

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Global Opinion Report No. 186

Week: August 21-27, 2011

Presentation: August 31, 2011

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 27 surveys. Three of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 24 are national surveys from various countries.

SUMMARY OF POLLS

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Malaysia: PM's approval rating declines to 59%

The prime minister's approval rating has taken a dip as found in the opinion poll released by Merdeka Center for Opinion Research today. 59% of the Malaysians polled said that they were satisfied with Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak's performance in this survey which is 6% lower compared to 65% recorded in May 2011. (Merdeka Center)

August 29, 2011

WEST EUROPE

Germany: Consumer Climate Only Recording Moderate Decline

A varied picture emerges in the development of consumer sentiment in Germany this August. While willingness to buy once again improved from an already high level, the declines in economic expectations and income expectations have been significant and moderate respectively. The overall indicator is forecasting a value of 5.2 points for September, following a revised value of 5.3 points in August. (GFK)

August 08, 2011

Most believe that British society is 'broken'

A recent survey shows that most people in Britain believe that British society is 'broken' – but despite the riots this has fallen slightly since 2008. Even more people agree with David Cameron's assertion that "pockets of Britain are not only broken, but frankly sick". (Ipsos Mori)

August 25, 2011

Two Thirds Of Women Prefer A Man Without A Beard; But Only A Third Of Men Have Facial Hair

Latest YouGov research reveals that two thirds of British women prefer the appearance of a man without a beard, compared to less than one in ten who favour the more hirsute type. (Yougov)

August 24, 2011

Privacy A Sticking Point For Those Choosing Private Over Public Healthcare

A recent YouGov report on private and public healthcare reveals that privacy during hospitalisation is one of the most important advantages of private healthcare - 39% of UK respondents associated 'adequate privacy' with private healthcare, second only to 'good facilities' (41%). Conversely, over half of UK respondents identified 'lack of privacy' as a drawback of public healthcare (52%). (Yougov)

August 23, 2011

Most Britons Support Reinstating the Death Penalty for Murder

A majority of people in Great Britain would welcome the reinstatement of the death penalty, and more than half regard it as a more suitable punishment for murderers than life imprisonment, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus Reid)

August 23, 2011

Obama Leadership Image Takes a Hit, GOP Ratings Decline

The public is profoundly discontented with conditions in the country, its government, political leadership and several of its major institutions. Fully 79% are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country. Even more (86%) say they are frustrated or angry with the federal government. Favorable ratings for both political parties are in negative territory and have declined since the beginning of the year. (Pew Research Center)

August 25, 2011

24% Growth in Hispanic College Enrollment from 2009 to 2010

Driven by a single-year surge of 24% in Hispanic enrollment, the number of 18- to 24-year-olds attending college in the United States hit an all-time high of 12.2 million in October 2010, according to a Pew Hispanic Center analysis of newly available Census Bureau data. (Pew Research Center)

August 25, 2011

Americans Irritated as Rating for Obama and Congress Plummet

The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama has fallen to the lowest level of his tenure, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Only two-in-five respondents are satisfied with the President, and one-in-eight endorse the way Congress is handling its duties. (Angus Reid)

August 22, 2011

Tea Party Supporters Backing Perry for GOP Nomination

Rick Perry's candidacy has attracted strong initial support from Republicans who identify themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement. Perry leads by 21 percentage points over the closest contenders among this group, Mitt Romney and Michele Bachmann. Among Republicans who say they do not support the Tea Party movement, Romney and Perry are essentially tied. (Gallup USA)

August 26, 2011

Americans Show Rising Support for Abortion Rights: Poll

Despite recent moves by some states to restrict access to abortion, more Americans now support a woman's right to choose than they did two years ago, a new Harris Interactive/Health Day poll finds. (Harris Interactive)

July 25, 2011)

Most Parents Loosen Rules for Children's Media Consumption During the Summer

Ah, summer; a time when kids spend their days playing sports and games outside and visiting local pools and beaches. But, with all the various forms of media now available, are these quintessential summer images still accurate? Many parents of those 17 or younger and living at home say their children consume various types of media more, including watching television and playing video games, during the summer months. (Harris Interactive)

August 24, 2011

President and Congress at Lowest Approval Ratings Ever

This month, just one-third of Americans (32%) give the president positive ratings on the overall job he is doing while two-thirds (68%) give him negative ratings. Last month, almost two in five (38%) gave the president positive marks while 62% gave him negative ones. (Harris Interactive)

August 18, 2011

Americans Divided on Whether King's Dream Has Been Realized

Americans are about equally divided on whether Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of U.S. racial equality has been realized, with 51% saying it has and 49% saying it has not. Blacks (54%) are slightly more optimistic than whites (49%) that the dream has been realized. (Gallup USA)

August 26, 2011

Americans Choose Gold as the Best Long-Term Investment

Thirty-four percent of Americans say gold is the best long-term investment, more than say so about four other types of investments. Real estate (19%) and stocks (17%) are distant second choices. (Gallup USA)

August 25, 2011

Troubled Economy Top Story for Public and Media

Americans focused most closely last week on news about the nation's troubled economy amid concerns about the stalled recovery and fears of a possible new recession. (Pew Research Center)

August 23, 2011

In U.S., Obesity Rates Remain Higher Than 20% in All States

Colorado continues to be the state with the lowest obesity rate in the country, at 20.1% in the first half of 2011. Fewer than one in four residents are obese in the 10 states with the lowest obesity rates. In the 10 states with the highest levels of obesity, rates are 29% or higher. West Virginia has the highest obesity rate in January through June 2011, at 34.3%, which is also the highest Gallup has measured for any state since it began tracking obesity rates in 2008. (Gallup USA)

August 25, 2011

Perry Zooms to Front of Pack for 2012 GOP Nomination

Shortly after announcing his official candidacy, Texas Gov. Rick Perry has emerged as rank-and-file Republicans' current favorite for their party's 2012 presidential nomination. Twenty-nine percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents nationwide say they are most likely to support Perry, with Mitt Romney next, at 17%. (Gallup USA)

August 24, 2011

Perry Rises in Recognition and Maintains Positive Image

Texas Gov. Rick Perry is now recognized by 67% of Republicans and Republican leaners nationwide, an increase of 13 percentage points from two weeks ago. Still, six of the other nine candidates or potential candidates are better known than Perry, led by Sarah Palin (97%) and Rudy Giuliani (91%). Of the announced candidates, Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, and Michele Bachmann are best known. (Gallup USA)

August 23, 2011

Americans' Economic Confidence Weak, but Has Stabilized

Americans' confidence in the economy is weak but stable after ratcheting sharply downward in July. The Gallup Economic Confidence Index registered -53 for the week of Aug. 15-21, identical to the first two weeks of August but well below the -34 of July 4-10 and 20 percentage points below where it stood a year ago. (Gallup USA)

August 23, 2011

Obama in Close Race Against Romney, Perry, Bachmann, Paul

President Barack Obama is closely matched against each of four possible Republican opponents when registered voters are asked whom they would support if the 2012 presidential election were held today. Mitt Romney leads Obama by two percentage points, 48% to 46%, Rick Perry and Obama are tied at 47%, and Obama edges out Ron Paul and Michele Bachmann by two and four points, respectively. (Gallup USA)

August 22, 2011

Hawaii Continues to Lead in Wellbeing; North Dakota Second

Americans in Hawaii continued to set the national standard in wellbeing in the first half of 2011, followed closely by North Dakota. West Virginia and Kentucky maintained their status as the states with the lowest wellbeing. Nebraska, which showed the biggest gains in wellbeing rank from 2009 (25th) to 2010 (10th), continued to move up, landing in the top five. (Gallup USA)

August 22, 2011

AUSTRALASIA

L-NP (58.5%) Increases Winning Lead Over ALP (41.5%)

Today's Morgan Poll shows strong support for the L-NP 58.5% (up 1.5% since the telephone Morgan Poll of August 9/10, 2011) compared to the ALP 41.5% (down 1.5%) on a Two-Party preferred basis. (Roy Morgan)

August 26, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Global consumers increasingly polarized by economic conditions

British consumers are facing the double whammy of still feeling the effects of recession even as rising costs fuel inflationary worries. They are not alone in the world, though, according to GfK Roper Consulting's 2011 Mood of the World® Report, which is based on a global survey of more than 32,000 consumers ages 15 and older in 25 countries. (GfK)

August 23, 2011

World's Top-Emitters No More Aware of Climate Change in 2010

Residents in the top five greenhouse gas-emitting countries are no more aware of global warming or climate change than they were a few years ago. Majorities in all five countries Gallup surveyed in 2010 -- except India -- continue to say they know at least something about the issue. (Gallup USA)

August 26, 2011

The Parenting Gap: U.S. Versus China

With U.S. students underperforming in international tests, it may not be surprising that more than six-in-ten (64%) Americans say that parents do not put enough pressure on their children to do well in school; only 11% currently say parents put too much pressure on students, while 21% say parents are exerting the right amount of pressure. In sharp contrast, about two-thirds (68%) of the Chinese public take just the opposite position. (Pew Research Center)

August 23, 2011

CYBER WORLD

Australia: Increased Concern About Health Risks Of Mobile Phones

With mobile phone penetration (87%) now higher than fixed line penetration (82%), concerns are increasing about health risks associated with mobile phones, according to the latest Roy Morgan Research Mobile Phone Monitor. (Roy Morgan)

August 26, 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

186-43-1. PM's approval rating declines to 59%

August 29, 2011

BANGI – The prime minister's approval rating has taken a dip as found in the opinion poll released by Merdeka Center for Opinion Research today.

59% of the Malaysians polled said that they were satisfied with Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak's performance in this survey which is 6% lower compared to 65% recorded in May 2011. Broken down into ethnic groups, the survey found 69% of Malays, 38% of Chinese and 69% of Indian respondents expressed satisfaction.

Suggested Electoral Reform	% Agree	% Disagree	Net support
Allowing foreign and local observers to monitor elections	70%	23%	47%
Allowing opposition parties access to government-owned television & radio networks for at least one hour a day during the campaign period	68%	24%	44%
Using indelible ink on voters	70%	19%	51%
Review and "clean up" the electoral roll	88%	6%	82%

From the survey, we note that the significantly reduced approval rating may be due to the increased concerns over cost of living related matters as ordinary citizens begin to feel the impact of hikes in the price of fuel and electricity. Besides pocket book issues, the poll result also suggests some linkage with adverse public perception of how the government handled events and public discourse arising from the BERSIH 2.0 rally and other related events.

One half of Malaysians say country headed in the right direction

At the same time, the survey found that 51% of the electorate felt that the country was headed in the right direction down slightly from 54% in May 2011. With respect to issues, the survey found that the public's topmost concern remained the economy mentioned by an aggregate comprising 38% of respondents, followed by concerns over social problems at 10%. Worries over political related matters ranked third at 9% of the public mindscape, while concerns over public safety and crime stood at 7%.

Majority welcome electoral reform proposals

Close to half (49%) of the respondents claimed they understood about the demands of BERSIH 2.0, the banned coalition of non-government organizations demanding for free and fair election in Malaysia. 39% of respondents expressed satisfaction with the way government handled the issues regarding BERSIH, while 48% of the respondents were dissatisfied.

When queried on some of the reforms proposed by BERSIH, the survey found more than two thirds of all respondents expressed agreement with some of the demands as noted below:

The Peninsular Malaysia wide telephone survey of 1,027 randomly selected Malaysian registered voters aged 21 and above was carried out between 11th – 27th August 2011. Respondents were selected using the random, stratified sampling method and structured along the national electorate profile and specifically proportional to gender, ethnicity, age groups and state of residence.

Source:http://merdeka.org/v2/index.php?option=com_jotloader§ion=files&task=download&cid=92_d9ea48ea39f9ad26ccbcc6fac156e36&Itemid=68

WEST EUROPE

186-43-2. Germany: Consumer Climate Only Recording Moderate Decline

Findings of the GfK Consumer Climate study for Aug. 2011

Nuremberg, August 25, 2011 – A varied picture emerges in the development of consumer sentiment in Germany this August. While willingness to buy once again improved from an already high level, the declines in economic expectations and income expectations have been significant and moderate respectively. The overall indicator is forecasting a value of 5.2 points for September, following a revised value of 5.3 points in August.

Despite the current crisis on the financial markets, Germans' willingness to buy is surprisingly robust and increased further in August from an already high level. However, the worsening of the international debt crisis and rising fears of a return to recession for the global economy have clearly left their mark on the economic optimism of Germans. In contrast, economic expectations virtually collapsed in August, and in light of this, there has also been a moderate drop in Germans' income expectations.

Economic expectations: major slump

Economic expectations fell for the second consecutive time. While the decline in the prior month was comparatively moderate, the indicator dropped 31.2 points in August. The current indicator value of 13.4 points is the lowest that has been recorded since June 2010.

The worsening debt crisis, rigorous debate on raising the debt limit in the USA and mounting fears of a return to recession for the global economy have resulted in stock markets worldwide buckling. These events have also adversely affected the economic optimism of Germans, and sent the indicator into a tailspin. The population fear that the period of weakness at global level may be transmitted to the domestic economy if export prospects significantly collapse. Consequently, the dynamic development of the German economy would also lessen.

This outlook of consumers is confirmed by the Ifo business climate index, which fell considerably in August. Although companies still assess current business development positively, they have significantly reduced their expectations for the coming half year.

The first signs were already evident in figures recently published by the Federal Statistical Office of Germany, which showed that the German economy only registered weak growth in the second quarter and, according to the preliminary figures, the gross domestic product was a meager 0.1% higher than in the first quarter of the year.

Income expectations: moderate drop

In the wake of the sharp fall in economic expectations, income expectations also dropped in August, albeit more moderately with minus 7 points. The indicator currently stands at 27.6 points and therefore clearly remains in the positive.

Apart from declining economic optimism, Germans are worried that the recent solutions to the debt crisis will result in them having to pay even more and they anticipate an increase in the financial burden. In addition, the high and to some extent still rising energy prices continue to place a strain on the population.

Despite its recent losses, the indicator still remains at an extremely satisfactory level. Germans continue to expect positive development in income on account of the very good employment situation.

Willingness to buy: resisting the crisis

In contrast to the downward trend in income and economic expectations, Germans' willingness to buy appears to have been untouched by the crisis in August and once again rose slightly from an already high level. The indicator improved by 2.8 points and now stands at 36.9 points, which is a 9-point increase in comparison with the same period of the prior year.

The extremely pleasing signals from the labor market in conjunction with anticipated rises in income are currently the main drivers of the German consumers' mood to buy. Falling employment figures have reduced the fear of redundancies and have consequently contributed towards a higher confidence in planning for the future, which is above all a key criterion for consumers when they consider making major purchases.

In addition, willingness to buy will be boosted by the present extensive discussions for a solution to the debt crisis in the eurozone. Many Germans fear for the stability of their currency and are therefore more likely to spend their money on high-value purchases than to save for a rainy day. This is verified by the sharp decline in saving propensity in August.

Consumer climate: decline only moderate

The overall indicator is forecasting a value of 5.2 points for September, following a revised value of 5.3 points in August. The worsening debt crisis and the fact that global stock markets are plummeting downwards are currently only having a minor impact on the consumer climate in Germany. However, extremely positive general conditions in Germany, such as falling unemployment and increasing income, are influencing the mood of the population.

The outlook for the German domestic economy will remain favorable this year if the eurozone community is finally successful in developing a coherent policy for tackling high government debt and ensures that it is rigorously implemented. However, if this is not achieved, then a more severe negative impact on the consumer client in Germany can also not be ruled out. The most important factor for consumers is that reliable government policy gives them confidence in planning for the future. Only when Germans regard the future without trepidation will their disposition to consume be sustained.

In light of the global economic decline, which could also become a problem for German exports, a stable domestic economy is an even more important pillar for positive overall economic development in Germany.

The survey

These findings are extracts from the "GfK Consumer Climate MAXX survey", which is based on around 2,000 consumer interviews conducted each month on behalf of the EU Commission. The report contains charts, forecasts and a detailed commentary regarding the indicators. In addition, the report includes information on proposed consumer spending in 20 different areas of the consumer goods and services markets. The GfK Consumer Climate survey has been conducted since 1980.

The next publication date will be September 27, 2011.

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You can find information on the development of the indicators in the second quarter in ten further European countries in **GfK Consumer Climate**

Europe at http://www.gfk.com/consumer_climate_europe/index.en.html

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. For further information, visit our website: www.gfk.com. Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/gfk_group.

Source: http://www.gfk.com/group/press_information/press_releases/008555/index.en.html

186-43-3. Most believe that British society is 'broken'

Published: 25 August 2011

Fieldwork: 20 - 22 August 2011

Reuters/Ipsos MORI August 2011 Political Monitor

Most believe that British society is 'broken' – but despite the riots this has fallen slightly since 2008. Even more people agree with David Cameron's assertion that "pockets of Britain are not only broken, but frankly sick".

Economic optimism continues to fall amid debt crisis in America and the Eurozone.

CON 34 (+2); LAB 40 (+1); LIB DEM 15 (+4)

The August Reuters/Ipsos MORI Political Monitor, our first poll conducted since the riots in England, shows that three in five people (58%) agree that "British society is broken".

Our recent [Issues Index](#), conducted during the riots and their immediate aftermath, showed a marked increase in concern about crime and anti-social behaviour following the riots. However, agreement that British society is broken has fallen slightly since September 2008 (63%), the last time Ipsos MORI asked the question.

Even more people agree with the statement made by the Prime Minister in the aftermath of the riots that "pockets of Britain are not only broken, but frankly sick" (69%). Agreement is higher among Conservative supporters than Labour supporters (76% compared to 67%).

There is little to suggest that the riots have had an effect on public satisfaction with the government and its leaders. Satisfaction with the government remains unchanged since last month, with twice as many people dissatisfied as satisfied (59% compared to 30%). Two in five are satisfied with David Cameron (39%) while three in ten (31%) are satisfied with Nick Clegg, both also unchanged from July.

Nick Clegg's personal ratings among Liberal Democrat voters have increased this month. Over half of his own party's supporters are now satisfied with his performance (55% compared to 47% in July, while dissatisfaction has fallen from 41% to 29%).

Ed Miliband's ratings are also unchanged this month, with just over a third (36%) satisfied with the way he is doing his job as leader of the Labour party and two in five (43%) dissatisfied, his net score of minus 7 being better than Cameron's or Clegg's.

Voting intentions this month are Conservatives 34%, Labour 40% and Liberal Democrats 15%, among those who are certain to vote. While the Conservative and Labour shares remain broadly unchanged since July, this is an increase in the Lib Dem share of four points from July,

and their highest share since last September. There has been a fall in support for minor parties, which was at an unusually high level in July following the hacking scandal.

