 survey is based on a total of 338 respondents from five sectors (base sizes in brackets): central government (51), local government (100), education (52), health (102) and non-department public bodies (33). Fieldwork took place using computer-aided telephone interviewing (CATI) between 27 June and 22 July 2011. The data has not been weighted.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/latestnews/835/Pessimism-among-public-sector-leaders-over-impact-of-cuts.aspx>

#### **185-43-12. More Underemployed Britons Suffering Than Americans**

*Underemployed more likely to be angry, worried, sad, and stressed*

August 19, 2011

LONDON -- Suffering among underemployed Britons showed signs of rising before the recent riots in the United Kingdom, according to new Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data. The percentage of underemployed Britons who rated their lives poorly enough to be considered "suffering" increased from 6% to 8% between 2010 and 2011, making them twice as likely to be suffering as Britons in general (4%) and as underemployed Americans (4%).

*Britons' Life Evaluations in 2010 vs. 2011*

% Suffering

	May-June 2010	March-June 2011
All Britons	4%	4%
Underemployed*	6%	8%

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

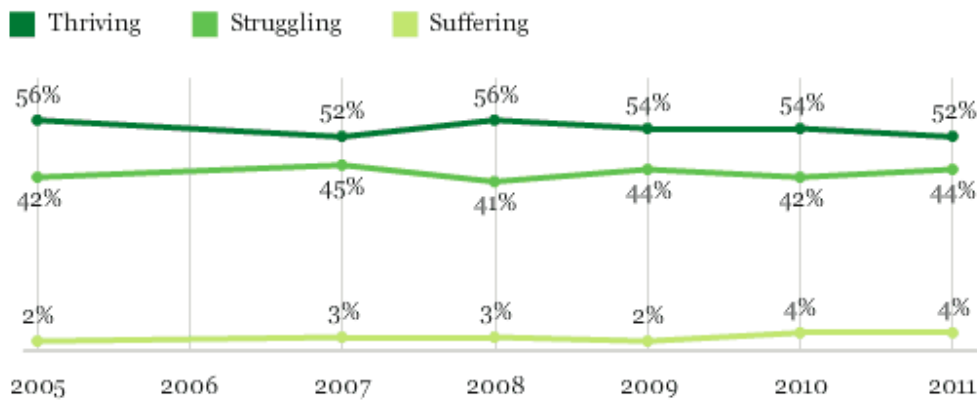
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

#### **GALLUP**

The Life Evaluation Index, a component of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, asks Britons to evaluate their current lives as well as their expectations of where they will be in five years using the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale from 0 to 10, with "0" indicating the worst possible life and "10" the best possible life. Britons who say they presently stand on steps 0 to 4 of the ladder and expect to stand on steps 0 to 4 five years from now are classified as "suffering." The slight uptick in suffering among underemployed Britons may reflect their increasing

pessimism as unemployment started to rise again this year and the government instituted new austerity measures.

*Britons' Life Evaluations Over Time*



Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

**GALLUP**

Suffering Britons also express hardship in more specific ways. Those who are suffering tend to report higher levels of anger, worry, and sadness than Britons whose are "struggling" or "thriving." Gallup finds this same tendency among Americans, as well as other populations it has studied.

*"Suffering" Britons More Likely to Experience Negative Emotions*

Did you experience the following feelings during a lot of the day yesterday?

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering
Stress	26%	37%	54%
Worry	20%	35%	52%
Sadness	12%	25%	49%
Anger	11%	18%	27%

Based on data collected in the United Kingdom from 2005 to 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

**GALLUP**

Underemployed Britons, whom Gallup defines as adults who are unemployed or who work part time but desire full-time work, are also more likely than employed Britons to experience many of these same negative emotions.

### *Underemployed Britons More Likely to Experience Negative Emotions in 2011*

	<b>Underemployed*</b>	<b>Employed**</b>
Stress	36%	29%
Worry	34%	23%
Sadness	25%	13%
Anger	17%	11%

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

\*\*Employed full time or part time and do not want full-time work

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

#### GALLUP

##### **Implications**

The suffering among underemployed Britons and the negative emotions that tend to accompany this state of wellbeing suggest there may be some validity to British Prime Minister David Cameron's argument that sections of British society are "broken" and "sick." As the government attempts to address the causes of the recent riots, the data suggest that in addition to the reported societal elements that were a precursor to the riots, legislators should also give weight to economic drivers and job creation.

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

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

##### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey March 1-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 3,933 adults, aged 18 and older, living in in the United Kingdom, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 2.1$  percentage points. The sample included 317 underemployed adults.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 5 cell phone respondents and 29 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within the regions. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, education, region, adults in the household, and cell phone status. Demographic weighting targets are based on the most recently published population data from the Census Bureau for Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, and Wales. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

Results for earlier survey data are based on telephone interviews with approximately 1,000 British adults, aged 18 and older, conducted yearly in 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the

maximum margin of sampling error is between  $\pm 3.3$  percentage points and  $\pm 3.8$  percentage points. The 2010 survey included interviews with 116 underemployed adults.

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149099/Underemployed-Britons-Suffering-Americans.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149099/Underemployed-Britons-Suffering-Americans.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing)

---

## NORTH AMERICA

### **185-43-13. Parents, Americans Much More Positive About Local Schools**

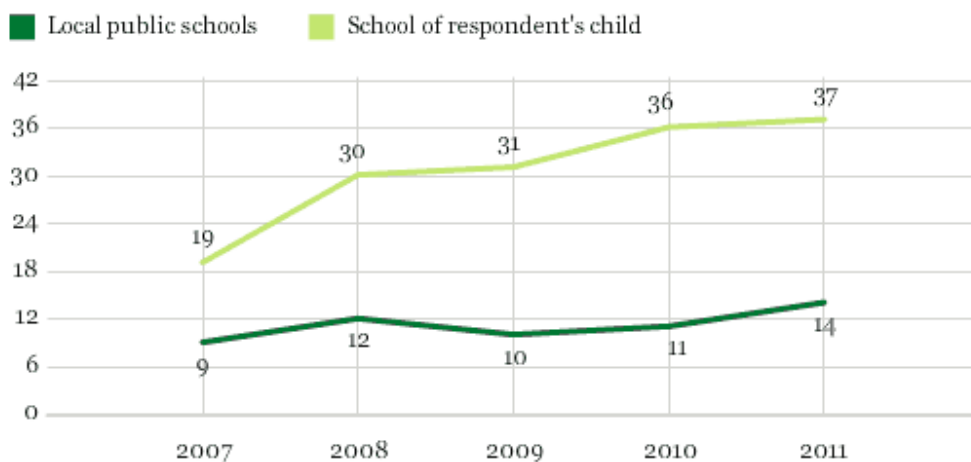
*Americans continue to grade nation's schools much more negatively than local schools*

August 19, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans, and parents in particular, evaluate their community schools more positively than in any year since Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK) and Gallup started asking Americans to grade local schools in 1984. An all-time high of 37% of parents give their child's school an A grade, up sharply from 19% in 2007. Just 1% of parents assign a failing grade to their child's school.

#### *The Public's Views of Local U.S. Schools*

Percentage of respondents giving an "A" grade



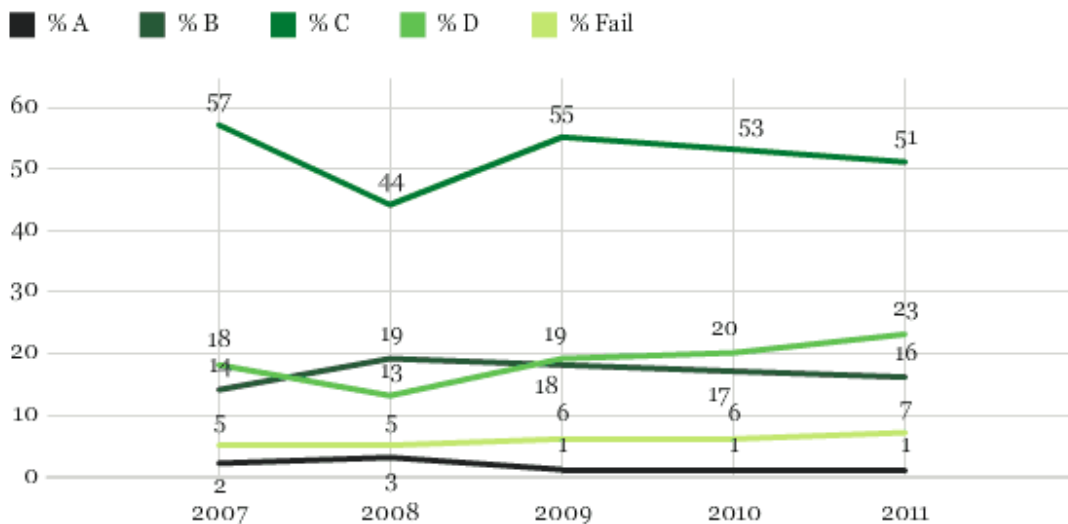
#### GALLUP

The percentage of Americans giving the schools in their community an A is also the highest on record, at 14%. Only 5% of Americans consider their community schools to be failing. Younger Americans (aged 18 to 39) give better grades to local schools than older Americans (aged 40 and older).

Americans continue to give the nation's schools much lower grades than the local schools, as they have since 1984. Only 1% give the nation's schools an A. Furthermore, the overall percentages of A's and B's have declined since 2008, while the percentages of D's and failing grades are increasing, in contrast to the increasingly positive evaluations of local schools.

*How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally -- A, B, C, D, or Fail?*

National totals



#### GALLUP

To better understand the disparity between how Americans grade their community schools versus how they grade the nation's schools, Gallup described the trend (local schools being rated more positively than nation's schools) to respondents and then asked, "Why do you think that is?" Respondents stated that knowledge about the local schools (43%) and pride in their community (17%) influenced Americans' grades. Some (6%) said Americans assigned low grades for the nation's schools based on negative media information. A relatively large percentage of Americans (15%) either couldn't or wouldn't answer the question.

Last year, Gallup asked Americans, "What are the main things a school has to do before it can earn an A?" Thirty-four percent mentioned "improving the quality of teaching." This too may be contributing to positive perceptions of local schools versus those across the nation, given that people tend to know and respect their local teachers. However, general confidence in the nation's teachers does not translate to high grades for the nation's schools.

*Americans tend to grade the public schools in their community higher than the public schools in the nation as a whole. Why do you think this is?*

	%
Familiarity/Knowledge about immediate community/local schools	43
Pride of their community/local pride/no one wants to look bad	17
Bad/Negative press/media/information about other schools	6
Overpopulated demographic areas/poverty/language barriers/have insufficient budgets	5
Community/Parental involvement in local schools is better	5
Neither is better -- local or national	2
Have the best/better qualified teachers	2
National union influence is bad	1
Bad national government involvement/reflects negatively	1
Sufficient money is budgeted for local schools	1
Other	2
None	1
Don't know	15
Refused	0

National totals, 2011

#### GALLUP

##### **Bottom Line**

This year's PDK/Gallup Poll highlights the growing disparity between Americans' negative perceptions of the nation's schools as a whole (with only 1% giving an A grade) versus their positive perceptions of their local schools. Americans say knowledge of and pride in local schools contributes to the difference in perceptions.

##### **Survey Methods**

Results for this PDK/Gallup poll are based telephone interviews with 1,002 adults nationally, aged 18 and older randomly selected from the Gallup Panel, conducted June 4-13, 2011. Gallup Panel members are recruited through random sampling methods. The sample included an oversample of Panel members who reported having a child aged 5 to 18 in the household. The sample is weighted to be demographically representative of the U.S. adult population and to represent the proper proportion of parents with children between ages 5 and 18.

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149093/Parents-Americans-Positive-Local-Schools.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149093/Parents-Americans-Positive-Local-Schools.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

#### ***185-43-14. Blacks, Whites Differ on Government's Role in Civil Rights***

*All Americans see progress in civil rights in their lifetime*

August 19, 2011



PRINCETON, NJ -- Black and white Americans have starkly different views on the appropriate role of government in dealing with civil rights in this country. A majority of blacks (59%) say that the government should play a major role in improving the social and economic position of blacks, while 19% of whites agree. A little over half of blacks (52%) say that new civil rights laws are needed in this country, while 15% of whites agree.

*How much of a role, if any, do you think the government should have in trying to improve the social and economic position of blacks and other minority groups in this country -- a major role, a minor role, or no role at all?*

	Major role %	Minor role %	No role %
National adults	27	46	26
Blacks	59	32	8
Whites	19	50	30

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

GALLUP®

*Do you think new civil rights laws are needed to reduce discrimination against blacks, or not?*

	Yes, new laws needed %	No, not needed %	No opinion %
National adults	21	76	2
Blacks	52	48	1
Whites	15	83	3

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

GALLUP®

Civil rights in this country is a news topic again as the dedication for the new Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial in Washington, D.C., is approaching on Aug. 28 -- the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech. King in his lifetime was a passionate advocate for government actions to improve the lot of blacks in this country.

A majority of blacks in America today still agree that such government actions are needed, but whites do not share these views -- exemplifying a tension in opinions about the appropriate role of government that has become a dominant motif of today's political debates.

#### **Fewer Americans See Government Role for Civil Rights**

More generally, 27% of Americans -- comprising all races and ethnic backgrounds -- believe that the government should play a major role in improving the social and economic position of blacks and other minority groups, down significantly from 40% in 2004 and 37% in 2005. Almost half of Americans agree that the government should play a minor role. Both blacks and whites, on a relative basis, are less likely now than they were six and seven years ago to say that government should play a major role in improving blacks' social and economic position.

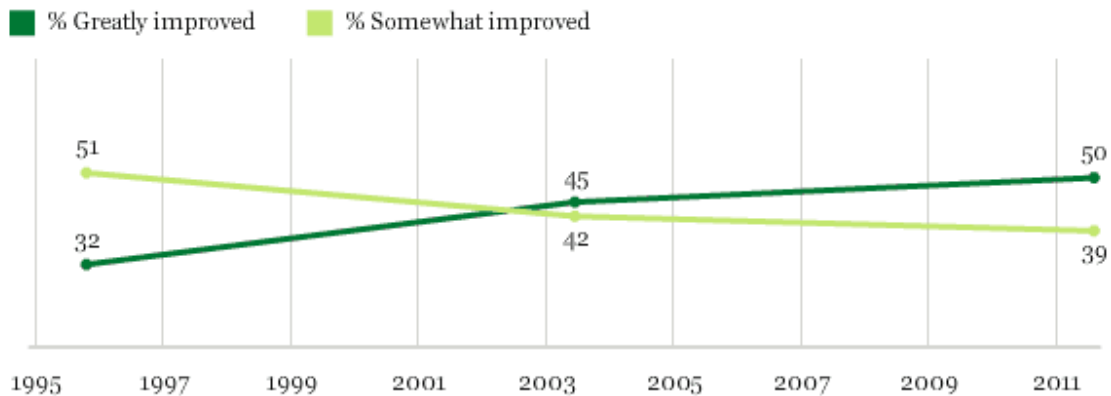
Similarly, the percentage of all Americans who say that new civil rights laws are needed to reduce discrimination against blacks has dropped to 21% now from 38% in 1993, with similar changes among whites and blacks.

