

BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Global Opinion Report No. 187

August 28 – September 03, 2011

Presentation: September 07, 2011

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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 29 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 27 are national surveys from various countries.

SUMMARY OF POLLS

SOUTH ASIA

Fans Stand By Team India.....

Despite the recent Test debacle in England, a CVOTER survey finds that more than three quarters of Indian fans feel that the Indian cricket team deserves the Number One Test squad slot in world cricket. (CVoter)

August 04, 2011

India: A new economic order....

About 70 per cent of people in a CVOTER survey feel that the dollar needs to be replaced as the supreme currency for trade in the light of the latest crisis emanating from America. (CVoter)

August 04, 2011

Sri Lankans Back Their Leadership Amid Western Criticism

Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa's decision last week to lift the country's 28-year-old state of emergency will likely further endear him to a public that almost universally supports him. It may also potentially ease some of the international pressure the country is under over its human rights record. More than 9 in 10 Sri Lankans surveyed in April 2011 say they approve of Rajapaksa's job performance, as they have since the civil war ended in 2009. (Gallup USA)

September 2, 2011

NORTH EAST ASIA

Majority Of Japanese Lose Confidence In Nation's Nuclear Plant Safety And Are Critical Of Handling Of Crisis

According to the findings of a recent AP-GfK survey, there is wide-ranging criticism of the way in which the crisis was handled and of the policies surrounding release of information to the public. Reconstruction and redevelopment of new energy sources are the most important objectives for the next decade as far as the population is concerned. However, nearly four in ten Japanese believe that the number of nuclear power plants should remain at their current level or be increased. (GfK)

September 01, 2011

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Electricity Charges Sub-Saharan Africans' Wellbeing

Relatively few residents living in sub-Saharan Africa say the main source of light in their homes comes from a power line, but Gallup finds those who are connected to a power

grid rate their lives better than those who are not -- even after taking people's incomes into account. (Gallup USA)

August 31, 2011

WEST EUROPE

The Proportion Of Secondary School Pupils Taking Private Tuition Has Increased

A recent Ipsos MORI poll of secondary school pupils has found that the number of pupils receiving private tuition has increased despite a squeeze on family finances through the recession. (Ipsos Mori)

September 05, 2011

SNP Continues To Dominate As Labour Trails In Holyrood And Westminster Poll

A latest Ipsos poll shows that, among those certain to vote, the SNP's share of the Holyrood constituency vote stands at 49%, up 4 percentage points on their election result. The strength of SNP support has come at the expense of the three other main parties, none of whom have shown signs of recovery since the election. Labour now stands at 28%, down four points from May and 21 points behind the SNP, while the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats stand at 13% and 7%, each down a single point. (Ipsos Mori)

September 02, 2011

Most Britons Reject Allowing Teenagers to Vote in Elections

The views of people in Great Britain on granting the right to vote to teenagers have hardened over the past couple of years, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. In the online survey of a representative national sample of 2,039 British adults, 65 per cent of respondents disagree with allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in General Elections. (Angus Reid)

September 01, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

New High of 55% of Americans Foresee Labor Unions Weakening

A majority of Americans, 55%, think labor unions will become weaker in the future than they are today. That is up from 46% last year and the highest Gallup has measured since it first asked the question in 1999. (Gallup USA)

September 1, 2011

Standard of Living, Health Key to Emotional Wellbeing After 65

Older Americans who express satisfaction with their standard of living are more than twice as likely as those who are dissatisfied to report high emotional health. (Gallup USA)

September 1, 2011

Gallup Finds U.S. Unemployment Up in August

Unemployment, as measured by Gallup without seasonal adjustment, is at 9.1% at the end of August -- up from 8.8% at the end of July. (Gallup USA)

September 1, 2011

Approval of Labor Unions Holds Near Its Low, at 52%

In a year marked by contentious negotiations between state governments and public employee unions, a slim majority of Americans, 52%, approve of labor unions. That percentage is unchanged from last year and remains on the lower end of what Gallup has measured historically. (Gallup USA)

August 31, 2011

Americans' Fear of Terrorism in U.S. Is Near Low Point

Americans' fear that a terrorist attack in the U.S. could be imminent has retreated from the high level Gallup recorded shortly after al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden was killed at his hiding place in Pakistan on May 1. It is now on the low end of the range seen over the past decade. (Gallup USA)

September 2, 2011

In U.S., Worries About Job Cutbacks Return to Record Highs

American workers' concerns about various job-related cutbacks have returned to the record highs seen in 2009, after improving slightly in 2010. In terms of the most significant employment risk measured, 3 in 10 workers currently say they are worried they could soon be laid off, similar to the 31% seen in August 2009 but double the level recorded in August 2008 and for several years prior. (Gallup USA)

August 31, 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

Perry, Cain Widen Lead in Positive Intensity Over GOP Field

Herman Cain and Rick Perry continue to generate strongly favorable impressions among Republicans familiar with them. Meanwhile, those familiar with Mitt Romney, Michele Bachmann, and Ron Paul express less intensely positive opinions of those candidates now than at any point this year. (Gallup USA)

August 30, 2011

Americans Want the Best and the Brightest to Be Teachers

Americans support the idea of encouraging the nation's best and brightest people to become teachers, according to findings from the 43rd annual Phi Delta Kappa (PDK)/Gallup poll. The large majority support recruiting high-achieving high school students to become teachers, and 74% would encourage the brightest person they know to become a teacher should he or she express an interest in doing so. (Gallup USA)

August 29, 2011

United in Remembrance, Divided over Policies

the public continues to be divided over many of the anti-terrorism policies that arose in the wake of Sept. 11, and these differences extend to opinions about whether U.S. wrongdoing prior to 9/11 may have motivated the attacks: 43% say yes, while 45% disagree. In late September 2001, 33% said U.S. wrongdoing might have motivated the attacks, compared with 55% who said it did not. (Pew Research Center)

September 1, 2011

Hurricane Irene Top Story for Public

Hurricane Irene was the public's top news story last week in a busy seven days that included an unusual and widely-felt East Coast earthquake and major developments in Libya. (Pew Research Center)

August 30, 2011

From Tripoli to the East Coast, a Week of Big Events

The end of Col. Muammar Gaddafi's 42-year grip on the North African country was the No. 1 story for the week of August 22-28, accounting for 25% of the newshole, according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. Unrest elsewhere in the Mideast, particularly Syria, filled another 2% of the newshole. (Pew Research Center) August 30, 2011

Back-to-School Poll: 57% Want National Standard for Advancement

A majority of adults nationwide (57%) say there should be a national standard level of learning in the nation's public schools before students can move from one grade to another, and, 54% believe test score cheating by school officials to improve standardized test scores is widespread, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds. (IBOPE Zogby) September 02, 2011

More Bad Numbers for Obama, as 40% Approve of Performance

Majorities of likely voters continue to disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance (60%) and say it is "time for someone new" (55%) in the White House. (IBOPE Zogby) August 29, 2011

Support for Same-Sex Marriage Increases Considerably in U.S.

The proportion of Americans who express support for same-sex marriage has increased dramatically in the country over the past year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Generations Y and X lead the way in calling for changes, but older Americans are not as convinced. (Angus-Reid) August 31, 2011

Canadians Remember Layton Fondly, Support State Funeral to Honour Him

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 Canadian adults, two thirds of respondents (67%) say Layton will be remembered for his role in the NDP becoming the Official Opposition earlier this year. A large majority of Canadians agree with the idea of holding a state funeral to honour Jack Layton, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid) August 27, 2011

LATIN AMERICA

Fewer Than Half See Progress in Drug War

As the death toll continues to rise in Mexico's drug war, now claiming more than 35,000 lives since President Felipe Calderón took office in December 2006, fewer than half (45%) of Mexicans say their government is making progress in its campaign against drug cartels; 29% say the government is losing ground and 25% say things are about the same as they have been in the past. (Pew Research Center) August 31, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Sustainable Efforts & Environmental Concerns Around the World

Concern about climate change/global warming among online consumers around the world took a back-seat to other environmental issues such as air and water pollution, water shortages, packaging waste and use of pesticides, according to Nielsen's 2011

Global Online Environment & Sustainability Survey of more than 25,000 Internet respondents in 51 countries. (Nielson)

August 2011

CYBER WORLD

Americans Rate Computer Industry Best, Federal Gov't Worst

Americans view the computer industry the most positively and the federal government the least positively when asked to rate 25 business and industry sectors. All five of the top-rated sectors this year are related to either computers or food. (Gallup USA)

August 29, 2011

European IT market is becoming more complex

The IT markets in Europe have become significantly more heterogeneous in the first half of 2011 than in previous years. The industry has nevertheless demonstrated that it can adapt to the particular market situation. Overall, the IT sector in Europe recorded a rise of 11% in the first six months. These are the latest GfK Retail and Technology findings prepared for IFA 2011, which is taking place in Berlin. (GfK)

August 31, 2011

Mobile Internet – Driver For Mobile Communications Market

The mobile communications market has been experiencing a global upswing. Smartphones, in particular, are appealing to even more consumers. This year, it is anticipated that around 400 million smartphones will be sold around the world. Above all, in Western industrialized nations, this boom is occurring at the expense of feature phones, which do not offer the diverse range of smartphone functions. (GfK)

August 31, 2011

SOUTH ASIA

187-43-1. Fans Stand By Team India.....

Despite the recent Test debacle in England, a CVOTER survey finds that more than three quarters of Indian fans feel that the Indian cricket team deserves the Number One Test squad slot in world cricket!

The Test debacle in England that saw a total washout when it came to India's cricket performance has to be the most embarrassing for the country in recent times. Indeed former captain-turned-commentator Sourav Ganguli candidly said that he had not seen a worse playing Indian side for over a decade now. The humiliating 4-0 loss that India, which had gone into the tour as the world's number one Test side, suffered at the hand of England will not be forgotten for a long, long time by dejected fans of the game in the Subcontinent. Winning and losing are surely part of the game. But while we recognize that, India's dismal performance in England is a bitter pill to swallow. Fans of the game may have taken heart if the team had indeed lost out worthily. But throughout the four matches, it seemed as if just one team was playing the other desperate to get back home after, literally, cutting its losses. India was not merely outplayed, it didn't simply play or play any better than team in a modest club game. The huge margins of defeat have a story to tell about a team where nothing, neither batting or bowling or indeed the captaincy, worked.

Do you think the current Indian Test team deserves to be No. 1?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	5.9
Yes	74.8
No	19.3
Total	100

Since the debacle, analysts have been speculating on the reasons why team India fared so poorly. Some have already already started calling for the resignation of chief of selectors, K Srikanth, asking why unfit players with niggles and injuries were chosen in the first place. The absence of players like Virender Sehwag, Zaheer Khan, Gautam Gambhir, Harbhajan Singh and Yuvraj Singh at various times during the series due to injuries cost India dearly.

And if they were not really fit, they should not have been played at all, giving a chance to battle-ready youngsters. After the World Cup win just a couple of months ago, Mahender Singh Dhoni was a captain who could do no wrong. But this series saw ample criticism for Dhoni, the captain as it did for Dhoni the wicketkeeper-batsman.

Captain Dhoni says we are playing too much cricket. Do you agree?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	14.1
Yes	68.2
No	17.7
Total	100

Why didn't he motivate younger players like Ishant, why did he appear aloof when the team needed him to lead from the front are just some of the questions being raised.

But the biggest criticism against Dhoni and something that made Team India the laughing stock of the world is his alleged role in flying down RP Singh, a player supposed to be close to him, to the Tests. An embarrassingly fat and slothful RP, who had not played international Test cricket for some years, was woefully inadequate in plugging the bowling gaps.

But the biggest reason, fans feel, for India's terrible performance is non-stop cricket leading to mental and physical fatigue in its players. The cash-rich BCCI has been accused of favouring the IPL over the Test format and England players and experts have, in fact, gone on record to say 'thank god, our players don't play for the IPL.'

Players too seem to value their IPL commitments more than playing for the country why else did Sehwag postpone his shoulder surgery till after the IPL?

The silver lining to the tour was Rahul Dravid's consistent performances and centuries. But for how long can Team India depend on its veterans, ageing players like Dravid, Tendulkar and Laxman? What selectors should look at is a consistent supply chain from domestic cricket. Hopefully, this defeat will make some people see light.

Do you expect this team to bounce back and square the Test series in England?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	9.4
Yes	82.3
No	8.3
Total	100

A recent CVOTER survey polled more than 1200 respondents across different states to know their opinion on India's performance in the series. The good news for the poorly faring team is that fans seem to remain loyal to them. More than 74 per cent of the people polled said that Team India deserved to be the number one Test side in the world in what will clearly startle people anywhere else in the world. While more than 76 per cent of "freshers" (18 to 29 year old) agreed with this, as many as 79 per cent of the over 60 year olds said the same. Clearly, cricket is a religion for fans across age groups.

A majority of people more than 68 per cent also agreed with Dhoni's excuse for the poor show by saying that India was playing too much cricket leading to fatigue and injury in players. While an overwhelming 80 per cent of the young (30-34 year olds) felt this, only 60 per cent of "freshers" (18-29 year olds) agreed with this statement.

Further, more than three quarter of the people polled also agreed that the current team is too dependent on the older players the trinity of Tendulkar, Dravid and Laxman. While more than 81 per cent of those between 29 and 35 agreed with this, 87.5 per cent of those over 60 agreed with the suggestion.

Whatever be the reason for the poor show, Team India should remember that it means disappointment for the millions of fans who love them despite their failings.

Methodology

National representative sample of 1201 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 28 states in India during 4th & 5th August 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +/-3% at national level.

Source: http://teamcvoter.com/2011/newsletter8i2/newsletter_8issue2_2011.pdf

187-43-2. A new economic order....