Economic optimism continues to fall in the wake of the continued debt crisis in America and the Eurozone; a fifth (19%) believe the economic condition of the country will improve in the next twelve months, and half (52%) think that it will get worse. Pessimism about the short-term future of the economy has been increasing month-on-month since May.

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1,002 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone 20-22 August 2011. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2845/ReutersIpsos-MORI-Political-Monitor.aspx>

186-43-4. Two Thirds Of Women Prefer A Man Without A Beard; But Only A Third Of Men Have Facial Hair

24 August 2011

Latest YouGov research reveals that two thirds of British women prefer the appearance of a man without a beard, compared to less than one in ten who favour the more hirsute type.

Perhaps relatedly, our poll also discovered that nearly two thirds of men do not currently have facial hair, leaving just over a third of men a little on the hairy side. However, of those who do have facial hair, more than half describe it as stubble, while just three in ten hairy men have a full beard and moustache.

66% of British women prefer the appearance of a man without a beard

While 6% prefer the appearance of a man with a beard, and 27% have no preference either way

Fortunately for the two thirds of women who aren't keen, only 37% of men currently have facial hair

While 63% of men revealed that they did not currently have facial hair

Female aversion to beards seems to dissipate with age, as 80% of 18 to 24 year olds prefer the appearance of a man without a beard, compared to 59% of those aged 60 and over

However, although older women seem less bothered about facial hair on men, it seems male hairiness decreases with age, as 51% of 18 to 24 year old men say that they have facial hair, compared to just 31% of over 60s

52% of men describe their hair as stubble, with 18 to 24 year olds especially sporting this look (80%)

29% of men have a beard and moustache, particularly the over 60s (42%)

11% of men have a moustache only, and this look is most popular among the 40 to 59 age group (18%)

Notes to Editors

All figures, unless otherwise stated are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,757 adults. The data has been weighted to be representative of the British adult population as a whole. Fieldwork was undertaken between the 16th and 17th August 2011. The survey was carried out online.

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

186-43-5. Privacy A Sticking Point For Those Choosing Private Over Public Healthcare

23 August 2011

A recent YouGov report on private and public healthcare reveals that privacy during hospitalisation is one of the most important advantages of private healthcare - 39% of UK respondents associated 'adequate privacy' with private healthcare, second only to 'good facilities' (41%). Conversely, over half of UK respondents identified 'lack of privacy' as a drawback of public healthcare (52%).

Over half of people who opted for elective surgery under the NHS in the past 2 years identified 'lack of privacy' as a drawback of the NHS (53%). Meanwhile, 70% of those who turned to private institutions for their elective surgery praised private healthcare institutions for providing 'adequate privacy'.

However, while privacy is a bugbear for some, marking a discrepancy between the public and private healthcare experience, the overall assessments provided by private and public patients in respect to their chosen healthcare plans are broadly similar.

Of those who have had elective surgery under the NHS in the past 2 years, 78% take a positive view of the NHS overall. Meanwhile, 74% of those who have had elective surgery in a private institution in the past 2 years had a positive outlook on private healthcare.

However, while UK consumers as a whole see little reason to pay for private care when they pay taxes, a majority also admit that private healthcare, though considered unaffordable, is desirable. Nearly two thirds of respondents (63%) agreed with the statement: 'I feel I have already paid for healthcare through taxation and should not have to pay again', while at the same time 57% of UK consumers admit that they would pay for private healthcare services if they could afford it.

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

186-43-6. Most Britons Support Reinstating the Death Penalty for Murder

(08/23/11) -

More than half of respondents think capital punishment would be a better approach to deal with convicted murderers than life imprisonment.

A majority of people in Great Britain would welcome the reinstatement of the death penalty, and more than half regard it as a more suitable punishment for murderers than life imprisonment, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of a representative national sample of 2,039 British adults also shows that the public is interested in seeing this issue debated in Parliament.

Across Great Britain, three-in-five respondents (59%) believe the death penalty is sometimes appropriate, while 22 per cent believe the practice is never appropriate and 13 per cent think capital punishment is always appropriate.

Two thirds of Britons (65%) support reinstating the death penalty for murder in Great Britain, while three-in-ten (28%) oppose this course of action. Men (68%), respondents aged 35-to-54 (66%) and those over the age of 55 (67%) are more likely to endorse the change.

The respondents who voice support for reinstating the death penalty in Great Britain believe that, if a convicted murderer has taken a life, the death penalty fits the crime (68%) and also that capital punishment would serve as a deterrent for potential murderers (also 68%). More than half of death penalty supporters also think reinstatement would save taxpayers money and the costs associated with having murderers in prison (56%). In addition, 45 per cent of these respondents think the death penalty would provide closure to the families of murder victims, and 25 per cent think that murderers cannot be rehabilitated.

Conversely, the people who voice opposition for reinstating the death penalty in Great Britain are primarily concerned with the possibility of a person being wrongly convicted and then executed (83%) and also believe that it is wrong to take a murderer's own life as punishment (55%). Other reasons cited for opposing the death penalty are that it would not serve as a deterrent for potential murderers (41%), that murderers should do their time in prison as indicated by a judge (34%), and that murderers can be rehabilitated (16%).

When asked which of two approaches they would prefer as a punishment for convicted murderers in Great Britain, more than half of respondents (52%) select the death penalty, while one third (35%) choose life imprisonment. Once again, men, middle-aged respondents and older respondents are more likely to call for the death penalty than women and younger respondents.

Finally, three-in-four Britons (75%) believe that MPs should debate whether the death penalty should be reinstated, while 18 per cent would not like to see this topic discussed in the House of Commons.

Methodology: From August 11 to August 12, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,039 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source:<http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/43992/most-britons-support-reinstating-the-death-penalty-for-murder/>

NORTH AMERICA

186-43-7. Obama Leadership Image Takes a Hit, GOP Ratings Decline

Continued Dissatisfaction with Republican Field

August 25, 2011

The public is profoundly discontented with conditions in the country, its government, political leadership and several of its major institutions. Fully 79% are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country. Even more (86%) say they are frustrated or angry with the federal government. Favorable ratings for both political parties are in negative territory and have declined since the beginning of the year.

Discontent with Political Leaders, More Anger at Government

	Feb 2011	Aug 2011
<i>Job rating ...</i>	%	%
Obama		
Approve	49	43
Disapprove	42	49
<i>Favorable opinion of ...</i>		
Republican Party		
Favorable	43	34
Unfavorable	48	59
Democratic Party		
Favorable	47	43
Unfavorable	46	50
Congress		
Favorable	34	25
Unfavorable	57	70
<i>Feeling about federal government ...</i>		
Angry	14	26
Frustrated	59	60
Basically content	22	11

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Congress favorability, feeling about federal government from early March.

—Just 22% approve of the job performance of Republican congressional leaders, down from 36% in February. Ratings for Democratic leaders are only somewhat better (29% approve). More generally, the Republican Party's favorable rating has declined from 43% in early February to 34% currently. At 43%, the Democratic Party is viewed more favorably than the GOP, but it too was rated a bit better earlier in the year (47% in February).

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Aug. 17-21 among 1,509 adults, finds that Barack Obama's job approval rating has declined markedly since the killing of Osama bin Laden in early May. For the first time in his presidency, significantly more disapprove than approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president (49% vs. 43%), and the margin of strong disapproval over strong approval has widened; currently, 38% strongly disapprove of Obama's job performance while 26% strongly approve.

Fewer See Obama as Able to Get Things Done, Strong Leader

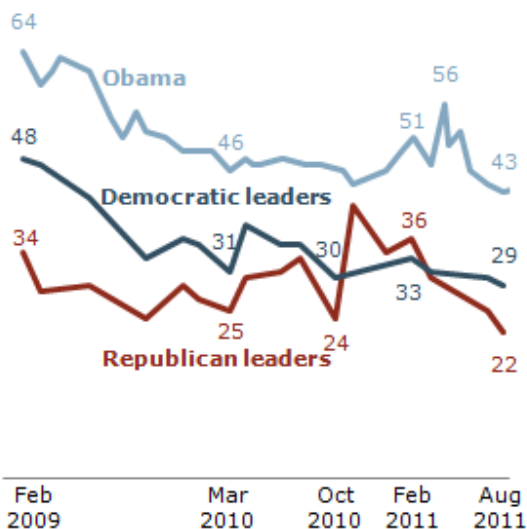
% saying each describes Obama ...	Jan 5-9	May 25-30	Aug 17-21	Change May-Aug
Able to get things done	54	55	44	-11
Strong leader	53	58	49	-9
Stands up for what he believes in	77	75	71	-4
Well-informed	64	67	63	-4
Warm and friendly	70	73	70	-3
Trustworthy	58	62	59	-3
Cares about people like me	60	64	63	-1
Good communicator	75	75	75	0

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q7.

There also has been a substantial erosion of Obama's leadership image. Since May, the percentage saying Obama is able to get things done has fallen from 55% to 44%, while the percentage viewing Obama as a strong leader has declined from 58% to 49%. Fewer Democrats and independents now view Obama as a strong leader than did so in May (down 10 points, eight points, respectively).

Democrats also want Obama to get tougher in his dealings with congressional Republicans. Currently, 57% of Democrats say Obama should challenge the Republicans more often, while 32% say he is handling relations with the GOP about right. In early April, just 39% of Democrats said Obama should do more to challenge Republicans and 47%

Approval Ratings for Obama, Congressional Leaders



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q3, Q6.

said _____ he was handling things about right.

The better news for Obama is that he continues to be seen by majorities as someone who stands up for what he believes in (71%), as caring (63%) and trustworthy (59%). Moreover, his 43% job approval rating, while much lower than his rating just a few months ago, is relatively strong given the widespread dissatisfaction with national conditions, increasingly negative views of the economy, and broad distrust of government. And Obama's approval rating continues to be much higher than those for congressional leaders of both parties.

Obama continues to run even in a 2012 matchup against a generic Republican presidential candidate. Currently, 43% of registered voters say they would like to see Obama reelected while 40% would prefer a Republican. That is little changed from a month ago (41% Obama, 40% Republican), but in May Obama held an 11-point lead in the generic ballot.

Views of the GOP Field: Past and Present

	Oct 1995	Oct 2007	May 2011	Aug 2011
All registered voters	%	%	%	%
Excellent/Good	33	31	25	26
Only fair/Poor	63	59	61	64
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100
Republican, Rep- leaning RVs				
Excellent/Good	51	52	44	49
Only fair/Poor	46	43	43	44
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100

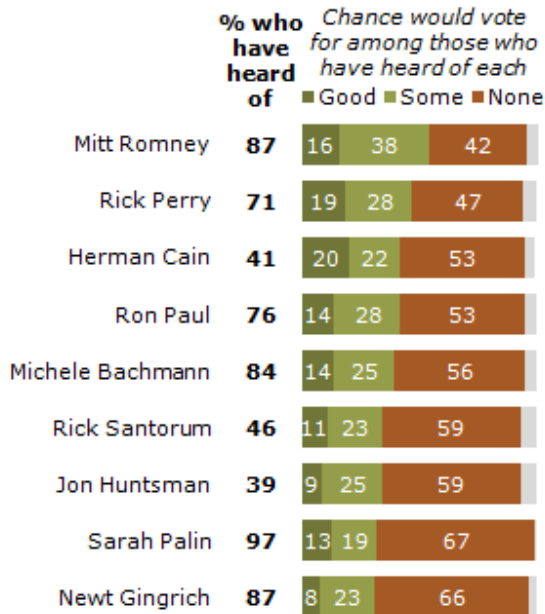
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q27. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Question not asked in 2000 election cycle.

Voters remain unimpressed by the GOP field. As was the case in late May, prior to the Ames straw poll and Rick Perry's entry into the presidential race, only about a quarter of voters (26%) say they have an excellent or good impression of the possible GOP candidates. Most (64%) say as a group the candidates are only fair or poor.

Republican and Republican-leaning voters continue to express mixed views of the GOP candidates (49% excellent or good, 44% only fair or poor). In May, 44% of Republican voters said the party's presidential field was excellent or good, while 43% said it was only fair or poor.

The Appeal of the GOP Field

Based on registered voters



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q28.

Of the party's best-known possible candidates, only Mitt Romney and Rick Perry have broad potential appeal: 54% of registered voters who have heard of Romney say there is a good chance (16%) or some chance (38%) they would vote for the former Massachusetts governor. Nearly half (47%) say there is at least some chance they would vote for Perry, though an identical percentage (47%) says there is no chance they will support Perry.

Fewer say there is at least some chance they would vote for Ron Paul (42%) or Michelle Bachmann (39%). Substantial majorities of those who have heard of Sarah Palin and Newt Gingrich have ruled out voting them; 67% say there is no chance they would vote for Palin while 66% say there is no chance they would vote for Gingrich.

Republican Voters' Views of the Most Visible GOP Candidates

Chance would vote for among those who have heard of each

Republican and Republican-leaning voters:	Good chance	Some chance	No chance	DK
	%	%	%	%
Rick Perry	37	40	17	7=100
Mitt Romney	28	47	21	5=100
Michele Bachmann	28	37	31	4=100
Sarah Palin	24	34	41	2=100
Ron Paul	21	37	37	5=100
Newt Gingrich	17	33	48	2=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q28. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Among Republican and Republican-leaning voters who have heard of each of the candidates, Perry generates a little more enthusiasm than Romney: 37% say there is a good chance they would vote for Perry while 40% say there is some chance. By comparison, 28% of GOP voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Romney and 47% say some chance.

As many Republican and Republican-leaning voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Bachmann as for Romney (28% each). But more Republican voters say there is no chance they would vote for Bachmann (31% vs. 21% for Romney). Higher percentages of Republican voters say there is no chance they would vote for Palin (41%) and Gingrich (48%).

The survey also finds that amid widespread dissatisfaction with national conditions, the public is taking a more negative view of national institutions. The percentage saying they can trust the government always or most of the time has declined by 10 points since early March (from 29% to 19%) and is at one of its lowest points in half a century. The percentage saying they are angry at the federal government has nearly doubled since March (from 14% to 26%) and is at a historic high.

And favorable views of both business corporations and labor unions have fallen. Just 38% now have a favorable opinion of business corporations, the lowest favorable rating for business in more than a quarter century of Pew Research Center surveys. About the same percentage (41%) have a favorable opinion of labor unions, which equals a low in Pew Research Center surveys.

Other Major Findings:

Tea Party Image Slips. As the Tea Party movement has gotten better known, its image has become much more negative. In February 2010, 33% had a favorable opinion of the Tea Party, 25% an unfavorable one; today 36% have a favorable view, while 43% have an unfavorable opinion.

Changing Economic Priorities. As many Americans (47%) place a higher priority on spending to help the economy recover as on reducing the budget deficit (46%). In June, 52% said reducing the deficit was the higher priority while 42% said spending to help the economy recover was the higher priority.

Disgruntled Democrats. Currently, 61% of Democrats and Democratic leaners say their party is doing only a fair or poor job of standing up for its traditional positions, such as

protecting the interests of minorities and helping the poor. Last fall, shortly after the midterm election, 50% said the party was doing only a fair or poor job in supporting the party's traditional positions.

Perry and the Tea Party. Nearly half (49%) of Republican and Republican-leaning voters who agree with the Tea Party (and have heard of Perry) say there is a good chance they would support him. Far fewer Tea Party Republicans (29%) say there is a good chance they would vote for Romney. And nearly twice as many GOP Tea Party supporters think Perry has a better chance to defeat Obama than say that about Romney (34% vs. 18%).

Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/08/25/obama-leadership-image-takes-a-hit-gop-ratings-decline/?src=prc-headline>

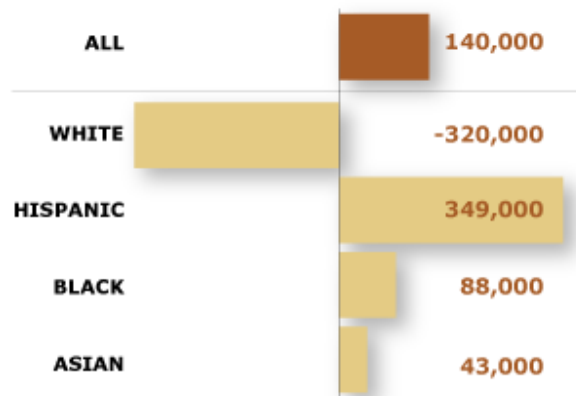
186-43-8. 24% Growth in Hispanic College Enrollment from 2009 to 2010

8.25.2011

Hispanic College Enrollment Spikes, Narrowing Gaps with Other Groups

by Richard Fry, Senior Research Associate, Pew Hispanic Center

Change in 18- to 24-Year-Old College Enrollment, 2009 to 2010



PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Driven by a single-year surge of 24% in Hispanic enrollment, the number of 18- to 24-year-olds attending college in the United States hit an all-time high of 12.2 million in October 2010, according to a Pew Hispanic Center analysis of newly available Census Bureau data. From 2009 to 2010, the number of Hispanic young adults enrolled in college grew by 349,000, compared with an increase of 88,000 young blacks and 43,000 young Asian Americans and a decrease of 320,000 young non-Hispanic whites.

As a result of these shifts, young Hispanics for the first time outnumbered young blacks on campus, even though young black college enrollment has also grown steadily for decades and it, too, has surged in recent years. In 2010, 38% of all 18- to 24-year-old blacks were enrolled in college, up from 13% in 1967 and 32% in 2008.

The Hispanic enrollment increase has been even more dramatic than the black enrollment increase because it has been spurred by a mixture of population growth and educational strides. High levels of immigration and high birth rates have made Hispanics the nation's biggest minority group, comprising 16% of the U.S. population as of 2010. In 1972, just 5% of the nation's 18- to 24-year-olds were Hispanic. By 2010, that share rose to 19%.

However, population growth accounts for only a share of the 24% young Hispanic college enrollment spike from 2009 to 2010. During that same period, the total population of 18- to 24-year-old Hispanics grew by 7%.

Rising educational attainment is an important driver of these enrollment trends, over the long term as well as in recent years. The rate of young Hispanics enrolled in college rose from 13% in 1972 to 27% in 2009 to 32% in 2010.

These findings are based on an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's School Enrollment Supplement of the October 2010 Current Population Survey (CPS), supplemented by historical time series based on the CPS. The CPS is the standard source for national rates of college enrollment and has collected college enrollment information in a consistent manner since 1947.

Source: <http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=146&src=prc-headline>

186-43-9. Americans Irritated as Rating for Obama and Congress Plummet (08/22/11) -

Only two-in-five respondents are satisfied with the President, and one-in-eight endorse the way Congress is handling its duties.

The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama has fallen to the lowest level of his tenure, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 American adults, 40 per cent of respondents (-8 since July) approve of Obama's performance as president, while 53 per cent (+8) disapprove.