#### **Americans More Positive About Civil Rights Situation Today**

Almost 9 in 10 Americans, regardless of their position on the need for more government intervention in the civil rights arena, say that civil rights for blacks have improved at least somewhat in their lifetime, and the percentage saying that civil rights have "greatly" improved is up 18 percentage points since 1995.



*Thinking back over your lifetime, how do you feel civil rights for blacks have changed in this country -- would you say the situation has greatly improved, somewhat improved, stayed pretty much the same, somewhat worsened, or greatly worsened?*



**GALLUP**

On this measure, blacks are less positive than whites, mainly when it comes to the distinction between "greatly" and "somewhat" improved civil rights. More than half of whites say civil rights have greatly improved in their lifetime, while blacks tilt more toward the "somewhat" improved position. Blacks' views on this issue have not changed substantively since 1995, while whites have become more positive.

*Thinking back over your lifetime, how do you feel civil rights for blacks have changed in this country -- would you say the situation has greatly improved, somewhat improved, stayed pretty much the same, somewhat worsened, or greatly worsened?*

	Greatly improved	Somewhat improved	Stayed the same	Somewhat worsened	Greatly worsened
	%	%	%	%	%
National adults	50	39	8	1	2
Blacks	29	56	9	4	2
Whites	53	37	8	1	1

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

**GALLUP**

Perhaps as would be expected, Americans older than 50 are the most likely to say that civil rights have improved greatly in their lifetime. Fifty-nine percent of Americans aged 50 to 64, who would have come into adulthood in the 1960s and 1970s, say that civil rights for blacks have improved greatly, while 53% of those now aged 65 and older agree. On the other hand, 32% of 18- to 29-year-olds agree that civil rights have improved greatly in their still-young lifetime.

**Bottom Line**

Some 43 years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., there is no consensus among Americans that government should play a major role in improving the situation of blacks

and minorities in this country or that new civil right laws are needed. At the same time, half of Americans agree that civil rights for blacks in this country have greatly improved in their lifetime.

Blacks and whites maintain starkly differing views on these race relation issues. In particular, blacks are much more likely to believe that the government should play a major role in civil rights and that new civil rights laws are needed. These differences suggest that to some degree the separate but equal societies continue to exist in this country -- at least as far as views of the government's role in addressing civil rights issues are concerned.

### **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 the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling. This 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 376 non-Hispanic blacks, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 6$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 796 non-Hispanic whites, the maximum margin of sample error is  $\pm 5$  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/149087/Blacks-Whites-Differ-Government-Role-Civil-Rights.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/149087/Blacks-Whites-Differ-Government-Role-Civil-Rights.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

---

### **185-43-15. Education Is a Key Predictor of Emotional Health After 65**

*Men more likely to be emotionally healthy, Hispanics are least likely*  
August 19, 2011

*This is part two in a special series about emotional health and aging in America. Part one examined the relationship between age and emotional health. Other articles will explore the factors that best predict better emotional health among those aged 65 and older.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Older Americans with a college education are significantly more likely to be emotionally well-off than are people in this age group with less education. Among those aged 65 and older, these results hold even after statistically controlling for gender, race, marital status, employment, satisfaction with standard of living, and regional location.

*College-Educated Older Americans Have Higher Emotional Health Index Scores*

Among adults aged 65 and older

	<b>% with Emotional Health Index score above 90</b>
High school or less	30
Some college	39
College degree	43
Post-graduate	46

Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

**GALLUP**

The emotionally well-off are defined as individuals whose scores on the Gallup-Healthways Emotional Health Index are above 90, out of a maximum of 100. The Emotional Health Index is based on a comprehensive measure of emotional wellbeing asking Americans 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. Among those aged 65 and older, 35% score above 90.

**Men Do Well, Hispanics Suffer, and Marital Status Means Little**

Older men are slightly more likely than older women to score above 90 on this composite measure of emotional wellbeing, even after statistically keeping all other variables constant. Among racial and ethnic groups, older Hispanics are the least likely to have Emotional Health Index scores above 90, and this difference persists after holding all other variables constant.

Being married does not appear to improve older Americans' emotional health. The apparent lack of a "marriage advantage" may be explained, at least in part, by the fact that marital status alone does not take into account the quality of the relationship or other related factors.

## *Emotional Health Index Higher Among Men, Lower Among Hispanics*

Among adults aged 65 and older

	<b>% with Emotional Health Index score above 90</b>
Men	37
Women	34
Married	38
Widowed	31
Single/Separated/ Divorced/Domestic Partner	30
Asian	38
Black	36
White	35
Other	33
Hispanic	25

Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

### GALLUP®

#### **Bottom Line**

Older Americans with a college education have higher Emotional Health Index scores than do people in this age group who have less education, even after controlling for various factors. The results do not indicate whether a given demographic characteristic, such as having a college education, leads to higher emotional wellbeing or whether individuals with a propensity to be emotionally positive are more likely to pursue more education. As Americans clearly understand the practical benefits of a college degree, the results suggest the advantages of a college degree extend well beyond one's professional life and potential income. As such, education may provide individuals with skills and knowledge critical to managing their emotions in later years.

In addition, the Emotional Health Index scores reveal that on the surface being married is not necessarily emotionally beneficial to those aged 65 and older. Further, the results indicate that widows and widowers are not emotionally worse off than others, suggesting that the loss of a spouse in one's older years may not be as devastating as one would think. At the same time, the length of marriage, quality of the relationship, and other related factors may be more important to emotional health than the mere fact of being married.

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

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

*Frank Newport contributed to this article.*

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 520,267 adults, aged

18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Margins of error for subgroups have a maximum margin of sampling error of  $\pm 3$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone 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/149084/Education-Key-Predictor-Emotional-Health.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149084/Education-Key-Predictor-Emotional-Health.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing)

---

### **185-43-16. Energy States Lead in Job Creation, Financial States Struggle**

*The finance states of the Northeast and housing states of the West have the worst job markets*

August 19, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Gallup's Job Creation Index shows that Washington, D.C., as well as energy- and commodity-producing states continue to dominate the 10 best job markets during the first half of 2011, as they did over the same period in 2010.

*Top 10 States,  
Gallup Job Creation Index*

	<b>Index score</b>
North Dakota	32
District of Columbia	27
West Virginia	26
Alaska	22
Oklahoma	21
Iowa	20
Delaware	20
South Carolina	20
Nebraska	19
Georgia	18

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

These results are based on aggregated data from nearly 100,000 interviews with employed adults during the first half of 2011, conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking. Gallup asks those who are employed whether their companies are hiring workers and expanding the size of their labor forces, not changing the size of their workforces, or laying off workers and reducing their workforces. The figures reported here represent the net difference between the percentage reporting an expansion and the percentage reporting a reduction in their workforces.

The energy-producing states of North Dakota, Oklahoma, and West Virginia have been in the 10 "best state job markets" for the past 3 ½ years, from 2008 to mid-2011. They are joined by the District of Columbia -- a federal government-based job market -- and Iowa, a farm commodity and energy state, both of which were also in the top 10 in 2010. New to the top 10 job market states during the first half of 2011 are Delaware and the three farm commodity states of South Carolina, Nebraska, and Georgia.

Job market conditions improved during the first half of 2011, with Gallup's Job Creation Index at +13 nationwide, compared with +7 for all of 2010. While 8 states that are in the bottom 10 during the first half of 2011 were also in that group during the first half of 2010, the average score of the bottom 10 states has improved markedly. The Western states of Oregon and New Mexico fell into the bottom 10 job markets this year. See complete results for each state on page 2 of this report.

**Job Creation and Economic Confidence Only Sometimes Related**

Although jobs are important to every state economy, being a top 10 state job market doesn't necessarily translate into being a top 10 state in economic confidence. Four of the top 10 state job markets during the first half of 2011 are also in the top 10 in economic confidence: the District of Columbia, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa. Similarly, 4 states in the bottom 10 job markets are also in the bottom 10 in economic confidence: Nevada, Idaho, Maine, and Rhode Island.

*Bottom 10 States,  
Gallup Job Creation Index*

	<b>Index score</b>
Oregon	4
Nevada	5
New Jersey	6
New Mexico	7
New Hampshire	7
Rhode Island	7
California	7
Maine	8
New York	8
Idaho	8

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

On the other hand, Delaware and West Virginia are in the top 10 job markets but simultaneously in the bottom 10 in economic confidence. None of the bottom 10 job states are in the top 10 in economic confidence.

### **Job Market Outlook**

One key to a high state ranking in job creation in recent years has been for a state's economy to be based on energy and/or farm commodities. The same has been true for many countries around the world as the growing global economy, particularly in Asia, has greatly increased the demand for such energy/commodities. In turn, this suggests that one thing the U.S. could do to stimulate job growth going forward would be to place more emphasis on expanding the nation's energy and commodity sectors.

However, some signs in the current data suggest this may no longer be the case, at least on an across-the-board basis. The fallout from the Gulf oil spill and the increase in environmental regulations may lessen, rather than increase, the nation's ability to leverage its enormous natural resources. The combination of these factors may partly explain why Texas and Louisiana dropped out of the top 10 job creation states during the first half of 2011.

Further, the global economy is slowing, not only in the U.S. but also in Europe and Asia. Although the price of energy and other commodities is no longer necessarily a result of supply and demand alone -- but instead is acting as a store of value similar to gold and other precious metals for investors -- a decline in global demand is likely to reduce job growth in the energy- and commodity-producing states.

At the same time, new financial industry regulations as well as financial problems in Europe suggest little job growth in the financial sector. The housing sector has a long way to go before returning to growth, given the overhang of foreclosures. Even the federal government may not grow jobs as it has in the past, as efforts are made to cut federal spending.

Overall, Gallup's Job Creation Index results suggest that job market conditions improved during the first half of 2011 compared with a year ago, but not enough to create significant job growth. Whether even this anemic job performance on the part of the U.S. economy will continue during the remainder of 2011 seems far from certain. Similarly uncertain is the ability of a select number of states to continue strongly outperforming the national average, particularly in a slowing global economy.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews with 98,755 employed adults, aged 18 and older, conducted January through June 2011 as part of Gallup Poll Daily tracking. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 1$  percentage point.

The margins of sampling error range from  $\pm 1$  percentage point for large states such as California to  $\pm 8$  percentage points for the District of Columbia.

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/149072/Energy-States-Lead-Job-Creation-Financial-States-Struggle.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/149072/Energy-States-Lead-Job-Creation-Financial-States-Struggle.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

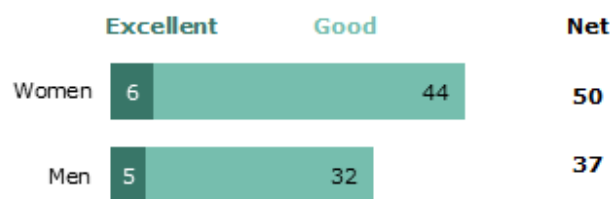
**185-43-17. Women See Value and Benefits of College; Men Lag on Both Fronts, Survey Finds**

August 17, 2011

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**How College Graduates Grade the Higher Education System**

*% rating the job the higher education system is doing in providing value for the money spent by students and their families as ...*



Note: Based on four-year college graduates, n=757.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

At a time when women surpass men by record numbers in college enrollment and completion, they also have a more positive view than men about the value higher education provides, according to a nationwide Pew Research Center survey. Half of all women who have graduated from a four-year college give the U.S. higher education system excellent or good marks for the value it provides given the money spent by students and their families; only 37% of male graduates agree. In addition, women who have graduated from college are more likely than men to say their education helped them to grow both personally and intellectually.

Also, while a majority of Americans believe that a college education is necessary in order to get ahead in life these days, the public is somewhat more inclined to see this credential as a necessity for a woman than for a man. Some 77% of respondents say this about women, while just 68% say it about men.<sup>1</sup>

This new survey of a nationally representative sample of 2,142 adults ages 18 and older was conducted at a time when women are outpacing men by significant numbers in college enrollment and completion. In 2010, a record 36% of women ages 25-29 had attained a bachelor's degree. This compares with 28% of men in the same age group. Until roughly 1990,



young men had outpaced young women in educational attainment. Women surpassed men in 1992, and since that time the gap has continued to widen.

There are also racial and ethnic patterns underlying these gender trends. Among young adults, whites are more likely than blacks or Hispanics to complete college. In 2010, 39% of whites ages 25-29 had at least a bachelor's degree. That compares with 19% of blacks and 13% of Hispanics. Asian-Americans are more likely than any of these racial or ethnic groups to graduate from college—53% of those ages 25-29 had at least a bachelor's degree in 2010.

Across all of these racial and ethnic groups, young women are more likely than young men to be college-educated. The gender difference in completion rates is reflected in the makeup of college graduates. Among all college graduates ages 25-29 in 2010, 55% were women and 45% were men. The gap was largest within the black community, where 63% of college-educated young adults were women and only 37% were men.

Data for this report come mainly from a Pew Research Center survey and Pew Research calculations of the educational data from the Current Population Surveys (CPS). The Pew Research survey was conducted by landline and cellular telephone March 15-29, 2011, among a nationally representative sample of 2,142 adults living in the continental United States.

### **Other Key Findings**

- Women seem to see more benefit in their college education than do men. College-educated women are more likely than their male counterparts to say college was “very useful” in increasing their knowledge and helping them grow intellectually (81% vs. 67%), as well as helping them grow and mature as a person (73% vs. 64%).

- More women than men question the affordability of college. Only 14% of women who graduated from college agree that most people can afford to pay for college these days. This compares with 26% of male college graduates. Large majorities of both women and men say that college is no longer affordable for most people.

- Women who graduated from college are more likely than their male counterparts to report that their parents financed their education. Four-in-ten women say their parents paid for most of their college expenses, compared with 29% of men.

- Public reactions to the changing gender patterns in higher education are mixed. By a ratio of 52% to 7%, Americans say the fact that more women than men are graduating from college is a good thing, rather than a bad thing, for society. However, when presented with the flip side of the story, the public's enthusiasm disappears. Some 46% of Americans say the fact that fewer men than women are graduating from college is a bad thing, while just 12% say it is a good thing.

### **About the Survey**

This report is based on findings from a recent Pew Research Center survey as well as analyses of Current Population Survey (CPS) data on education trends.

**The general public survey (GP)** is based on telephone interviews conducted with a nationally representative sample of 2,142 adults ages 18 and older living in the continental United States, including an oversample of 336 adults ages 18-34. A total of 1,052 interviews were completed with respondents contacted by landline telephone and 1,090 with those contacted on their cellular phone. The data are weighted to produce a final sample that is representative of the general population of adults in the continental United States. Survey interviews were conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International in English and Spanish.

- Interviews conducted March 15-29, 2011
- 2,142 interviews
- 757 respondents with a four-year college degree or higher education
- Margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.7 percentage points for results based on the total sample and 4.6 percentage points for college graduates at the 95% confidence level

**Notes on Terminology**

Unless otherwise noted, “college graduates” refers to those who graduated from a four-year college and hold a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Whites include only non-Hispanic whites. Blacks include only non-Hispanic blacks. Hispanics are of any race.