About 70 per cent of people in a CVOTER survey feel that the dollar needs to be replaced as the supreme currency for trade in the light of the latest crisis emanating from America downgrading in a nation's credit rating from AAA to AA+ may not necessarily trigger global panic unless, of course, that nation happens to be the United States of America. The recent downgrading of the US's credit rating by Standard & Poor was historic and not merely because such a downgrade happened for the first time in the history of the superpower and the world.

The rating downgrade came after a strong pushback from the White House, which called S&P's analysis of the economy deeply flawed and politically-based. A spokesperson was quoted as saying that there was a "two trillion dollar error" in S&P's analysis and that the agency had used the wrong baseline and erred on spending plans and debt projections. On the other hand, S&P defended the decision saying that the matter of medium and long-term budget position of the US needed to be urgently tackled.

Do you think that like the sub prime mortgage crisis, the current debt-ceiling crisis too will have a cascading effect?

	Valid Percent
Can't Say	20.6
Yes	51.4
No	28
Total	100

But that US lawmakers were inadequately addressing the issue. The Democrats and the Republicans had been battling for months to push the borrowing limit and slash fiscal deficit. The two opposing parties finally reached a last-minute agreement, agreeing to cuts in spending even though the Republicans continue to be opposed to any additional taxes to increase revenues and thus bridge the deficit between spending and earnings of the government.

While lawmakers dithered on how to tackle the growing public debt, S&P went ahead to slash the US's rating embarrassing the Obama government no end and signalling the arrival of an entirely new economic world order, one in which the dollar and the US were no longer supreme.

For a long time it has been held that when the US sneezed, the world caught a chill. And indeed 2008's global economic crisis that was triggered off by the American banking system proved that. So this more recent downgrading of the US's credit ratings has naturally resulted in fresh fears of a second downturn the world over. And indeed, a weakened dollar will have a large impact on many countries of the world, particularly on Europe, where countries like Italy and Spain have been on the brink trying to stave off enormous debt defaults. China, of course, is one of the US's biggest creditors and as such exposure to US bonds is high in that market. India, on the other hand, is less exposed and therefore, hopefully, less vulnerable.

Does the recent debt-ceiling crisis necessitate another currency for international trade?

	Valid Percent
Can't Say	15.6
Yes	69.5
No	14.8
Total	100

But as the markets have been displaying over the last few days, there is nothing like an insular economy in today's globalised world.

In India, a strengthening rupee (against the dollar, the global currency), would mean that exports will be severely impacted. Though the IT services sector – one of India's largest export revenue earners-- has expressed confidence that it will not be impacted much and that fears of a 2008 like crisis were unfounded, India's biggest fear at the moment is that its fourth quarter financials will be severely impacted as India's exports their competitive edge blunted by a rising rupee fall drastically. Traditionally, the US and Europe have been big buyers for a variety of Indian raw materials, services and products.

The boom of the past two decades in the US, the UK and much of Europe came at the expense of an extraordinary growth in borrowing, much of it from the Chinese and other fast-

growing Asian economies, which were happy to keep piling up Treasury bills and buying blue-chip companies, so long as the billions of dollars they spent were recycled into cheap consumer goods. The 2008 crisis, where the government in the US had to borrow even more to effectively intervene and restructure its banking system, added further pressure on its national debt. And even as a limping economy was slowly recovering, this downgrade, has dampened sentiments further reflecting in financial markets around the world.

Should India go for non-dollar payments and receipts in its bilateral trade with other partners?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	13.8
Yes	63
No	23.2
Total	100

The silver lining for China and India is that this may just be the proverbial moment in the economic history of the world, where the balance of power finally tips towards Asia. Should there be alternate currencies for global trade other than the dollar? How well is India poised to tackle any future challenges and above all, should we in the Subcontinent tighten our belts, in anticipation of another recession? These are some questions that a recent CVOTER survey, across 28 states in India, sought to address.

The answers are revealing about public sentiment in India, if not actual economic realities. More than half the number of people polled (51.4 per cent) believe that like the 2008 crisis, the present downgrade will also have a cascading effect and impact other countries around the globe. Additionally, an overwhelming, more than two-thirds of the people polled for this survey (69.5 per cent) also felt that the time had come for another international currency of trade to gain ground besides the dollar, as it weakened. Another 67.8 per cent of the people polled also felt that India was better poised to deal with this latest crisis because it was much less exposed to US securities than China, where exposure limits are pretty high. This view expresses faith in the fundamentals and basic strength of our economy.

Finally, 63 per cent of the people surveyed also felt that India should start accepting other, non-dollar payments as receipts for bilateral trade. Clearly, the old order is changing as the former superpower bows down and newer ones emerge to question its might.

Methodology

National representative sample of 1131 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 28 states in India during 11th & 12th August 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +/-3% at national level.

Source: http://teamcvoter.com/2011/newsletter8i2/newsletter_8issue2_2011.pdf

187-43-3. Sri Lankans Back Their Leadership Amid Western Criticism

Less approving of U.S. leadership

September 2, 2011

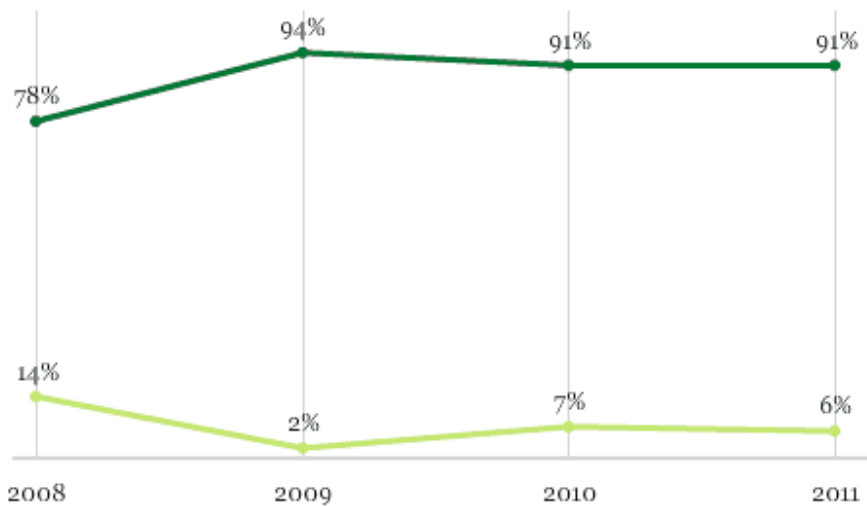
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa's decision last week to lift the country's 28-year-old state of emergency will likely further endear him to a public that almost universally supports him. It may also potentially ease some of the international pressure the country is under over its human rights record. More than 9 in 10 Sri Lankans surveyed in

April 2011 say they approve of Rajapaksa's job performance, as they have since the civil war ended in 2009.

Do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of President Mahinda Rajapaksa?

Asked of Sri Lankan adults

■ Approve ■ Disapprove



GALLUP

Rajapaksa's move comes a few weeks before the Sri Lankan government is expected to face off against Western governments at a U.N. Human Rights Council meeting. The country faces increasing pressure from Western governments and human rights groups to conduct an independent probe into alleged war crimes separate from its own ongoing internal investigation.

Sri Lankans are less enamored with other countries' leadership, such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Russia, and China, although many don't know enough about them to offer an opinion. U.S. leadership, which has been one of the more vocal critics of the Sri Lankan government's efforts to investigate alleged rights violations in the final stages of the war, has lost favor. Twenty-four percent of Sri Lankans say they approve of U.S. leadership, down 12 percentage points from 36% in 2008 and 2009.

Do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of the leadership of ...

Asked of Sri Lankan adults

	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change from 2008 (pct. pts.)
China					
Approve	39%	36%	34%	31%	-8
Disapprove	4%	7%	7%	10%	+6
Don't know/Refuse	57%	56%	59%	60%	+3
United States					
Approve	36%	36%	30%	24%	-12
Disapprove	12%	13%	17%	26%	+14
Don't know/Refuse	52%	51%	54%	51%	-1
United Kingdom					
Approve	29%	21%	22%	21%	-8
Disapprove	7%	17%	15%	18%	+11
Don't know/Refuse	64%	63%	64%	62%	-2
Russia					
Approve	22%	21%	20%	19%	-3
Disapprove	6%	11%	11%	15%	+9
Don't know/Refuse	72%	68%	69%	66%	-6
Germany					
Approve	16%	16%	16%	16%	0
Disapprove	6%	14%	12%	16%	+10
Don't know/Refuse	78%	70%	72%	68%	-10

GALLUP

More Sri Lankans approve of China's leadership than that of the U.S., and, while they are more divided about some Western countries' leadership, they are still more likely to approve than disapprove of China's. Rajapaksa recently returned from a trip to China, during which he sought support against a war crimes investigation.

Implications

Sri Lankans' approval of their president's job performance likely reflects their happiness to finally have peace in their country and a vision for the rebuilding of their nation. The government's lifting of emergency laws has earned praise from the U.S. and other Western nations and suggests Sri Lanka is trying to leave its violent past behind. It will be imperative for the Sri Lankan government to use this political capital as it works to resolve conflicts within the country and reintegrate disenfranchised portions of the population.

Survey Methods

Results are based on 1,000 face-to-face interviews with adults, aged 15 or older, conducted in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. For results based on total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4.1 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 bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149306/Sri-Lankans-Back-Leadership-Amid-Western-Criticism.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia - Politics – USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149306/Sri-Lankans-Back-Leadership-Amid-Western-Criticism.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Asia%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

NORTH EAST ASIA

187-43-4. Majority Of Japanese Lose Confidence In Nation's Nuclear Plant Safety And Are Critical Of Handling Of Crisis

Recent AP-GfK Poll also finds there is still some public support for nuclear power

Nuremberg, September 1, 2011 – The earthquake, subsequent tsunami and the consequential nuclear disaster in Fukushima in March of this year have shaken Japan's confidence in the safety of its power plants. According to the findings of a recent AP-GfK survey, there is also wide-ranging criticism of the way in which the crisis was handled and of the policies surrounding release of information to the public. Reconstruction and redevelopment of new energy sources are the most important objectives for the next decade as far as the population is concerned. However, nearly four in ten Japanese believe that the number of nuclear power plants should remain at their current level or be increased.

A recent AP-GfK Poll of the Japanese population, which was a representative sample, reveals that the events of March 11th this year and the consequent nuclear disaster have left a deep impression on Japan's citizens. Around three quarters of Japanese surveyed say they feel less safe now than before the natural disaster.

A total of 80% of the population was left with the feeling that in the aftermath of the disaster, the government was not truthful about what was actually happening. The same proportion questions whether the government could really help them if they were to become a victim of a disaster themselves. Around two thirds of those surveyed are worried about how the disaster might affect their own lives, jobs and future.

Asked about the way in which the crisis was managed in the wake of the disaster, only the self-defense forces are given good marks, with nearly 90% of the population rating their performance positively. On the other hand, the recently resigned prime minister Naoto Kan is widely criticized, with three quarters of the Japanese population disapproving of the way in which he handled the effects of the disaster. The agency for nuclear and industrial safety is given a similarly poor rating, and TEPCO, operator of the Fukushima nuclear power station, is criticized by more than 80% of the population.

The majority of Japanese are not convinced about the safety of the nuclear power plants currently operating in the country. A total of 60% of the population say they have no or very little confidence in the safety of the plants. On this issue, a definite gender disparity becomes evident, with 54% of men sharing this opinion, whereas for women it is 66%.

Around half of the Japanese would be in favor of reducing the number of nuclear power plants currently on stream in Japan. Even here, the number of women in favor is higher. Conversely, around one third of the population expresses the opinion that the number of nuclear

power plants should remain at their current level, with an additional 4% in favor of expanding nuclear power. However, the fact that as an industrial nation, Japan will have to change its energy policy, is undisputed by the population. For 84% of Japanese, the development of new energy sources is one of the most important objectives for the coming decade. Only the reconstruction of those regions destroyed by the earthquake and the tsunami is regarded as more important, with a total of 96% of the Japanese population saying this is extremely or very important.

The survey

The current AP-GfK survey was carried out in Japan by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Corporate Communications during the period from July 29 to August 10, 2011. 1,000 respondents aged 18+ participated in the representative survey. The poll's margin of error is 3.8 percent.

Associated Press (AP)

Associated Press (AP) is the leading global news network, which delivers fast and impartial news from all over the world to every media platform and media format. AP was established in 1846 and is today one of the major and most reliable sources of independent news and reporting. Every day, more than half the world population comes into contact with news supplied by AP.

The GfK Group

The GfK Group offers the fundamental knowledge that industry, retailers, service 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/008623/index.en.html

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

187-43-5. Electricity Charges Sub-Saharan Africans' Wellbeing

But fuel lamps still light many homes

August 31, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Relatively few residents living in sub-Saharan Africa say the main source of light in their homes comes from a power line, but Gallup finds those who are connected to a power grid rate their lives better than those who are not -- even after taking people's incomes into account.

Life Evaluation and Lighting Source in Sub-Saharan Africa, Medians

Among all adults, aged 15 and older, surveyed in 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

	Power line	Fuel lamps	Other*
Life today	4.7	4.0	4.1
Life in five years	7.3	6.3	6.6

2010-2011

*Includes generators, candles, flash lights, batteries, firewood, and solar panels

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It appears the benefits of access to electricity go beyond the modern comforts it brings to African households. When asked to evaluate their lives using the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, those who say their main source of lighting comes from power lines rate their present lives more than 0.5 points higher on a scale from 0 to 10 than those who rely on fuel lamps or other sources. These results still hold even after statistically controlling for household income. On-grid sub-Saharan Africans also rate their future lives a full point higher than those who mainly rely on fuel lamps and more than half a point higher than those who use other sources of home lighting.