The level of strong approval for the U.S. President practically trails the level of strong disapproval by a 3-to-1 margin (12% to 34%). Obama does not reach the 50 per cent mark on approval in any of the country's four main regions.

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress also dropped this month, reaching 12 per cent (-6), while four-in-five respondents (81%, +8) voice dissatisfaction with its performance.

The level of strong approval for federal lawmakers in the U.S. is two per cent, while half of Americans (52%) strongly disapprove.

The worst rating for Congress is in the West, where only 10 per cent of respondents approve of its performance.

Analysis

The eight-point drop in Obama's approval rating is the most dramatic since he took office. Also, it must be noted that the proportion of respondents who currently disapprove of his actions (53%) is the highest of his presidency.

Congress, which has been unable to reach the 20 per cent mark since March, has now descended to historic lows and is only supported by one-in-eight respondents.

Methodology: From August 17 to August 18, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,002 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/43990/americans-irritated-as-rating-for-obama-and-congress-plummet/>

186-43-10. Tea Party Supporters Backing Perry for GOP Nomination

Perry leads by 21 percentage points over Romney, Bachmann among this group
August 26, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Rick Perry's candidacy has attracted strong initial support from Republicans who identify themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement. Perry leads by 21 percentage points over the closest contenders among this group, Mitt Romney and Michele Bachmann. Among Republicans who say they do not support the Tea Party movement, Romney and Perry are essentially tied.

Republican Nomination Preferences, by Support for Tea Party Movement

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Support Tea Party movement	Do not support Tea Party movement
	%	%
Rick Perry	35	20
Mitt Romney	14	23
Michele Bachmann	14	6
Ron Paul	12	16
Herman Cain	6	3
Newt Gingrich	5	3
Rick Santorum	3	3
Jon Huntsman	1	2
Other	2	2
No preference	8	24

Gallup, Aug. 17-21, 2011

Note: 58% of Republicans and Republican leaners identify themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement and 36% as nonsupporters.

GALLUP*

These results are based on an Aug. 17-21 Gallup poll, which showed **Perry overtaking Romney** as the front-runner for the 2012 GOP presidential nomination among all Republicans nationwide.

The poll finds that 58% of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents identify themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement, with 36% saying they do not consider themselves supporters. Included among the group of Tea Party supporters is a smaller group -- representing 12% of Republicans -- who say they are "strong" supporters of the movement. Among this smaller group, Perry's lead is even greater, 46% to 16%, over Bachmann, with all other candidates in single digits.

In Gallup's July measurement of Republicans' nomination preferences, before Perry officially entered the race, Romney held a slight edge over Bachmann among Tea Party supporters, 29% to 23%. Romney led Paul by 25% to 16% among nonsupporters.

Perry Leads Among Government Power, Values Voters

Given a choice of four sets of issues, Republicans are most likely to say business and economy (38%) and government power and spending (36%) are the most important to them. Fewer Republicans rank social issues and moral values (15%) and national security and foreign policy (9%) as their top issues.

Perry, not surprisingly given his lead among Tea Party supporters, is the preferred candidate among Republicans who identify "government spending and power" as the set of issues most important to them. Perry is the top choice of 31% of these Republicans, with Romney (17%), Paul (13%), and Bachmann (12%) vying for second place.

But Perry also has a slight edge over Romney, 25% to 19%, among Republicans who say business and the economy is their top issue. Romney, a wealthy businessman, has argued his business credentials make him better suited to solve the economic problems facing the country than candidates who lack significant private-sector experience.

The relatively small group of social issues and moral values voters give Perry a sizable advantage over any other candidate.

Republican Nomination Preferences, by Most Important Issue

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Business and economy	Government spending and power	Social issues and moral values
	%	%	%
Rick Perry	25	31	38
Mitt Romney	19	17	15
Ron Paul	14	13	14
Michele Bachmann	8	12	10
Herman Cain	4	7	2
Newt Gingrich	4	5	2
Rick Santorum	3	4	2
Jon Huntsman	2	1	1
Other	1	2	2
No preference	20	9	14

Gallup, Aug. 17-21, 2011

Results among national security/foreign policy voters not shown due to small sample size

GALLUP®

Implications

Perry has immediately become the preferred Republican nomination candidate of Tea Party movement supporters and, by extension, those who view government spending and power as the most important issue. He also demonstrates strong appeal to moral values voters, and is competitive with Romney among Republicans rating business and the economy as the most important issue.

Perry will attempt to consolidate the support of these constituencies in the coming months as he begins his nomination campaign in earnest, including participating for the first time in candidate debates next month. Whether he is able to solidify his status as the new front-runner, or whether it turns out to be a temporary response to the excitement generated by his entry into the race, will become apparent in future Gallup updates of Republicans' nomination preferences.

Track every angle of the presidential race on [Gallup.com's Election 2012 page](#).

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 17-21, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,040 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149213/Tea-Party-Supporters-Backing-Perry-GOP-Nomination.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

186-43-11. Americans Show Rising Support for Abortion Rights: Poll

Results of Harris Interactive/HealthDay survey run counter to states' recent efforts to curb access

NORWALK, Conn., USA (July 25, 2011) - Despite recent moves by some states to restrict access to abortion, more Americans now support a woman's right to choose than they did two years ago, a new *Harris Interactive/HealthDay* poll finds.

Nearly one-quarter (23 percent) of those polled in 2009 supported the idea that a woman should have access to abortion in "all circumstances." But that number has risen to 36 percent in 2011 -- the highest proportion seen in Harris polls on the issue since 1985.

At the same time, the percentage of Americans opposed to abortion under any circumstances fell from 21 percent in 2009 to 17 percent this year.

The poll also found that almost half of U.S. adults (47 percent) favored permitting abortion under "some [but not all] circumstances," a slight dip from the 53 percent observed in 2009.

Although the poll's demographics are similar to 2009, the most recent study was done exclusively online, which can have some implications for sensitive topics such as abortion.

"Despite the current trend of fiscal conservatism in the United States stemming from the economic downturn, Americans overall remain socially moderate on abortion rights," said Jennifer Colamonico, senior vice president for healthcare research at Harris Interactive, which conducted the online survey of nearly 2,400 adults at the beginning of July.

The poll results come against the backdrop of recent moves by some states to restrict access to abortion. These include legislation banning insurance coverage for abortion in the health insurance exchanges created as part of last year's federal health care reform; requirements that all women who are considering an abortion get an ultrasound first; and cutting public funding for Planned Parenthood. In some states, such as Indiana, Iowa, Kansas and North Carolina, some of these moves have already been implemented, according to published reports.

The poll included 2,362 U.S. adults over age 18 who were surveyed online between July 6 to 8, 2011, by *Harris Interactive*, one of the world's leading custom market research firms, and *HealthDay*, a leading producer and syndicator of health news.

The complete findings of the newest joint *Harris Interactive/HealthDay* poll are available [here](#). HealthDay's news report is available [here](#). Full data on the poll and its methodology are available at [Harris Interactive](#).

About HealthDay

HealthDay, a division of Scout News LLC, is a leading producer and syndicator of evidence-based health news for consumers and physicians and is the largest syndicator of that news to Internet sites. Its consumer health news service (www.healthday.com) appears on more than 5,000 websites such as Yahoo!, MSN Health, iVillage, US News.com, hundreds of hospitals and hospital group websites, as well as print publication websites across the country. HealthDay also produces Physician's Briefing (www.physiciansbriefing.com), a news service for physicians, nurses and other medical professionals updated twice daily providing 15 articles a day across 32 medical specialties. HealthDay also provides custom content for major health portals. The newest addition to the HealthDay portfolio is [HealthDay TV](#) -a 90-second news broadcast of essential health information that appears on several major media websites, U.S. government websites and other health information sites.

About Harris Interactive

Harris Interactive is one of the world's leading custom market research firms, leveraging research, technology, and business acumen to transform relevant insight into actionable foresight. Known widely for the Harris Poll and for pioneering innovative research methodologies, Harris offers expertise in a wide range of industries including health care, technology, public affairs, energy, telecommunications, financial services, insurance, media, retail, restaurant, and consumer package goods. Serving clients in more than 215 countries and territories through our North American, European, and Asian offices and a network of

independent market research firms, Harris specializes in delivering research solutions that help us - and our clients - stay ahead of what's next. For more information, please visit www.harrisinteractive.com.

**TABLE 1A
FAVOR PERMITTING ABORTIONS**

" In general, do you favor permitting a woman who wants one to have an abortion in all circumstances, some circumstances or no circumstances?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Political ID			
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Other
		%	%	%	%
All circumstances	36	20	49	37	31
Some circumstances	47	54	43	49	40
No circumstances	17	26	9	14	29

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 1B
FAVOR PERMITTING ABORTIONS - BY AGE AND GENDER**

" In general, do you favor permitting a woman who wants one to have an abortion in all circumstances, some circumstances or no circumstances?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Age						Gender	
		18-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
All circumstances	36	33	31	38	36	40	31	34	37
Some circumstances	47	44	52	41	50	47	52	51	44
No circumstances	17	23	17	22	14	14	17	15	19

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 1C
FAVOR PERMITTING ABORTIONS - TREND**

" In general, do you favor permitting a woman who wants one to have an abortion in all circumstances, some circumstances or no circumstances?"

Base: All Adults

	198	19	19	19	19	20	20	200	20	201
	5	92	93	96	98	05	06	7	09	1
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

All circumstances	26	29	30	25	23	23	24	25	23	36
Some circumstances	53	54	55	53	58	55	53	52	53	47
No circumstances	20	14	14	19	17	21	20	20	21	17
Not sure	1	3	2	4	1	1	4	2	4	NA

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding; NA signifies that response choice was not given. Previous years conducted by telephone.

**TABLE 2A
LAWS ABOUT ABORTION**

" Do you favor laws that would make it more difficult for a woman to get an abortion, favor laws that would make it easier to get an abortion or should no change be made to existing abortion laws?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Political ID			
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Other
		%	%	%	%
Making it more difficult to get an abortion	34	58	20	31	34
Make it easier to get an abortion	28	18	38	28	20
No change	38	24	42	41	46

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 2B
LAWS ABOUT ABORTION**

" Do you favor laws that would make it more difficult for a woman to get an abortion, favor laws that would make it easier to get an abortion or should no change be made to existing abortion laws?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Age						Gender		
		18-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Making it more difficult to get an abortion	34	32	31	35	37	30	8	3	33	35
Make it easier to get an abortion	28	36	30	26	28	29	5	2	30	27
No change	38	33	39	39	35	41	7	3	37	39

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

TABLE 2C

LAWS ABOUT ABORTION -- TREND

" Do you favor laws that would make it more difficult for a woman to get an abortion, favor laws that would make it easier to get an abortion or should no change be made to existing abortion laws?"

Base: All Adults

	1992	1993	1998	2005	2006	2007	2009	2011
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Making it more difficult to get an abortion	43	35	40	42	40	42	41	34
Make it easier to get an abortion	81	22	61	33	55	66	44	28
No change	44	93	99	22	00	88	00	38
Not sure	44	33	44	11	66	44	66	NA

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding; NA signifies that response choice was not given. Previous years conducted by telephone.

**TABLE 3A
SUPPORT OR OPPOSE POLICIES**

"Below is a list of policies that have been either implemented already or proposed in some states. Please indicate if you support or oppose each of the policies?"

Base: All Adults

	Support (NET)	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Oppose (NET)	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not at all sure
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Not allowing abortion after the first 20 weeks of pregnancy	64	44	20	22	11	11	14
Requiring all pregnant women to have an ultrasound scan of the fetus before having an abortion	47	29	18	38	12	26	15
Not allowing private insurance companies that use the new insurance exchanges to offer insurance coverage for abortion services	36	24	12	44	15	30	20
Eliminating all state	33	23	11	55	14	41	12

funding for Planned Parenthood							
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Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 3B
SUPPORT OR OPPOSE POLICIES**

"Below is a list of policies that have been either implemented already or proposed in some states. Please indicate if you support or oppose each of the policies?"

Summary of those saying "strongly support" or "somewhat support"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Political ID			
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Other
	%	%	%	%	%
Not allowing abortion after the first 20 weeks of pregnancy	64	81	57	60	63
Requiring all pregnant women to have an ultrasound scan of the fetus before having an abortion	47	67	38	39	47
Not allowing private insurance companies that use the new insurance exchanges to offer insurance coverage for abortion services	36	60	23	32	30
Eliminating all state funding for Planned Parenthood	33	59	16	34	29

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 3C
SUPPORT OR OPPOSE POLICIES - BY AGE AND GENDER**

"Below is a list of policies that have been either implemented already or proposed in some states. Please indicate if you support or oppose each of the policies?"

Summary of those saying "strongly support" or "somewhat support"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Age						Gender	
		18-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Not allowing abortion after the first 20 weeks of pregnancy	64	65	70	63	62	65	65	62	67
Requiring all pregnant women to have an ultrasound scan of the	47	49	52	49	42	43	52	47	46

fetus before having an abortion									
Not allowing private insurance companies that use the new insurance exchanges to offer insurance coverage for abortion services	36	37	40	34	33	34	42	39	33
Eliminating all state funding for Planned Parenthood	33	32	35	35	29	29	43	39	28

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 4A
LIMITATIONS ON LEGAL ABORTIONS**

"For those cases where an abortion is allowed by the law, do you think there should be some limitation regarding how late in the pregnancy it should be permitted?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Political ID			
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Other
		%	%	%	%
Yes, there should be some limitation.	74	85	71	72	73
No, there should be no limitation.	13	8	17	13	10
Not at all sure.	13	8	12	15	17

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 4B
LIMITATIONS ON LEGAL ABORTIONS - BY AGE AND GENDER**

"For those cases where an abortion is allowed by the law, do you think there should be some limitation regarding how late in the pregnancy it should be permitted?"

Base: All Adults

	Total	Age							Gender	
		18-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Yes, there should be some limitation.	74	68	71	72	73	78	80	71	77	
No, there should be no limitation.	13	16	13	13	15	13	8	14	11	
Not at all sure.	13	16	16	15	13	10	1	14	12	

							2		
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Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 5A
WHEN SHOULD ABORTIONS BE PERMITTED?**

"You indicated that there should be some limitation regarding how late in pregnancy abortion should be permitted. For those cases where abortion is allowed by the law, which of the following comes closest to your views on what this limitation should be?"

Abortions should be permitted..."

Base: Adults who say there should be some limitation on how late in pregnancy abortion should be permitted

	Total	Political ID			
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Other
	%	%	%	%	%
Only within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy	43	53	37	35	45
Only within the first 16 weeks of pregnancy	13	11	15	13	9
Only within the first 20 weeks of pregnancy	11	7	12	17	11
Only within the first 24 weeks of pregnancy	4	4	5	5	2
Only within the first 28 weeks of pregnancy	3	1	5	3	*
After 28 weeks of pregnancy	1	*	2	2	3
Not at all sure	25	23	24	26	30

**TABLE 5B
WHEN SHOULD ABORTIONS BE PERMITTED?**

"You indicated that there should be some limitation regarding how late in pregnancy abortion should be permitted. For those cases where abortion is allowed by the law, which of the following comes closest to your views on what this limitation should be?"

Abortions should be permitted..."

Base: Adults who say there should be some limitation on how late in pregnancy abortion should be permitted

	Total	Age						Gender	
		18-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Male	Female
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Only within the first 12 weeks	43	33	38	44	43	45	47	36	49

of pregnancy									
Only within the first 16 weeks of pregnancy	13	13	11	10	15	13	15	12	14
Only within the first 20 weeks of pregnancy	11	17	10	12	10	11	9	13	9
Only within the first 24 weeks of pregnancy	4	7	9	6	3	2	3	6	3
Only within the first 28 weeks of pregnancy	3	3	4	5	4	2	1	3	3
After 28 weeks of pregnancy	1	3	*	1	1	2	1	1	1
Not at all sure	25	24	28	22	24	26	24	29	21

Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the United States July 6 to 8, 2011 among 2,362 adults (aged 18 and over). Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult population. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

Source: <http://www.harrisinteractive.com/NewsRoom/PressReleases/tabid/446/mid/1506/articleId/841/ctl/ReadCustom%20Default/Default.aspx>

186-43-12. Most Parents Loosen Rules for Children's Media Consumption During the Summer

Almost half of parents say their kids watch more television and play more video games in the summer

New York, N.Y. - August 24, 2011 - Ah, summer; a time when kids spend their days playing sports and games outside and visiting local pools and beaches. But, with all the various forms of media now available, are these quintessential summer images still accurate? Many parents of those 17 or younger and living at home say their children consume various types of media more, including watching television and playing video games, during the summer months.

In fact, almost half of parents say their children consume more television (49%) and video games (46%) in the summer, with a quarter saying their children consume much more of these types of media and entertainment during the summer (23% and 24%). One in six or less say their

children consume less of these types of media in the summer (16% and 13%) while three in ten say the amount consumed is neither more nor less in the summer than at other times of the year (29% and 27%). This same trend holds for Internet use and watching movies - 44%-45% of parents say that their children do more of these activities in the summer, compared to 13% and 14% who say they do less.

These are some of the findings of a recent **Adweek/Harris Poll** survey of 2,950 U.S. adults surveyed online between August 5 and 9, 2011 by **Harris Interactive**.

In addition to school being out, does anything else affect a child's media consumption in the summer? Almost six in ten parents say they loosen the rules during the summer, allowing their kids more freedom (57%) to consume various types of media. One quarter of parents say they do not loosen media consumption rules in the summer (26%) and fewer say that they do not have any rules for their children's media consumption at all (17%). While dads and moms are equally likely to loosen (56% vs. 57%) or not loosen (27% vs. 25%) the rules for their children's media consumption in the summer, there are noticeable differences by region:

- Six in ten parents in the Midwest, South and West (58%-59%) say they loosen the rules for their child's media consumption in summer, compared to just 40% of parents in the Northeast who say the same; and,
- Parents in the Midwest and South are most likely to say that they do not have any rules for their children's media consumption (21% and 20%) compared to fewer parents in the West (14%) and Northeast (11%).

So What?

Summer is traditionally seen as a time to unwind, increase recreational activities and possibly get outdoors. But for many youths it seems that this recreational time may include many indoor activities, centered on media and technology. And, according to the survey, very large numbers of youth have the necessary personal technology devices to facilitate these activities-70% of parents of children 17 or younger living at home say their child has a handheld gaming device, 59% say their child has a television in their bedroom and 52% say their child has their own personal computer.

TABLE 1A
CHILDREN CONSUME MORE OR LESS MEDIA DURING THE SUMMER

"Do your children consume more or less of each of the following types of media during the summer than during other times of the year? By summer, we mean the period of time between Memorial Day and Labor Day."