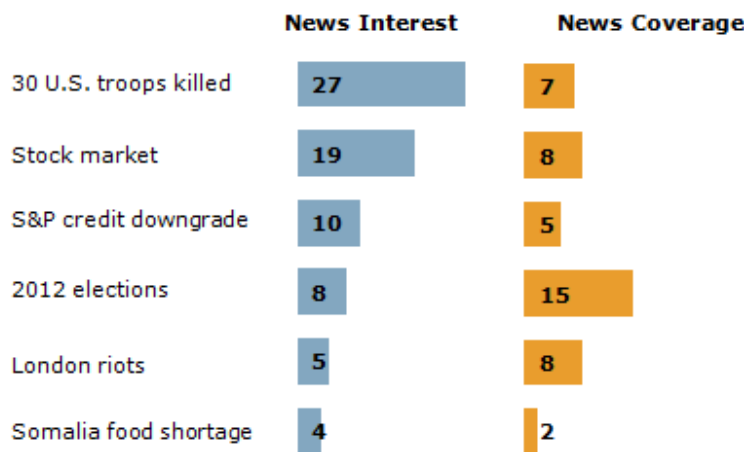
Source: <http://pewsocialtrends.org/2011/08/17/women-see-value-and-benefits-of-college-men-lag-on-both-fronts-survey-finds/?src=prc-headline>

**185-43-18. Deadly Afghanistan Crash Tops Public's News Interest**

**Most Angered by Economic News**

August 17, 2011

**News Interest vs. News Coverage**



News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, August 11-14, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, August 8-14, 2011.

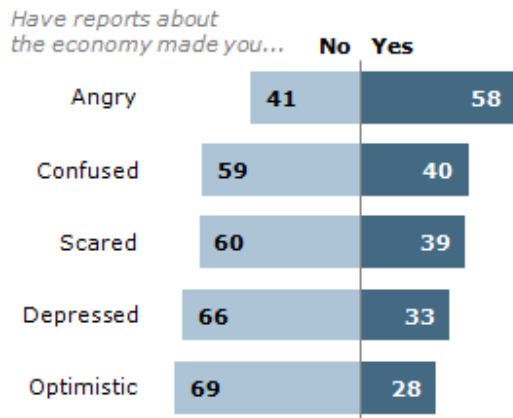
News about the crash of a military helicopter in Afghanistan that killed 30 Americans last week refocused public attention on the long-running war there.

About a quarter of the public (27%) says they followed news about the troop deaths in Afghanistan – which included members of the elite force that killed Osama bin Laden – more closely than any other news last week, according to the latest weekly News Interest Index survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Aug. 11-14 among 1,005 adults.

Economic story lines also captured the public’s attention. About two-in-ten (19%) say they followed news about the ups and downs in the stock market most closely, while another 10% say news about the downgrade in the government’s credit rating was their top story.

Together, the economic stories garnered significantly more coverage than the helicopter crash. News about Afghanistan accounted for 7% of coverage, according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). News about the economy made up 32% of coverage; 8% of the total dealt with the dramatic swings in world stock markets, 5% dealt specifically with Standard & Poor's decision to downgrade the U.S. credit rating and the remainder dealt with the economy's troubles more generally.

### Economic News Angers Americans



PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 11-14, 2011.

Nearly six-in-ten Americans (58%) say reports about the economy make them feel angry, higher than the 49% that said this in November 2008 as the economic crisis worsened. Much larger numbers of independents and Republicans say this than in 2008; the percentage of Democrats who feel this way is largely unchanged.

Among the public, about four-in-ten say reports about the economy make them feel confused (40%) or scared (39%). A third say the news makes them feel depressed (33%). Those numbers are little changed from three years ago. About three-in-ten (28%) say the reports make them feel optimistic; 69% say they do not make them feel that way. Again, those numbers are little changed since 2008.

### Troop Deaths Rekindle Public Attention to Afghanistan

In recent years, the public has paid relatively modest but steady attention to developments in the long-running war in Afghanistan. Between 20 and 30 percent typically say they are following news about Afghanistan very closely. However, interest tends to spike at critical points, such as last week's deadly downing of a Chinook helicopter by Taliban forces.

About four-in-ten (39%) say they very closely followed news about the 30 Americans killed in the helicopter attack. That is the highest level of interest in news about Afghanistan since President Obama announced in late 2009 that he would boost troop levels there and then start a drawdown in 2011.

---

## Attention to Key Events of War in Afghanistan

	% following very closely
<b>30 U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan (Aug 2011)</b>	<b>39</b>
General McChrystal resigns after criticizing Obama's Afghanistan strategy (June 2010)	28
Obama sends more U.S. troops to Afghanistan (Dec 2009)	43
U.S. military effort in Afghanistan (Jan 2002)	51
U.S. military effort in Afghanistan (Oct 2001: Start of the war)	51

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 11-14, 2011

At that time, 43% said they followed the story very closely. Still, Obama's announcement was not the public's top story that week. While 20% said they followed the Afghanistan news most closely, more (29%) said the ongoing debate over health care legislation in Washington was their top story.

Comparable numbers of Republicans (42%), Democrats (37%) and independents (40%) say they followed news about last week's deaths very closely. There also is little difference in attentiveness based on gender, education or household income level.

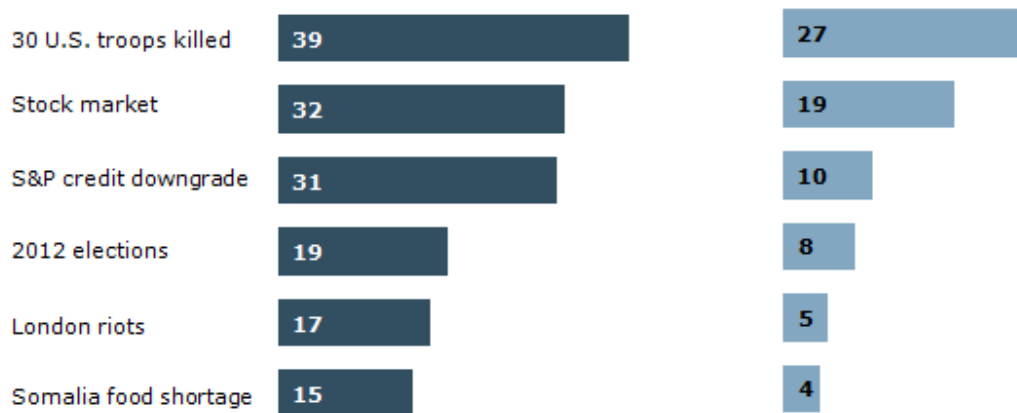
About three-in-ten each say they very closely followed news about recent ups and downs in the stock market (32%) and S&P credit rating downgrade (31%). Partisans are about equally likely to say they followed both stories very closely.

---

## News Interest

*% following each story very closely*

*Which one story did you follow most closely?*



PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 11-14, 2011.

About two-in-ten (19%) say they followed news about candidates for 2012 presidential election very closely. That is little changed from recent weeks despite increased coverage as the Iowa straw poll approached and Texas Gov. Rick Perry prepared to enter the race. Fewer than one-in-ten (8%) cited campaign news as their top story. There are only slight partisan differences in attentiveness to news about the 2012 candidates. News about the candidates accounted for 15% of coverage, up sharply from 2% the previous week.

The riots in London and other parts of Great Britain attracted modest attention, with 17% saying they followed this news very closely and 5% saying this was the news they followed most closely. The unrest accounted for 8% of coverage.

Similar numbers tracked news about the severe food shortages and famine in Somalia; 15% say they followed this story very closely, while 4% say this was the news they followed most closely. News about the situation in Somalia accounted for 2% of coverage.

### Anger over Economic News

#### More Feel Angered by Economic News

	<b>Nov 08</b>	<b>Aug 11</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	
Total	49	58	+9
Men	48	56	+8
Women	50	60	+10
18-29	40	45	+5
30-49	50	58	+8
50-64	51	66	+15
65+	57	63	+6
College grad+	48	55	+7
Some college	52	52	0
HS or less	48	63	+15
<i>Family inc.:</i>			
\$75,000+	49	56	+7
\$30k-\$74,999	51	62	+11
<\$30k	46	58	+12
Republican	49	61	+12
Democrat	55	56	+1
Independent	42	62	+20
<i>Among Rep/ Lean Rep:</i>			
Tea Party	--	72	
Not Tea	--	57	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
August 11-14, 2011.

————— About six-in-ten (58%) say that when they hear news about the economy, it makes them angry. That's up from 49% in mid-November 2008, as the economic downturn worsened and shortly after Barack Obama won the presidential election.

Six-in-ten Republicans (61%) say news about the economy makes them angry, up 12 points from when the question was asked in late 2008. That jumps to 72% among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party.

Six-in-ten independents say the same (62%), up from 42% in 2008. Perceptions among Democrats have not changed (56% now say economic news makes them angry; 55% said this in 2008).

While there is little difference in perceptions among various income brackets, the increases since 2008 are somewhat larger among those with household incomes of less than \$75,000. Currently, 56% of those earning \$75,000 or more and 58% of those earning less than \$30,000 say the economic news makes them angry. That's up 12 points since 2008 among those earning less than \$30,000 a year and 7 points for those earning at least \$75,000.

### **Deficit Most Visible Economic Problem**

#### **Far More Hearing about Deficit than other Economic Problems**

<i>What one economic or financial problem have you heard the most about in the news recently?</i>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>%</b>
Deficit/Debt/Gov't spending	32
Jobs/Unemployment	14
Stock market	13
Credit rating downgrade	7
Housing/Foreclosures	4
Health care/Medicare/Medicaid	3
Gas prices/Oil prices	2
Social Security	2
Recession/Depression	2
Inflation/Cost of living/Food	2
Taxes	1
Political situation/Gridlock	1
Wars/Military spending	1
Economy (General)	1
Other	6
None/No problem	4
Don't know/No answer	9

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 11-14, 2011. Figures add to more than 100% due to multiple responses.

When asked to name the economic problem they have been hearing the most about in the news recently, the federal budget deficit is far and away the concern most often mentioned. About a third (32%) say they have heard the most about the deficit, the national debt or government spending. Fewer than half that number say they are hearing the most about the job situation (14%) or the stock market (13%). Just 7% mention the U.S. credit rating.

Though the stock market gyrations and the government credit rating were major stories last week, the standoff in Washington over the national deficit and the debt limit dominated media coverage for much of the past month. In the week leading up to a possible government default on Aug. 2, the debate accounted for almost half of news coverage (47%).

The poll finds few differences among Republicans, Democrats and independents on this question. A third or more in each group mentions the federal budget deficit as the problem that have the most about recently. Far more Republicans and GOP leaners who agree with the Tea Party say they have heard the most about the deficit recently than those who do not agree with the movement (54% vs. 29%).

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building

on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected August 8-14, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected August 11-14 from a nationally representative sample of 1,005 adults.

Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/08/17/deadly-afghanistan-crash-tops-publics-news-interest/>

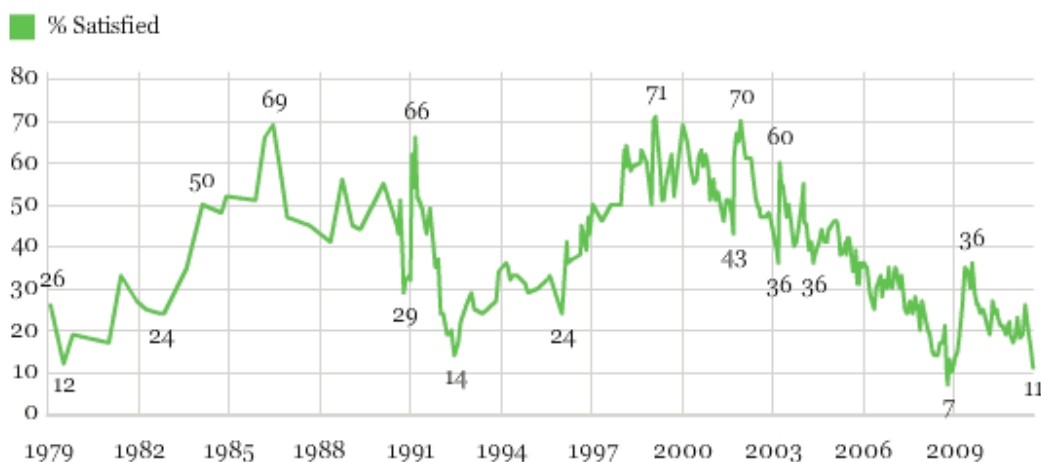
**185-43-19. Americans' Satisfaction With National Conditions Dips to 11%**

*Economy, jobs top "most important problem" list*

August 18, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' satisfaction with the way things are going in the United States has fallen back to 11%, the lowest level since December 2008 and just four percentage points above the all-time low recorded in October 2008.

*In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time?*



GALLUP®

The Aug. 11-14 Gallup poll finds satisfaction down five points from July (16%) and nine points since June (20%). The dip is likely a response to the recent negotiations to raise the federal debt ceiling and continued concern about the national economy amid a volatile stock market. The recent downing of a U.S. military helicopter in Afghanistan resulting in the deaths of 30 U.S. servicemen could also be contributing to Americans' glum mood.

Gallup began measuring Americans' satisfaction with national conditions in 1979. Since then, satisfaction has been lower than the current 11% in only a few measurements in the final months of 2008. The all-time low of 7% came in an Oct. 10-12, 2008, poll, conducted shortly after stock values plummeted following Congress' passage of the TARP legislation in response to the September 2008 financial crisis.

The current figures represent the continuation of a long slump in national satisfaction, which has been below 30% since September 2009, below 40% since August 2005, and below 50% since January 2004. The historical average satisfaction rating since 1979 is 40%. The all-time high is 71% in February 1999.



Democrats are somewhat more likely to say they are satisfied (19%) with conditions in the United States today than are Republicans (9%) and independents (8%).

**Economic Concerns Paramount in Americans' Minds**

In all, 76% of Americans mention some economic issue as the most important problem facing the country, the highest percentage since April 2009.

The most commonly mentioned specific problems are all economic in nature, including the economy in general (31%), unemployment or jobs (29%), and the federal budget deficit and federal debt (17%). The top non-economic problem is dissatisfaction with government and political leaders, mentioned by 14% of Americans.

*What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today? [OPEN-ENDED]*

	%
Economy in general	31
Unemployment/Jobs	29
Federal budget deficit/debt	17
Dissatisfaction with government	14
Lack of money	7
Healthcare	5
Ethical/Moral decline	4
Lack of respect for each other	3

Gallup, Aug. 11-14, 2011

**GALLUP**

Either the economy in general terms or unemployment has ranked as the No. 1 "most important problem" every month since February 2008, and the two have been either first or second each month since December 2009. Prior to that, from August to November 2009, healthcare ranked second to the economy, with unemployment third.

The recent debt ceiling negotiations have clearly had an impact on Americans' perceptions of the top problems facing the country, as the percentages mentioning the deficit and dissatisfaction with government are the highest since a January 1996 Gallup poll. At that time, during the 1995-1996 budget standoff between President Clinton and the Republican-led Congress, 28% of Americans mentioned the deficit as the most important problem and 17% mentioned dissatisfaction with government.