A median of 23% across 20 sub-Saharan African countries surveyed in 2010 and 2011 say power lines provide the main source of light for their homes, far fewer than the median of 39% who say it comes from fuel lamps, including gas-powered lamps. At the same time, a significant proportion of residents living in sub-Saharan Africa tell Gallup they rely on a source other than power lines or fuel lamps to light their homes. These results underscore sub-Saharan Africa's low capacity to generate power and its challenges to meet the power needs of its growing population.

What is the main source of light in your home -- that is, the source of light you use the most?

Medians based on 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

	Power line	Fuel lamps	Other*
Total	23%	39%	19%

2010-2011

*Includes generators, candles, flash lights, batteries, firewood, and solar panels

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Main Source of Lighting Varies Greatly Between Urban and Rural Areas

Gallup's results also highlight the considerable divide between urban and rural areas in terms of access to electricity. A median of 67% of urban residents say their main lighting source at home is power lines, while 16% of those living in rural areas say the same. Further, a median of 46% of rural residents say they rely on fuel lamps to light their homes.

What is the main source of light in your home -- that is, the source of light you use the most?

Medians based on 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

	Power line	Fuel lamps	Other*
Urban	67%	18%	15%
Rural	16	46	21
Total	23	39	19

2010-2011

*Includes generators, candles, flash lights, batteries, firewood, and solar panels

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It is important to note that while majorities of sub-Saharan Africans living in urban areas are on electrical grids, it does not necessarily mean access is reliable. Urban dwellers experience

frequent and lengthy power outages. In addition, low river water levels and other issues often prompt authorities in some countries to ration electricity according to news reports.

Lighting Sources Also Vary by Country

Virtually everyone in Mauritius, an island nation in the Indian Ocean, says their main source of lighting is a power line. Majorities in Cameroon, Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe also report relying on power lines. At the other end of the spectrum, 10% or less in Mali, Central African Republic, Niger, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Liberia say the same.

Save for Mauritius and South Africa, significant proportions in each African country surveyed say fuel lamps are their main source of lighting. Further, at least 7 in 10 residents in the Central African Republic (75%), Chad (74%), and Burkina Faso (72%) say their main source of light is fuel lamps.

What is the main source of light in your home -- that is, the source of light you use the most?

Among all adults, aged 15 and older, surveyed in 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa
Ranked in power line descending order

	Power line	Fuel lamps	Other*
Mauritius	100%	0%	0%
South Africa	80	1	19
Ghana	67	19	14
Nigeria	66	22	12
Cameroon	65	28	8
Zimbabwe	56	15	29
Botswana	49	20	31
Senegal	48	23	30
Tanzania	28	59	14
Kenya	27	66	8
Madagascar	19	63	18
Uganda	16	64	21
Sierra Leone	13	59	27
Guinea	11	17	72
Mali	10	50	40
Central African Republic	10	75	15
Niger	9	36	56
Burkina Faso	8	72	20
Chad	8	74	18
Liberia	4	42	54
MEDIANS	23%	39%	19%

2010-2011

*Includes generators, candles, flash lights, batteries, firewood, and solar panels

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Other sources of lighting, especially flashlights, are particularly widespread in Guinea (58%), Niger (52%), and Mali (25%). Relatively few residents living in sub-Saharan Africa, however, report relying on firewood, at least for lighting purposes. Across the 20 countries surveyed, a median of 4% say firewood is their main source of light in their homes and it is highest in Uganda and Zimbabwe (10% each).

What is the main source of light in your home -- that is, the source of light you use the most?

Percentage who say "other"

Among all adults, aged 15 and older, surveyed in 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

	Candles	Firewood	Batteries	Flash lights	Solar panels
Botswana	20%	8%	*	*	1%
Burkina Faso	1	1	2	15	1
Cameroon	*	*	*	3	*
Central African Republic	1	6	*	6	1
Chad	1	6	*	3	*
Ghana	2	2	8	6	*
Guinea	3	2	2	58	1
Kenya	1	3	2	1	4
Liberia	31	6	1	9	1
Madagascar	13	1	1	1	1
Mali	1	*	6	25	5
Mauritius	*	*	*	*	*
Niger	*	2	1	52	*
Nigeria	1	*	1	*	*
Senegal	14	1	5	6	2
Sierra Leone	1	4	6	12	*
South Africa	15	2	*	*	*
Tanzania	3	5	*	*	1
Uganda	7	10	*	*	2
Zimbabwe	6	10	*	*	4

2010-2011

*Less than 0.5%

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Implications

While many efforts are under way to improve both on- and off-grid access and service reliability in sub-Saharan Africa, the capital investments needed to reach many rural populations and overcome technical difficulties are daunting. Nevertheless, it appears the benefits of in-home electricity extend well beyond bringing basic comfort to sub-Saharan African households.

The Gallup results suggest electricity access is a necessary pillar for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in the region. From improved food storage to better health,

the benefits of power access are far reaching. As such, reliable and affordable power can give Africans opportunities to build prosperous economies, a key outcome of poverty alleviation across the subcontinent.

Survey Methods

Results are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted 2010-2011 in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from ± 3.4 percentage points to ± 4.1 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/149276/Electricity-Charges-Sub-Saharan-Africans-Wellbeing.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing

WEST EUROPE

187-43-6. The Proportion Of Secondary School Pupils Taking Private Tuition Has Increased

Published:5 September 2011

Fieldwork:23 January - 15 April 2011

A recent Ipsos MORI poll of secondary school pupils has found that the number of pupils receiving private tuition has increased despite a squeeze on family finances through the recession.

The survey of 2,739 pupils aged 11-16 was conducted using Ipsos MORI's Young People Omnibus on behalf of the Sutton Trust. A summary outline document and tables of the data can be found below, along with further information about the methodology behind the Young People Omnibus.

- The Young People Omnibus is conducted by Ipsos MORI every year
- For the 2010/11 omnibus, 2,739 interviews were conducted among school children aged 11-16 in England and Wales
- Pupils were selected from a random sample of schools drawn from the Edubase database (a database of schools maintained by the Department for Education)
- Self-completion questionnaires were completed at school between 23 January and 15 April 2011
- Results are based on all pupils in England and Wales, unless otherwise stated
- Data has been weighted by age, gender and region to match the profile of school children across England and Wales
- An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than half a per cent, but not zero
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this is due to multiple responses or computer rounding.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2853/The-proportion-of-secondary-school-pupils-taking-private-tuition-has-increased.aspx>

187-43-7. SNP Continues To Dominate As Labour Trails In Holyrood And Westminster Poll ***Scotland Public Opinion Monitor Wave 9***

Published:2 September 2011

Fieldwork:25 - 29 August 2011

Following the SNP's landmark overall majority in May's Scottish Parliament elections, the honeymoon period continues as Scots back the party in Westminster and Holyrood poll. Our latest poll shows that, among those certain to vote, the SNP's share of the Holyrood constituency vote stands at 49%, up 4 percentage points on their election result. The strength of SNP support has come at the expense of the three other main parties, none of whom have shown signs of recovery since the election. Labour now stands at 28%, down four points from May and 21 points behind the SNP, while the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats stand at 13% and 7%, each down a single point.

The SNP's lead over Labour is particularly strong among men, where they have a 31 point lead, and those aged 55 and over, where they have a 25 point lead.

The SNP's current popularity is also reflected in Westminster voting intention, where the party enjoys a nine point lead over Labour. Among those certain to vote, the SNP's share of the vote stands at 42%, some 19 points up on the party's performance at the 2010 General Election. Labour are currently on 33%, down 9 points, while the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats are on 16% and 6%, down 1% and 13% respectively.

Satisfaction with party leaders

Along with the continued popularity of his party, Alex Salmond continues to enjoy the backing of a majority of Scots. Three in five Scots (62%) say they are satisfied with his performance as First Minister compared to just over a quarter (28%) who say they are dissatisfied, giving him a net satisfaction rating of +34%, up a single point from our last poll in April.

With Labour and the Conservatives currently without leaders, the only other Scottish party leader included in the poll was Willie Rennie, recently appointed to lead the Liberal Democrats. His main short-term challenge would appear to be public recognition with half of Scots (51%) unable to rate his performance. Fewer than one in five (17%) say they are satisfied with his performance as leader, compared to 32% who are dissatisfied.

Mark Diffley, Research Director at Ipsos MORI said:

"As MSPs reconvene at an SNP-dominated Holyrood next week, this poll will be good news for the governing party and the First Minister. The party remains in a dominant position among the electorate which, combined with the overall majority in Parliament, will give the SNP the confidence to pursue their programme. Alex Salmond also remains popular with the electorate, highlighting the challenges facing the other parties in their pursuit of selecting credible leaders who can challenge him effectively."

Technical Note

- Results are based on a survey of 1,002 respondents conducted by telephone between 25th August and 29th August 2011.

- Data are weighted by age, sex and working status using census data, and tenure using SHS 2007-2008 data, and by public-private sector employment by Scottish Government Quarterly Public Sector Series data.

- An asterisk (*) indicates a percentage of less than 0.5% but greater than 0.

- Where results do not sum to 100, this may be due to multiple responses or computer rounding.

- Where the base size is less than 30 the number (N) rather than the percentage of respondents is given.

Source:<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2852/SNP-continues-to-dominate-as-Labour-trails-in-Holyrood-and-Westminster-poll.aspx>

187-43-8. Most Britons Reject Allowing Teenagers to Vote in Elections

(09/01/11) -

Respondents are satisfied with the state of democracy and endorse the parliamentary system.

The views of people in Great Britain on granting the right to vote to teenagers have hardened over the past couple of years, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 2,039 British adults, 65 per cent of respondents disagree with allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in General Elections.

The level of rejection for the participation of teenagers in democratic processes reaches 61 per cent for Regional Elections, and 66 per cent for European Elections.

Across Great Britain, 52 per cent of respondents say they are satisfied with the way democracy works in the UK, while 39 per cent are dissatisfied. Also, at least three-in-five Britons feel that their vote in General Elections (60%) and Regional Elections (65%) makes a difference. Conversely, 57 per cent of respondents think their vote in European Elections does not make a difference.

Half of respondents (52%) believe the current parliamentary system, with the prime minister and cabinet exercising power, is the best one for the UK. Fewer respondents would like to see the country move to a semi-presidential system (15%) or a presidential system (7%).

Since a similar survey conducted in 2009, the level of animosity towards teenage voting in Britain has increased by at least 10 points in all three electoral scenarios.

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/44007/most-britons-reject-allowing-teenagers-to-vote-in-elections/>

NORTH AMERICA

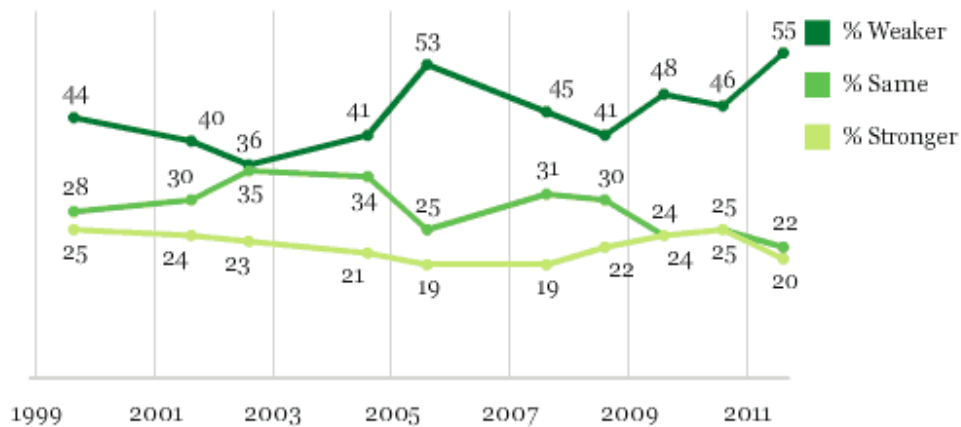
187-43-9. New High of 55% of Americans Foresee Labor Unions Weakening

Forty-two percent want unions to have less influence; 30% want more influence

September 1, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- A majority of Americans, 55%, think labor unions will become weaker in the future than they are today. That is up from 46% last year and the highest Gallup has measured since it first asked the question in 1999.

Thinking about the future, do you think labor unions in this country will become -- [ROTATED: stronger than they are today, the same as today, (or) weaker than they are today]?



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These results are based on Gallup's annual Work and Education poll, conducted Aug. 11-14. Americans have always been more likely to expect labor unions to weaken rather than strengthen, but not to as high a degree as they do this year.

The new high could be a response to the battles between state governments and public employee labor unions that have occurred in several states this year. As state governments have struggled to balance their budgets, public employees, many of whom are unionized, have been forced to accept cuts in pay or benefits. In Wisconsin, the government passed legislation to limit the scope of what public unions can bargain for.

All party groups generally expect unions to become weaker in the future, with Democrats slightly less likely to say this. Since last year, Republicans and independents have become significantly more likely to believe unions will weaken in the future, with a smaller increase in the percentage of Democrats holding this view.