Base: All U.S. adults who have a child aged 17 or younger at home

	More (NET)	Much more	Some what more	Neither more nor less	Less (NET)	Some what less	Much less	Not applicable
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Television	49	23	26	29	16	8	8	6
Video games	46	24	22	27	13	7	5	14
Internet	45	22	22	29	13	8	6	13

Movies	44	16	29	34	41	8	6	8
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Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

**TABLE 1B
CHILDREN CONSUME MORE OR LESS MEDIA DURING THE SUMMER**

"Do your children consume more or less of each of the following types of media during the summer than during other times of the year? By summer, we mean the period of time between Memorial Day and Labor Day."

Summary of those saying "much more" or "somewhat more"

Base: All U.S. adults who have a child aged 17 or younger at home

	Total	Region			
		North east	Midw est	Sout h	Wes t
	%	%	%	%	%
Television	49	42	37	58	52
Video games	46	29	40	55	53
Internet	45	36	37	53	46
Movies	44	33	35	52	52

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

**TABLE 2
LOOSEN THE MEDIA RULES IN THE SUMMER**

"Do you loosen the rules for your children's media consumption (i.e. allow them more freedom) during the summer?"

Base: All U.S. adults who have a child aged 17 or younger at home

	Total	Gender		Region			
		Male	Female	North east	Mid west	South east	West
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	75	56	57	49	58	59	55
No	26	27	25	40	21	20	27
NA - I don't have rules for my children's media consumption	17	17	18	11	21	20	14

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

**TABLE 3
CHILDREN GETTING FIRST TECH DEVICES**

"At which age, if any, did your child first get each of the following devices? If you cannot remember exactly, please use your best estimate. If you have more than one child, please answer thinking only of your oldest child aged 17 or younger and living at home."

Base: All U.S. adults who have a child aged 17 or younger at home

	Child has device (NET)	0-3 years	4-7 years	8-11 years	12-14 years	15-17 years	My child does not have this
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Handheld gaming device (e.g. PSP, Nintendo DS)	70	4	34	25	4	3	30
MP3 Player (e.g. iPod)	60	2	12	29	12	4	40
Television in their bedroom	59	11	22	12	9	4	41
Personal computer (desktop or laptop)	52	4	12	18	12	7	48
Mobile phone or smartphone	51	2	3	17	21	8	49
Tablet computer (e.g. iPad, Xoom)	17	2	2	5	4	3	83
eReader device (e.g. Kindle, Nook)	14	1	4	5	2	2	86

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Methodology

This **Adweek/Harris Poll** was conducted online within the United States between August 5 and 9, 2011 among 2,950 adults (aged 18 and over). Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Where appropriate, this data were also weighted to reflect the composition of the adult online population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult population. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

Source: <http://www.harrisinteractive.com/NewsRoom/HarrisPolls/tabid/447/mid/1508/articleId/849/ctl/ReadCustom%20Default/Default.aspx>

186-43-13. President and Congress at Lowest Approval Ratings Ever

Less than two in five Americans likely to vote for President Obama if election were held today

NEW YORK , N.Y. - August 18, 2011 - After weeks of bad economic news and battling Congress over the debt ceiling and deficit discussions, President Obama is heading off for a little vacation time with his family to end the summer. Unfortunately, he is also ending the summer with the lowest approval ratings of his presidency so far. This month, just one-third of Americans (32%) give the president positive ratings on the overall job he is doing while two-thirds (68%) give him negative ratings. Last month, almost two in five (38%) gave the president positive marks while 62% gave him negative ones.

These are some of the results of *The Harris Poll* of 2,450 adults surveyed online between August 8 and 15, 2011 by **Harris Interactive**.

Looking at the ratings on a partisan level, it's not shocking that almost all Republicans (95%) and nine in ten Conservatives (92%) give the President negative marks, but so do almost three-quarters of Independents (73%) and two-thirds of Moderates (64%). Certain groups are probably more divided than the White House would probably like as two in five of both Democrats (39%) and Liberals (43%) have a negative opinion of the job President Obama is doing.

While the President's ratings may be at his lowest, one small piece of comfort he has is that he is doing a better job than Congress. Right now, almost all Americans (95%) have a negative view of the overall job Congress is doing and just 5% give them positive ratings. This is a further drop from last month when 8% of U.S. adults gave them positive marks and 92% gave them negative ones.

Continuing the trend of low ratings, more than four in five Americans (84%) say things in the country have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track and just 16% say things are going in the right direction. Last month, one-quarter (25%) said things were going in the right direction and 75% said they had gotten off on the wrong track. There have only been two other times since 1991 when this number has been lower: June of 1992, when just 12% of Americans thought things were going in the right direction and October of 2008 when 11% felt this way.

Even more disturbing for the White House are the numbers on likelihood of voting for President Obama. If the election for president were to be held today, over half of Americans (55%) say they would be unlikely to vote for Barack Obama while 37% say they would be likely to vote for him. Almost half (48%) say they would be very unlikely to vote for President Obama. This is down from last month when 52% of Americans said they were unlikely to vote for the current president and 42% were likely to do so.

Again, looking at this on a partisan level, nine in ten Republicans (92%) and Conservatives (88%) say they are unlikely to vote for President Obama as are three in five Independents (59%). Among Moderates, half (50%) say they are unlikely to vote for the President while 43% are likely to do so and 8% are not at all sure. Even among the two groups who are the President's more staunch supporters one in five of both Liberals (21%) and Democrats (21%) say they are unlikely to vote for the President if the election were to be held today.

So What?

There is no arguing that all politicians had a very rough July and early August and Americans are telling them with these current numbers that they are not at all happy with the job they've done in these past few weeks. Economic concerns are still top of mind and when people see partisan bickering standing in the way of solving some of these concerns, it definitely irritates them. In a little over a year, all of the House of Representatives, the President, and one-third of the U.S. Senate is up for re-election. If this negativity in the American electorate continues, they should all be very concerned for their election chances.

**TABLE 1
PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING - TREND**

"How would you rate the overall job President Barack Obama is doing?"

Base: All adults

	TREND	Positiv	Negativ
		e*	e**
		%	%
11	20	32	68
	August	32	68
	July	38	62
	June	38	62
	May 19th	45	55
	May 9th	46	54
	April	38	62
	March	39	61
	Feb.	42	58
	Jan.	44	56
10	20	36	64
	Dec.	36	64
	Nov.	38	62
	Oct.	37	63
	Sept.	38	62
	Aug.	40	60
	June	39	61
	May	42	58
	April	41	59
	March	41	59
	Jan.	40	60
09	20	41	59
	Dec.	41	59
	Nov.	43	57
	Oct.	45	55
	Sept.	49	51

	Aug.	51	49
	June	54	46
	May	59	41
	April	58	42
	March	55	45

*Positive = excellent or pretty good. **Negative = only fair or poor.

TABLE 2
PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING - BY PARTY & IDEOLOGY

"How would you rate the overall job President Barack Obama is doing?"

Base: All adults

	Total	Political Party			Political Ideology		
		R	D	In	C	M	L
		ep.	em.	d.	ons.	od.	ib.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
POSITIVE	32	5	61	27	8	36	5
Excellent	5	*	13	3	1	7	9
Pretty good	26	5	47	24	7	29	4
NEGATIVE	68	9	39	73	92	64	4
Only fair	27	1	28	26	20	30	2
Poor	42	3	7	12	48	72	34

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

TABLE 3
PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING - BY REGION, EDUCATION & GENDER

"How would you rate the overall job President Barack Obama is doing?"

Base: All adults

	Total	Region				Education			
		E	Mid	So	W	H.	So	Coll	P
		ast	west	uth	est	S.	ome	lege	ost
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
POSITIVE	32	3	28	29	38	24	36	36	3
Excellent	5	5	4	6	5	5	6	3	9
Pretty	26	2	24	23	33	19	30	33	3

good		7							0
NEGATIVE	68	6	72	71	62	76	64	64	6
Only fair	27	3	30	24	24	28	24	26	2
Poor	42	3	42	47	38	48	39	38	3

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

**TABLE 4
CONGRESS' OVERALL JOB RATING**

"How would you rate the overall job Congress is doing?"

Base: All adults

	Total	Political Party		
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.
	%	%	%	%
POSITIVE	5	4	8	3
Excellent	*	*	1	*
Pretty good	4	4	7	3
NEGATIVE	95	96	92	9
Only fair	30	37	31	2
Poor	65	60	61	7

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

**TABLE 7
VOTING FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA**

"If the election for president were to be held today, how likely would you be to vote for the current president, Barack Obama?"

Base: All adults

	May 9	May 19	June	July	August
	%	%	%	%	%
Likely	46	43	41	42	37
Very likely	33	32	30	33	27
Somewhat likely	14	11	11	12	10
Unlikely	4	4	5	5	55

	7	9	2	2	
Somewhat unlikely	7	8	7	8	7
Very unlikely	40	41	45	44	48
Not at all sure	6	8	6	6	7

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

TABLE 8
VOTING FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA - BY POLITICAL PARTY

"If the election for president were to be held today, how likely would you be to vote for the current president, Barack Obama?"

Base: All adults

	August							
		R	D	I	C	M	Li	
		ep.	em.	nd.	ons.	od.	b.	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Likely	37	61	73	33	73	40	77	
Very likely	27	17	51	22	49	28	55	
Somewhat likely	10	54	12	11	34	12	11	
Unlikely	55	21	29	58	80	51	22	
Somewhat unlikely	7	7	8	7	40	1	5	
Very unlikely	48	54	12	54	80	45	1	
Not at all sure	7	2	7	8	5	80	1	

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Methodology

This **Harris Poll** was conducted online within the United States between August 8 to 15, 2011 among 2,450 adults (aged 18 and over). Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated

are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult population. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

Source:

<http://www.harrisinteractive.com/NewsRoom/HarrisPolls/tabid/447/mid/1508/articleId/847/ctl/ReadCustom%20Default/Default.aspx>

186-43-14. Americans Divided on Whether King's Dream Has Been Realized

Fifty-one percent say it has been realized, 49% say it has not

August 26, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans are about equally divided on whether Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of U.S. racial equality has been realized, with 51% saying it has and 49% saying it has not. Blacks (54%) are slightly more optimistic than whites (49%) that the dream has been realized.

Has Martin Luther King Jr.'s Dream Been Realized?

Thinking back to Dr. Martin Luther King and his dream of racial equality, do you think that dream has now been realized in the United States, or not?

(Asked of those who say Dr. King's dream has not been realized) Do you think the United States has made major progress toward realizing that dream, minor progress, or no progress at all?

	All Americans	Whites	Blacks
	%	%	%
YES, REALIZED	51	49	54
NO, NOT REALIZED	49	51	45
(Made major progress)	(23)	(26)	(13)
(Made minor progress)	(3)	(23)	(28)
(Made no progress)	(3)	(2)	(4)

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

GALLUP

Americans who believe the dream has not been realized are about as likely to say the U.S. has made major progress toward attaining it as to say it has made minor progress or none at all. Thus, although a bare majority believe the dream has been realized, a total of 74% of Americans believe either that it has been realized or that major progress has been made.

These results are based on an Aug. 4-7 USA Today/Gallup poll conducted prior to the dedication of a new national monument to Dr. King in Washington, D.C. The poll included an oversample of black respondents.

Americans View King Very Positively, a Shift From the Past

The poll finds Americans have very positive views of King. Ninety-four percent rate him positively on a scale ranging from +5 (very favorable) to -5 (very unfavorable), including 69% giving him a +4 or +5 rating.

Gallup asked the same question several times in the 1960s, and the current numbers represent a dramatic shift in the way Americans view King now compared with the past. His prior ratings were at best slightly more positive than negative, and in a 1966 measurement, Americans were nearly twice as likely to have a negative (63%) as positive (33%) opinion of him. That negative evaluation was likely the result of his public opposition to the Vietnam War at a time when Americans still favored it as well as the opposition of some to the continued push for expanded civil rights and economic legislation to assist blacks.

Views About Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I'd like you to rate Dr. Martin Luther King on a scale. If you have a favorable opinion of him, name a number between +1 and +5 -- where a +5 is the highest position indicating you have a very favorable opinion of him. If you have an unfavorable opinion, name a number between -1 and -5 where -5 is the lowest position -- indicating you have a very unfavorable opinion of him. How far up or down the scale would you rate Martin Luther King Jr.?

	Total favorable (+1 to +5)	Total unfavorable (-1 to -5)	Highly favorable (+4 to +5)	Highly unfavorable (-4 to -5)
	%	%	%	%
August 2011	94	4	69	1
August 1966	33	63	12	44
May 1965	45	46	20	31
August 1964	44	38	16	25
May 1963	41	37	16	25

GALLUP*

In the current poll, 65% of whites and 95% of blacks give King a +4 or +5 favorable rating.

Americans Approve Of, Interested in Seeing New King Monument

Given the high regard Americans currently have for Dr. King, it is not surprising that 91% approve of having a national memorial to him. Blacks are essentially unanimous in their approval at 99%, while whites' support is a bit lower but still high at 89%.

Seventy percent of Americans say they are at least somewhat interested in visiting the memorial, including 28% who are very interested. Interest is much higher among blacks, with 94% saying they are interested, including 68% who are very interested.

How interested would you be in visiting the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington, D.C. -- would you be very interested, somewhat interested, not too interested, or not interested at all?

	All Americans	Whites	Blacks
	%	%	%
Very interested	28	22	68
Somewhat interested	42	43	26
Not too interested	14	15	3
Not interested at all	16	19	2

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

GALLUP[®]

Implications

King's legacy as the paramount figure in the civil rights movement is being recognized in the establishment of a national monument in his honor. His most important legacy, though, may be improvements in black-white relations and steps toward greater racial equality in the United States. Americans clearly see progress in this regard: 89% say [black civil rights have improved over the course of their lifetime](#). Still, Americans believe there is work to be done, as nearly half are still not convinced that King's goal of true racial equality has been met.

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 ± 4 percentage points.

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

For results based on the sample of 796 non-Hispanic whites, the maximum margin of sample error is ± 5 percentage points.

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and

having an unlisted landline number). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149201/Americans-Divided-Whether-King-Dream-Realized.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

186-43-15. Americans Choose Gold as the Best Long-Term Investment

Men, seniors, middle-income Americans, and Republicans are more enamored with gold

August 25, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Thirty-four percent of Americans say gold is the best long-term investment, more than say so about four other types of investments. Real estate (19%) and stocks (17%) are distant second choices.

Americans' Ratings of the Best Long-Term Investment

Which of the following do you think is the best long-term investment?

	Gold	Real estate	Stocks/ Mutual funds	Savings accounts/CDs	Bonds
Aug 11-14, 2011	34%	19	17	14	10

GALLUP

The Aug. 11-14 Gallup poll was conducted at the end of a tumultuous week on Wall Street that sent the price of gold soaring.

Gallup asked a similar question from 2002 to 2010, but that question did not include gold. Real estate, savings accounts, and stocks jockeyed for the top spot during that time. Americans' faith in real estate and stocks suffered amid the 2008 economic crisis, but rebounded somewhat in 2010.

Gold is Americans' top pick as the best long-term investment regardless of gender, age, income, or party ID, but men, seniors, middle-income Americans, and Republicans are more enamored with it than are other Americans.

Women and upper-income Americans are more likely than others in their subgroups to point to real estate as the best long-term investment. After gold, low-income Americans are most likely to pick savings accounts as the best option for long-term investing.

Americans' Ratings of the Best Long-Term Investment, by Subgroup

Which of the following do you think is the best long-term investment?

	Gold	Real estate	Stocks/ Mutual funds	Savings accounts/CDs	Bonds
	%	%	%	%	%
Men	41	16	19	10	9
Women	28	22	15	19	11
18 to 29	26	22	14	18	16
30 to 49	35	17	19	17	6
50 to 64	35	23	17	9	9
65+	41	13	17	11	12
\$75,000+	31	23	26	8	8
\$30,000-<\$75,000	40	18	16	13	8
Less than \$30,000	34	17	5	23	14
Republicans	39	16	24	9	8
Independents	33	18	13	18	10
Democrats	32	21	16	13	12

Aug. 11-14, 2011

GALLUP®

Implications

Traditionally, gold -- like the U.S. dollar -- has been a safe haven in times of economic and political turmoil. It is a globally accepted store of value and one of the most highly desired precious metals.

The demand for gold has soared in recent years, as the financial crisis engulfed the global banking industry. More recently, the efforts of nations around the world and their monetary authorities to stimulate the global economy and avoid a repeat of the 1930s have made gold even more attractive. Current sovereign debt problems have only added to the demand for gold.

Gold has always had limited industrial uses, but great value in jewelry and as a precious metal. Now, the proliferation and basic devaluation of paper currencies has people on Wall Street talking about gold as a currency and pricing it accordingly -- something approaching a market-established gold standard that relates paper currency to an amount of gold.

That one in three Americans see gold as the best long-term investment may indicate a bubble in the value of this precious metal -- something that may be corroborated if gold continues to plunge as it did Wednesday. At the same time, this sentiment among many Americans may be related to the growing [lack of confidence in the U.S. economy](#). This is particularly the case among upper-income Americans, who are now more pessimistic about the direction of the economy than their middle- and lower-income counterparts. The last time this happened was during the financial crisis of late 2008 and early 2009.

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 the continental U.S. selected using random digit dial sampling.

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

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

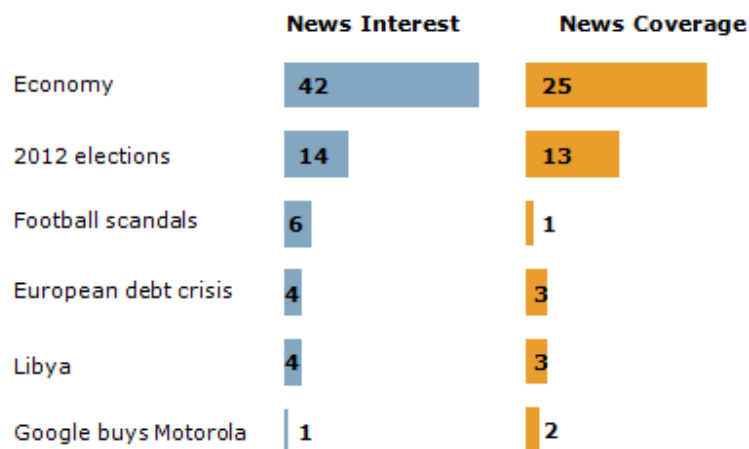
Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149195/Americans-Choose-Gold-Best-Long-Term-Investment.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

186-43-16. Troubled Economy Top Story for Public and Media

Growing Interest in 2012 Campaign News

August 23, 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 18-21, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, August 15-21, 2011.