**Implications**

Americans are unhappy with the way things are going in the United States, with recent events in Washington and on Wall Street compounding the public's economic angst. This has taken a toll on Americans' ratings of political leaders, with congressional approval at an all-time low and President Obama registering the lowest approval ratings of his term.

Low national satisfaction ratings make incumbent politicians vulnerable to defeat, and Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H.W. Bush were defeated for re-election at times when Americans were largely dissatisfied with the state of the nation. Satisfaction ratings tend to be

low when the economy is struggling, so economic progress over the next 15 months will be a crucial factor in determining whether Obama is elected to a second term.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 11-14, 2011, with a random sample of 1,008 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone 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/149063/Americans-Satisfaction-National-Conditions-Dips.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/149063/Americans-Satisfaction-National-Conditions-Dips.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### ***185-43-20. Most Americans See College as Essential to Getting a Good Job***

*College educated least likely to be unemployed or underemployed*

August 18, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Most Americans see a college degree as a necessary step toward attaining quality employment. Nearly 7 in 10 U.S. adults (69%) strongly agree or agree that having a college degree is essential for getting a good job in this country, according to a recent study by Gallup and Lumina Foundation for Education.

On a 5-point scale, where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements. You may use any number between 1 and 5.

**Having a college degree is essential for getting a good job in this country.**

Strongly agree/agree	69%
Neither agree nor disagree	19%
Strongly disagree/disagree	11%

May 17-29, 2011  
Gallup/Lumina

**GALLUP**

Consistent with these perceptions, Gallup Daily tracking of unemployment and underemployment in the U.S. finds that college-educated Americans fare better in the workforce than U.S. adults without a college degree. Their unemployment and underemployment rates so far in 2011 are lower than those rates for Americans with less education and are also well below the national averages.

*Unemployment and Underemployment, by Education Level*

Jan. 2-July 31, 2011

	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Underemployed*</b>
All U.S. adults	6%	19%
High school or less	8%	26%
Technical/Vocational/Some college	7%	21%
College graduate	5%	12%
Post-graduate work or degree	3%	9%

Gallup Daily tracking

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

**GALLUP**

Given a choice, Americans are most likely to believe that students seek higher education primarily for practical reasons, rather than for personal development. According to the Gallup/Lumina study conducted in May, about half of Americans (53%) say the main reason students get more education is to earn more money and a third say it is to get a good job (33%).

*In your opinion, which one of the following is the main reason why students get education beyond high school?*

	<b>U.S. adults</b>
To earn more money	53%
To get a good job	33%
To become a well-rounded person	5%
To learn more about the world	3%
To learn to think critically	1%
All of the above	3%
None of the above/other	1%

May 17-29, 2011  
Gallup/Lumina

**GALLUP®**

At a time when most Americans are negative about the job market in general, more than half (57%) strongly agree or agree that people who have a college degree have a good chance of finding a quality job and 15% disagree.

*On a 5-point scale, where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements. You may use any number between 1 and 5.*

	<b>People who have a college degree have a good chance of finding a quality job.</b>
Strongly agree/agree	57%
Neither agree nor disagree	27%
Strongly disagree/disagree	15%

May 17-29, 2011  
Gallup/Lumina

**GALLUP®**

**Implications**

While Americans remain negative about the economy and the job market, they still see the value of a college education, both in terms of its ability to help them earn more money and to help them get a good job.

Some college graduates and post-graduates remain out of work, which may partly reflect today's challenging economy and jobs climate. However, it also suggests that leaders can do more to ensure that college graduates have the quality of education and skills that employers are looking for.

Recent research by Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce proposes that the U.S. needs more college graduates with a quality education and skills suited for today's job market. Gallup/Lumina data suggest that the majority of Americans

would agree with this assessment. Forthcoming articles will explore how Americans perceive the quality of higher education in the U.S.

### **Survey Methods**

Gallup conducted 1,001 interviews in English only from May 17-29, 2011, with a random sample of adults, aged 18 and older, residing in landline-telephone households, cell phone-only households, and cell phone-user households. Up to three calls were made to each household to reach an eligible respondent.

The data set was statistically adjusted (weighted) using the following variables: race/ethnicity, gender, education, and age as defined by the most recent data from the Current Population Survey, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The final overall results are representative of the U.S. adult population.

The questionnaire was developed in consultation with representatives from Lumina Foundation and Gallup. All interviewing was supervised and conducted by Gallup's full-time interviewing staff. For results based on the total sample size of 1,001 adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of error attributable to sampling and other random effects is  $\pm 4$  percentage points. For subgroups within this population, e.g., education level, gender, and income, the margin of error would be greater. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Results for the employment data are based on more than 208,000 telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking, with a random sample of adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, collected from Jan. 2-July 31, 2001, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 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/149045/Americans-College-Essential-Getting-Good-Job.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149045/Americans-College-Essential-Getting-Good-Job.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

---

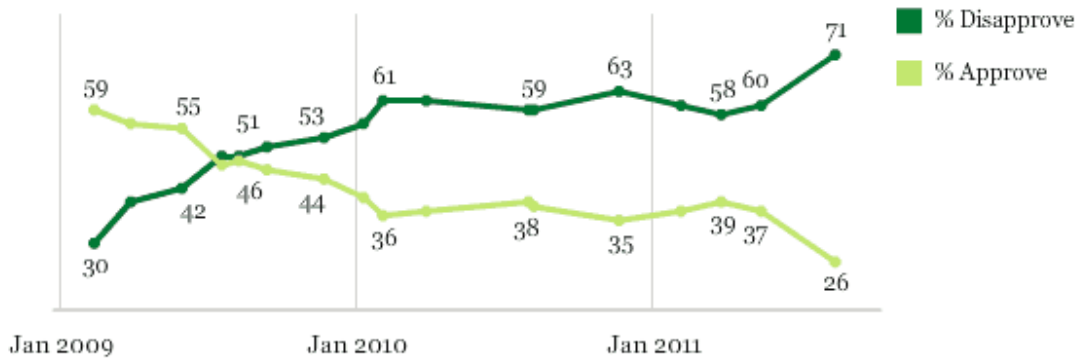
### **185-43-21. New Low of 26% Approve of Obama on the Economy**

*Ratings on Afghanistan and foreign affairs have also declined*  
August 17, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- A new low of 26% of Americans approve of President Barack Obama's handling of the economy, down 11 percentage points since Gallup last measured it in mid-May and well below his previous low of 35% in November 2010.

*President Barack Obama's Approval Ratings on the Economy*

February 2009-August 2011



**GALLUP**

Obama earns similarly low approval for his handling of the federal budget deficit (24%) and creating jobs (29%).

The president fares relatively better on foreign policy matters, with 53% of Americans approving of his handling of terrorism and roughly 4 in 10 approving on foreign affairs and the situation in Afghanistan. Also, 41% approve of Obama on education.

*President Barack Obama's Approval Ratings on Issues*

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling \_\_\_?

	Approve	Disapprove
	%	%
Terrorism	53	40
Foreign affairs	42	51
Education	41	50
The situation in Afghanistan	38	55
Creating jobs	29	65
The economy	26	71
The federal budget deficit	24	71

Aug. 11-14, 2011

**GALLUP**

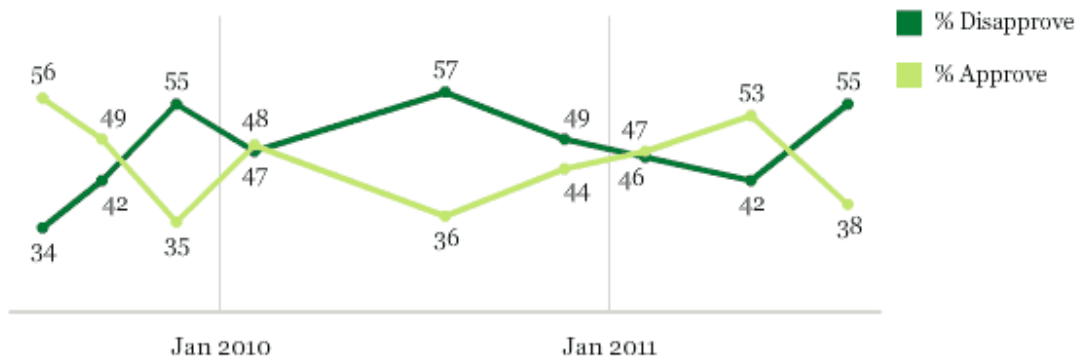
Obama's overall job approval rating in the Aug. 11-14 stand-alone Gallup poll is 41%, similar to the 39% and 41% approval ratings measured in Gallup Daily tracking over the same days.

**Approval on Afghanistan Sinks 15 Points**

Americans' approval of Obama on Afghanistan is down 15 points since mid-May, the most of any issue Gallup tracked during this period, though the resulting 38% approval rating is not the lowest he's seen on this issue. The decline follows a bounce to 53% after the killing of Osama bin Laden on May 1, and may partly reflect public reaction to the recent downing of a U.S. military helicopter in Afghanistan in which 30 American troops, many of them Navy SEALs, perished.

*President Barack Obama's Approval Ratings on Afghanistan*

July 2009-August 2011



**GALLUP**

Obama also suffered a nine-point decline in his foreign affairs rating, to 42% from 51% in May. His current rating is a new low, but is not much lower than his prior low 44% and 45% foreign policy approval ratings in the second half of 2010; however, it is down nine points compared with the start of 2010.

Terrorism is the only issue on which Obama's current approval is higher than it was at the start of 2010, although it is down 10 points from 63% in May after bin Laden's death.



*Barack Obama Issues Approval -- Selected Trends*

Issues ranked by August 2011 approval

	<b>Feb 1-3, 2010</b>	<b>May 12-15, 2011</b>	<b>Aug 11-14, 2011</b>	<b>Change since February 2010</b>
	%	%	%	
Overall job approval	48	52	41	-7
Terrorism	48	63	53	5
Foreign affairs	51	51	42	-9
Education	54	--	41	-13
Situation in Afghanistan	48	53	38	-10
Economy	36	37	26	-10
Federal budget deficit	32	32	24	-8

Note: "Creating jobs" not shown because no trends are available for February 2010 and May 2011

GALLUP

**Democrats Alone Back Obama's Performance on the Issues**

Obama earns scant support on the issues among Republicans, and does not do much better among independents. In contrast to Democrats' majority approval of Obama on all seven issues tested, fewer than half of independents approve of the president's handling of any of these.

*Barack Obama Issues Approval -- by Party ID*

Aug. 11-14, 2011

	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Independents</b>	<b>Democrats</b>
	%	%	%
Terrorism	36	48	81
Foreign affairs	19	39	71
Education	17	40	71
The situation in Afghanistan	32	31	59
Creating jobs	10	24	60
The economy	5	23	53
The federal budget deficit	5	19	52

GALLUP

**Bottom Line**

President Obama's approval rating has dwindled in recent weeks to the point that it is barely hugging the 40% line. Three months earlier, it approached or exceeded 50%. History will remember this period for the messy political debate in Washington over the debt ceiling, followed by distress on Wall Street and tragedy in Afghanistan. How much each of these factors is responsible for the overall decline in Obama's approval rating is unclear. But Americans' unhappiness with each of them is reflected in recent declines in Obama's specific job ratings for

the economy, the federal budget deficit, and various foreign policy measures, as well as in his markedly low rating for creating jobs.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 11-14, 2011, with a random sample of 1,008 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone 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/149042/New-Low-Approve-Obama-Economy.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/149042/New-Low-Approve-Obama-Economy.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

---

### **185-43-22. Gallup Finds U.S. Unemployment Up in Mid-August**

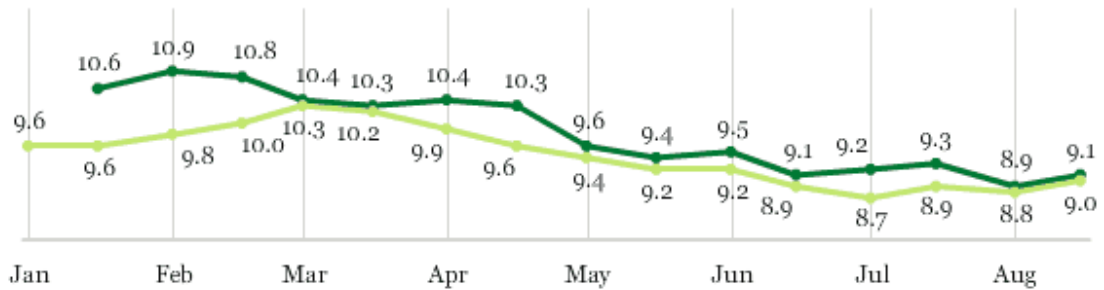
*Underemployment is at 18.2%, with 9.2% working part time but seeking full-time jobs*  
August 17, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Unemployment, as measured by Gallup without seasonal adjustment, is 9.0% in mid-August -- compared with 8.8% at the end of July and 9.1% in mid-August 2010.

*Gallup's U.S. Unemployment Rate, 2010-2011*

30-day averages^ in percentages; not seasonally adjusted

■ 2010 ■ 2011



^ Numbers reflect rolling averages for the 30-day periods ending on the 15th and the last day of each month from Jan. 15-Aug. 15, 2010, and from Jan. 2-Aug. 15, 2011.

Gallup Daily tracking

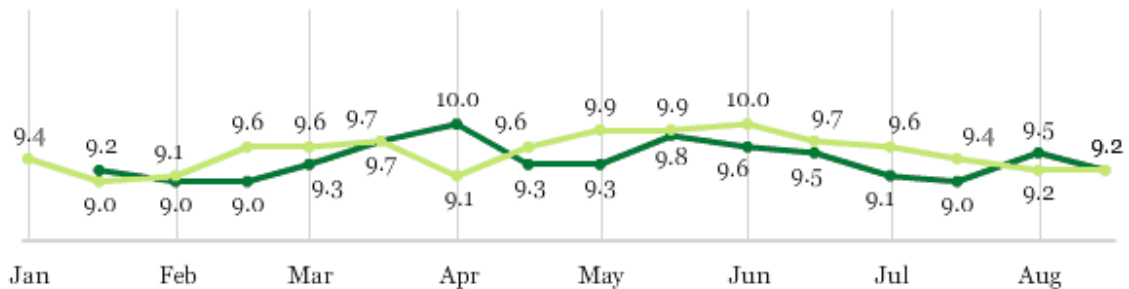
**GALLUP®**

The percentage of part-time workers who want full-time work is 9.2% in mid-August -- the same as at the end of July and in mid-August 2010.

*Percentage of Americans Working Part Time but Wanting Full-Time Work, 2010-2011*

30-day averages^ in percentages; not seasonally adjusted

■ 2010 ■ 2011



^ Numbers reflect rolling averages for the 30-day periods ending on the 15th and the last day of each month from Jan. 15-Aug. 15, 2010, and from Jan. 2-Aug. 15, 2011.