Expectations for Labor Union Strength, by Political Party

	% Stronger	% Same	% Weaker
2011			
Republicans	16	24	58
Independents	22	18	57
Democrats	23	26	46
2010			
Republicans	27	23	45
Independents	22	23	49
Democrats	26	29	42

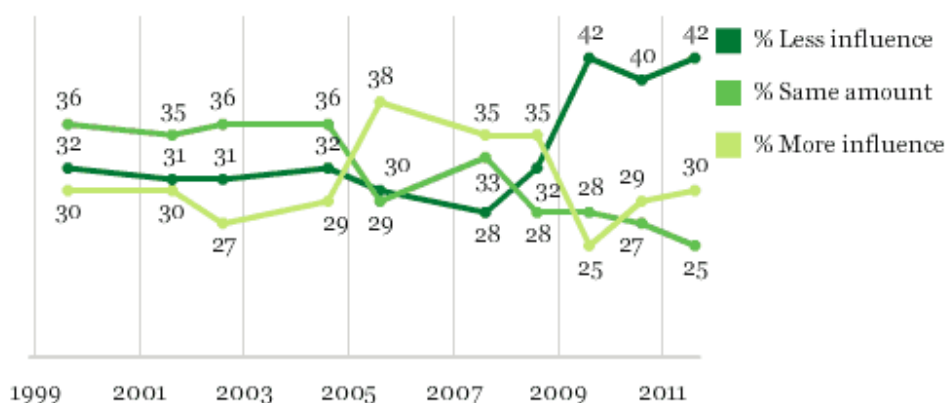
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Americans Want Unions to Have Less, Rather Than More, Influence

Forty-two percent of Americans would personally like to see unions have less influence than they have today, tying the high from 2009. Thirty percent want unions to have more influence, and 25% would prefer no change.

The last three years mark a significant shift in what Americans want to see from labor unions. Since 2009, at least 4 in 10 Americans have preferred a reduction in union influence, compared with no more than 32% from 1999-2008. From 2005-2008, Americans were more likely to say they wanted unions to have more, rather than less, influence.

*Would you, personally, like to see labor unions in the United States have --
[ROTATED: more influence than they have today, the same amount as today,
(or) less influence than they have today]?*



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Republicans are solid in their preference for wanting unions to be less influential, while independents lean in that direction. Democrats lean the other way, with 45% wanting unions to be more influential.

Preference for Union Influence, by Political Party

	% More influence	% Same amount	% Less influence
Republicans	11	18	69
Independents	33	24	40
Democrats	45	33	17

Gallup, Aug. 11-14, 2011

GALLUP

Americans See Unions as Mainly Benefiting Unionized Workers

When asked to assess the impact of unions on various groups or entities, Americans clearly believe unions mostly benefit workers who are members of unions, and mostly harm workers who are not union members. The public renders a mixed verdict on whether unions mainly help or hurt companies where workers are unionized, states and cities where government workers are unionized, and the U.S. economy in general.

Overall, do you think labor unions mostly help or mostly hurt [RANDOM ORDER]?

	Mostly help	Mostly hurt
	%	%
Workers who are members of unions	68	28
The companies where workers are unionized	48	44
States and cities where government workers are unionized	47	45
The U.S. economy in general	45	49
Workers who are not members of unions	34	56

Gallup, Aug. 11-14, 2011

GALLUP

Americans were significantly more likely to see unions as helping rather than hurting the economy and the companies where workers are unionized from 1999-2006 than they are today. In 2009, as Americans' general views of unions reached a new low, so did their views of whether they help the economy and businesses.

Implications

Americans' views of labor unions in the past three years are the least positive they have been, with historically low approval ratings and record highs in wanting unions to be weaker in the future and expecting that to occur. This marks a shift from the past, when Americans generally held positive views of labor unions and their impact on the economy and workers.

The more negative views of unions could be tied to the health of the economy. Gallup also found downturns in union approval in the 1970s and early 1980s, when the economy was struggling. The expectation for weakening union influence may also reflect the realities of union strength in a weak economy, as public employee unions, typically some of the strongest and most successful unions, have had to accept reductions in member benefits to help governments stay within their budgets.

Survey Methods

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

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 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/149300/New-High-Americans-Foresee-Labor-Unions-Weakening.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics – USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149300/New-High-Americans-Foresee-Labor-Unions-Weakening.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

187-43-10. Standard of Living, Health Key to Emotional Wellbeing After 65

Employed older Americans also more likely to have high emotional health

September 1, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Older Americans who express satisfaction with their standard of living are more than twice as likely as those who are dissatisfied to report high emotional health.

Satisfaction With Standard of Living and Emotional Health Index Scores

Among all adults aged 65 and older

% with Emotional Health Index score above 90	
Satisfied	39
Dissatisfied	16

Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

Emotionally well-off Americans are individuals whose scores on the Gallup-Healthways Emotional Health Index are above 90, out of a maximum of 100. The Emotional Health Index is based on a comprehensive measure of emotional wellbeing asking individuals whether they felt "a lot of" each of the following emotions the day before the survey: smiling/laughing, learning/doing something interesting, being treated with respect, enjoyment, happiness, worry, sadness, anger, and stress. In addition, the survey asks people whether they have ever been diagnosed with depression.

All findings in this article hold true after controlling for gender, race, marital status, education, employment, satisfaction with standard of living, regional location, and age among the 65-and-older population. The results capture older Americans' Emotional Health Index scores from January 2010 through June 2011. Consequently, the data cannot determine the degree to which the scores stem from individuals' aggregate life experiences or their personal situations at the time of the survey or a combination of both. Nevertheless, at least 8 in 10 older Americans expressed satisfaction with their standard of living during that time. Such satisfaction also remained steady over the months of the survey period, ranging between 81% and 84%.

Work Is Good for Older Americans' Emotional Health

While relatively few older Americans work -- 9% tell Gallup they work full time, while 11% say they are employed part time -- those who are employed have higher Emotional Health Index scores than those who are not working. Even after controlling for all other variables, including standard of living, employed older Americans are still more likely than those who do not work to have strong emotional health. This suggests that having a job can actually be better for older

individuals' emotional wellbeing than not working. However, this relationship is not as strong as satisfaction with standard of living.

Employment Status and Emotional Health Index Scores

Among all adults aged 65 and older

% with Emotional Health Index score above 90	
Working full time	39
Working part time	40
Not working	34

Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

It is important to note, however, that employment status and income also matter for U.S. adults more broadly, regardless of age.

Physical Health Strongly Related to Emotional Health

Older Americans who rate their overall health "excellent" or "very good" are significantly more likely than those who assess their health lower to have high Emotional Health Index scores. These results hold true even after statistically controlling for all other variables, including satisfaction with standard of living.

Self-Ratings of Overall Health and Emotional Health Index Scores

Among all adults aged 65 and older

% with Emotional Health Index score above 90	
Excellent/ Very good	47
Good/Fair/ Poor	27

Jan. 2, 2010-June 30, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

Standard of living, employment, and health are all interrelated factors. Rising healthcare costs in particular -- including the potential cost of assisted living and almost 20 years of remaining life expectancy for a typical 65-year-old American -- mean that out-of-pocket medical expenses could take a significant toll on older Americans' pocketbooks and emotional wellbeing.

Bottom Line

As the leading edge of the Boomer generation starts to turn 65 this year, Gallup's results underscore the importance of personal economics and subjective health for this large demographic cohort's emotional wellbeing. The findings reveal that older Americans' perceptions about their standard of living are strongly related to emotional health, at least in the wake of the economic crisis. As such, what individuals do to improve their standard of living when they are younger may be a key to their emotional health when they are older.

Older Americans who have jobs are also better off emotionally than those who aren't working. However, the results cannot determine whether it's the extra income, social interactions in the workplace, sense of purpose, or other factors that are most related to higher emotional health. In any case, while continuing to work may be a financial necessity for many, it appears the benefits of being employed after age 65 go beyond material advantages.

How older Americans view their own health is also a strong predictor of their emotional wellbeing. Research published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* indicates that while objective health measures assess a "patient's degree of health," subjective measures "translate that objective assessment into the actual quality of life experienced." Thus, self-perceptions of good health may have important implications for actual health outcomes.

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 520,267 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

Margins of error for subgroups have a maximum margin of sampling error of ± 3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents per 1,000 national adults, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents 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/149288/Standard-Living-Health-Key-Emotional-Wellbeing.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - USA - Wellbeing

187-43-11. Gallup Finds U.S. Unemployment Up in August

Underemployment is at 18.5%, with 9.4% working part time but seeking full-time jobs

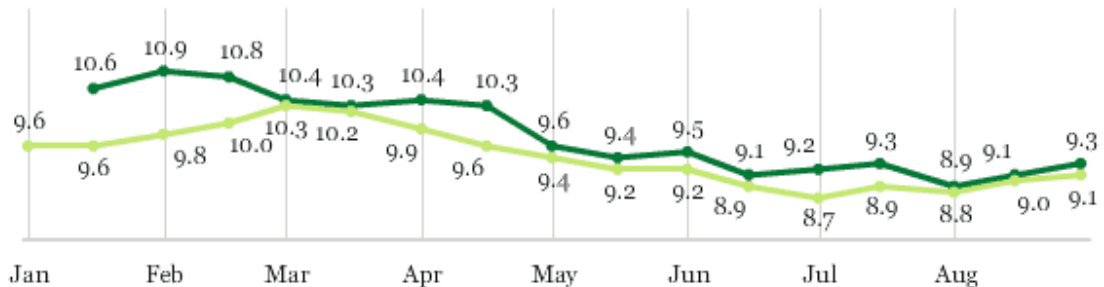
September 1, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Unemployment, as measured by Gallup without seasonal adjustment, is at 9.1% at the end of August -- up from 8.8% at the end of July.

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

30-day averages[^] in percentages; not seasonally adjusted

■ 2010 ■ 2011



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

Gallup Daily tracking

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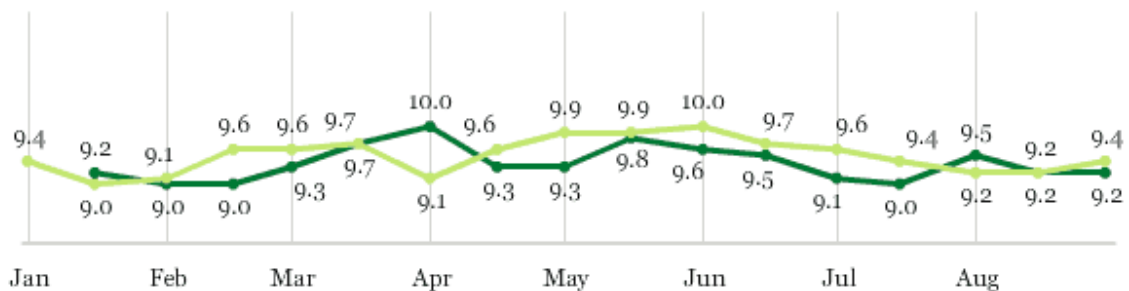
These data further confirm Gallup's mid-month prediction that the August unemployment rate that the government will report Friday will be higher than the 9.1% it reported in July -- barring another sizable decline in the U.S. workforce or an unusual seasonal adjustment.

The percentage of part-time workers who want full-time work is at 9.4% at the end of August -- up from 9.2% in mid-August and at the end of July.

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

30-day averages[^] in percentages; not seasonally adjusted

■ 2010 ■ 2011



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

Gallup Daily tracking

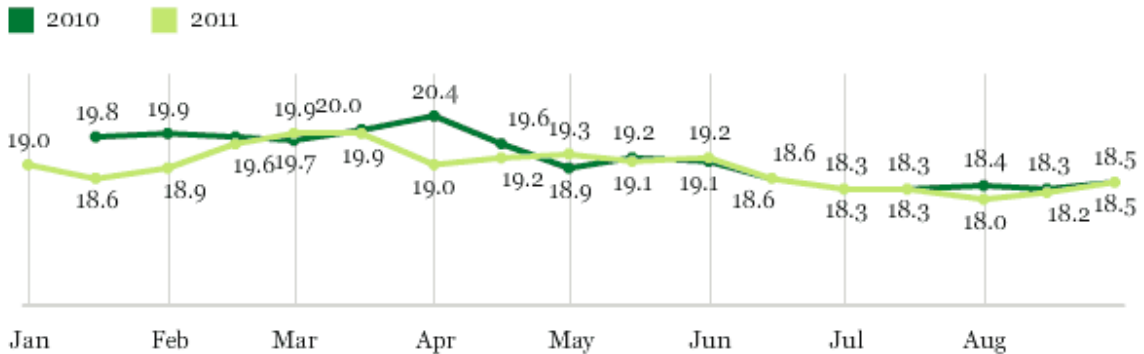
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Underemployment Worsens in August

Underemployment, a measure that combines the percentage of workers who are unemployed with the percentage working part time but wanting full-time work, is 18.5% at the end of August -- up from 18.0% at the end of July.

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

30-day averages ^ in percentages; not seasonally adjusted



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

Gallup Daily tracking

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The increase in unemployment and underemployment that Gallup finds in August is reflected by Americans' elevated level of concern about losing their jobs. Thirty percent of U.S. workers in an Aug. 11-14 Gallup poll said they fear being laid off, which essentially matches the record-high 31% who said the same in August 2009. This may also signal additional job losses yet to come.

Looking Ahead to the Government's Next Unemployment Report

The government's August unemployment report will be based on data collected during mid-August, around the time Gallup released its mid-month findings. At that time, Gallup suggested that the government would report an increase in the U.S. unemployment rate for August. The continued job deterioration Gallup has found since mid-month reinforces this idea.

Gallup's end-of-August data are consistent with Wednesday's slightly disappointing report from ADP, the nation's largest payroll service, which found a less-than-predicted rise in private-sector payrolls. These data are also consistent with the possibility that the government will report that the U.S. unemployment rate increased in August, although the consensus expectation is that it will be unchanged.

One caveat is that Gallup's unemployment numbers are not seasonally adjusted, and the way the government adjusts its unemployment report for seasonal effects may affect Friday's report. There is also the issue of the shrinking U.S. workforce. Last month, the number of Americans in the labor force declined by nearly 200,000. The number of Americans in the labor force is down about 400,000 over the past year. If more Americans got discouraged and simply dropped out of the job market in August -- meaning they are no longer counted as unemployed because they are no longer actively seeking work -- the government may end up reporting a lower unemployment rate than Gallup's unemployment data suggest.