Americans focused most closely last week on news about the nation's troubled economy amid concerns about the stalled recovery and fears of a possible new recession.

About four-in-ten (42%) say they followed reports about the condition of the U.S. economy more closely than any other news. That is three times the number saying their top story was news about the candidates for the 2012 presidential election (14%), according to the latest weekly News Interest Index survey, conducted Aug. 18-21 among 1,007 adults by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press.

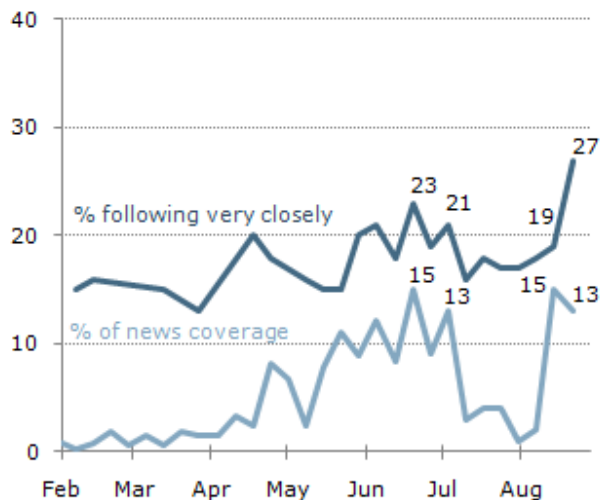
Economic news topped coverage as well, accounting for a quarter of the newshole (25%), according to a separate analysis by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). News about the 2012 elections made up 13% of all news coverage.

Melding Economic and Political News

Economic story lines top the public's news interest. At the same time, the debate over what the federal government can or should do to help the economy has become a key issue in the 2012 race for the White House.

More than four-in-ten (44%) say they followed news about the economy very closely last week, approaching the year's high of 49%, while 42% say this was the news they followed most closely. Another 12% say they very closely followed news about the debate among European leaders over how to address the region's debt crisis. This was the top story for 4% and accounted for 3% of coverage.

2012 Campaign News Interest and Coverage



PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 18-21, 2011.

More than a quarter (27%) say they very closely followed news about candidates for the 2012 presidential elections, up from 19% the previous week and a high point for the year so far. With Texas Gov. Rick Perry stepping up his campaign for the GOP nomination and President Obama making a campaign-style bus trip, election news made up 13% of coverage, which was little changed from 15% the previous week, when Michele Bachmann won the Republican straw poll in Iowa and Perry officially entered the race.

Coverage and interest have both increased since early August. And, as the economic news has worsened, the GOP contenders have focused their criticism on Obama's efforts to improve the situation. Perry made news last week with blunt criticism of Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke.

There are no partisan differences in attention to news about the economy with 48% of Republicans, 45% of Democrats and 47% of independents saying they followed economic news very closely. Republicans and Democrats also express similar interest in news about the 2012 elections: 36% of Republicans and 30% of Democrats followed this news very closely. Just more than two-in-ten independents (22%) say the same.

The Week's Other News

One-in-ten (10%) say they followed news about recent scandals in college football very closely, while 6% say this was their top story for the week. The stories focused primarily on alleged NCAA rule violations at the University of Miami. News about the scandals accounted for just 1% of the coverage measured by PEJ.

Not surprisingly, this is a story that attracts the attention of men – especially younger men. Among all men, 15% say they followed this news very closely, compared with 5% of women. Among men under age 50, 19% followed news about the football scandals very closely, compared with 11% of men 50 and older.

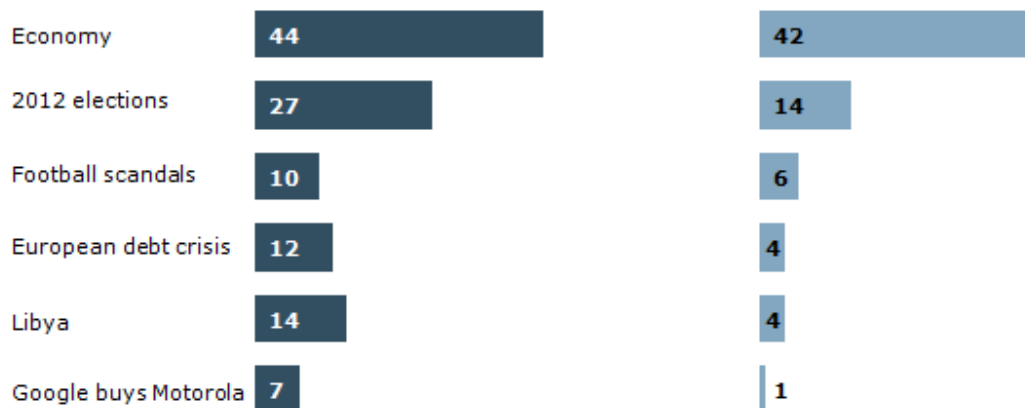
Though the conflict in Libya appears to be reaching a critical point, the situation there attracted modest interest last week. Just 14% say they followed news about events in Libya very closely, matching the number that said this in early June, while 4% say this was the news they followed most closely. But the survey was largely completed before rebel forces made their way into Tripoli on Sunday and Moammar Gadhafi's hold on power appeared to be slipping.

For the full week, reporting about Libya made up 3% of coverage. In total, news about the conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa accounted for 10% of coverage. Coverage and interest are likely to grow this week as Gadhafi's fate becomes more clear.

News Interest

% following each story very closely

Which one story did you follow most closely?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 18-21, 2011.

The public paid little attention to news about Google, the internet giant, purchasing mobile phone maker Motorola Mobility. Just 7% say they followed this business story very closely; 1% say this was the news they followed most closely. The Google-Motorola story made up 2% of the coverage measured by PEJ.

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 15-21, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected August 18-21 from a nationally representative sample of 1,007 adults.

Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/08/23/troubled-economy-top-story-for-public-and-media/?src=prc-newsletter>

186-43-17. In U.S., Obesity Rates Remain Higher Than 20% in All States

Southern states generally register highest obesity levels

August 25, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Colorado continues to be the state with the lowest obesity rate in the country, at 20.1% in the first half of 2011. Fewer than one in four residents are obese in the 10 states with the lowest obesity rates. In the 10 states with the highest levels of obesity, rates are 29% or higher. West Virginia has the highest obesity rate in January through June 2011, at 34.3%, which is also the highest Gallup has measured for any state since it began tracking obesity rates in 2008.

Ten States With the Lowest Obesity Rates

State	% Obese
Colorado	20.1
Utah	21.6
Connecticut	21.7
California	22.1
Rhode Island	22.1
Massachusetts	22.6
New Jersey	22.6
Nevada	23.6
Minnesota	23.8
Florida	24.2

January-June 2011
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Ten States With the Highest Obesity Rates

State	% Obese
West Virginia	34.3
Delaware	33.6
Mississippi	32.1
Louisiana	31.2
South Carolina	30.6
Indiana	30.5
North Dakota	30.2
Oklahoma	30.2
Kentucky	29.9
Ohio	29.0

January-June 2011
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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These results are based on 177,237 interviews conducted daily from January through June 2011. Gallup tracks U.S. obesity levels as part of the [Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index](#), using Americans' self-reported height and weight to calculate Body Mass Index (BMI) scores. BMI scores of 30 or higher are considered obese.

The 26.3% obesity rate for the nation overall in January through June of this year is essentially unchanged from 26.6% in 2010. However, this 2011 rate is higher than the 25.5% in 2008. So far in 2011, obesity rates are generally more likely to be rising in the states where they are already the highest and declining in the places where they are lowest.

See page 2 for obesity rates for all states.

The states with the highest rates of obesity continue to be clustered in the South and the Midwest, [as in past years](#). Western and Northeastern states still boast the lowest levels of obesity.

Bottom Line

While obesity in the United States as a whole remains unchanged so far in 2011 compared with last year, many of the country's most obese states continue to see the trend go in the wrong direction. At the same time, many states are registering improvements this year. Still, in no state are obesity rates lower than 20%, revealing residents throughout the entire country have much work to do to begin to tackle the nation's obesity problem.

About the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 177,237 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 ± 0.2 percentage points. The margin of sampling error or most states is $\pm 1-2$ points, but is as high as ± 4 points for smaller states such as Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Hawaii.

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index categorizes the District of Columbia as a congressional district.

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.

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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/149192/Obesity-Rates-Remain-Higher-States.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

186-43-18. Perry Zooms to Front of Pack for 2012 GOP Nomination

Leads Romney by 29% to 17%

August 24, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Shortly after announcing his official candidacy, Texas Gov. Rick Perry has emerged as rank-and-file Republicans' current favorite for their party's 2012 presidential nomination. Twenty-nine percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents nationwide say they are most likely to support Perry, with Mitt Romney next, at 17%.

Preferences for 2012 Republican Presidential Nomination

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	August 2011
	%	%	%	%
Rick Perry	--	--	18	29
Mitt Romney	19	27	23	17
Ron Paul	12	8	10	13
Michele Bachmann	7	7	13	10
Herman Cain	8	10	4	4
Newt Gingrich	12	9	6	4
Rick Santorum	2	6	2	3
Jon Huntsman	3	2	2	1
Tim Pawlenty	7	6	3	--
Other	6	5	2	2
No preference	25	21	18	17

Note: Preferences among announced candidates as of Aug. 17-21, 2011. Initial question included Palin and Giuliani; Palin and Giuliani voters' second choice was substituted for their vote. July figures are re-computed to include Perry preferences and differ from what Gallup reported in July for announced candidates, before he entered the race.

GALLUP

These results are based on an Aug. 17-21 Gallup poll, the first conducted after several important events in the Republican nomination campaign, including the second candidate debate, the Iowa Straw Poll, and Perry's official entry into the race after months of speculation.

Romney and Perry essentially tied for the lead in late July, based on re-computed preferences that include the current field of announced candidates. Gallup's [official July report](#), based on the announced field at the time and thus excluding Perry, showed Romney with a 27% to 18% lead over Michele Bachmann. Romney enjoyed [an even wider, 17-percentage-point lead in June over Herman Cain](#) among the field of announced candidates (Gallup did not include Perry among the nominee choices before July).

Perry's official announcement may have overshadowed the Aug. 13 Iowa Straw Poll, which Bachmann won narrowly over Ron Paul. Neither candidate appears to have gotten a big boost from the straw poll results; Paul's support was up slightly from July and Bachmann's down slightly.

Perry is a strong contender among key Republican subgroups. Older Republicans and those living in the South show especially strong support for him, at or near 40%. Conservative Republicans strongly favor Perry over Romney, but liberal and moderate Republicans support the two about equally. Perry's support is also above average among religious Republicans.

Preferences for 2012 Republican Nomination, by Subgroup

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Perry	Romney	Paul	Bachmann
	%	%	%	%
Men	30	16	14	10
Women	28	19	11	10
18 to 29 years	21	11	29	12
30 to 49 years	23	15	15	11
50 to 64 years	31	24	7	9
65+ years	40	16	4	10
East	16	17	15	9
Midwest	23	20	18	15
South	39	12	9	8
West	28	22	12	12
Liberal/Moderate	17	21	14	8
Conservative	33	16	12	12
Attend church weekly	34	16	10	9
Attend church monthly	27	19	17	9
Seldom/Never attend church	24	18	14	13

Gallup, Aug. 17-21, 2011

GALLUP

In addition to liberals and moderates, Perry is also relatively weak among young Republicans and those residing in the East. Paul continues to demonstrate stronger appeal to young Republicans, and limited appeal to those aged 50 and older.

Palin, Giuliani Also Trail Perry

While the eight announced candidates continue to campaign in key early primary and caucus states, Sarah Palin and Rudy Giuliani are two prominent Republican politicians who have indicated they are still contemplating getting into the race. Palin and Giuliani each receive about 10% of the vote when included in the nomination preference question, with Perry still holding a significant lead over Romney, 25% to 14%, on this measure.

*Preferences for 2012 Republican Presidential Nomination,
Including Sarah Palin and Rudy Giuliani*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	July 2011	August 2011
	%	%
Rick Perry	15	25
Mitt Romney	17	14
Sarah Palin	12	11
Ron Paul	8	11
Rudy Giuliani	11	9
Michele Bachmann	11	7
Herman Cain	3	4
Newt Gingrich	3	3
Rick Santorum	2	3
Jon Huntsman	2	1
Tim Pawlenty	2	--
Other	1	1
No preference	14	12

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Last month, Romney and Perry essentially tied in preferences among the full list of candidates and potential candidates.

Implications

Perry's official entry has shaken up the Republican race, making him the new leader for the party's nomination. Gallup also finds Perry **generating strong positive intensity among Republicans familiar with him**, suggesting he has a strong initial base with potential to grow, given his below-average recognition.

Still, he, like Romney before him, rates as a weaker front-runner than **those in prior GOP nomination contests**. Perry will attempt to avoid the same fates as late-entering candidates in the last two nomination contests -- **Fred Thompson in the 2008 Republican field** and **Wesley Clark in the 2004 Democratic field**. Both created a buzz surrounding their potential candidacies, and ranked among the national leaders upon entering the race. However, both fared poorly in early primaries and caucuses and soon after ended their candidacies.

Sign up for Gallup.com email alerts to get breaking Election 2012 news.

Track every angle of the presidential race on [Gallup.com's Election 2012 page](#).

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Aug. 17-21, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,040 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149180/Perry-Zooms-Front-Pack-2012-GOP-Nomination.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

186-43-19. Perry Rises in Recognition and Maintains Positive Image

Sixty-seven percent of Republicans now familiar with Perry

August 23, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Texas Gov. Rick Perry is now recognized by 67% of Republicans and Republican leaners nationwide, an increase of 13 percentage points from two weeks ago. Still, six of the other nine candidates or potential candidates are better known than Perry, led by Sarah Palin (97%) and Rudy Giuliani (91%). Of the announced candidates, Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, and Michele Bachmann are best known.

Recognition of Potential 2012 Republican Presidential Candidates

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	% Recognize, Jul 25-Aug 7	% Recognize, Aug 8-21	Gain (pct. pts.)
Sarah Palin	95	97	2
Rudy Giuliani	90	91	1
Mitt Romney	86	86	0
Newt Gingrich	85	85	0
Michele Bachmann	78	83	5
Ron Paul	78	78	0
Rick Perry	54	67	13
Rick Santorum	51	51	0
Herman Cain	45	47	2
Jon Huntsman	39	40	1

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

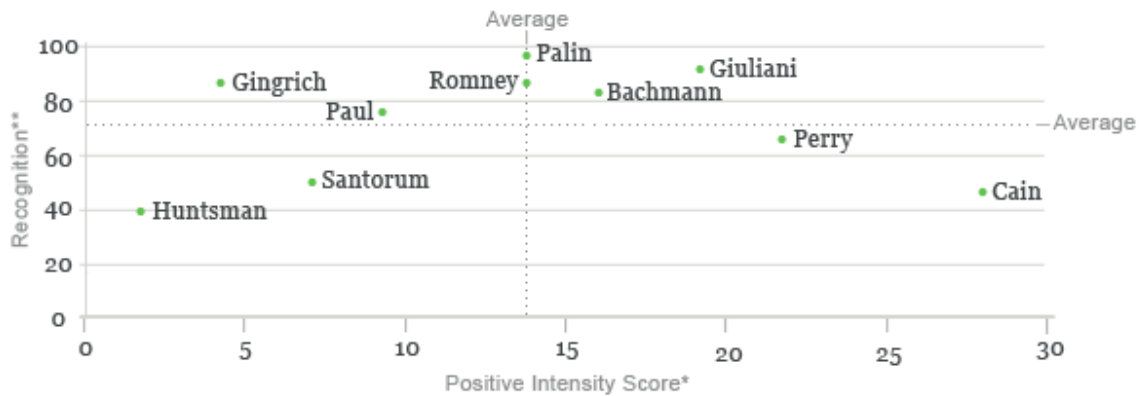
The latest results are based on Aug. 8-21 Gallup Daily tracking of 2012 Republican candidate images. Perry officially entered the race on Aug. 13. Prior to that announcement, 54% of Republicans were familiar with him. He is one of two candidates who have seen their recognition levels increase significantly over that time, a period that included the second candidate debate on Aug. 11 and the Iowa Straw Poll on Aug. 13. Bachmann, the winner of that straw poll, saw her recognition score increase five points.

As Perry has become better known over the past two weeks, his Positive Intensity Score has been stable in the low 20s -- now 22, compared with 23 two weeks ago. That score is based on the percentage of Republicans familiar with Perry who have a strongly favorable opinion of him minus the percentage with a strongly unfavorable opinion.

Perry's Positive Intensity Score is higher than all other Republicans' except Herman Cain's. Cain's 28 -- tied with his score from late May/early June -- is the highest Gallup has measured for any candidate this year. However, Cain has struggled to increase his familiarity to the GOP faithful, with 47% currently recognizing him. His recognition scores have not increased appreciably since mid-June, and his support on the Republican nomination ballot remains in the low single digits.

After Cain and Perry, the next-most-positively rated contender is former New York City Mayor Giuliani (+19), who is still considering entering the race but has not yet taken any formal steps to do so. Bachmann (+16), Romney (+14), and Palin (+14) also have scores above 10, while the remaining candidates are in single digits.

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. 8-21, 2011

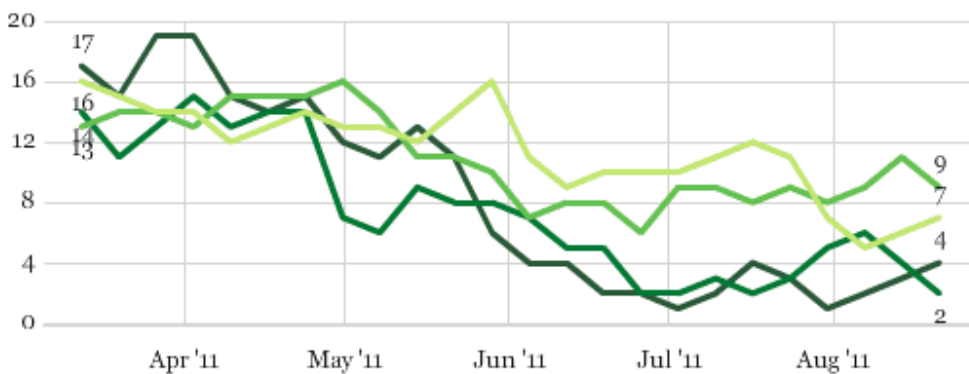
GALLUP'

All of the candidates whose Positive Intensity Scores are in single digits -- Ron Paul, Rick Santorum, Gingrich, and Jon Huntsman -- have seen their scores decline over the course of the year. Paul's and Santorum's scores were at one time as high as 16, Huntsman's as high as 15, and Gingrich's as high as 19.