Gallup Daily tracking

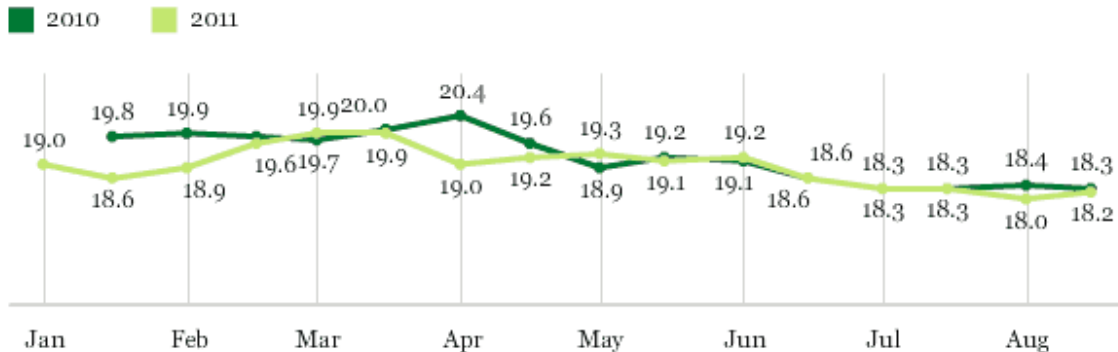
**GALLUP®**

**Underemployment Shows Modest Improvement**

Underemployment, a measure that combines the percentage of workers who are unemployed with the percentage working part time but wanting full-time work, is 18.2% in mid-August -- compared with 18.0% at the end of July and 18.3% in mid-August 2010.

### Gallup's U.S. Underemployment Rate, 2010-2011

30-day averages<sup>^</sup> in percentages; not seasonally adjusted



<sup>^</sup> Numbers reflect rolling averages for the 30-day periods ending on the 15th and the last day of each month from Jan. 15-Aug. 15, 2010, and from Jan. 2-Aug. 15, 2011.

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP<sup>®</sup>

#### **Youngest and Oldest Workers, Less Educated Continue to Struggle**

One worrisome aspect of the current situation is that the U.S. economy simply has not been growing fast enough -- as reflected in first half GDP -- to create the number of new jobs necessary to meet population growth, let alone significantly reduce the unemployment rate. This is consistent with Gallup's finding that unemployment now is essentially no better than it was at this time in 2010.

In particular, it appears Americans 65 or older who want to continue to work are having more of a problem finding a job than they did a year ago. Unemployment among this group increased to 8.2% this year from 6.7% a year ago. It may be that more baby boomers want to or need to keep working as they reach retirement age. Or, the losses on Wall Street over the past couple of years may be making many older Americans postpone retirement. Whatever the reasons, the job situation facing older Americans seems to be deteriorating.

At the other end of the age spectrum, unemployment hovers around the 12% level among those aged 18 to 29 (at 12.4% in mid-August, up from 11.9% a year ago) and among those with a high school education or less (11.9%, vs. 12.0%). Continued high unemployment among these two groups supports the notion that the prolonged and historically high unemployment rates of the past several years signify a serious structural unemployment problem in the U.S.

The job situation also seems to have deteriorated in the East compared with a year ago -- perhaps as financial firms respond to increased federal banking regulations and budget concerns -- and is unchanged in the South. Unemployment has declined in the Midwest and the West year-over-year -- possibly related to the increase in U.S. manufacturing and exports. For the unemployment data by demographic group, please see page 2 of this report.

#### **Looking Ahead to the Government's Next Unemployment Report**

Gallup's mid-August unemployment data provide a preliminary estimate of the August unemployment rate that the government will report on Friday, Sept. 2. Gallup's data suggest an increase in the U.S. unemployment rate for August from its most recent 9.1% for July.

However, there are some significant caveats. While Gallup's preliminary August unemployment measure includes the government's reference week -- the time the government's household survey uses to determine the U.S. unemployment rate for August -- Gallup's data are not seasonally adjusted. How the government adjusts its unemployment report for seasonal effects such as the back-to-school sales season will affect that report.

Similarly, last month the government reported a decline in the U.S. unemployment rate from 9.2% to 9.1%. However, if the number of Americans in the labor force had not declined by nearly 200,000 in July, the government's unemployment rate would likely have remained unchanged. If more Americans get discouraged and simply drop out of the job market, the government may be able to report a lower unemployment rate than Gallup's unemployment data suggest -- but that will not reflect a real improvement in the job situation on Main Street.

Regardless, Gallup's Daily tracking of the jobs situation and consumer confidence seems more aligned than not with the growing economic pessimism on Wall Street.

*How Gallup's Unemployment Measure Differs From the U.S. Government's Measure*

	<b>GALLUP</b>	<b>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</b>
Population	18 and older	16 and older
Adjustments	Not seasonally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Sample size	30,000 individuals per month	60,000 households per month
Mode of interview	RDD telephone, including cell phones	Rotating panel with face-to-face and telephone interviewing
Data collection period	Continuous	One-week reference period during mid-month
Reporting frequency	Daily, weekly, and monthly, based on 30-day rolling averages	Monthly, based on one-week reference period

**GALLUP**

**Survey Methods**

Gallup classifies American workers as underemployed if they are either unemployed or working part time but wanting full-time work. The findings reflect more than 18,000 phone interviews with U.S. adults aged 18 and older in the workforce, collected over a 30-day period. Gallup's results are not seasonally adjusted and are ahead of government reports by approximately two weeks.

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking from July 17 to Aug. 15, 2011, with a random sample of 18,621 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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/149036/Gallup-Finds-Unemployment-Mid-August.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/149036/Gallup-Finds-Unemployment-Mid-August.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

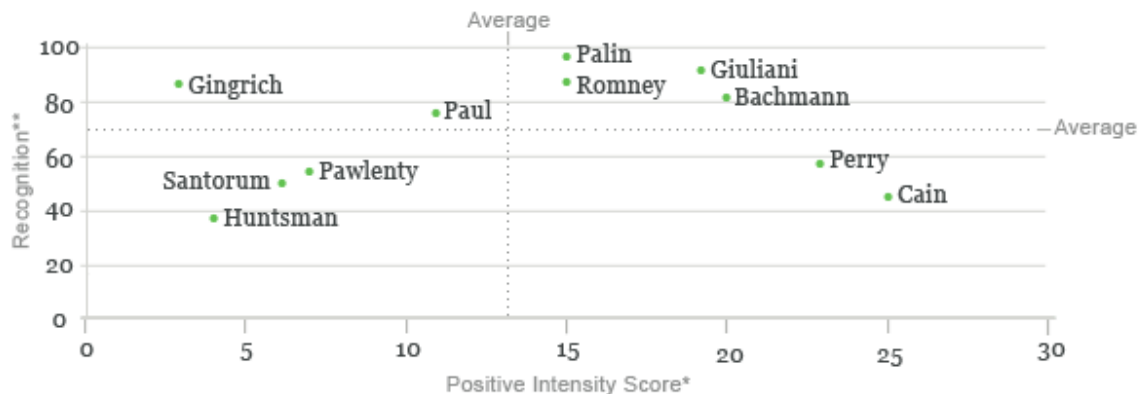
**185-43-23. Perry, Bachmann Generate More Positive Intensity Than Romney**

*Perry still recognized by only 59% of Republicans*

August 16, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Newly announced presidential candidate Rick Perry and Iowa Straw Poll winner Michele Bachmann generate more intensely positive reactions from Republicans who know them than does front-runner Mitt Romney. Georgia businessman Herman Cain, who finished fifth in the Iowa Straw Poll, has more intense followers than any of these three.

*Potential GOP Candidate Images Among Republicans and Republican-Leaning Independents*



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

\*\* % who recognize candidate

Aug. 1-14, 2011

GALLUP®

The race for the Republican nomination underwent a number of significant changes over the last week, with Texas Gov. Perry officially joining the race on the same Saturday that Minnesota Rep. Bachmann won the straw poll. Former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty then dropped out of the race on Sunday. All of the major announced candidates except Perry also participated in a nationally televised debate in Iowa on Thursday night.

Perry maintains his strong position among Republicans nationwide in Gallup's Aug. 1-14 tracking of the GOP candidates. His Positive Intensity Score of 23 is second only to Cain's (25),

and slightly ahead of Bachmann's (20). Romney -- the presumptive front-runner, given his usual first-place standing in GOP nomination preference polls and his fundraising advantage over the other candidates -- has a lower Positive Intensity Score of 15, which is roughly what it has been since mid-June.

Perry's recognition among Republicans is up slightly, to 59% from 54% in the last week, but he remains substantially less well-known than Bachmann and Romney, recognized by 81% and 86% of Republicans, respectively.

#### **Lack of Positive Intensity Dooms Pawlenty, Challenges Rest of Announced Candidates**

Pawlenty leaves the race with 57% of Republicans recognizing him, up from 39% in early January, but -- indicative of his lack of progress in the race -- his name recognition has not changed much since mid-June. More importantly, Pawlenty's Positive Intensity Score for the first two weeks of August was 7, well below average, and indicating that Republicans on balance simply did not feel enthusiastic about him. Pawlenty's score was as high as 17 earlier in the year, but as the summer began, his score dropped rather than increased.

Texas Rep. Ron Paul came in second in Saturday's straw poll, but among all Republicans nationwide, his Positive Intensity Score of 11 is below average. Paul, who has previously run for president, is recognized by 78% of Republicans.

Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman, and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich also remain in the race as active candidates. Of the three, Gingrich is by far the best known, but all have low Positive Intensity Scores. Gingrich's 3 is the lowest of any candidate Gallup is measuring. Huntsman is at 4 and Santorum at 6.

The two Republicans with the highest name recognition -- Sarah Palin (97%) and Rudy Giuliani (91%) -- have not announced their 2012 intentions. Of the two, Giuliani is slightly better positioned, with a Positive Intensity Score of 19 compared with Palin's 15.

#### **Implications**

Many journalists and pundits have decided that Romney, Perry, and Bachmann now constitute the "top tier" of Republican presidential candidates. Of these three, Perry generates the most intensely positive response from Republicans who know him, followed closely by Bachmann and then Romney. About 4 in 10 Republicans don't recognize Perry, suggesting that the next month or two will be crucial for the newly announced candidate, as he campaigns actively and creates initial impressions among many who don't know him now.

Cain remains an anomaly of sorts in the GOP race. He gets strongly positive reactions from Republicans who know him, but his recognition has remained below 50%. He managed only a fifth-place finish in the Iowa Straw Poll and was supported by 3% of Republicans in Gallup's latest trial heat poll.

For the moment, two of the more important findings from Gallup's tracking data are Romney's challenge of creating more enthusiasm among Republicans who know him, and Perry's challenge of maintaining his positive positioning as he becomes better known. If Palin or Giuliani enters the race, it would clearly shake things up once again.

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 1-14, 2011, with random samples of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Questions asking about the 10 potential candidates measured in this research were rotated among randomly selected samples of



Republicans each night; over the 14-day period, each candidate was rated by a minimum of 1,500 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents 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/149027/Perry-Bachmann-Generate-Positive-Intensity-Romney.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/149027/Perry-Bachmann-Generate-Positive-Intensity-Romney.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### **18543-24. Congressional Job Approval Ties Historic Low of 13%**

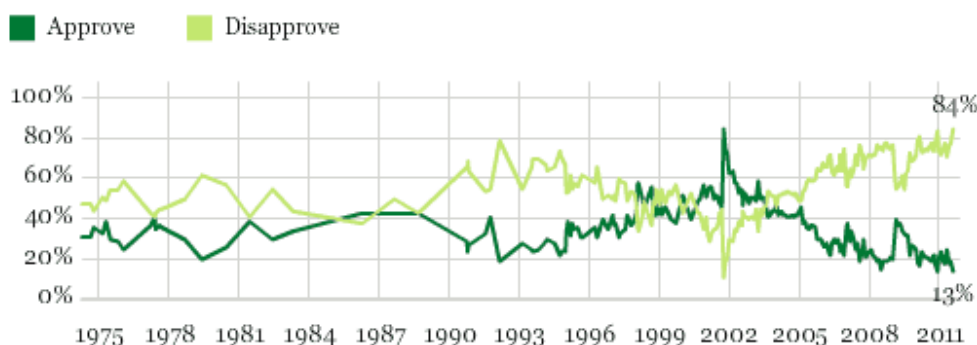
*Disapproval rating of 84% highest in Gallup annals*

August 16, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' evaluation of the job Congress is doing is the worst Gallup has ever measured, with 13% approving, tying the all-time low measured in December 2010. Disapproval of Congress is at 84%, a percentage point higher than last December's previous high rating.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?*

Full trend



GALLUP

These results are based on an Aug. 11-14 Gallup poll, which includes the first update on Congress' job approval rating since the government reached agreement on a deal to raise the debt ceiling after contentious and protracted negotiations between President Obama and congressional leaders. Standard & Poor's subsequently downgraded the United States' credit rating, in part citing the current political environment in Washington. That sparked a week of intense volatility in the stock market, with days of sharp losses and large gains.

Frustration with Congress was evident immediately after the debt ceiling agreement, with a record-low 21% of registered voters in an Aug. 4-7 *USA Today*/Gallup poll saying most members of Congress deserve re-election.

President Obama's job approval rating has also declined in recent days, reaching a low of 39% in Aug. 11-13 Gallup Daily tracking.

When Gallup last measured Congress' job approval rating in early July, 18% approved and 77% disapproved. That poll came while the debt ceiling discussions were underway but well before the talks dragged on to just before the Treasury Department's Aug. 2 deadline.

### **Congress' Ratings Go From Bad to Worse**

Gallup has measured Americans' approval rating of Congress since 1974. Americans have not rated Congress very positively over this time, with an average approval rating of 34%.

Americans have in recent years become increasingly less charitable in their ratings of Congress, with average approval ratings of 19% in 2008, 2010, and 2011 to date. These ratings have come despite considerable turnover in the membership of Congress following the 2006, 2008, and 2010 elections.

In 2009, Congress averaged 30% approval coinciding with the election of a new presidential administration and with the Democrats in full control of Congress.

Independents are currently the most critical of Congress, with 9% approving and 86% disapproving. Republicans and Democrats give Congress slightly higher, but still overwhelmingly negative, marks.

#### *Approval of Congress, by Political Party*

	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Independents</b>	<b>Republicans</b>
Approve	15%	9%	17%
Disapprove	83%	86%	81%

Gallup, Aug. 11-14, 2011

#### **GALLUP**

Independents' current 9% approval rating of Congress is the lowest Gallup has measured for that group. The prior low was 13% on several occasions, most recently in December 2010.

### **Implications**

Americans have usually not held Congress in high regard, but currently they have a more negative view of the institution than any other time Gallup has measured. Although Congress agreed to raise the debt ceiling, the issue is far from settled, as a special committee of 12 House and Senate members will work toward an agreement to make significant cuts in federal spending over the next few months to avoid mandatory cuts in defense and entitlement programs.

Though the results of that committee's work are not likely to dramatically transform the way Americans view Congress, they could determine whether the institution's ratings remain in this new lower range or show some improvement.