While the dismal job situation is a negative for the economic outlook, unemployment is generally seen as a lagging indicator. Americans' worries about potentially being laid off are much more of a leading indicator, and Americans are now worried about losing their jobs to the same degree they were in 2009. People are likely worried about their job situation both because their Economic Confidence is low, and because they fear their companies may be scaling back on hiring. When a large percentage of Americans are worried about their jobs, it does not bode well for consumer spending or the prospects for another recession.

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

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

GALLUP

Survey Methods

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

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking from Aug. 1-30, 2011, with a random sample of 18,450 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 ± 1 percentage point.

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149285/Gallup-Finds-Unemployment-August.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149285/Gallup-Finds-Unemployment-August.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

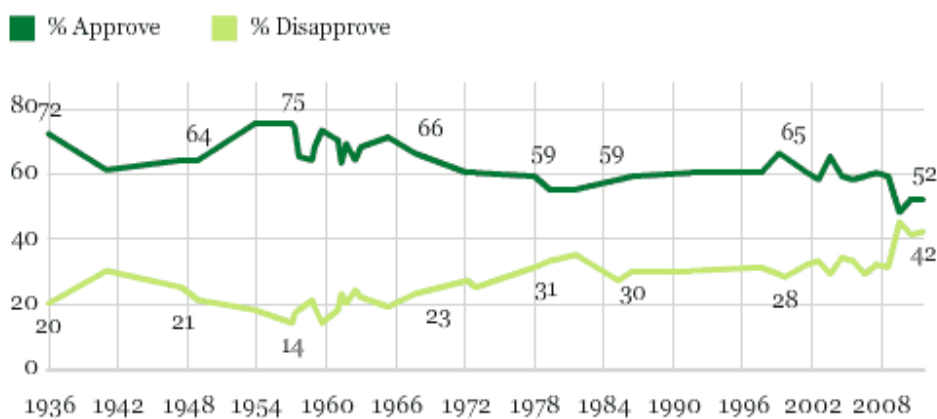
187-43-12. Approval of Labor Unions Holds Near Its Low, at 52%

Republican, Democratic approval ratings diverge

August 31, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- In a year marked by contentious negotiations between state governments and public employee unions, a slim majority of Americans, 52%, approve of labor unions. That percentage is unchanged from last year and remains on the lower end of what Gallup has measured historically.

Do you approve or disapprove of labor unions?



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Gallup has asked Americans whether they approve or disapprove of labor unions periodically since 1936, and annually since 2001. More Americans have always approved than disapproved, with the lowest approval rating of 48% measured in 2009. A record-high 75% approved in two separate measurements in the 1950s.

The current results are based on Gallup's annual Work and Education poll, conducted Aug. 11-14.

Labor unions came into sharp focus earlier this year during the much-publicized standoff between Wisconsin Republicans, led by Gov. Scott Walker, and Democrats over legislation that cut state employee benefits and limited the scope of what public unions could bargain for. In recent weeks, nine members of Wisconsin's legislature faced recall elections, with two Republicans being voted out of office.

Several other states' governments have made efforts this year to cut public employee worker pay or benefits, or limit unions' collective bargaining powers.

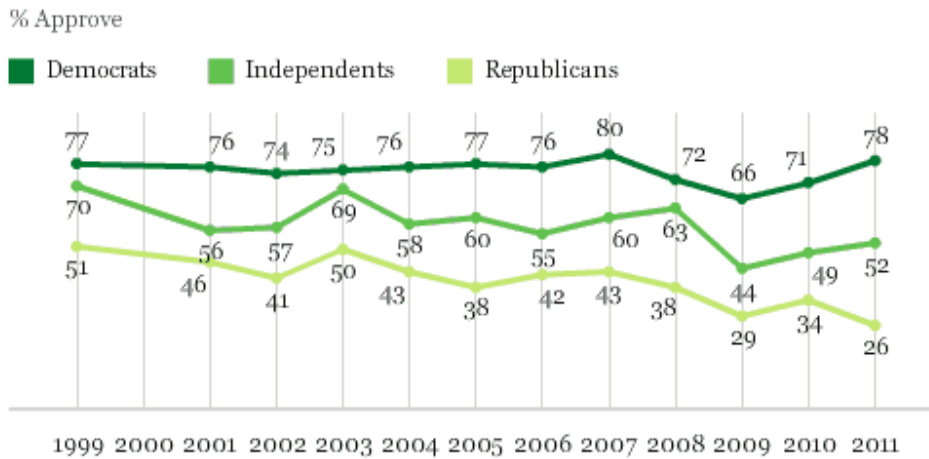
All the discussion of union rights versus state obligations seems to have resulted in a draw in the court of public opinion, with labor unions neither gaining nor losing Americans' support overall compared with last year.

Partisan Gap in Labor Union Approval Widens

The events of this year do, however, appear to have widened an already large divide in the way partisans view labor unions. Now, 78% of Democrats and 26% of Republicans approve, a difference of 52 percentage points, compared with a 37-point gap last year. Democratic approval

is now restored to the levels seen from 1999 to 2007, while Republican approval has dipped to the lowest point seen over this period.

Recent Trend in Approval of Labor Unions, by Political Party



GALLUP

Union Households, Members Strongly Approving of Unions

Americans who live in a household with at least one union member -- 17% of U.S. households, according to the poll -- are, not surprisingly, highly supportive of labor unions, with 73% approving. Those who live in non-union households are about equally divided between approval (48%) and disapproval (46%). These patterns are largely unchanged compared with last year.

Approval is high, but not universal, among the 10% of Americans (or 14% of employed Americans) who are themselves members of labor unions. Eighty-two percent of U.S. union members approve of labor unions this year.

The union membership figures are essentially the same as what Gallup measured in 2001, when 9% of Americans and 14% of workers claimed union membership. This suggests little change in union membership in the U.S. over the past decade.

Implications

While Americans' views of labor unions have held steady since last year, with more approving than disapproving, Americans remain less approving than in the past. Further, there is a greater divergence this year in Republican and Democratic approval of unions. This could reflect a greater politicization of union issues given the fact that many state-level efforts to curb union influence were promoted by Republican governors often backed by a Republican-controlled legislature. As a result, Democrats, as in Wisconsin, tried to defeat the proposals through parliamentary maneuvering, with Republicans responding with their own maneuvers to pass the legislation.

The recent elections in Wisconsin indicate a mixed public reaction to those efforts: most of the elected officials in that state who faced recalls survived, allowing Republicans to maintain a majority in the state Senate, though that majority is now smaller.

Survey Methods

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

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 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/149279/Despite-Battles-Approval-Labor-Unions-Steady.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics - USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149279/Despite-Battles-Approval-Labor-Unions-Steady.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

187-43-13. Americans' Fear of Terrorism in U.S. Is Near Low Point

Trust in U.S. government to protect citizens from terrorism remains subdued

September 2, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' fear that a terrorist attack in the U.S. could be imminent has retreated from the high level Gallup recorded shortly after al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden was killed at his hiding place in Pakistan on May 1. It is now on the low end of the range seen over the past decade.

Perceived Likelihood of Terrorism in the U.S. -- % Very/Somewhat Likely

How likely is it that there will be acts of terrorism in the United States over the next several weeks -- very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?



GALLUP

Thirty-eight percent of Americans currently believe terrorist acts are very or somewhat likely to occur in the coming weeks, down from 62% in Gallup's May 2 poll, but similar to the 39% recorded in November 2009.

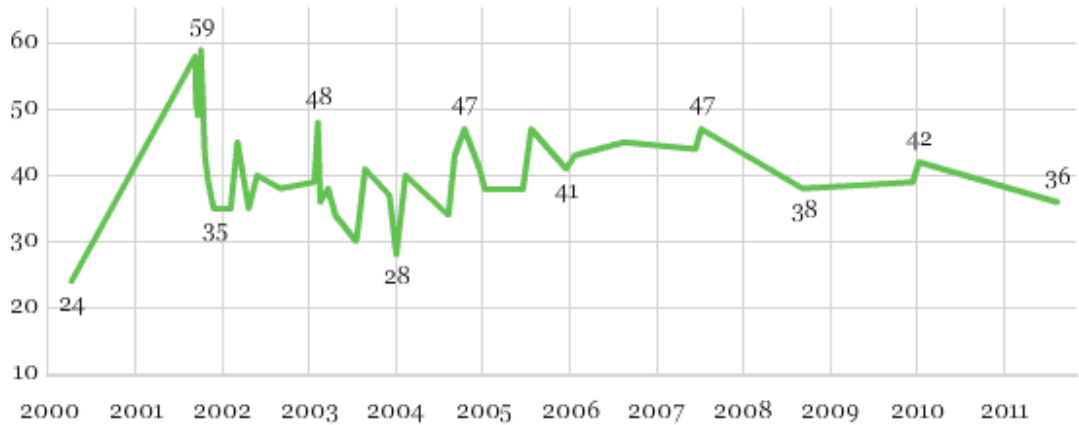
The latest reading is from a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Aug. 11-14, roughly a month prior to the 10th anniversary of 9/11, when nearly 3,000 were killed in hijacked plane attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center towers, as well as in a separate crash of a hijacked commercial jetliner in Pennsylvania.

The same poll finds 36% of Americans feeling very or somewhat worried that they or a family member could become a victim of terrorism. About a quarter of Americans held this concern in April 2000; it then registered highs of 58% and 59% in the first few weeks after 9/11, but has since varied between 28% and 48%.

Worry About Self or Family Member Being a Victim of Terrorism

How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of terrorism -- very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not worried at all?

■ % Very/Somewhat worried



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Women, adults 35 and older, and Republicans are more likely to believe an attack could happen and are more worried about becoming a victim than are men, young adults, and Democrats.

These gender and age differences are slightly amplified when the two categories are combined. On this basis, women 50 and older are the most concerned about terrorism and men aged 18 to 49 are the least concerned.

Concern About Terrorism by Age, Gender, and Party ID

	Very/Somewhat worried self or family member could be terrorist victim	Think it very/somewhat likely a terrorist act will occur
	%	%
Men	29	34
Women	42	42
18 to 34 years	25	26
35 to 54 years	41	40
55 and older	40	44
Men 18 to 49 years	27	28
Men 50 and older	31	40
Women 18 to 49 years	37	41
Women 50 and older	48	44
Republicans	42	39
Independents	36	43
Democrats	30	29

USA Today/Gallup, Aug. 11-14, 2011

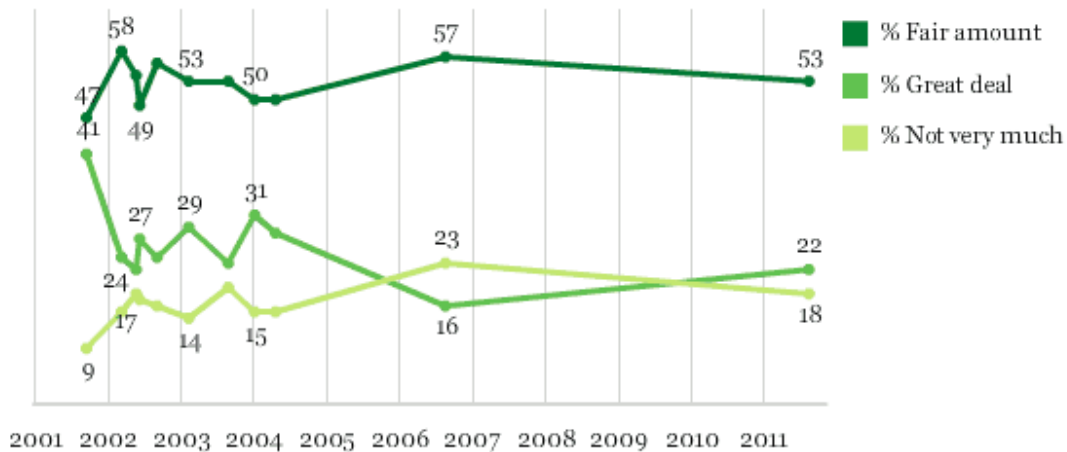
GALLUP

Since 9/11, Americans have not shown an overwhelming amount of confidence in the U.S. government's ability to protect its citizens from future terrorist attacks. The percentage saying they have "a great deal of confidence" was highest immediately after 9/11 (41%), when Americans were more inclined to have positive views about the nation's leadership as a matter of patriotism; however, this fell to between 22% and 31% in the first few years after 9/11, and then dropped further, to 16%, in 2006 as Americans were becoming increasingly critical of the Iraq war. The 22% expressing high confidence today -- including 33% among Democrats, 19% among independents, and 15% among Republicans -- is just slightly better than that.

Still, a relatively small 18% say they do not have very much trust in the government to protect against terrorism, while 53% have a fair amount.

Confidence in U.S. Government to Protect Against Terrorism

How much confidence do you have in the U.S. government to protect its citizens from future acts of terrorism -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?



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Bottom Line

Despite the approaching 10th anniversary of 9/11, Americans' belief that a terrorist attack could soon occur is on the low end of the range Gallup has seen over the past decade and their concern about terrorism victimizing their family is about average. Americans' confidence in the U.S. government to protect them from future acts of terrorism has recovered slightly from the low point recorded in 2006, but is not as great as it was in the first few years after 9/11.

Survey Methods

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

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 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/149315/Americans-Fear-Terrorism-Near-Low-Point.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics – USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149315/Americans-Fear-Terrorism-Near-Low-Point.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

187-43-14. In U.S., Worries About Job Cutbacks Return to Record Highs

Three in 10 workers worry they could lose their job, double the level seen in 2008

August 31, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- American workers' concerns about various job-related cutbacks have returned to the record highs seen in 2009, after improving slightly in 2010. In terms of the most significant employment risk measured, 3 in 10 workers currently say they are worried they could soon be laid off, similar to the 31% seen in August 2009 but double the level recorded in August 2008 and for several years prior.