Trend in Positive Intensity Scores for Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Ron Paul, and Rick Santorum

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

■ Gingrich ■ Huntsman ■ Paul ■ Santorum



Gallup Daily tracking

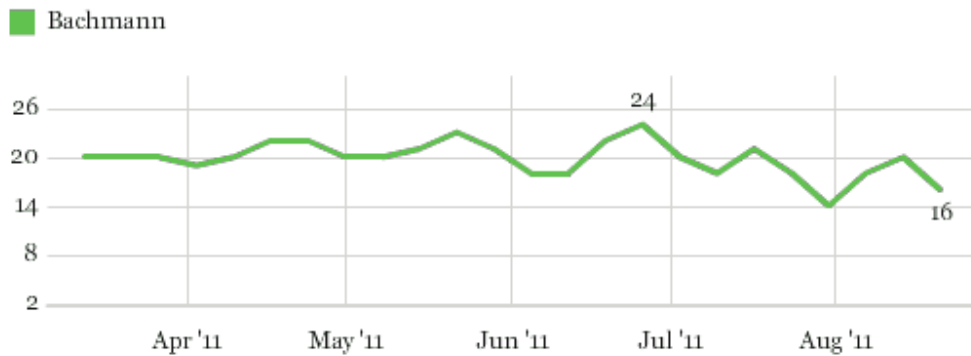
GALLUP'

Tim Pawlenty experienced a similar decline in his Positive Intensity Scores, from a high of 17 in late March/early April to 7 at the time he exited the race last week.

Bachmann's score has been below 20 in four of the past five weeks after being 20 or above for most of the period from February to June.

Trend in Positive Intensity Scores for Michele Bachmann

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Among the other active candidates, Romney has seen his Positive Intensity Score fluctuate between 13 and 20 this year; it has been holding at 14 or 15 in each of the last four weeks. Cain is the only candidate who has seen and maintained a generally upward trend in positive intensity, with scores no lower than 22 since early May.

Implications

Perry is off to a good start as a now-official candidate, seeing his familiarity among Republicans increase significantly in the last two weeks while maintaining a high Positive Intensity Score. The challenge for him is to keep that score up, now that he is actively campaigning. With that exposure comes the inevitable media scrutiny regarding his issue positions, personal qualities, and record for a broader audience, many of whom may not view them positively.

To date, Cain and Bachmann are the only candidates who have seen a rise in positive intensity as they became better known, although Bachmann's scores have declined in recent weeks as her recognition level has surpassed three-quarters of Republicans.

Track every angle of the presidential race on [Gallup.com's Election 2012 page](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 8-21, 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 approximately 1,400 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents.

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

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents 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/149138/Perry-Rises-Recognition-Maintains-Positive-Image.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

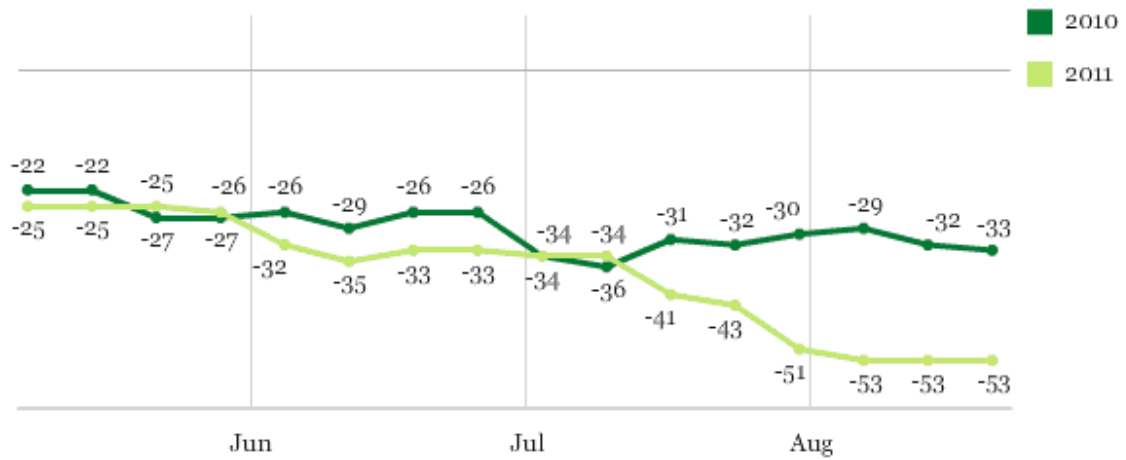
186-43-20. Americans' Economic Confidence Weak, but Has Stabilized

Gallup Economic Confidence Index registers -53 for third straight week

August 23, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' confidence in the economy is weak but stable after ratcheting sharply downward in July. The Gallup Economic Confidence Index registered -53 for the week of Aug. 15-21, identical to the first two weeks of August but well below the -34 of July 4-10 and 20 percentage points below where it stood a year ago.

Gallup Economic Confidence Index by Week^ -- May-August 2010 and 2011



^ 2011 data are for weeks ending May 8, 15, 22, and 29; June 5, 12, 19, and 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; and Aug. 7, 14 and 21. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended May 9, 16, 23, and 30; June 6, 13, 20, and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25; and Aug. 1, 8, 15 and 22.

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Gallup's recent confidence readings are the lowest since March 2009, when consumer attitudes had barely started to recover from the deep lows recorded during the 2008 Wall Street crisis. At that time, confidence was in the mid- to low 50s, not much improved from the -65 recorded in October 2008. Confidence remained negative but fluctuated in a fairly narrow range between -18 and -39 from April 2009 through early July 2011.

Gallup Economic Confidence Index -- June 2008-August 2011

Weekly averages through Aug. 21, 2011



Gallup Daily tracking

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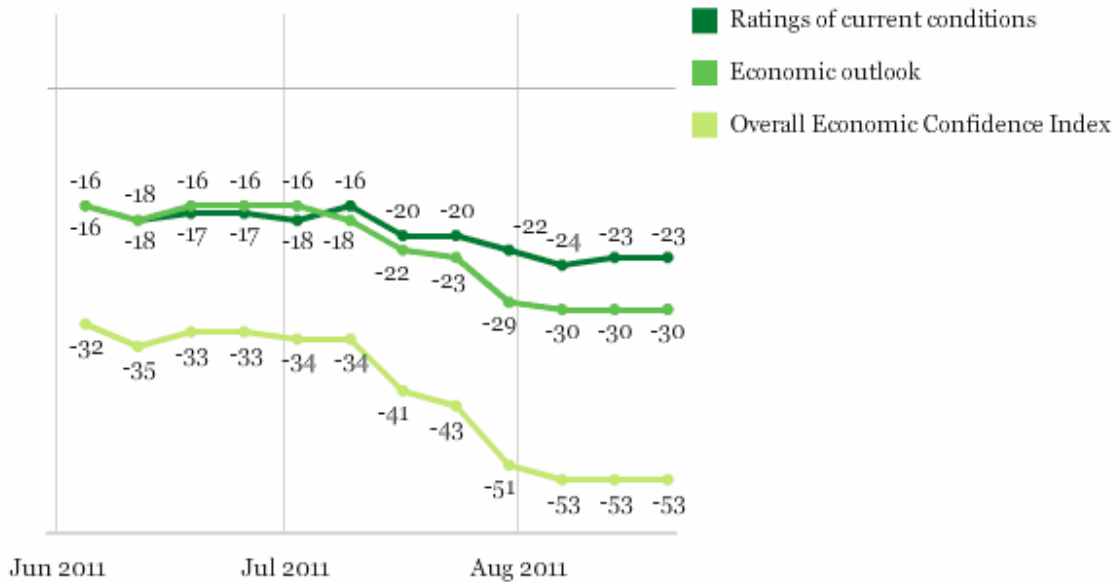
Americans' Economic Outlook Down Especially Sharply

The 19-point decline in the Economic Confidence Index since early July to -53 is the result of a 7-point drop in Americans' positive rating of current economic conditions and a 12-point drop in their optimism about the direction of the economy.

Both of these measures dipped slightly in mid-July, but then fell by even larger amounts in the last week of July. This occurred as Congress engaged in its final negotiations over legislation to raise the federal debt ceiling, finally passed on Aug. 2.

Gallup Economic Confidence Index -- June 2011-August 2011

Weekly averages ending Aug. 21, 2011



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Implications

Gallup reported [a notable decline in Americans' economic confidence in mid-July](#) coincident with political wrangling in Washington over the nation's budget and the concomitant bleak discussion about the nation's debt obligations. Confidence tumbled further in late July as media attention to the debt ceiling issue intensified, and it has since remained low, perhaps owing to the Aug. 5 downgrading of the nation's credit rating by Standard and Poor's and subsequent volatility in the stock market.

Without further economic or political shocks, today's fragile consumer attitudes could rebound some in the coming weeks, although perhaps not as quickly as they fell. One risk is that the markets will erroneously interpret the Conference Board's August Consumer Confidence Index as new information when it is reported next week. Given that the Conference Board's monthly interviews are skewed toward the beginning of each month, any drop in that index will reflect the changes in consumer attitudes between early July and early August that [Gallup already detected and first reported last month](#).

Gallup analysis suggests the Conference Board's August index could show a drop of more than 10 points and thus come within 10 points of that trend line's all-time record low. However, if the markets are spooked by this and the Dow tumbles as a result, consumer confidence could be driven further down as well.

To maintain perspective, retailers, stock traders, and others who follow consumer attitudes should perhaps focus more on the recent stabilizing of public confidence in the economy in August, albeit at a low threshold, and less on the steep decline in July that brought it to this point.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 14-21, 2011, with a random sample of 3,475 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 ± 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/149123/Americans-Economic-Confidence-Weak-Stabilized.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

186-43-21. Obama in Close Race Against Romney, Perry, Bachmann, Paul

Romney has slight edge over Obama, Bachmann slightly lags

August 22, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- President Barack Obama is closely matched against each of four possible Republican opponents when registered voters are asked whom they would support if the 2012 presidential election were held today. Mitt Romney leads Obama by two percentage points, 48% to 46%, Rick Perry and Obama are tied at 47%, and Obama edges out Ron Paul and Michele Bachmann by two and four points, respectively.

President Barack Obama vs. Potential Republican Candidates

Suppose the presidential election were held today. If Barack Obama were the Democratic Party's candidate and _____ were the Republican Party's candidate, who would you vote for -- [ROTATED: Barack Obama, the Democrat (or) _____, the Republican]?

	Registered voters	National adults
	%	%
Barack Obama	46	47
Mitt Romney	48	46
Other/Don't know	6	7
Barack Obama	47	48
Rick Perry	47	44
Other/Don't know	6	8
Barack Obama	47	45
Ron Paul	45	44
Other/Don't know	8	9
Barack Obama	48	48
Michele Bachmann	44	43
Other/Don't know	7	9

Aug. 17-18, 2011

GALLUP®

These prospective election ballots -- measured Aug. 17-18, well over a year before the Nov. 6, 2012, election -- indicate that the race for president at this point is generally competitive, with voters fairly evenly divided in their preference for giving Obama a second term or electing a Republican candidate. Even though the four Republican candidates tested have varying degrees of name recognition, they all fare roughly the same.

Gallup's generic presidential ballot -- measured six times this year -- shows a close race between Obama and a generic "Republican presidential candidate," although there have been survey-to-survey variations on this measure, with the Republican candidate leading in June and July.

President Obama's job approval rating is hovering around the 40% mark. This is below the rating that any of the six incumbent presidents re-elected since Eisenhower has had at the time of the presidential election. However, in August of the year before they were re-elected, Ronald Reagan (43%) and Bill Clinton (46%) were both below 50%. Obama's position of rough parity against leading GOP candidates shows that more Americans at the moment say they would vote for Obama than approve of the job he is doing -- perhaps a reflection of the continuing lack of a strong front-runner on the Republican side.

With the first official votes for the Republican nomination more than five months away, and with the very real possibility that GOP candidates such as Sarah Palin, Rudy Giuliani, and George Pataki may jump into the race, much could still change as the election process unfolds. A look at presidential election trial heats conducted in the late summer of the year before previous elections reveals that such change is quite common:

- In August 1999, Texas Gov. George W. Bush led Vice President Al Gore by 55% to 41% in a Gallup trial heat poll. That race ended up in a virtual dead heat, with Gore ultimately winning slightly more of the national popular vote than Bush.
- In August 1995, Kansas Sen. Bob Dole was slightly ahead of President Bill Clinton in a Gallup poll, 48% to 46%. On Election Day 1996, Clinton beat Dole by eight points.
- In August 1983, President Ronald Reagan was ahead of Democrat Walter Mondale by only one point, 44% to 43%. Reagan went on to beat Mondale in a 59% to 41% landslide in the November 1984 election.
- In August 1979, incumbent President Jimmy Carter was tied with former California Gov. Reagan -- each getting 45% of the vote. Reagan ultimately defeated Carter by 10 points.

Voters Favor Their Party, but Republicans Lend Less Support to Bachmann, Paul

Democratic and Republican registered voters display strong allegiance for their party's candidate across these election match-ups. Democrats are the most consistent, voting for Obama to about the same degree regardless of who the GOP candidate is. Republicans exhibit a little more variation, giving their strongest support to Perry (92% would vote for him) and Romney (91%), weaker support to Bachmann (86%), and the weakest support to Paul (82%). Independents tilt at least slightly toward voting for Romney, Perry, and Paul against Obama, while tilting slightly toward Obama when he is pitted against Bachmann.

President Barack Obama vs. Potential Republican Candidates, by Party

Among registered voters

	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
	%	%	%
Barack Obama	6	44	84
Mitt Romney	91	47	12
Barack Obama	6	44	86
Rick Perry	92	46	10
Barack Obama	11	43	84
Ron Paul	82	46	12
Barack Obama	9	48	85
Michele Bachmann	86	42	11

Aug. 17-18, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

President Obama is at the moment in a rough parity position when registered voters are asked whether they would vote for him in election matchups against four potential Republican candidates. Romney fares slightly better than the other GOP candidates, and Bachmann slightly worse, but these are not large differences. Gallup research shows that these types of election measures at this stage in the campaign are not highly stable, and one can expect changes in the relative positioning of Obama and various GOP candidates in the months ahead.

Track every angle of the presidential race on [Gallup.com's Election 2012 page](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking survey Aug. 17-18, 2011, with a random sample of 1,026 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

For results based on the total sample of 879 registered voters, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents by region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell 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/149114/Obama-Close-Race-Against-Romney-Perry-Bachmann-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149114/Obama-Close-Race-Against-Romney-Perry-Bachmann-Paul.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

[Paul.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/149114/Obama-Close-Race-Against-Romney-Perry-Bachmann-Paul.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

186-43-22. Hawaii Continues to Lead in Wellbeing; North Dakota Second

Southern states still struggle with low wellbeing

August 22, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans in Hawaii continued to set the national standard in wellbeing in the first half of 2011, followed closely by North Dakota. West Virginia and Kentucky maintained their status as the states with the lowest wellbeing. Nebraska, which showed the biggest gains in wellbeing rank from 2009 (25th) to 2010 (10th), continued to move up, landing in the top five.

Top 10 States, Wellbeing

(Three states tied for 10th)

State	Well-Being Index score
Hawaii	71.1
North Dakota	70.5
Alaska	69.4
Nebraska	68.4
Minnesota	68.3
Colorado	68.3
Utah	68.1
New Hampshire	67.9
Iowa	67.9
Kansas	67.8
Vermont	67.8
Maryland	67.8

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, January-June 2011

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Bottom 10 States, Wellbeing

(Two states tied for 41st)

State	Well-Being Index score
West Virginia	62.4
Kentucky	63.0
Mississippi	63.6
Ohio	64.4
Louisiana	64.6
Tennessee	64.7
Oklahoma	64.8
Arkansas	64.9
Indiana	64.9
Alabama	65.1
Missouri	65.1

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, January-June 2011

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These state-level data, from the Gallup-Healthways

Well-Being Index, are meant to provide a preliminary reading on the wellbeing of U.S. states in anticipation of the complete 2011 rankings, to be released early next year.

The Well-Being Index score for the nation and for each state is an average of six sub-indexes, which individually examine life evaluation, emotional health, work environment, physical health, healthy behaviors, and access to basic necessities. The January through June 2011 aggregate includes more than 177,000 interviews conducted among national adults, aged 18 and older.

The midyear Well-Being Index score for the country so far in 2011 is 66.4, a slight decline from [66.8 for all of 2010](#). The Well-Being Index is calculated on a scale of 0 to 100, where a score of 100 would represent ideal wellbeing. Well-Being Index scores among states vary by a range of 8.7 points.

Southern States Continue to Struggle With Low Wellbeing

More states in the South than anywhere else in the country have wellbeing scores in the lower range, as has been true in the past. Eight of the bottom 11 states in wellbeing (Missouri is classified as a Midwestern state) are Southern states.

Many Western states, in contrast, thrive in wellbeing, with four out of the top seven -- Hawaii, Alaska, Colorado, and Utah -- located in that region of the country. Five Midwestern states -- North Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Kansas, and Iowa -- are also in the top 12, as are three Eastern states: New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maryland.

North Dakota's Well-Being Index composite score has moved up proportionally more than any other state since last year, to 70.5 from 68.4. Wellbeing in Wyoming has declined the most, dropping to 66.5 thus far in 2011 from 69.2 last year, though Wyoming has a relatively small sample size at the halfway point of the year, and thus, a larger margin of error. (See page 2 for a complete list of state Well-Being Index scores.)

Hawaii Again Tops List in Emotional and Physical Health

On the sub-indexes that make up the broader Well-Being Index, Hawaii is tops in Emotional Health and Physical Health, two domains in which it perennially leads the nation. Alaska does the best on Life Evaluation, North Dakota on Work Environment, and Vermont on Healthy Behavior, typically its strongest area. Massachusetts, which is always at or near the top in Basic Access, is once again leading on that dimension thus far in 2011.

At the bottom, West Virginia fares worst on Life Evaluation and Physical Health -- two areas in which residents of this state have seriously struggled since the launch of the Well-Being Index in 2008. Kentucky performs worst on Emotional Health, and Mississippi is again at the bottom on Basic Access, consistent with three previous years of tracking. Louisiana has the lowest Work Environment score so far in 2011, replacing Delaware for the first time since 2009 in that bottom spot. Oklahomans exhibit the unhealthiest behaviors.