If Congress' ratings do not improve much before the November 2012 elections, its membership could be in line for another shake-up.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 11-14, 2011, with a random sample of 1,008 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone 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/149009/Congressional-Job-Approval-Ties-Historic-Low.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/149009/Congressional-Job-Approval-Ties-Historic-Low.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### ***185-43-25. Obama's Weekly Job Approval at 40%, Lowest of Administration***

*Obama drops to 39% Aug. 11-13, lowest three-day average to date*

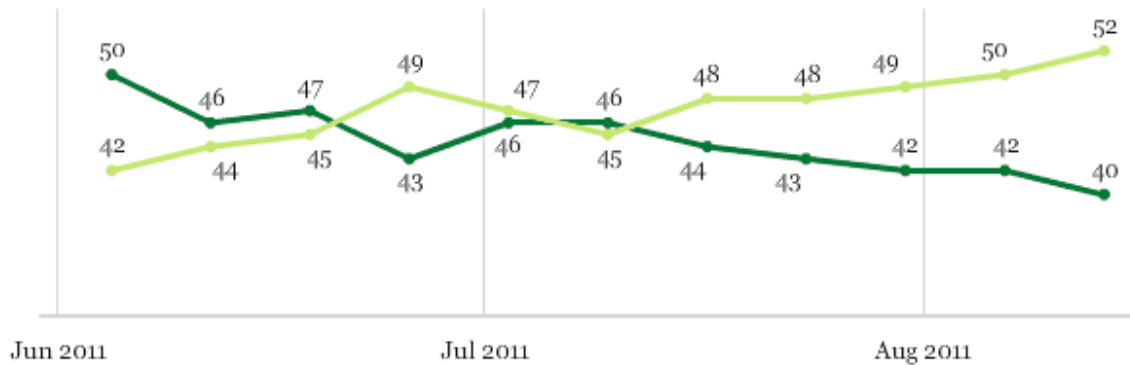
August 15, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Obama's job approval rating dropped to 40% during the week spanning Aug. 8-14, the lowest weekly average of his administration. During this period, Obama's three-day rolling average also hit a new low of 39% for Aug. 11-13, the first such average below 40% since he took office, though it recovered to 41% for Aug. 12-14.

*Barack Obama Job Approval, Recent Trend Through Week of Aug. 8-14, 2011*

Weekly averages

■ % Approve    ■ % Disapprove



Gallup Daily tracking

**GALLUP**

Obama's weekly average was 42% for the two weeks prior to last week, which at that time also marked new lows for his administration. His lowest three-day average prior to Aug. 11-13 had been 40%.

With the exception of a dramatic national or international event, it is usually difficult to pinpoint the causes for the short-term ups and downs in a president's job ratings. In the current situation, it is reasonable to assume that several events of the last few weeks have played a part in depressing the public's approval of Obama. These include the widespread public disapproval of the way Washington handled the debt crisis, a substantial drop in the public's confidence in the economy, and last week's gyrations in the stock market.

Additionally, there was substantial news coverage of the Republican presidential candidate debate and the Ames Straw Poll in Iowa at the end of last week, including harsh criticism of Obama from all of the Republican contenders.

**Implications**

Although the new lows in Obama's job approval rating represent only a slight drop from his previous low readings, they symbolically underscore the weaker position the president is in as he begins a "listening tour" of the Midwest this week.

Ten incumbent presidents have sought re-election since World War II, and none has won a second term with final pre-election job approval ratings below 48%. The last two presidents who lost their re-election bids -- George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter -- had job approval ratings in the 30% range in the fall of the election year. Thus, Obama's challenge is not only to move his rating back above 40%, but also to push it close to or above 50%.

The crucial period for Obama will begin after Labor Day, given the relative quiet on the political front that should be the case before then. Obama will generate some news coverage this week with his bus tour through Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois, but after that, he has a scheduled vacation on Martha's Vineyard, during which he will be largely out of the news -- barring some major crisis. Republican candidates will continue campaigning over the next several weeks, but

with no major debates or other events scheduled until September, they too will not be generating as much news as they have during the past week.

September will bring more GOP debates and an increasing focus on the budget situation, as the new congressional "supercommittee" begins its work and as Congress and Obama return to Washington. If the president is not able to turn around the negative momentum in his ratings during the fall months, it may be more and more difficult for him to do so as the presidential campaign begins in earnest next year.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 8-14, 2011, with a random sample of 3,583 national adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents 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/149003/Obama-Weekly-Job-Approval-Lowest-Administration.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/149003/Obama-Weekly-Job-Approval-Lowest-Administration.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

---

### **185-43-26. Washington, D.C., Extends Its Lead in Economic Confidence**

*Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi in worse position than they were a year ago*  
August 15, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Washington, D.C., led the nation in economic confidence during the first half of 2011 with the only positive Economic Confidence Index score (+11) in the U.S. Its 12-point increase in confidence compared with the same period a year ago expanded its lead. Maryland and Virginia -- states adjacent to the nation's capital -- are also in the top 10 in confidence, as they were in the first half of 2010. Commodity-producing states, including farm and energy states, make up most of the rest of the top 10.

*Top 10 States,  
Gallup Economic Confidence Index*

	<b>Index score</b>
District of Columbia	+11
North Dakota	-13
Nebraska	-16
South Dakota	-17
Maryland	-17
Massachusetts	-19
Utah	-19
Iowa	-20
Minnesota	-20
Virginia	-20

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

*Bottom 10 States,  
Gallup Economic Confidence Index*

	<b>Index score</b>
West Virginia	-44
Maine	-39
Idaho	-37
Louisiana	-37
Mississippi	-36
Nevada	-35
Kentucky	-35
Delaware	-35
Ohio	-34
Florida	-34
Rhode Island	-34

Gallup Daily tracking, January-June 2011

GALLUP®

All but 2 of the 10 highest confidence states are the same as they were in the first half of last year. South Dakota and Utah this year replaced Hawaii and Texas in the top 10. While the bottom 10 states in the first half of 2011 are diverse, the majority were also in the bottom 10 during the first half of 2010. Delaware and three Gulf oil-spill states -- Louisiana, Mississippi, and Florida -- moved into the bottom 10, while Wyoming, Montana, New Hampshire, Michigan, and Arizona moved out.

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index averaged -28 nationwide during the first six months of 2011, reflecting Americans' pessimistic views of the current and future U.S. economy. This consumer pessimism essentially matches that of the first half of 2010, when the index averaged -26.

The index is based on two questions: the first asking consumers to rate their perceptions of current economic conditions as "excellent," "good," "only fair," or "poor," and the second asking them whether economic conditions in the country are "getting better" or "getting worse." Economic confidence has worsened considerably during recent weeks and, as such, views over the second half of the year may be quite different from those in the first half.

**Federal Government, Farm, and Energy Growth Explain Highest Confidence**

Many may argue that the relative economic optimism of those in the nation's capital and the states around it -- and its relative increase this year in Washington -- reflects their insulation from what is happening in the rest of the economy. This is at least partly true because those living in and around D.C. benefit from having the federal government as their major industry. And, unlike state and local governments, the federal government has continued to grow even as many other industries have not during the recession and its aftermath.

In the same vein, farm and energy states have benefited from global surges in the demand for and prices of commodities. The addition of South Dakota and Utah to the top 10 states reflects the benefits of having such job-creating, commodity-based industries.

On the other hand, the after-effects of the Gulf oil spill are evident as Louisiana, Mississippi, and Florida joined the bottom 10 states. Other low-confidence states like Nevada continue to suffer from the bursting of the housing bubble.

### **Plunging Confidence May Affect Some States Differently in Second Half**

While Americans remained as pessimistic overall during the first half of 2011 as they were a year ago, Gallup Daily tracking shows economic confidence plunging during July and early August. Overall, this decline in confidence does not bode well for economic growth in the second half. Although the Fed's recent decision to keep interest rates low over the next two years may benefit Wall Street, it is not clear that this will help create a much-needed turnaround in confidence on Main Street.

It is unclear what the fallout might be across the U.S. should there be a sharp decline in economic confidence during the second half. One might assume that the nation's capital and the adjacent states will continue to do relatively well and remain comparatively optimistic. Even "real" federal budget cuts are unlikely to be significant in the next year or two and, thus, unlikely to affect optimism in the Washington, D.C., area in the near term.

On the other hand, it is possible that a slowing of the global economy combined with increasing federal regulations could reduce economic confidence in the nation's commodity-based state economies. The same is true for the nation's manufacturing-based states. Even the finance-based states of the East could be damaged by the fallout from the renewed financial crisis in Europe.

Finally, economic confidence reflects Americans' perceptions of the current and future course not only of the U.S. economy, but also of the political economy. Gallup Daily tracking suggests the debt ceiling debate and the downgrade of U.S. credit that followed had a negative impact on economic confidence during recent weeks. More of the same is likely as the Congress must debate a new federal budget for 2012 in September as the presidential election campaign heats up.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews with 87,634 employed adults, aged 18 and older, conducted from January-June 2011 as part of Gallup Daily tracking. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 1$  percentage point.

The margins of sampling error range from  $\pm 1$  percentage point for large states such as California to  $\pm 8$  percentage points for the District of Columbia.

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/149000/Washington-Extends-Lead-Economic-Confidence.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/149000/Washington-Extends-Lead-Economic-Confidence.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

---

### **185-43-27. Seven-in-Ten Americans Driving Less Due to High Gas Prices**

(08/15/11) -

One-in-twenty respondents have decided to acquire a more fuel efficient vehicle.

The high cost of fuel is affecting people all across the United States, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative sample of 1,005 American adults, 68 per cent of respondents acknowledge that recent price increases in gasoline have caused financial hardship for themselves and others in their household.

Respondents in the South (71%) appear to be the most affected, followed by those in the Midwest (68%), the West (67%) and the Northeast (63%).

When asked if they have taken any measures to deal with recent gas price increases, seven-in-ten Americans (69%) say they are driving less than usual, while two-in-five (38%) are filling up their cars with less fuel than they would normally do.

One-in-five Americans (20%) are walking to destinations more often than they used to, while fewer respondents are choosing to carpool more (12%) or take public transit (10%).

Across the country, five per cent of Americans say they have sold their car to buy a more fuel efficient vehicle. This course of action is more prevalent among respondents aged 18-to-34 (7%) and people in the West (8%).

*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/43984/seven-in-ten-americans-driving-less-due-to-high-gas-prices/>

---

### **185-43-28. Trudeau Still Best Recent PM for Canadians, But Harper Gains Ground**

(08/16/11) -

Brian Mulroney and Stephen Harper are deemed the worst heads of government by one-in-five Canadians.

Pierre Trudeau maintains his position as the best Canadian prime minister of the past five decades, but the current head of government has seen his numbers rise in the past year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 Canadian adults, 36 per cent of respondents think Trudeau has been the best prime minister since 1968.

Stephen Harper is now second on the list with 19 per cent—up eight points since 2010—followed by Jean Chrétien with 12 per cent, and Brian Mulroney with six per cent.

Trudeau is particularly popular in Atlantic Canada (52%), Manitoba and Saskatchewan (41%) and Ontario (also 41%). Harper is the top choice for Albertans (35%). Chrétien and Mulroney have their best showing in Quebec (14% each).

Since Angus Reid Public Opinion began asking this question in 2007, Trudeau has consistently been backed by at least one third of respondents, and Mulroney has lost more than half of his supporters since 2007 (going from 14% to 6%).

When Canadians are asked about the worst prime minister the country has had since 1968, Mulroney and Harper are tied with 19 per cent, followed by Trudeau with 13 per cent, Chrétien with 10 per cent, and Kim Campbell with eight per cent.

The regional breakdown shows that while Albertans pick Trudeau as the worst prime minister and Quebecers select Harper, respondents in British Columbia, Ontario and Atlantic Canada are divided on whether Mulroney or Harper have been the worst.

The overall trend in this question shows Mulroney at the same level he had in 2009, while Trudeau and Chrétien have maintained stable numbers since 2007.

*Methodology: From August 10 to August 11, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,002 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. 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/43986/trudeau-still-best-recent-pm-for-canadians-but-harper-gains-ground/>

---

### **185-43-29. Consumer Confidence Drops Sharply In Wake Of Market Turmoil: Survey**

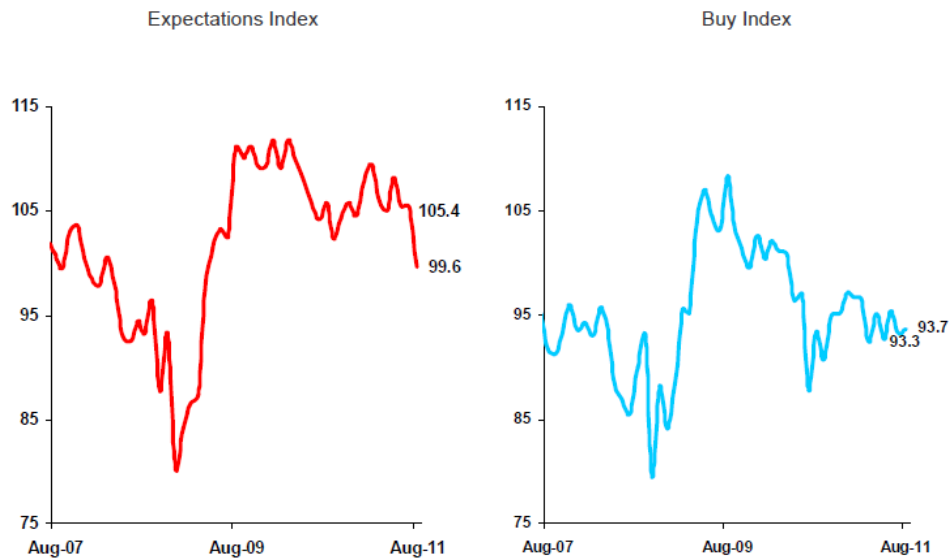
TORONTO August 18 2011 Last TORONTO, 18, – week’s turmoil in the stock markets has severely shaken Canadian consumers’ confidence in the economy, causing a significant drop in the TNS Canadian Consumer Confidence Index. After a slight drop in July (in the wake of the US debt crisis and all-round bad economic news), the Index dropped almost a full two points in August, from 99.7 to 97.6, wiping out any optimism Canadians showed in the economy during the spring and in the wake of the Federal election.

“Canadians have clearly been spooked by last week’s ups and downs in the stock market.” said Norman Baillie-David, Vice President of TNS Canada and director of the marketing and social research firm’s monthly tracking study. “Even in the summer months, when you don’t think people are paying much attention to the news or stock markets, these gyrations (in the markets) are having a significant impact on Canadians’ view of the economy, as well as their own prospects.”

The *Present Situation Index*, which measures how people feel about the economy right now, dropped a full point, from 100.3 to 99.0, showing that the fear in the markets is having less impact on how Canadians’ feel they are doing right now.

The *Expectations Index*, which measures people’s outlook for the economy six months from now, is the Index which shows the greatest impact of the fear caused by the uncertainty in the markets. This Index plummeted almost six points, from 105.4 to 99.6, its lowest point since July 2009. “All of a sudden, those market fluctuations we saw last week are having an important ripple effect. For the first time in a long time, the uncertainty in the markets is causing Canadians to feel their future prospects will be turning towards the worse. Unfortunately when it comes to

consumer confidence, the fear is that pessimism often turns out to be a self-fulfilling prophecy” explained Mr. Baillie-David.