U.S. Workers' Fear of Being Laid Off

Next, please indicate whether you are worried or not worried about each of the following happening to you, personally, in the near future. How about -- that you will be laid off?

■ % Worried



Based on workers employed full or part time

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Separately, 30% of workers say they are worried their hours will soon be cut back, and 33% worry their wages will be reduced. An even larger number, 44%, worry their benefits will be reduced, making this the most prevalent job-related concern.

U.S. Workers' Job-Related Concerns

Next, please indicate whether you are worried or not worried about each of the following happening to you, personally, in the near future. How about ___ ?

	Worried	Not worried
	%	%
That your benefits will be reduced	44	54
That your wages will be reduced	33	66
That you will be laid off	30	70
That your hours at work will be cut back	30	69
That your company will move jobs to countries overseas	13	86

Aug. 11-14, 2011; based on workers employed full or part time

GALLUP

Workers are least likely to be concerned that their company will move jobs overseas; however, at 13%, this is by one percentage point the highest level of concern since Gallup began measuring it in 2003. Most of the five items tested are at or near record highs this year.

The new findings are from Gallup's 2011 Work and Education poll, conducted each August. This year's update was conducted Aug. 11-14 and is based on nationally representative telephone interviews with 489 adults currently employed full or part time.

The extent of worry about job-related cutbacks is closely related to household income. Adults in households earning less than \$50,000 are about twice as likely as those making \$75,000 or more to be worried about being laid off, having their hours reduced, and seeing their company move jobs overseas. They are also somewhat more likely to be worried about reduced wages and benefits.

U.S. Workers' Job-Related Concerns -- by Household Income

	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$74,999	\$75,000 or more
	%	%	%
That your benefits will be reduced	50	41	39
That your wages will be reduced	40	23	28
That your hours at work will be cut back	38	33	19
That you will be laid off	39	32	18
That your company will move jobs to countries overseas	18	5	9

Aug. 11-14, 2011; based on workers employed full or part time

GALLUP

Similarly, workers with no college education are typically more likely than those with either some college education or a college degree to be worried about these negative job prospects.

Bottom Line

With the U.S. unemployment rate running 50% higher than it was in 2008 (approximately 9% today vs. 6% then), American workers are again expressing record- or near-record-high levels of concern about the stability of their jobs and income. This reverses the slight improvement seen a year ago, when U.S. workers' concerns about losing a job, pay, or benefits had abated slightly. The rates of concern are even higher among workers who are the most vulnerable to financial setback -- those with low to moderate incomes.

Together, the findings document the ongoing psychological impact of the country's economic problems on many working Americans and how fragile the economic recovery is in their eyes. When workers are worried about their jobs and their income more broadly, this is likely to affect broader economic confidence, the housing market, and consumer spending.

Survey Methods

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

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

For results based on the sample of 489 adults employed full-or part-time, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 6 percentage points.

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

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149261/Worries-Job-Cutbacks-Return-Record-Highs.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - USA

187-43-15. 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.

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 - Northern America - Politics – USA](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)

187-43-16. Perry, Cain Widen Lead in Positive Intensity Over GOP Field

Romney, Bachmann, Paul tie or set new lows in their Positive Intensity Scores

August 30, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Herman Cain and Rick Perry continue to generate strongly favorable impressions among Republicans familiar with them. Meanwhile, those familiar with Mitt Romney, Michele Bachmann, and Ron Paul express less intensely positive opinions of those candidates now than at any point this year. The result is a clear separation of 12 percentage points between the top and middle tiers of Republican presidential candidates in Gallup's Positive Intensity Score from Aug. 15-28 Gallup Daily tracking. The average Positive Intensity Scores show much smaller gaps between the current top- and middle-tier candidates.

Positive Intensity Scores for 2012 Republican Presidential Candidates

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents familiar with each candidate

	Current (Aug 15-28)	Average for tracking	Low	High
Herman Cain	27	23	14	28
Rick Perry	25	23	21	25
Michele Bachmann	13	20	13	24
Mitt Romney	11	15	11	20
Rick Santorum	10	11	5	16
Newt Gingrich	7	8	1	19
Ron Paul	6	11	6	16
Jon Huntsman	1	7	1	15

Note: Positive Intensity Scores are the percentage of respondents with a strongly favorable opinion of a candidate minus the percentage with a strongly unfavorable opinion among those familiar with the candidate.

Gallup Daily tracking

Tracking began Feb. 28; Cain added March 14; Perry added July 5.

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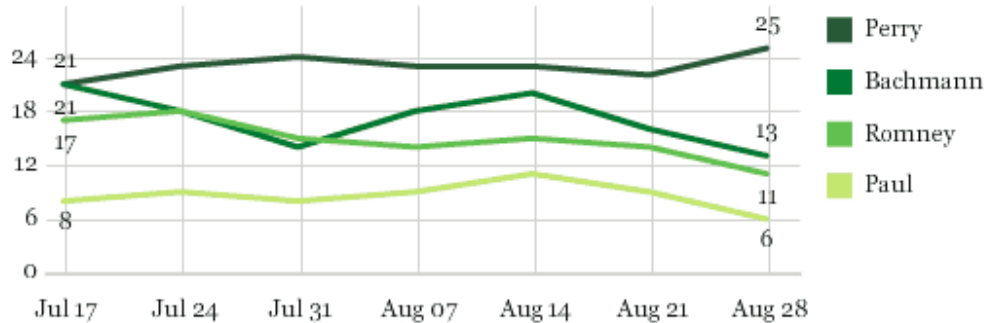
Two potential candidates included in the measurement, Sarah Palin and Rudy Giuliani, fall between the middle and top tiers, with current scores of 16 and 17, respectively.

Of all the candidates Gallup tracks, Jon Huntsman has the lowest score, 1. That is also his personal low, and he is one of four candidates, along with Romney, Bachmann, and Paul, to have a personal low in the current data. Newt Gingrich, still mired in the lower tier of candidates with Huntsman and Paul, has shown some improvement in his score in recent weeks, now 7 after descending to 1 at the end of July.

Perry, Romney, Paul, and Bachmann rank as the top four candidates in Gallup's latest GOP nomination preference poll, conducted Aug. 17-21. However, these four candidates' positive intensity trends have diverged in recent weeks, with Perry holding steady or improving but Romney, Bachmann, and Paul generally declining. This is the case even after Bachmann and Paul had the strongest performances in the recent Iowa Straw Poll, though the event was perhaps overshadowed by Perry's long-rumored official entry into the race that same weekend.

Recent Trends in Positive Intensity Scores

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents familiar with each candidate



Gallup Daily tracking

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Perry has maintained a strongly positive image as he has become much better known among Republicans nationwide. Three weeks ago, 54% of Republicans recognized his name; now, 75% do. That has raised his recognition to an above-average level for the first time.

Perry is now one of five official candidates, along with Romney, Bachmann, Gingrich, and Paul, who is known by at least three-quarters of Republicans. Non-candidates Palin (97%) and Giuliani (91%) remain slightly better known than the announced field of candidates. Cain, Huntsman, and Rick Santorum continue to lag in familiarity.

Recognition Scores of 2012 Republican Presidential Candidates

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	% Recognize
Mitt Romney	88
Newt Gingrich	85
Michele Bachmann	85
Ron Paul	78
Rick Perry	75
Rick Santorum	52
Herman Cain	50
Jon Huntsman	43

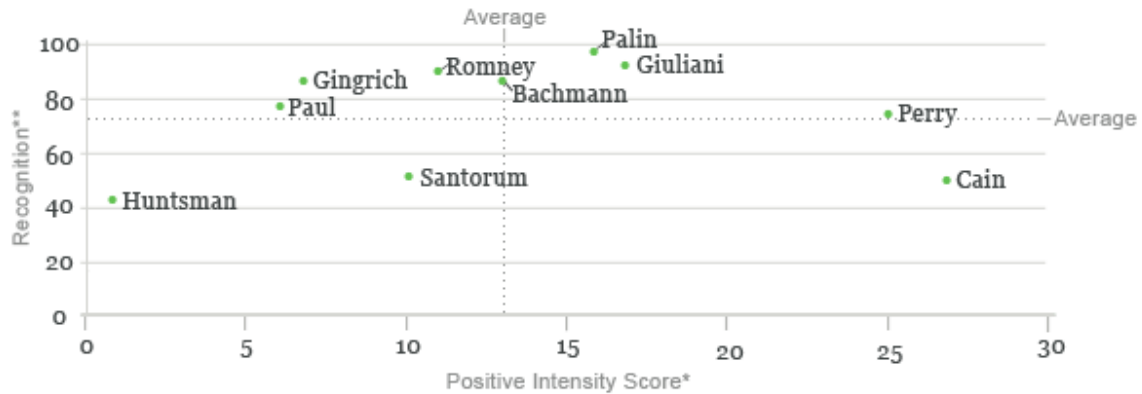
Gallup Daily tracking, Aug. 15-28, 2011

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Lack of familiarity appears to be holding Cain back. Despite strongly favorable reviews among those who know him, Cain registers minimal support in nomination preference polls. In Gallup's latest update, 4% of Republicans and Republican leaners say they are most likely to support Cain for the party's 2012 nomination.

Perry's continuing rise in recognition would seem to solidify his status as the current candidate to beat -- high in both recognition and positive intensity. Huntsman appears to be in the weakest position now, with low recognition and low positive intensity.

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. 15-28, 2011

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Implications

Perry's image remains positive among Republicans familiar with him, even as that group has rapidly expanded in recent weeks from slightly over half to three-quarters of all Republicans. Many other GOP presidential candidates who have shown gains in recognition this year, including Bachmann, Huntsman, and former candidate Tim Pawlenty, saw their Positive Intensity Scores decline as they became better known.

Now, Perry enjoys some separation between himself and his most likely challengers in both positive intensity and support for the nomination (given his 12-point lead over Romney in the latest update), marking him as the clear front-runner at this point in the campaign.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 15-28, 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 1,200 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.

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/149252/Perry-Cain-Widen-Lead-Positive-Intensity-GOP-Field.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America - Politics – USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149252/Perry-Cain-Widen-Lead-Positive-Intensity-GOP-Field.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

187-43-17. Americans Want the Best and the Brightest to Be Teachers

Say teaching ability is natural talent, not result of training

August 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans support the idea of encouraging the nation's best and brightest people to become teachers, according to findings from the 43rd annual Phi Delta Kappa (PDK)/Gallup poll. The large majority support recruiting high-achieving high school students to become teachers, and 74% would encourage the brightest person they know to become a teacher should he or she express an interest in doing so.

Americans' Views on Recruiting Teachers

	National adults
Do you think high-achieving high school students should be recruited to become teachers?	
Yes	76%
No	23%
Suppose the brightest person you know said he or she would like to be a teacher. What would you most likely do: encourage that person, discourage that person, or suggest that he or she consider other fields before deciding?	
Encourage	74%
Discourage	2%
Suggest a different field	23%

June 4-13, 2011
PDK/Gallup poll

GALLUP®

Americans are evenly divided, however, in their views of whether it is more important to the nation's future for those with strong math and science skills to become science and math teachers or to become scientists.

Which do you think is most important for our nation's future -- to encourage high school and college students with skills in science and math to become scientists or to become science and math teachers?

	National adults
Become scientists	47%
Become science and math teachers	48%
Don't know/Refused	5%

June 4-13, 2011
PDK/Gallup poll

GALLUP®

Importantly, Americans do not just support people in general becoming teachers, but also extend their encouragement to their own family members. Two out of three would like a child of their own to become a public school teacher, a finding consistent with 2010 poll results.

Would you like to have a child of yours take up teaching in the public schools as a career?

	National adults
Yes	67%
No	31%
Don't know/Refused	2%

June 4-13, 2011
PDK/Gallup poll

GALLUP®

Americans Say Ability to Teach Is a Natural Talent

The vast majority of Americans believe a person's ability to teach comes more from natural talent than from college training about how to teach. Given this finding, Americans may be more likely to favor programs that identify those who have natural teaching abilities over broad recruitment efforts.

In your opinion, is the ability to teach or instruct students more the result of natural talent or more the result of college training about how to teach?

	National adults
Natural talent	70%
College training	28%
Don't know/Refused	3%

June 4-13, 2011
PDK/Gallup poll

GALLUP®

The belief that teaching ability is more from talent than from training may explain why the PDK/Gallup poll finds that more than half of Americans (52%) think that their local public school system has a hard time finding good teachers.

Bottom Line

Americans believe that the best and the brightest people, including their own children, should be encouraged if not actively recruited to become teachers to meet what they see as a current need for great teachers. Talented teachers are more necessary than ever as American students compete with those in other countries on international assessments such as the Program for International Student Assessment.

According to a 2011 report from McGraw-Hill and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, countries that have invested in improving teacher quality have realized the largest gains in student achievement. The report's authors note that "[T]eaching education programs in the high-performing nations tend to be more selective and more rigorous than in the U.S." The results from this year's PDK/Gallup poll reveal there is a strong public will in the United States for such efforts.

Additionally, when Gallup asked in an open-ended format what would be the best way to improve education in the U.S., the response Americans mentioned most often was better teachers. Americans are likely to support strategic recruiting initiatives that would bring the best and the brightest high school and college students, and those who have demonstrated talent for teaching, into the education profession.