States With the Highest and Lowest Well-Being Sub-Indexes Scores

Well-Being Sub-Index	Highest	Lowest
LIFE EVALUATION	Alaska (63.1)	West Virginia (41.5)
EMOTIONAL HEALTH	Hawaii (84.0)	Kentucky (75.3)
WORK ENVIRONMENT	North Dakota (55.8)	Louisiana (42.2)
PHYSICAL HEALTH	Hawaii (80.4)	West Virginia (70.4)
HEALTHY BEHAVIOR	Vermont (69.4)	Oklahoma (59.0)
BASIC ACCESS	Mass. (86.8)	Mississippi (76.9)

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, January-June 2011

GALLUP

Implications

The overall wellbeing of the nation has thus far trended down 0.4 points in 2011, representing a modest decline from 2010 in Americans' collective wellbeing. At midyear, many of the usual Western, Midwestern, and Eastern states top the country in wellbeing, while Southern states are again more prevalent toward the bottom of the list. The states at the very top and very bottom have remained largely unchanged since 2008, demonstrating highly consistent patterns over time.

View and export complete wellbeing data by metro area using [Gallup's U.S. City Wellbeing Tracking interactive](#).

About the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 177,600 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 ± 0.2 percentage points. The margin of sampling error for most states is $\pm 1-2$ percentage points, but is as high as ± 4 points for smaller states such as Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Hawaii.

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, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, 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/149105/Hawaii-Continues-Lead-Wellbeing-North-Dakota-Second.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

AUSTRALASIA

186-43-23. L-NP (58.5%) Increases Winning Lead Over ALP (41.5%)

Finding No. 4695 - This face-to-face Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two weekends – August 13/14 & 20/21, 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of Australians aged 14+ including 1,526 electors, of all electors surveyed, 6.5% did not name a party.: August 26, 2011

Today's Morgan Poll shows strong support for the L-NP 58.5% (up 1.5% since the telephone Morgan Poll of August 9/10, 2011) compared to the ALP 41.5% (down 1.5%) on a Two-Party preferred basis.

The L-NP primary vote is 49.5% (up 0.5%), well ahead of the ALP 32.5% (up 3%). Support for the minor parties shows the Greens 11% (down 1%) and Others/ Independents 7% (down 2.5%) according to the latest face-to-face Morgan Poll conducted over the last two weekends, August 13/14 & 20/21, 2011.

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

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has risen to a still low 97 (up 2.5pts) with only 40.5% (down 1.5%) of Australians saying Australia is 'heading in the right direction,' while 43.5% (down 4%) say Australia is 'heading in the wrong direction.'

The latest [weekly Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence Rating](#) conducted last weekend, August 20/21, 2011, was virtually unchanged at 107.9 (up 0.3pts from August 13/14, 2011) but down 0.1pts for the period of this survey.

Gary Morgan says:

"The L-NP (58.5%, up 1.5% since August 9/10, 2011) has extended its strong lead over the ALP (41.5%, down 1.5%) on a Two-Party preferred basis as allegations began to emerge about Labor MP Craig Thomson's alleged misuse of a union credit card before he was elected to Federal Parliament.

"The minority Gillard Government's wafer-thin margin in the House of Representatives that the Government uses to govern means if Thomson, the Member for the marginal NSW seat of Dobell (held by the ALP by 5.1%), is forced from Parliament via a conviction or possible bankruptcy, the Gillard Government will lose its majority on the floor of Parliament, possibly bringing on an early election.

“At this stage no charges have been laid, but the ‘Thomson Affair’ is likely to provide a huge distraction to the Government as it attempts to implement key legislation including the proposed Carbon Tax and also the revised Mining Tax.

“Yesterday’s [*weekly Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence*](#) also showed a remarkable trend with a clear divergence between ALP voters and L-NP voters over the past two months. On June 11/12, 2011 ALP voters had Consumer Confidence of 115.7, which has since increased to 119.9 while L-NP voters were at 106.6 at the start of June, and have since fallen to 97.2. This clear divergence amongst voters demonstrates a clear difference of opinion on the state of the Australian economy by supporters of each major party.”

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

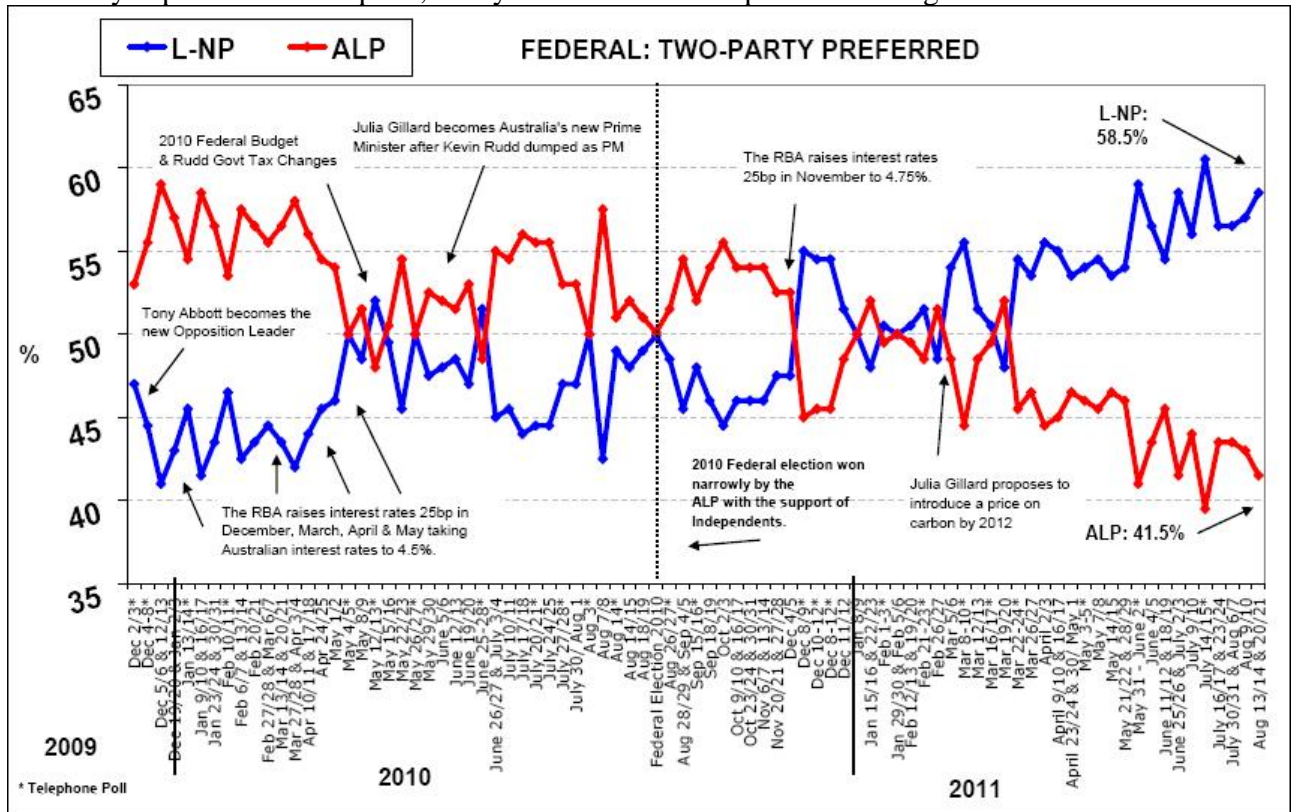
This face-to-face Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two weekends — August 13/14 & 20/21, 2011 with an Australia-wide cross-section of Australians aged 14+ including 1,526 electors, of all electors surveyed, 6.5% did not name a party.

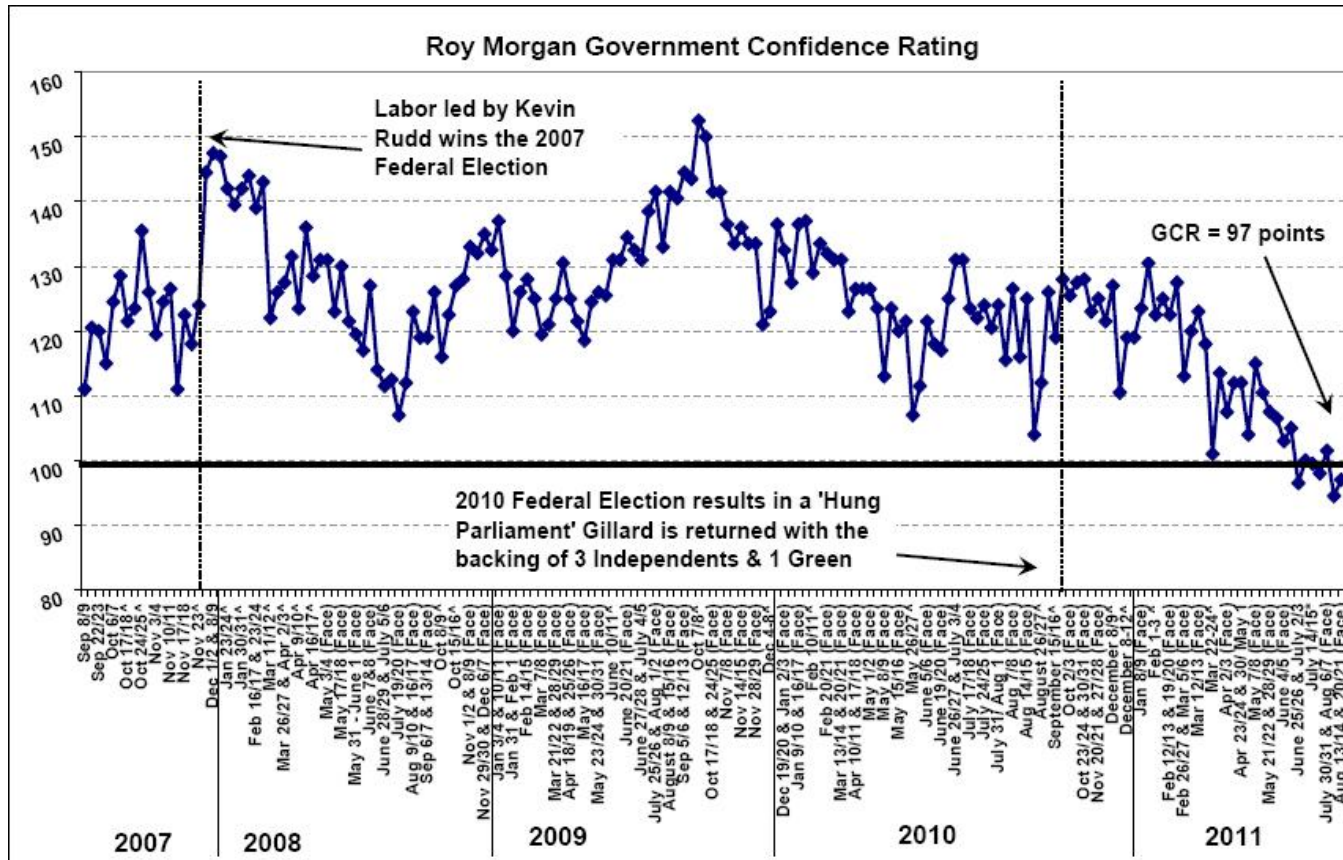
*Telephone Morgan Polls are conducted using the same methodologies used by other major telephone polls — Nielsen, Newspan, Galaxy. In analysing telephone Morgan Poll results, it is worth noting that telephone polls are good at capturing the response to current events and have typically been biased towards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

During the period:

- The ANZ has joined the Commonwealth Bank and Westpac in cutting its fixed home loan rate.
- Unions hit the roof as Qantas announces plans to slash hundreds of Australian jobs and move key operations into Asia.
- Tiger flights back in the air after more than a month stuck on the tarmac.
- The Federal Opposition is demanding to see costings and timelines for the Government's Manus Island asylum seeker deal with Papua New Guinea as PNG agrees to reopen Manus Island detention centre.
- Australia allows importation of New Zealand apples.
- Live cattle trade to Indonesia resumes.
- ABC crew feared dead in chopper crash - Paul Lockyer: one of the best, cameraman John Bean and helicopter pilot Gary Ticehurst.
- Air investigators will begin the painstaking task of trying to piece together the events that led to a helicopter crash that killed three of ABC's finest newsmen.
- Gangland widow Judy Moran has been sentenced to 26 years in jail for the public murder of her brother-in-law, Des "Tuppence" Moran in June 2009.
- Fear is again stalking International markets. Wall Street and European bourses suffered huge sell-downs as investors rushed for the exits.
- The world's share markets have been jumping at shadows lately, so the impact of an actual scary boogey man - in the shape of the first downgrade of US Treasury debt in history - is completely unpredictable. Standard & Poor's downgraded US debt to AA+ on August 5 after markets closed.
- London takes stock after night of riots.
- UK riots spread to other cities throughout Britain as police battle looters.

- Blasts and heavy gunfire rock Tripoli as the rebels close in on victory in the city after a 6 month Civil War battling the forces of dictator Muammar Gaddafi.
- Several explosions and heavy gunfire have been heard in central Tripoli, as witnesses reported fighting in some neighbourhoods of the Libyan capital. The rebels finally captured Green Square, the symbolic heart of Tripoli late in August.





Margin of Error

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

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

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4695/>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

186-43-24. Global consumers increasingly polarized by economic conditions

Mood of the World report shows most of world focuses on inflation

International, August 23, 2011 – British consumers are facing the double whammy of still feeling the effects of recession even as rising costs fuel inflationary worries. They are not alone in the world, though, according to GfK Roper Consulting's 2011 Mood of the World® Report, which is based on a global survey of more than 32,000 consumers ages 15 and older in 25 countries.

Consumers' top concerns, globally, are economic ones, followed by key social and other issues:

1. Inflation and high prices
2. Recession and unemployment
3. Having enough money to pay the bills
4. Crime and lawlessness
5. Environmental pollution

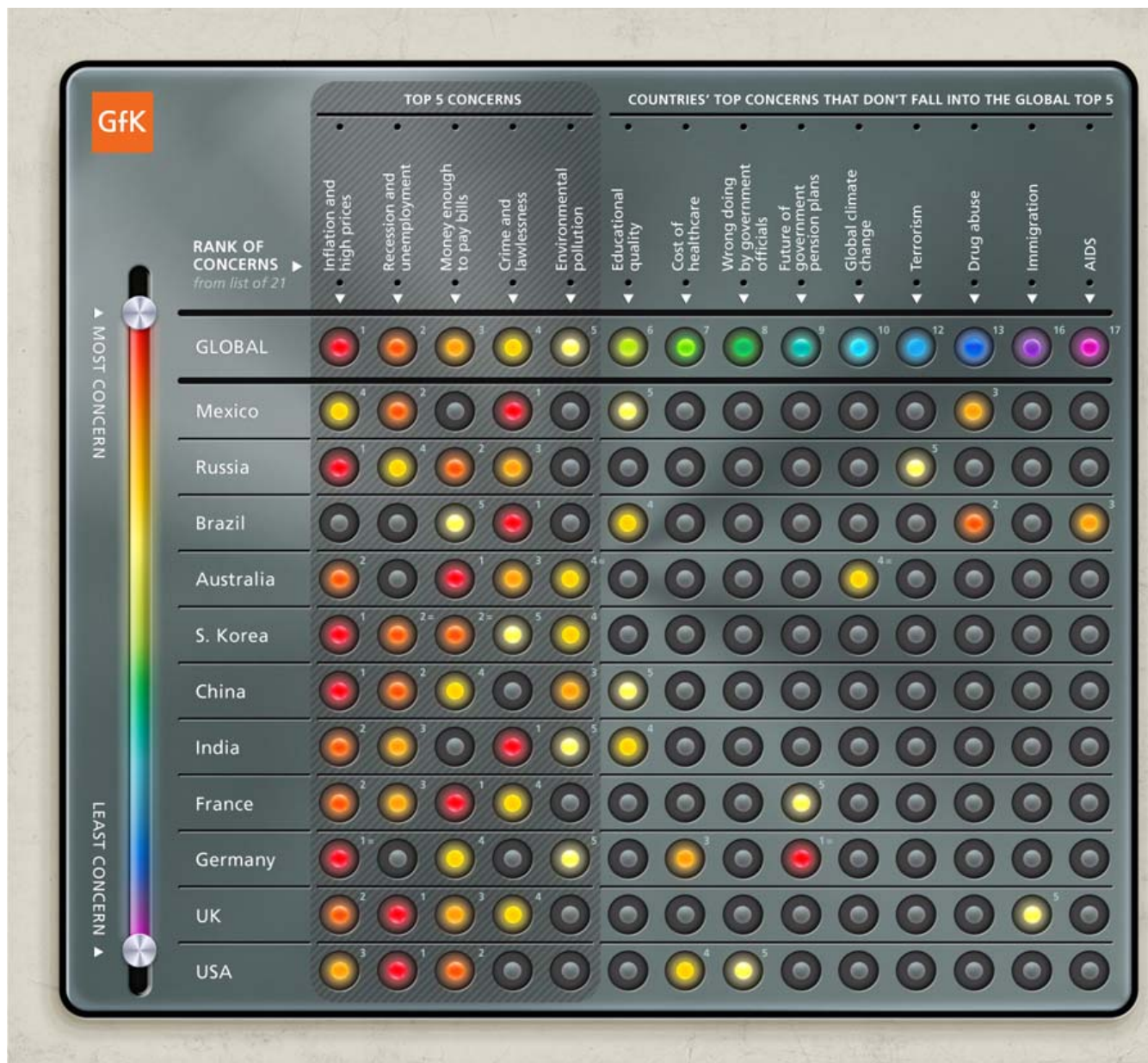
Middle East upheaval triggers consumer concern

"One of the countries we looked at especially closely this year was Egypt, because we wanted to see how the recent economic and political turmoil truly affected the country's people," says Holly Jarrell, Group Managing Director of GfK Roper Consulting. "It turns out that while Egyptians understandably list crime and lawlessness as their top concern, they also register higher-than-average levels of worry about inflation and recession. In contrast, their already lower-than-average level of concern about pollution has dropped even further, from 8th to 12th place, compared with 5th place globally. When people are preoccupied with concerns about financial and political stability, they tend to put social and other issues on the back burner."

Global pressures still cap optimism

Global economies appear to be stabilizing and are showing encouraging signs of growth, but optimism among consumers has been slow to materialize. Sixty-eight percent of respondents in the US and 59 percent globally report that their household experienced at least one negative economic event in the past year such as a job loss, difficulty paying bills, or housing distress of some kind; these numbers are essentially unchanged from the previous year. As a result, many are still feeling very hesitant about buying conditions. Globally, only 17 percent feel it is "a good time to buy" the things they want and need, while 40 percent feel it is "a good time to wait."