The *Buy Index*, which measures the extent to which Canadians’ feel that now is a good time to purchase a “big ticket item”, such as a car or a major household appliance, moved very slightly from 93.3 to 93.7, which can be interpreted as no change in statistical terms. “*This is likely the combination of statistical margin of error, combined with a feeling among some Canadians that they may be better off making that purchase now, before they believe things actually get worse.*” added Mr. Baillie-David.

*Consumer Confidence Index* tracks Canadians’ attitudes about the economy each month and is part of a global study conducted by TNS in 18 countries. Three indices are produced each month to show how confidence in the economy is changing: *Present Situation Index*; an *Expectations Index*; and a *Buy Index*. The Canadian fieldwork is conducted using the firm’s national bi-weekly telephone omnibus service, TNS Express Telephone. A total of 1,015 nationally representative Canadian adults were interviewed between August 8 and August 12, 2011. For a survey sample of this size, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Source: <http://www.tnscanada.ca/news/11.8.18-CCI-Tracking-2011-08.pdf>

---

## LATIN AMERICA

### **185-43-30. Dilma Assessment Remains Stable After Seven Months Of Government** 08/08/2011

After seven months in office, President Rousseff (PT) maintains a stable level of assessment. Datafolha survey conducted between 2 and 5 August 2011 indicates that the government of the PT is considered good or excellent for 48% of Brazilians aged 16 years or more. It is a similar rate to that seen in surveys in June (49%) and March (47%). The share of those who consider the management of regular Dilma is 39%, a positive variation of a point on the mark in July (38%) - in March, was 34%. Consider the government Rousseff poor or very poor 11% of Brazilians, compared with 10% in June and 7% in March. In the current study, 3% were unable to assess the presidency of the PT.

The poll of 5,254 people aged 16 years or more in Brazil between 2 and 5 August 2011. The margin of error of two percentage points more or less.

Among the younger, 16 to 24 years, Dilma have a great and good level of lower (43%) than average (48%) and than among other age groups. In the group formed by the less educated, who studied up to primary (52%), the index of assessing the government of the PT as excellent or good is proportionally higher than among those with high school (45%) and teaching higher (44%). In the analysis by income, it is also best evaluated by those who have a monthly income of up to five minimum wages (49%) than among Brazilians who have family income of more than 10 minimum wages per month (44%). Inside, 51% evaluate the management Rousseff as excellent or good, share proportionately higher than in metropolitan areas (44%). The score given to the government of Dilma also remains stable: it was 6.9 in March, was 6.8 in July and now stands at 6.7.

Source: [http://datafolha.folha.uol.com.br/po/ver\\_po.php?session=1147](http://datafolha.folha.uol.com.br/po/ver_po.php?session=1147)

### **185-43-31. Former Dominican President Mejía to Win PRD Primaries**

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, March 3, 2011 - According to the results of a nationwide poll conducted last week by regional pollster Asisa Research Group, former President Hipolito Mejia would win the Dominican Revolutionary Party's (PRD) primaries with at least 64% of the vote.

His contender, current president of the PRD, Miguel Vargas, would obtain 36% of the vote, if the primaries were held today.

According to the poll released this Thursday in Santo Domingo, the tendency has been increasingly favoring Mejia, who has gained 8% when compared to January's poll conducted by Asisa that was also published in the Caribbean country.

Miguel Vargas, who lost the 2008 Presidential elections against Leonel Fernandez, appears to have lost most of his support in all the regions of the country; including cities like Santiago where support for Mejia is reaching 90% of likely voters, and the rest of the northern region where the poll indicates Mejia would obtain 77% of the vote.

The poll also included questions about the situation of the ruling PLD (Dominican Liberation Party), where President Fernandez would obtain 75% of the internal preference in case he chose to run for a third term. His closest contender, Danilo Medina would obtain 13% against President Fernandez, if the PLD's primaries were held today.

Whether Fernandez will be able to run for a third term is yet to be determined, as the new constitution of the Dominican Republic doesn't allow reelection, but some experts say there are loopholes and that President Fernandez will be able to run for a third consecutive term.

The poll also indicates that if Fernandez was not to run for reelection, Danilo Medina would win the PLD's primaries with 49% of the vote, if they were held today.

If former President Mejia wins his party's primaries this Sunday, and Danilo Medina wins the PLD's primaries, then the likely scenario for the 2012 Presidential elections in the Dominican Republic will be exactly the way it was back in the year 2000, when Mejia (PRD) beat Medina (PLD) with 49.8% of the vote.

The PRD's primaries will be held on Sunday, March 6th across the Dominican Republic and between 600,000 and 800,000 Dominicans are expected to vote in these primaries. Presidential elections in the Dominican Republic are scheduled for May 16th of 2012.

The poll was conducted between February 25 - 28, and 900 "likely voters" for each of the major party's primaries were interviewed.

## **AUSTRALASIA**

### **185-43-32. Attitudes To Asylum Seekers Arriving By Boat In Australia**

In this special Nielsen Poll, taken from 11-13 August 2011, 1400 respondents were asked a series of questions dealing with different aspects of the asylum seeker issue.<sup>1</sup>

#### ***Boats arriving in Australia***

First, respondents were asked if they thought that asylum seekers arriving in Australia by boat should be “allowed to land in Australia to be assessed”, “sent to another country to be assessed” or “sent back out to sea”.

A majority of respondents (53%) preferred that asylum seekers arriving in Australia by boat be allowed to land to be assessed. Just over one in four (28%) felt that asylum seekers arriving in Australia by boat should be sent to another country to be assessed. 15% said the boats should be sent back out to sea. 4% did not know or offered another option.

#### ***While being assessed***

Those respondents that wanted the asylum seeker claims to be assessed (whether in Australia or overseas) were asked whether asylum seekers should be allowed to live in the community or should be held in detention while this assessment takes place. Detention was preferred by a margin of two to one. A clear majority (64%) preferred that asylum seekers be held in detention, while just under one in three (32%) wanted asylum seekers to live in the community. 4% did not know or offered another option.

Among the 53% of respondents preferring assessment in Australia, 55% wanted the asylum seekers held in detention while 41% wanted them to live in the community.

For respondents wanting asylum seekers sent to another country for assessment, 81% preferred that the asylum seekers be held in detention in that country while 16% wanted them to live in the community to which they were sent.

Of the 64% of respondents who want asylum seekers to be held in detention while being assessed, a majority (56%) support the detention of asylum seekers aged under 18. Four in ten (40%) oppose detention of asylum seekers aged under 18.

#### ***Following assessment: genuine refugees***

Again, those respondents that wanted asylum seeker claims to be assessed were asked whether asylum seekers whose claim for refugee status was found to be genuine should be “allowed to stay in Australia permanently”, “allowed to stay in Australia only until it is safe to return to their country of origin” or “sent back to their country of origin regardless of the outcome of the assessment”. A majority (60%) wanted genuine refugees to be allowed to stay in Australia permanently, while a further 36% said they should be allowed to stay only until it was safe to return home. Just 3% wanted asylum seekers sent home regardless of the assessment outcome.

Of those preferring assessment in Australia, 70% would allow genuine refugees to stay permanently while 27% would allow them to stay until it is safe to return home. Of those preferring assessment overseas, 40% would allow permanent settlement while a majority, 52%, preferred a temporary arrangement.

#### **Discussion**

It is important to note that the results of opinion polls on this issue are more sensitive to the wording of the questions asked than for many other topics. This is because the issues are often emotional for some and complicated for all. Respondent knowledge on this subject is never



complete. The task of adequately condensing complex options into fair but meaningful questions is also a difficult one.

The questions in this poll were stripped of their political context as much as possible. For example the 'sent to another country to be assessed' option was not offered in the context of deterrence, nor was any human or financial cost alluded to. It was not offered as Labor or Coalition policy (e.g. by calling it the 'Malaysian solution' or the 'Pacific solution').

The policy of 'stopping the boats' was described in this poll as the boats being 'sent back out to sea'. It is possible that an alternative wording (e.g. boats being 'turned back') may have attracted more support than the 15% who chose 'sent back out to sea' in this poll. This does not mean that one wording is right and the other wrong – one phrase is probably 'tougher' than the other, but the 'less tough' wording is also more 'euphemistic'.

BASE			
	All respondents	Respondents choosing one of the assessment options in Q1	Respondents choosing one of the assessment options in Q1 AND choosing detention in Q2
<b>Q1: Do you think that asylum seekers arriving in Australia by boat should be... ? [READ &amp; ROTATE 1-3]</b>			
1 Allowed to land in Australia to be assessed	53%		
2 Sent to another country to be assessed	28%		
3 Sent back out to sea	15%		
8/9 Other / Don't know	4%		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>		
<b>Q2: [If Q1=1or2] And while being assessed should asylum seekers be... [READ &amp; ROTATE 1-2]</b>			
1 Held in detention	52%	64%	
2 Allowed to live in the community	26%	32%	
8/9 Other / Don't know	3%	4%	
Not asked	19%		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

The results of this poll suggest that:

- 15% of Australians prefer the option of sending the boats back out to sea without assessment of asylum seeker claims (support for this option may vary if the option is put less strongly / more euphemistically);
- Assessment *in Australia* is preferred by a ratio of almost two to one – 53% chose 'allowed to land in Australia to be assessed' compared to 28% for 'sent to another country to be assessed'.
  - Among those opting for assessment (rather than sending the boats back) an almost two-thirds majority (64%) want asylum seekers held in detention while 32% want them to live in the community. This equates to 52% support among all Australians for detention (64% of the 81% choosing an 'assessment' option is 52%) and 26% support for living in the community (32% of the 81% choosing an 'assessment' option is 26%) with 19% unknown (they were not asked as a consequence of responses to earlier questions).
  - Among those choosing one of the two assessment options, 60% support allowing genuine refugees to stay in Australia permanently. This equates to 49% support among all Australians for permanent settlement (60% of the 81% choosing an 'assessment' option is 49%). Support for temporary settlement of refugees was 29% of all Australians. Note that 19% were not asked.

40% of those supporting detention opposed the detention of asylum seekers under 18 years of age (this equates to 21% of all Australians). Add to this the 32% (of those choosing an assessment option) allowing asylum seekers to live in the community (equal to 26% of all Australians) and this suggests that 47% of all Australians oppose the detention of asylum seekers under the age of 18, while 29% support such detention. Note that the remainder, 24%, could not be inferred and were not asked.

Source: <http://au.nielsen.com/site/documents/NielsenAsylumseekersarrivingbyboatAugust2011.pdf>

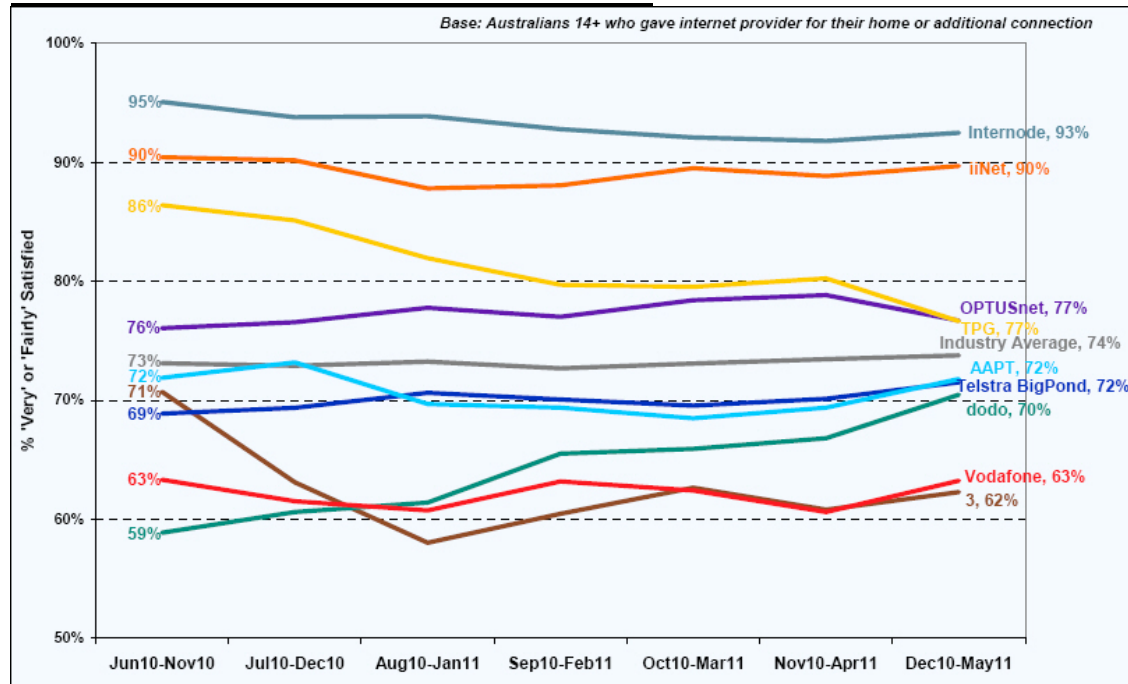
**185-43-33. Internode still tops the Internet Customer Satisfaction, TPG drops 3% & Vodafone up 2%**

Article No. 1412 - Source: Roy Morgan Single Source (July 2010 - June 2011). Total Australians 14+ who named their internet provider (n=13,054).: August 19, 2011

Internode (93%) and iiNet (90%) continue to maintain their lead, ahead of OPTUSnet (77%). AAPT (72%), Telstra BigPond (72%), dodo (70%), Vodafone (63%) and 3 (62%) all recorded increases in satisfaction but are still slightly lower than the industry average (74%), according to the latest Roy Morgan Internet Service Provider Customer Satisfaction Report.

In the six months to May 2011, customer satisfaction with TPG decreased 3% points to 77% of Australians 14+ being 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied.

**Internet Service Provider Customer Satisfaction**



Source: Roy Morgan Single Source (July 2010 - June 2011). Total Australians 14+ who named their internet provider (n=13,054).

“% Very or Fairly Satisfied is the proportion of all customers who are ‘Very’ or ‘Fairly’ satisfied with their overall service with that internet service provider (on a five point scale).



Total industry figure excludes those who ‘can’t say’ their provider. NOTE: Satisfaction score is provided by the respondent for the brand that the respondent has a relationship with.

Andrew Braun, Director Mobile, Internet and Technology, Roy Morgan Research, says:

“As the industry as a whole tries to improve customer satisfaction, the result can be seen in the gradual, yet slow, increase in the overall industry average to 74%. Both Telstra BigPond and OPTUSnet are important drivers of this improvement due to their considerable size.

“Interestingly the volatility in satisfaction has featured primarily among some of the smaller service providers, such as TPG having lost 10% points since November 2010, whilst dodo has gained 12% points over the same period.

“A closer look at Roy Morgan's Internet Service Provider Customer Satisfaction Report also reveals that TPG has suffered declining customer satisfaction in the two largest states, Victoria and NSW, down 6% points and 2% points respectively.”

This report looks at Internet Service Providers within Australia, including smaller internet providers such as WestNet and iPrimus. This detailed report provides an indication of overall customer satisfaction with Internet Service Providers across Australia, including customer satisfaction for their main internet connection at home with satisfaction trends starting from February 2009 and showing 6 monthly moving averages.