Survey Methods

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

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

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149222/Americans-Best-Brightest-Teachers.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Northern America – USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149222/Americans-Best-Brightest-Teachers.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

187-43-18. United in Remembrance, Divided over Policies

Ten Years after 9/11

September 1, 2011

Overview

Ten Years after the 9/11 Attacks

	Right after	1 year	5 years	10 years
<i>Recollections and reactions to the attacks...</i>	Sept-Oct 2001	Aug 2002	Aug 2006	Aug 2011
	%	%	%	%
Remember where you were	--	97	95	97
Attacks affected you a great deal	--	67	--	75
Country has changed in a major way	--	50	51	61
<i>Necessary to give up civil liberties in order to curb terrorism?</i>				
Yes	55	49	43	40
No	35	45	50	54
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>U.S. wrongdoing might have motivated attacks?</i>				
Yes	33	38	--	43
No	55	49	--	45
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	--	<u>13</u>
	100	100		100
<i>How well is gov't doing reducing threat of terrorism?</i>				
Very/Fairly well	88	76	74	76
Not too/Not at all well	8	20	24	22
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Main reason U.S. hasn't experienced another attack</i>				
Gov't doing good job	--	--	39	43
Been lucky so far	--	--	40	35
U.S. is difficult target	--	--	13	16
Don't know	--	--	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
			100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. For 2002 & 2006, not all questions asked in August, closest dates were used.

Ten years after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the events of that day retain a powerful hold on the public's collective consciousness. Virtually every American remembers what they were doing at the moment the attacks occurred. Substantial majorities say that 9/11 had a profound personal impact and that the attacks changed the country in a major way.

Yet the public continues to be divided over many of the anti-terrorism policies that arose in the wake of Sept. 11, and these differences extend to opinions about whether U.S. wrongdoing prior to 9/11 may have motivated the attacks: 43% say yes, while 45% disagree. In late September 2001, 33% said U.S. wrongdoing might have motivated the attacks, compared with 55% who said it did not.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Aug. 17-21 among 1,509 adults, finds that the public offers generally positive ratings of the government's response to the terrorist threat. Yet when asked why there has not been another major attack on the U.S., 43% credit government policies while only somewhat fewer (35%) say it is because the country has been lucky so far.

Overall, most think terrorists have either the same (39%) or an even greater (23%) ability to launch another major attack on the U.S. today as they did ten years ago. Just 35% think it is harder for terrorists to reach us today. Despite the killing of Osama bin Laden, as many say the U.S. has not captured or killed most of those responsible for the 9/11 attacks as say it has (47% vs. 45%).

Broad Concern About Islamic Extremism

Concerned about rise of Islamic extremism ...	Around the world		Within the U.S.*	
		%		%
Very/Somewhat	73		67	
Not too/Not at all	24		30	
Don't know	<u>3</u>		<u>2</u>	
	100		100	

Support for extremism among Muslims in the U.S. ...

A great deal	15
A fair amount	25
Not too much	33
None at all	12
Don't know	<u>14</u>
	100

Do U.S. policies single out Muslims for increased surveillance/monitoring?

Yes	44
<i>Does this bother you?</i>	
A lot/Some	25
Not much/None	19
No	46
Don't know	<u>11</u>
	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-24, 2011 Omnibus, July 20-24, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. * Concern about possible rise of Islamic extremism.

Moreover, only about a quarter say the wars in Iraq (26%) and Afghanistan (25%) have lessened the chances of terrorist attacks in the United States. In both cases majorities say the wars either have increased the risk of terrorism in this country or made no difference.

A decade after 9/11, most Americans reject the argument that the attacks triggered a “clash of civilizations” between the West and the Muslim world. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) say the Sept. 11 attacks led to a conflict with a small, radical group, while 35% say they began a major conflict between people in the West and the people of Islam.

Yet Americans’ concerns about Islamic extremism, both in the United States and around the world, remain extensive. Two-thirds (67%) say they are very or somewhat concerned about the possible rise of Islamic extremism in this country, while 73% are at least somewhat concerned about the rise of Islamic extremism around the world.

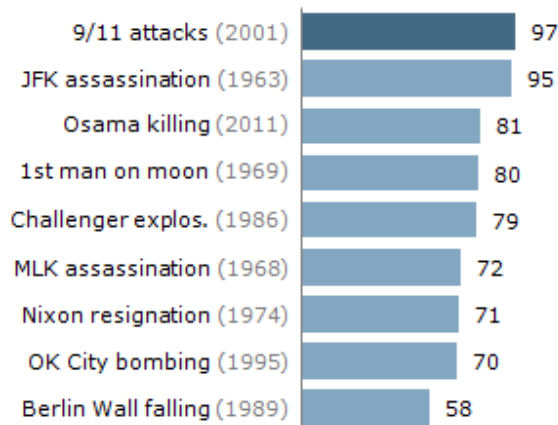
Notably, these concerns are generally shared by Muslim Americans. A comprehensive survey of U.S. Muslims, released Aug. 30, 2011, found that large majorities express concern about the possible rise of Islamic extremism here, and its rise around the world. However, the

general public and Muslim Americans differ over the amount of support for extremism among Muslims in the U.S.: 40% of the public says there is a great deal or fair amount of support for extremism compared with just 21% of Muslim Americans. (For more, see “Muslim Americans: No Sign of Growth in Alienation or Support for Extremism.”)

Vivid Memories of a Terrible Day

Remember Exactly Where You Were at the Time of ...

*Based on those age eight or older at time of event**



From 1999 Pew Research Center survey ...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q9.

* Except 2011 Osama bin Laden killing based on age 18+.

Virtually every adult today remembers exactly where they were or what they were doing the moment they heard the news of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. This recall is as high among those younger than 30 – who were only eight to 19 years old when the attacks occurred – as it is among older Americans.

Among eight other historic events tested, only one – the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963 – is a vivid memory for virtually all of those old enough to remember the tragedy: 95% of Americans who were born in 1955 or earlier, and who would have been eight or older in 1963, say they can recall exactly where they were or what they were doing. That is virtually unchanged from 1999 (96%).

Both 9/11 and Kennedy’s assassination stand apart from other developments, including some recent events. For instance, 81% of adults recall where they were in May when President Obama announced that Osama bin Laden had been killed by U.S. forces.

The other national event that resonated as widely as 9/11 and Kennedy’s death among those old enough to recall is Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor. The Pew Research Center’s 1999 study found that 89% of those who were eight or older at the time of Pearl Harbor were able to recall exactly where they were or what they were doing when they first heard of the attack.

The clear memories that nearly all Americans have of Sept. 11 reflects the emotional toll the events of that day took at the time. In a Pew Research Center survey conducted shortly after the attacks (Sept. 13-17, 2001), 71% said they felt depressed, 63% said they simply couldn’t stop watching news about the attacks, 49% said they had had difficulty concentrating, and a third

reported having trouble sleeping in the days following the tragedy. (For more, see “American Psyche Reeling From Terror Attacks,” Sept. 19, 2001.)

Even today, 75% of Americans say the attacks affected them emotionally a great deal, and this feeling crosses regional, political and demographic lines, with one exception: 55% of those currently younger than 30 say the event moved them or affected them a great deal. That compares with 81% of people who are today ages 30 and older.

Six-in-ten (61%) Americans say the terrorist attacks changed life in America in a major way, while just one-in-ten (10%) say life in America is basically the same as it was before the attacks (28% say life changed “only a little bit”). Again, this impression spans all segments of the country, including both young and old.

Looking Back at Bush’s Handling of 9/11

Bush’s Handling of 9/11, A Decade Later

	Overall job approval		Thinking back to how Bush dealt with the situation right after 9/11
	Sept 2001	Jan 2009	Aug 2011
% approve	%	%	%
Total	86	24	56
Republican	96	60	84
Democrat	81	9	39
Independent	85	20	55

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q70.

When George W. Bush left office in Jan. 2009, his job approval rating stood at just 24%. But retrospective evaluations of how Bush dealt with the 9/11 attacks in the time right after 9/11 are generally positive: 56% today say they approve and 38% disapprove

Nonetheless, this is a substantially lower rating than Bush enjoyed at the time, when 86% approved of his job performance, including 96% of Republicans, 85% of independents, and 81% of Democrats.

Attacks Motivated by U.S. Actions?

<i>Anything the U.S. did wrong in its dealings with other countries that might have motivated the attacks?</i>	Sept 2001	Aug 2011	Change
Total	33	43	+10
Republican	27	27	0
Democrat	40	48	+8
Independent	34	50	+16

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q78.

In September 2001, a majority of Americans (55%) rejected the idea that there were things the U.S. did wrong in its dealings with other countries that might have motivated the terrorists to attack us, while 33% agreed with this idea. Public views are more evenly divided today: 43% say U.S. wrongdoing may have motivated the attacks while 45% say it did not.

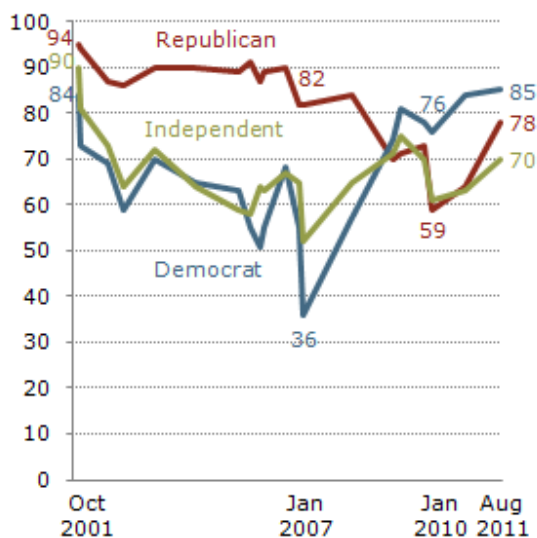
Republicans overwhelmingly reject this idea (65%), just as they did ten years ago, but the views of Democrats and independents have shifted. In fact, today half of independents (50%) believe U.S. actions may have been a motivating factor in the attacks, up from 34% ten years ago.

Younger Americans are also more likely to say U.S. actions might have motivated the attacks: 52% of 18 to 29 year-olds, and 47% of 30 to 49 year olds express this view. This compares with just 39% of 50 to 64 year olds and 20% of those 65 and older.

National Security, Wars in Iraq, Afghanistan

Partisan Differences in Views of Government Anti-Terror Efforts

Percent saying the government is doing very or fairly well in reducing the threat of terrorism



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011 Q65.

Three-quarters (76%) of Americans say the government is doing very (27%) or fairly (49%) well in reducing the threat of terrorism, and for most of the past ten years, at least two-thirds of the American public, including majorities across party lines, have offered this generally positive assessment.

The one notable exception was in January 2007, as George W. Bush announced his “surge” strategy for the war in Iraq. Positive assessments of government performance on terrorism fell to a ten-year low of 54%, due mostly to the negative assessments of Democrats.

While 2007 was an extreme, there has been a partisan divide in assessments of government performance on terrorism from the very beginning. The direction of this gap switched when Barack Obama took office. From 2001 through 2008 Democrats offered decidedly more critical views of government performance on terrorism. But by October 2010, Democrats expressed more positive views of the government’s anti-terrorism efforts than did Republicans.

Why No Major Attacks Since 9/11?

	Total	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Govt is doing a good job protecting the country	43	45	44	41	42
America has been lucky so far	35	22	35	42	42
America is a difficult target for terrorists	16	23	17	11	9
Don't know	7	11	5	5	6
	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q64. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

When asked why the U.S. has not suffered another major attack since 9/11, fewer than half (43%) say the main reason is that the government is doing a good job protecting the country; 35% say America has been lucky so far, while 16% say the main reason is that America is a difficult target for terrorists.

Throughout much of the past decade, there has been substantial skepticism that the war in Iraq has improved America's security. Currently, 31% say U.S. involvement in Iraq increased the chances of another terrorist attack here, and 39% say it made no difference. Just 26% say the war in Iraq has lessened the chances of another attack.

War in Afghanistan's Impact on Likelihood of Another U.S. Attack

	Increased chances	Lessened chances	No diff	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	37	25	34	3=100
Men	28	32	38	2=100
Women	47	18	31	4=100
18-29	49	22	27	2=100
30-49	34	30	34	2=100
50-64	35	24	36	5=100
65+	33	20	43	5=100
Republican	29	29	37	5=100
Democrat	42	24	32	2=100
Independent	41	21	36	2=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011 Q87. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Evaluations of the war in Afghanistan are similar – 37% say it has increased chances of another terrorist attack in the U.S., 25% say it has lessened the chances of an attack, and 34% say it has not made a difference. Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say the war in Afghanistan has increased the chances of another attack on U.S. soil (42% vs. 29%). Independents tend to share the views of Democrats, with 41% saying the U.S. is more at risk because of the war in Afghanistan.

One of the largest gender gaps in the survey is over Afghanistan's effect on our national security. Women are far more likely than men to say that the war in Afghanistan has increased the chances of another terrorist attack against the United States (47% vs. 28%). Men are far more likely than women to say it has made us more secure (32% vs. 18%).

National ID Card Favored

Civil Liberties and Anti-Terrorism Policies

<i>Percent who favor each as a measure to curb terrorism</i>	Sept 2001	Aug 2002	Dec 2006	Aug 2011
	%	%	%	%
Requiring that all citizens carry a national ID card at all times	70	59	57	57
Extra airport checks on passengers who appear to be of Middle-Eastern descent	--	59	57	53
Government monitoring credit card purchases	--	43	42	42
Government monitoring personal phone calls and emails	--	33	34	29

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug 17-21, 2011 Q77.

As time has passed since 9/11, fewer Americans think it will be necessary to give up civil liberties in order to curb terrorism in this country. Currently, 40% say the average person will have to give up some civil liberties, compared with 43% five years ago, 49% one year after the attacks, and 55% in the weeks following the 2001 attacks.