Consumers are adapting to the financial pressures they face in a variety of ways. Half of global consumers have used coupons during the past year –ranking it highest among ten strategies used to save money in 12 of 25 countries. In addition, 84 percent of global consumers have cut back in at least one of 26 areas identified in the survey. One of the most common cost-cutting measures among global consumers is dining out less frequently. Spain has the highest percentage of consumers doing so at 68 percent, compared to 62 percent in the US and 44 percent of consumers globally. Indeed, more than 90 percent of Spaniards made at least one cutback and 96 percent used at least one savings strategy, which along with high levels of economic distress, explains why Spain tops this year's Consumer Recession Index.



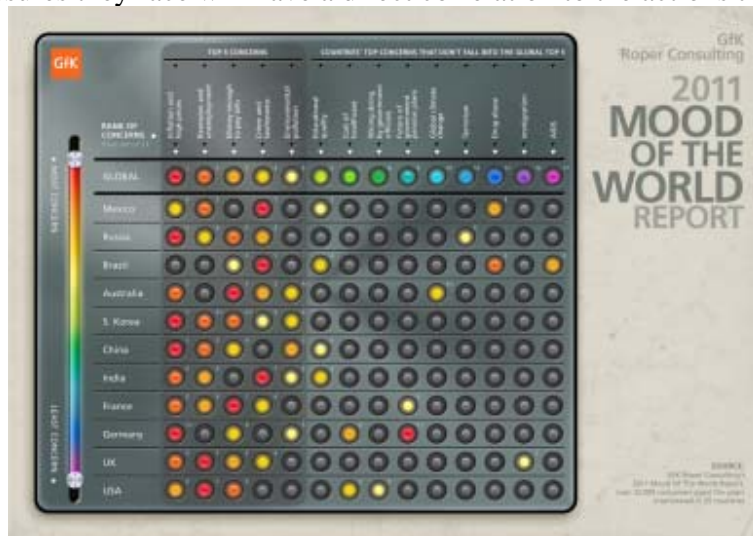
Polarized consumer mentality

In contrast, consumers in the BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, Indonesia, China, and South Africa) report less economic pressure and therefore take fewer actions to save money than those in other countries.

"The net result of these shifts is increasing polarization in the global consumer mindset," said Jarrell. "In some countries, like Brazil and Korea, there is a notable spender mentality, often fueled by a productive workforce and access to resources, not to mention high expectations on consumers' part, all of which serve to drive economic growth. In other countries, economies still falter and consumers remain skittish."

The Mood of the World Report also suggests that optimism is still tempered and closely tied to the lingering effects of the global financial crisis. Consumer sentiment and attitudes are

constantly evolving and, until financial stability is perceived by consumers, the financial pressures they face will have a direct correlation to the actions they take.



About Mood of the World

Mood of the World® is part of the GfK Roper Reports® Worldwide consumer trends service. Conducted annually by GfK Roper Consulting since 1997, GfK Roper Reports Worldwide offers subscribers a globally comparable view of consumer attitudes, values, behaviors, and cultural influences. Interviews were conducted among more than 32,000 consumers ages 15 and older in 25 countries from January to April, 2011 using a mixed-mode interviewing methodology. Data from each country were weighted to match key demographic norms (e.g., age, sex).

About GfK Roper Consulting

With offices in the US and the UK, GfK Roper Consulting is comprised of GfK’s syndicated consumer trend services – GfK Roper Reports® US, GfK Roper Reports® Worldwide, GfK Roper Green Gauge® and the GfK Roper Youth Report – which monitor consumer values, beliefs, attitudes and behaviors in the US and more than 25 other countries. GfK Roper Consulting’s mission is to help clients turn insights into inspiration and foresight into advantage worldwide.

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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. For further information, visit our website: www.gfk.com. Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/gfk_group.

Source: http://www.gfk.com/group/press_information/press_releases/008539/index.en.html

186-43-25. World's Top-Emitters No More Aware of Climate Change in 2010

Sizable numbers at least partly blame humans

August 26, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Residents in the top five greenhouse gas-emitting countries are no more aware of global warming or climate change than they were a few years ago. Majorities in all five countries Gallup surveyed in 2010 -- except India -- continue to say they know at least something about the issue.

How much do you know about global warming or climate change?

% who know a great deal or something about it

	2007-2008	2010	Change (pct. pts.)
Japan	99%	98%	-1
United States	97%	96%	-1
Russia	85%	83%	-2
China	62%	65%	+3
India	35%	37%	+2

GALLUP*

Over the past several years, international leaders have unsuccessfully tried to hash out a climate deal before the Kyoto protocol expires in 2012. Meetings later this year are not expected to result in a new deal. Japan, Russia, and the U.S. recently confirmed they would not join a new Kyoto agreement and China and India contend that developed nations should act first.

Japan's decision not to support the protocol's extension stems from concern about the lack of binding targets for the U.S., China, and India, not from a lack of Japanese concern about climate change. Nearly all Japanese adults (98%) surveyed before the March tsunami and nuclear crisis in 2011 said they know at least something about climate change. Most perceive global warming as a serious personal threat (77%) and attribute it at least partly to human factors (88%).

Japanese Perceive Global Warming as Serious Threat, Man-Made

Among those who are aware of climate change

	2007-2008	2010	Change (pct. pts.)
Global warming is serious threat to you and your family	80%	77%	-3
Global warming results from human causes/both human and natural causes	94%	88%	-6*

*Statistically significant

GALLUP*

Although the U.S. never signed on to the Kyoto protocol, like the Japanese, most Americans (96%) are aware of global warming and climate change. While their knowledge level has not changed in the past few years, the threat Americans feel from global warming has dissipated. Fifty-five percent of Americans who are aware of climate change view it as a serious personal threat, down from 64% in 2007 and 2008. They are also now less likely to attribute global warming to human causes, but half (50%) still at least partly blame humans.

Americans Perceive Global Warming as Serious Threat, Divided Over Cause

Among those who are aware of climate change

	2007-2008	2010	Change (pct. pts.)
Global warming is serious threat to you and your family	64%	55%	-9*
Global warming results from human causes/both human and natural causes	61%	50%	-11*

*Statistically significant

GALLUP

Gallup surveyed residents of Russia in June and November 2010, before and after a record-breaking heat wave. Awareness of climate change remained moderately high among Russian adults, with more than 8 in 10 saying they know something about. After the heat wave, Russians who were aware of global warming were more likely to see it as a threat, with concern rising to match Americans' at 55%.

Russians Perceive Global Warming as Serious Threat, Man-Made

Among those who are aware of climate change

	2007-2008	June 2010	November 2010	Change from 2007-2008 to June 2010 (pct. pts.)	Change from 2007-2008 to November 2010 (pct. pts.)
Global warming is serious threat to you and your family	47%	43%	55%	-4	+8*
Global warming results from human causes/both human and natural causes	70%	68%	70%	-2	0

*Statistically significant

GALLUP

China rivals the U.S. for the top spot on the greenhouse gas emitters list, but fewer residents (65%) say they are aware of climate change. Chinese residents who are aware of climate change are significantly more likely than Americans to blame humans for global warming. While Chinese see humans as the culprits, the country stands out among all top emitters with slightly fewer than one in three (32%) respondents seeing it as a serious personal threat.

Few Chinese Perceive Global Warming as Serious Threat, but Man-Made

Among those who are aware of climate change

	2007-2008	2010	Change (pct. pts.)
Global warming is serious threat to you and your family	34%	32%	-2
Global warming results from human causes/both human and natural causes	72%	75%	+3

GALLUP

Indians continue to exhibit the lowest awareness of climate change of all the populations in top-emitting countries, with 37% of adults saying they know at least something about it. The lack of knowledge about global warming is partly attributable to lower awareness among the majority rural population (31%), but even in urban areas, awareness does not exceed 50%.

Indians Perceive Global Warming as Serious Threat, Man-Made

Among those who are aware of climate change

	2007-2008	2010	Change (pct. pts.)
Global warming is serious threat to you and your family	82%	83%	+1
Global warming results from human causes/both human and natural causes	58%	74%	+16*

*Statistically significant

GALLUP

The vast majority of Indians who are aware of climate change perceive it as a personal threat, but they are increasingly likely to place at least part of the blame on humans.

Implications

With the future of the Kyoto protocol -- or any climate deal -- in jeopardy, leaders in these top-emitting nations should not lose sight that many of their residents are aware of climate change and that they feel seriously threatened by it. Residents in these countries may not necessarily agree about the severity of the risk or who is to blame, but previous Gallup surveys show they agree that developed and emerging nations should reduce emissions at the same time, rather than wait for one group to cut them first.

For complete data sets or custom research from the more than 150 countries Gallup continually surveys, please contact SocialandEconomicAnalysis@gallup.com or call 202.715.3030.

Survey Methods

Results are based on a nationally representative sample of adults, aged 15 and older, in each country. A total of 1,005 interviews were conducted in the United States, 1,000 interviews in Japan, 4,151 interviews in China, 6,000 interviews in India, and 4,000 interviews in Russia. For results based on the total sample in each country, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from ± 1.7 percentage points to ± 3.9 percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error,

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

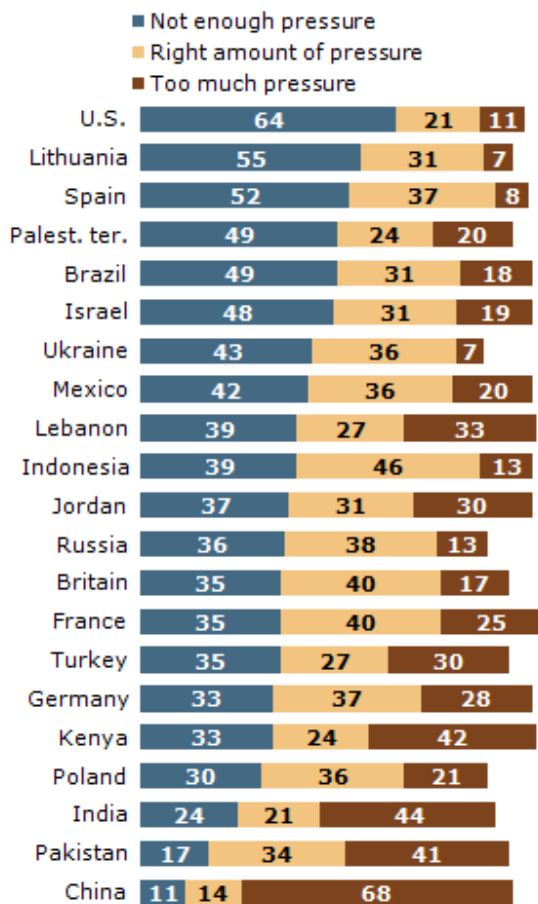
Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149207/World-Top-Emitters-No-Aware-Climate-Change-2010.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Asia%20-%20USA

186-43-26. The Parenting Gap: U.S. Versus China

Americans Want More Pressure on Students, the Chinese Want Less

August 23, 2011

How Much Pressure Are Parents Putting on Students?



Egypt and Japan were included in the 2011 Pew Global Attitudes Survey. However, this question was not asked in those countries.

Survey results are based on national samples except in China. See the Methodological Appendix for more information.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q86.

With U.S. students underperforming in international tests, it may not be surprising that more than six-in-ten (64%) Americans say that parents do not put enough pressure on their children to

do well in school; only 11% currently say parents put too much pressure on students, while 21% say parents are exerting the right amount of pressure.

In sharp contrast, about two-thirds (68%) of the Chinese public take just the opposite position in saying that parents in their country, with its surging economy, put too much pressure on their children to succeed academically.

The survey, conducted March 18 to May 15 by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project, finds that Americans are considerably more likely than any other publics polled to say that parents do not put enough pressure on their children, while China is the only country in which a majority sees parents putting *too much* pressure on students.

In nearly half of the countries surveyed, majorities or pluralities see parents applying too little pressure on students. In addition to the U.S., narrower majorities in Lithuania (55%) and Spain (52%) also think that parents in their countries are not pushing children hard enough to succeed in school, as do about half in Brazil (49%), the Palestinian territories (49%), and Israel (48%).

While China is the only country where a majority offers the view that parents are applying too much pressure on their children, a 44%-plurality in India also sees parents putting too much pressure on children to succeed academically. Pluralities in Kenya (42%) and Pakistan (41%) also say students in their country face too much pressure from parents to do well in school.

More Americans Say Parents Are Not Tough Enough

Americans' Changing Views of Parental Pressure

<i>% Not enough pressure</i>	2006	2011	Change
	%	%	
Total	56	64	+8
Men	62	65	+3
Women	51	62	+11
18-29	56	58	+2
30-49	59	72	+13
50-64	58	65	+7
65+	51	52	+1
College grad +	54	65	+11
Some college	57	68	+11
HS or less	57	60	+3
Democrat	55	69	+14
Republican	58	60	+2
Independent	56	62	+6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q86.

The percentage of Americans who say parents do not put enough pressure on their children to do well in school has increased by eight percentage points, from 56% in 2006. The shift has been especially notable among women, people between the ages 30 to 49, those with at least some college education, and Democrats.

Five years ago, men were considerably more likely than women to say parents were not pushing their children hard enough; 62% of men said this was the case, compared with 51% of women. Today, however, men and women offer nearly identical views, with 65% of men and 62% of women saying parents put too little pressure on students.

Similarly, the percentage of respondents between the ages 30 to 49 who say parents do not put enough pressure on children has increased by 13 percentage points since 2006. About seven-in-ten (72%) in this age group, which is more likely than any other group to have children younger than 18 living in their households, say parents are not tough enough; five years ago, 59% shared this view. Opinions have been more stable among other age groups.

Among college graduates and those with some college education, the percentage saying parents do not push their children hard enough has increased 11 percentage points since 2006, from 54% to 65% among those with a college degree and from 57% to 68% among those who attended but did not finish college. By comparison, views on this matter have not changed significantly among those with a high school education or less.

Democrats are also far more likely than they were five years ago to say parents do not put enough pressure on their children to achieve academic success; 69% offer this view now, compared with a narrower 55%-majority in 2006. Views are largely unchanged among Republicans and independents.

Source: <http://pewglobal.org/2011/08/23/americans-want-more-pressure-on-students-the-chinese-want-less/?src=prc-headline>

CYBER WORLD

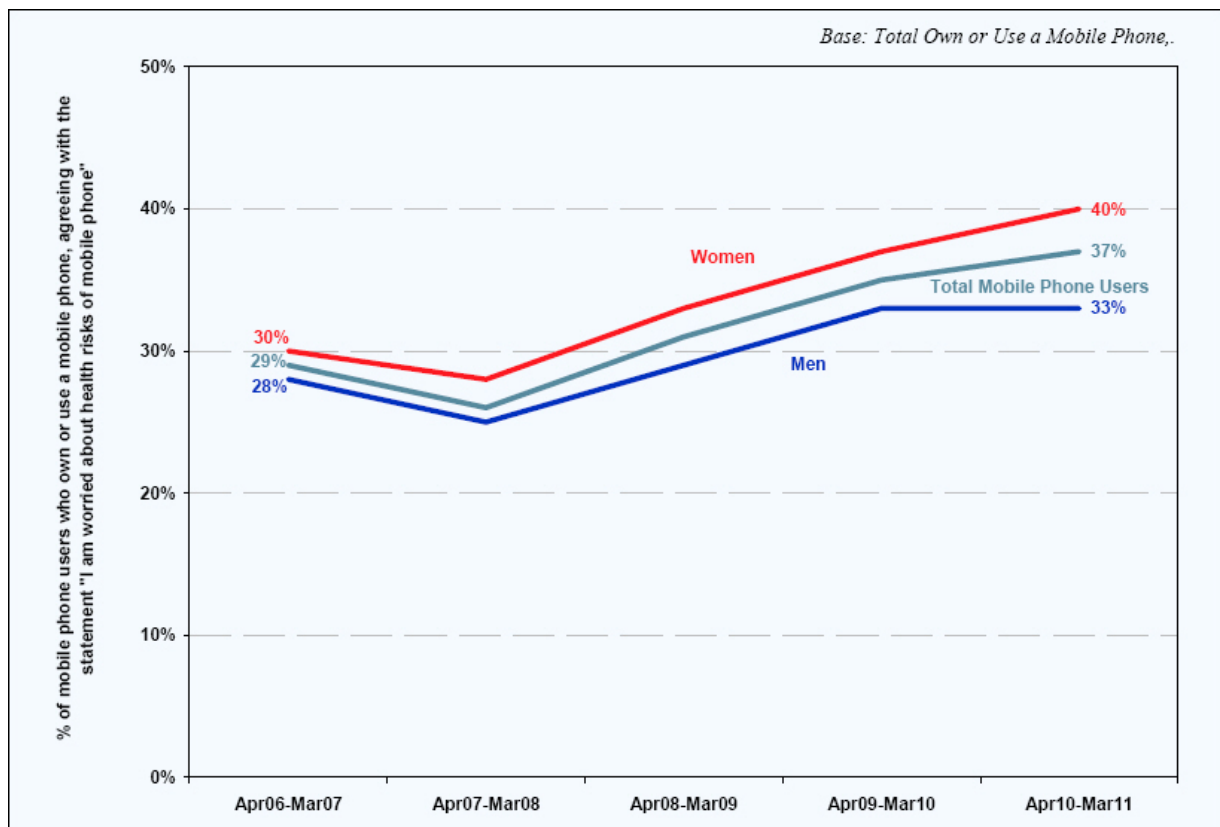
186-43-27. Increased Concern About Health Risks Of Mobile Phones

Article No. 1417 - Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia): Apr 2006 - Mar 2011. Sample: Total Own or Use a Mobile Phone. In the 12 Months to March 2011 n= 15,145.: August 26, 2011

With mobile phone penetration (87%) now higher than fixed line penetration (82%), concerns are increasing about health risks associated with mobile phones, according to the latest Roy Morgan Research Mobile Phone Monitor.

In the year ending March 2011, 37% of mobile phone users agreed with the statement “I am worried about health risks of mobile phones”, this is the third year in a row there has been an increase in this attitude and is up from 29% 5 years ago.

Percentage of mobile phone users who agree “I am worried about the health risks of mobile phones”



Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia): Apr 2006 - Mar 2011. **Sample:** Total Own or Use a Mobile Phone. In the 12 Months to March 2011 n= 15,145.

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

“It is interesting to observe that more women are concerned than men about the health risks of mobile phones, with 40% of female mobile phone users agreeing with the statement “I am worried about the health risks of mobile phones, compared with only 33% of males.

“The Roy Morgan Research Mobile Phone Monitor also shows that those aged 35 to 49 years have the greatest concerns, with 42% of mobile phone users in this age group being concerned. Women in this age group are even more concerned with 46% of them agreeing with this statement.

“With this rising trend, and the World Health Organisation’s recent announcement that the electromagnetic fields produced by mobile phones are possibly carcinogenic to humans, it will be interesting to see how mobile phone manufactures react to this issue.”

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.

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

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/press-releases/2011/1417/>