To understand the different customer bases visit the Roy Morgan Online Store for *Internet Service Provider Customer Profiles* including *Internode*, *iiNet*, *OPTUSnet* and *TPG*. These profile provide a broad understanding of the customers of each of the Internet Service Providers, in terms of demographics, attitudes, activities and media usage in Australia.

**Margin of Error**

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

<b><u>Sample Size</u></b>	<b><u>Percentage Estimate</u></b>					
	<b><u>40%-</u></b>	<b><u>25%</u></b>	<b><u>or</u></b>	<b><u>10%</u></b>	<b><u>or</u></b>	<b><u>5%</u></b>
	<b><u>60%</u></b>	<b><u>75%</u></b>		<b><u>90%</u></b>		<b><u>95%</u></b>
2,500	±1.9	±1.7		±1.2		±0.9
5,000	±1.4	±1.2		±0.8		±0.6
7,500	±1.1	±1.0		±0.7		±0.5
10,000	±1.0	±0.9		±0.6		±0.4
15,000	±0.8	±0.7		±0.5		±0.4

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/press-releases/2011/1412/>

**CYBER WORLD**

**185-43-34. Americans and Their Cell Phones**

Aug 15, 2011

OVERVIEW

Mobile phones have become a near-ubiquitous tool for information seeking and communicating--83% of American adults own some kind of cell phone--and these devices have an impact on many aspects of their owners’ daily lives. In a nationally representative telephone

survey, the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project found that, during the 30 days preceding the interview:

- Cell phones are useful for quick information retrieval (so much so that their absence can cause problems) – Half of all adult cell owners (51%) had used their phone at least once to get information they needed right away. One quarter (27%) said that they experienced a situation in the previous month in which they had trouble doing something because they did not have their phone at hand.
- Cell phones are an important tool in emergency situations – 40% of cell owners said they found themselves in an emergency situation in which having their phone with them helped.
- Cell phones can help stave off boredom – 42% of cell owners used their phone for entertainment when they were bored.
- Despite their advantages, some cell phone owners just need an occasional break – 29% of cell owners turned their phone off for a period of time just to get a break from using it.
- With advantages comes frustration – 20% of cell owners experienced frustration because their phone was taking too long to download something; 16% had difficulty reading something on their phone because the screen was too small; and 10% had difficulty entering a lot of text on their phone.
- Cell phones can help prevent unwanted personal interactions – 13% of cell owners pretended to be using their phone in order to avoid interacting with the people around them.

Text messaging and picture taking continue to top the list of ways that Americans use their mobile phones—three quarters of all cell owners (73%) use their phones for each of these purposes. Other relatively common activities include sending photos or videos to others (54% of cell owners do this) as well as accessing the internet (44%).

One third of American adults (35%) own a smartphone of some kind, and these users take advantage of a wide range of their phones' capabilities. Fully nine in ten smartphone owners use text messaging or take pictures with their phones, while eight in ten use their phone to go online or send photos or videos to others. Many activities—such as downloading apps, watching videos, accessing social networking sites or posting multimedia content online—are almost entirely confined to the smartphone population.

#### ABOUT THE SURVEY

The results reported here are based on a national telephone survey of 2,277 adults conducted April 26-May 22, 2011. 1,522 interviews were conducted by landline phone, and 755 interviews were conducted by cell phone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish. For results based on all adults, the margin of error is +/-2 percentage points; for results based on all cell owners, the margin of error is +/-3 percentage points (n=1,194); and for results based on smartphone owners, the margin of error is +/-4.5 percentage points (n=688).

Source: <http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/Cell-Phones.aspx?src=prc-headline>

---

#### **185-43-35. Twitter Users Blast The London Rioters**

Twitter users overwhelmingly focused on the U.K. riots last week, and many of them were highly angered by and critical of the chaos. While much of the **mainstream news coverage** involved an exploration of the causes of the anger behind the riots, social media users were much more intent on denouncing the destruction that left five people dead, more than 3,100 arrested and an estimated £200 million worth of property damage.

For the week of August 8-12, the British riots were by far the most discussed subject on Twitter, according to the **New Media Index** from the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. The subject was so dominant that it was among the top five stories each day last week and appeared on the top story lists six times more often than the next largest subject, Twitter itself.

In addition, the five most popular news-related videos on YouTube last week were all related to the riots.

This report marks the second week of PEJ's new methodology for determining the most discussed stories in social media. (For a detailed explanation of the process, [click here](#).) In addition, this analysis of Twitter utilizes computer technology from the media monitoring firm **Crimson Hexagon** that was used to examine the key components of the Twitter conversation during the seven days following the start of the riots.

Top Stories on Twitter	
1	U.K. Riots
2	Twitter
3	Google
4	Facebook
5	U.K. Sales on Amazon

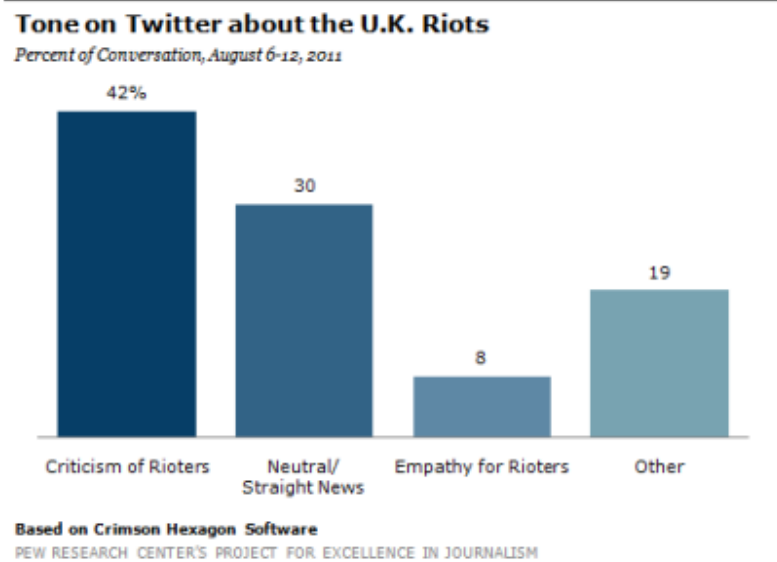
August 8-12, 2011  
 NEW MEDIA INDEX  
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

The unrest, which lasted five days, began during an August 6 protest outside a Tottenham police station following the death of Mark Duggan, who was shot and killed two days earlier by police during an investigation into crime in the black community. After several hours of protests, violence and looting broke out. Some present said the impetus for the rioting was an incident involving a 16-year-old woman who confronted police, but was attacked with shields and batons. Others attributed it to a more aggressive crowd that arrived after the initial protest.

The analysis using Crimson Hexagon found there was little concern about the causes of the riots and the possible grievances of those involved. Indeed, that accounted for only 8% of the conversation on Twitter.

By contrast, 42% of the conversation on Twitter was critical of what was taking place. Less than a third, 30%, was made up of neutral comments or straight details without injecting opinion.

On Twitter, where users are limited to 140 characters, tweets typically involve the passing along of information and news. However, in this instance, there was far more condemnation than the straight conveyance of details.



"Low lifes in north london rioting, how stupid are these people, they're causing destruction to other life!" declared Chloe Short.\*

"Riot implies some sort of cause, whereas this is just hooliganism and looting. Let's not dignify these cretins without a cause," posted @redndead.

### **Riots in the U.K.**

Several popular links helped spark the Twitter conversation about the rioting last week. One was a **pictorial** on the Boston Globe web site showing images of the clashes with police and the ongoing destruction. Another was a **BBC report** that quoted two participants as saying they were involved because they were showing police and "the rich" that "we can do what we want."

Also popular was a YouTube **video** showing looters pretending to help an injured student while also stealing things out of his backpack. Other Twitter users linked to a **blog post** by journalist Laurie Penny, who wrote about being trapped in her house, and a **column** by Peter Osborne, the Daily Telegraph's chief political commentator, who stated it was hypocritical for members of the British political class to assert they had nothing to do with the causes of the riots when moral decay at the top of society is quite prevalent.

Many of the Twitter comments called for swift action against those involved.

"It's beyond a joke," declared Ian Abrahams. "Police & army need to act with a heavy hand - water cannon, bullets whatever will end this lawlessness."

"Seriously, declare a curfew time, anybody out after that gets filled in, fair game for the riot squad. This is robbing not protesting!!!!" advised Joseph Barton.

Others expressed fear.

"I'm really scared and I don't even live in london...god knows how the people of london feel, worried if the riot will start at their road," tweeted Jake Collins.

About a third of the negative conversation included direct pleas for the chaos to end.

"It's sickening what's happening in London. The riots need to stop," proclaimed Shizzlewizzle.

"Everyone in London i hope you're all ok please be careful and stay safe and i hope the riots stop soon♥ You're in our thoughts," shared Rachel Merrygold.

While a much smaller presence, there were some who empathized with those taking part in the riots.

"What about the 16 year old girl who was attacked by the police shortly before crowds charged the police & started to riot on Saturday," asked Lataya Sinister.

"It is not just its damaged youth, but Britain itself that needs a moral reformation," wrote Vicky Smith with a link to Osborne's **piece** in the Telegraph.

"Well-off communities don't riot," wrote Peter Tatchell. "#Riots occur in deprived areas. Mere coincidence? I don't think so. Injustice > riots."

### **YouTube**

The U.K. riots also dominated attention on the video sharing site YouTube last week. All five of the most watched videos focused on the chaos.

The top video showed a group of men in East London pretending to help a 20-year-old Malaysian student named Ashraf Haziq, who was reeling from an earlier attack, while they simultaneously stole items from his backpack. One man, Reece Donovan, has been charged with robbery in connection with the August 8 incident.

The No. 2 video features an August 9 BBC interview with West Indian writer and broadcaster **Darcus Howe** in which he calls the riots an "insurrection" that was caused by unfair treatment of black teenagers by police.

The third, fourth and fifth videos show violent images from the riots including police cars, buildings and a double-decker bus set ablaze, youths smashing windows and looting merchandise, and rioters clashing with riot police.

<b>Most Viewed News &amp; Politics Videos on YouTube For the Week of August 6 - 12, 2011</b>
1. Footage of the UK riots showing a group of men stealing items from an injured Malaysian student's backpack while appearing to be helping him
2. Footage of <b>Darcus Howe</b> , a West Indian writer and broadcaster, speaking out about the riots on BBC News
3. <b>Video</b> from Russia Today showing patrol cars, a building, and a double-decker bus in flame as rioters clashed with riot police officers in Tottenham, North London
4. Video from <b>Russia Today</b> showing lootings and clashes between rioters and police
5. Video from <b>Sky News</b> showing looters stealing merchandise from numerous shops in Clapham Junction, South London

#### **The Rest of the Week's News on Twitter**

The fifth-largest subject on Twitter last week was also tied to the unfolding mayhem in the U.K., at least as far as Twitter users were concerned.

A list of **popular sporting goods** on the British version of Amazon.com drew significant attention. On August 10, there was a huge increase in the number of baseball bats sold in the U.K., and Twitterers quickly connected the increase to the current events.

"Interesting shift in sales on Amazon.co.uk in response to riots," observed Colby Almond.

"Does not bode well for tonight, surely. Shocking and terrifying," added Hadley Freeman.

The other top subjects on Twitter were all tech-related, most of which highlighted new functionalities for social networking sites.

The No. 2 story was Twitter itself. Much of the attention focused on a web site called **Twocation**, which allows users to discover where their followers are located geographically.

"My followers live in Indonesia (47.1%), the U.S. (26.5%) & South Africa (3.9%)," revealed Lim Beatrice Tasia.

The No. 3 topic was Google as many Twitterers highlighted a **post** on the company's official blog announcing that their social networking site, Google+, is adding games.

Another major social networking site, Facebook, was the No. 4 subject as two stories drew attention. One was a Mashable **report** on a study suggesting that teens who "overdose" on Facebook could wind up with psychological disorders. The other was a new **mobile phone application** that lets users send messages to others through Facebook. (The same subject was the fourth-biggest story on blogs last week as well.)

#### **The Week's News on Blogs**

The 2012 presidential election was the most popular subject on blogs last week, and two campaign-related articles drew the most attention.

One was a lengthy **New Yorker profile** of Republican candidate Michele Bachmann chronicling her transformation from a "Tea Party

#### **Top Stories on Blogs**

- |          |                    |
|----------|--------------------|
| <b>1</b> | 2012 Campaign      |
| <b>2</b> | Android            |
| <b>3</b> | U.S. Credit Rating |
| <b>4</b> | Facebook           |
| <b>5</b> | Nokia Phones       |

August 8-12, 2011

NEW MEDIA INDEX

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

insurgent" to a serious presidential contender. Bloggers differed as to whether the piece was a fair representation of Bachmann.

The other was a **Politico story** that quoted unnamed advisers to President Obama saying that his re-election campaign strategy will be made up of a "ferocious personal assault on Mitt Romney's character and business background." Some took this story to mean that the Obama Administration was anticipating a Romney nomination.

Stories about the Android mobile phone devices constituted the No. 2 subject as bloggers linked to a blog post on **Android Police** that included exclusive screen shots of the company's upcoming Ice Cream Sandwich device and an Ubergizmo **review** of Motorola's Droid X2.

The downgrade of the U.S. credit rating by Standard & Poor's was the third subject with much of the attention going to a **blog post** by New York Times columnist Paul Krugman, in which he criticizes the move and claims the ratings organization is not worthy of passing judgment.

The No. 4 story on blogs was the introduction of Facebook's new **mobile Messenger app** while the fifth-subject was about Nokia phones including a report that the new **Nokia N9 phone** will not be released in the U.S.

---

### About the New Media Index

To see the new methodology for how PEJ arrives at the list of most discussed stories in social media, **click here**.

This special edition of PEJ's **New Media Index** utilizes computer technology from the media monitoring firm **Crimson Hexagon**. Based on an examination of more than 3.6 million Tweets, this report goes beyond the normal methodology of PEJ's index to look at the specific themes and tone of conversation related to the situation in the U.K.

Crimson Hexagon is a software platform that identifies statistical patterns in words used in online texts. Researchers enter key terms using Boolean search logic so the software can identify relevant material to analyze. PEJ draws its analysis samples from hundreds of millions of publicly available Twitter posts. Then a researcher trains the software to classify documents using examples from those collected posts. Finally, the software classifies the rest of the online content according to the patterns derived during the training.

According to Crimson Hexagon: "Our technology analyzes the entire social internet (blog posts, forum messages, Tweets, etc.) by identifying statistical patterns in the words used to express opinions on different topics." Information on the tool itself can be found at <http://www.crimsonhexagon.com/> and the in depth methodologies can be found here <http://www.crimsonhexagon.com/products/whitepapers/>.

The time frame for the analysis is August 6-12, 2011, which is different than the normal NMI week, Monday through Friday.

PEJ used the following list of keywords in a Boolean search to narrow the universe to relevant posts:

*London OR UK OR riot OR "police shooting" OR Britain*

*\*For the sake of authenticity, PEJ has a policy of not correcting misspellings or grammatical errors that appear in direct quotes from blog postings.*

Source: [http://www.journalism.org/index\\_report/twitter\\_users\\_blast\\_london\\_rioters](http://www.journalism.org/index_report/twitter_users_blast_london_rioters)

---