And for the most part, there has been little change in the public's view of specific policies and policy proposals. A 57% majority is in favor of requiring all citizens to carry a national identity card at all times to show to a police officer. Support for this idea was as high as 70% in the weeks following the attacks in 2001, but fell to 59% by August of 2002 and has remained steady since. Just over half (53%) support allowing airport personnel to do extra checks on passengers who appear to be of Middle Eastern descent, while 43% are opposed to this. Again, the balance of opinion is largely unchanged.

Americans have more qualms about government monitoring and data collection efforts. More oppose (55%) than favor (42%) the U.S. government monitoring credit card purchases as a means of reducing the terrorist threat, and by an even larger 68% to 29% margin, most oppose the U.S. government monitoring personal telephone calls and emails.

Few Continue to Rule Out Torture of Suspected Terrorists

<i>Torture to gain important information from suspected terrorists can be justified ...</i>	July 2004	Oct 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2008	Nov 2009	Aug 2011
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Often	15	18	12	17	19	19
Sometimes	28	28	31	31	35	34
Rarely	21	19	25	20	16	18
Never	32	32	29	30	25	24
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Q81. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

There also has been little change over the years in opinions about the use of torture against suspected terrorists. Currently, a majority (53%) says the use of torture against suspected terrorists in order to gain important information can be often (19%) or sometimes (34%) justified; fewer say the use of torture under these circumstances can be rarely (18%) or never (24%) justified.

When the Pew Research Center first asked this question in July 2004, a majority (53%) said the use of torture could be only rarely or never justified. But in November 2009 and in the current survey, narrow majorities have said torture can at least sometimes be justified.

As in the past, there are wide partisan differences in views of whether torture can be justified to gain important information from suspected terrorists. A substantial majority of Republicans (71%) say torture can be at least sometimes justified, compared with 51% of independents and 45% of Democrats.

Concern about Islamic Extremism

Republicans More Concerned by Rise of Islamic Extremism in U.S.

<i>Concerned about possible rise of Islamic extremism in the United States ...</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Very/Somewhat	67	83	59	67
<i>Very concerned</i>	36	54	24	36
Not too/Not at all	30	17	38	32
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Support for extremism among Muslims in the U.S.:</i>				
A great deal/Fair amount	40	55	33	39
Not too much/None	45	34	52	50
Don't know	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Support for extremism among U.S. Muslims is...</i>				
Increasing	24	35	18	25
Decreasing/No change	45	47	50	45
There is none	26	16	29	25
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-24, 2011 Omnibus, July 20-24, 2011. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Two-thirds of Americans (67%) say they are at least somewhat concerned about the possible rise of Islamic extremism in the U.S., with roughly half of those (36% overall) saying they are very concerned. Concerns about the possible rise of Islamic extremism have declined since April 2007. At that time, 78% were at least somewhat concerned, while 46% were very concerned.

Concerns about possible domestic Islamic extremism are particularly acute among Republicans 54% are very concerned about this, compared with 36% of independents and 24% of Democrats.

Republicans also are likely to say there is at least a fair amount of support for extremism among Muslims in the U.S., as well as to say that support for extremism is growing. Overall, the public is divided over how much support for extremism exists in the U.S. – 40% say there is a great deal or a fair amount, while 45% say there is little or none.

More than half of Republicans (55%) say there is a great deal or fair amount of support for extremism among Muslims in this country; that compares with 39% of independents and 33% of Democrats. And Republicans are also more likely to think Islamic extremism is already rising in this country – 35% are of this view, compared with 18% of Democrats and 25% of independents.

Clash of Civilizations?

	Right after	1 year	5 years	10 years
	Oct 2001	Aug 2002	Aug 2006	Aug 2011
<i>Do you see the September 11 terrorist attacks as...</i>	%	%	%	%
Start of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe vs. the people of Islam	28	35	40	35
Only a conflict with a small radical group	63	52	49	57
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>% saying "major conflict" among...</i>				
Republican	30	32	38	40
Democrat	28	35	44	32
Independent	27	37	39	35

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug 17-21, 2011 Q58.

For the most part, the public does not see the Sept. 11 attacks as the start of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe, and the people of Islam. But more see such a major clash between Islam and the West than did so in October 2001, a month after the attacks.

Currently, 57% say the 9/11 attacks were the start of a conflict with a small, radical group while 35% think the attacks began a broader conflict between the people in the West and the people of Islam. In October 2001, Americans rejected, by a two-to-one margin (63% to 28%), the idea that the attacks signified the start of a major conflict between the people of the West and the people of Islam.

Generational Divides in Views of 9/11

Age and 9/11 Attitudes

	Total	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Young-old gap
General Views						
Attacks affected you emotionally "a great deal"	75	55	79	80	84	-29
U.S. wrongdoing might have motivated attacks	43	52	47	39	29	+23
Most of those responsible for 9/11 have been killed or captured	45	50	49	43	32	+18
War in Afghanistan has <i>increased</i> the chances of attack on U.S.	37	49	34	35	33	+16
Opinions about Islamic extremism, Muslim Americans						
Very concerned about the rise of Islamic extremism in the U.S.	36	24	33	42	47	-23
Allow extra airport checks on passengers who appear to be of Middle Eastern descent	53	48	49	54	65	-17
Bothered that Muslims in U.S. are singled out for surveillance	24	37	24	20	18	+19

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011; July 20-24, 2011; July 21-24, 2011 Omnibus.

People who are currently younger than 30 are far less likely than older Americans to say that the Sept. 11 attacks affected them a great deal emotionally.

There also are large age differences in post-Sept. 11 attitudes related to Islam and Muslim Americans. Americans age 65 and older are about twice as likely as those under age 30 to say they are very concerned about Islamic extremism in the U.S. Conversely, the young are roughly twice as likely as seniors to be bothered by their belief that Muslims are singled out for increased government surveillance and monitoring. Younger Americans also are less supportive of extra airport checks on people who appear to be of Middle Eastern descent.

At the same time, younger Americans are the most concerned that the war in Afghanistan has increased the chance of another attack in the United States. And while about half of those younger than 30 and those 30 to 49 say there are things the U.S. did prior to 9/11 that may have motivated the attacks, far fewer older Americans express this view.

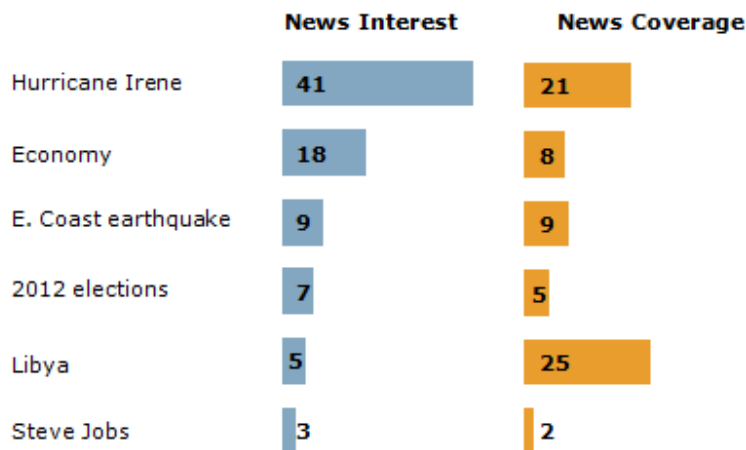
Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/09/01/united-in-remembrance-divided-over-policies/?src=prc-headline>

187-43-19. Hurricane Irene Top Story for Public

Libya: Heavy Coverage, Little Interest
August 30, 2011

Overview

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 25-28, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, August 22-28, 2011.

Hurricane Irene was the public's top news story last week in a busy seven days that included an unusual and widely-felt East Coast earthquake and major developments in Libya.

About four-in-ten (41%) say that Irene was the news story they followed most closely last week, according to the latest weekly News Interest Index survey, conducted Aug. 25-28 among 1,010 adults by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The hurricane made landfall in North Carolina on Saturday while the survey was in the field. Nearly two-in-ten (18%) say they followed news about the nation's struggling economy most closely, while 9% say their top story was the Virginia earthquake that rattled nerves across much of the East Coast.

With such big stories on the domestic front, the dramatic events in Libya garnered less public attention. Early in the week, the media heavily covered the advance by rebel forces into Tripoli and the taking of Moammar Gadhafi's compound. Just 5% of the public says this was the news they followed most closely. And only one-in-five (22%) say they paid very close attention to developments there.

For the full week, developments in Libya – including the apparent disappearance of Gadhafi – accounted for 25% of coverage, while Hurricane Irene made up 21%, according to a separate analysis by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). The hurricane, though, proved to be the top story for the week on network news (33%) and cable television (30%).

At week's end, Irene dominated coverage. For example, the hurricane accounted for 52% of the overall newshole on Friday amid reports about the storm's projected path and preparations from the Carolinas to New England. On cable television, Irene news made up 89% of the coverage measured that day; on network news broadcasts, it accounted for 74% of coverage.

Tracking Irene's Progress

Interest in Hurricane Coverage

	% following very closely
Hurricane Katrina (Sept 2005)	70
Hurricane Ike (Sept 2008)	50
Hurricane Isabel (Sept 2003)	47
Hurricane Irene (Aug 2011)	45
Hurricane Wilma (Nov 2005)	34
Hurricane Hanna (Sept 2008)	34
Hurricane Gustav (Sept 2008)	33
Hurricane Earl (Sept 2010)	28
Hurricane Dolly (July 2008)	19
Hurricane Dean (Aug 2007)	18

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 25-28, 2011.

Hurricane Irene drew a large news audience with 45% of the public saying they followed coverage of the huge storm very closely. Interest in news about the hurricane is comparable with interest in Hurricane Isabel, which followed a similar path up the East Coast in 2003 (47% followed Isabel very closely).

Interest in Irene, which experts feared could cause major damage in New York City and other heavily populated areas, proved greater than interest in Hurricane Earl a year ago (28% very closely).

In September 2005, 70% very closely followed news about Hurricane Katrina shortly after it hit New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. The devastation caused by Katrina turned out to be one of the most closely followed stories of the past decade. That October, 73% said they very closely followed news about the impact of Katrina and Hurricane Rita on the Gulf Coast.

Nearly half of women (48%) say they followed news about Irene very closely, compared with 41% of men. The gap grows wider when people are asked which of the week's top stories they followed most closely: 49% of women say that was Hurricane Irene, compared with 33% of men.

Women also followed news about the East Coast earthquake, which measured a magnitude of 5.8 on the Richter scale, more closely than men. Overall, about a third (32%) say they very closely followed news about the earthquake, which caused relatively minor damage. Nearly four-in-ten (38%) women say they followed this news very closely, compared with 25% of men.

Not surprisingly, interest in the two natural disasters differed by region. Six-in-ten in the east (60%) and 50% in the south followed reports about Irene very closely. That drops to 23% among those in the west. A similar pattern shows up in interest in the earthquake: 37% in the east and 39% in the south followed this news very closely, compared with 20% in the west.

With earthquakes more expected in California, just 17% very closely followed news about the July 2008 earthquake there that measured 5.5 on the Richter scale. On the other hand, more than six-in-ten (63%) very closely followed news about the deadly and destructive Northridge earthquake that hit southern California in January 1994.

The Week's News

While 45% say they followed news about Irene very closely, about as many (44%) say they followed news about the troubled economy this closely. The number tracking economic news very closely has been at about that level throughout August.

Just more than two-in-ten (22% each) say they very closely followed news about the ongoing conflict in Libya or the 2012 elections; 7% say news about the candidates for the 2012 presidential election was their top story, while 5% say this about Libya.

Interest in developments in Libya is higher than in recent weeks, but still well below the levels measured in late March when the U.S. and allies began military air strikes there to aid the rebel forces (37% very closely).

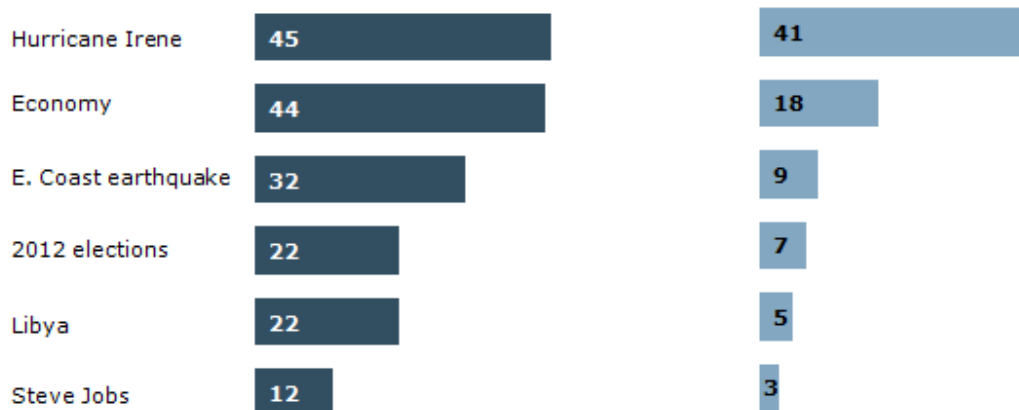
Interest in the election was down slightly from one week earlier, when 27% said they were following this news very closely. Republicans and Democrats have shown comparable levels of interest in election news in recent weeks, but that was not the case last week. More than a third of Republicans (35%) say they followed election news very closely last week, compared with 21% of Democrats and 19% of independents.

About one-in-ten (12%) say they very closely followed news about Steve Jobs announcing he is stepping down as Apple's chief executive officer; 3% say this was the news they followed most closely. The Apple developments accounted for 2% of the newshole measured by PEJ.

News Interest

% following each story very closely...

Which one story did you follow most closely?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 25-28, 2011.

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 22-28, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected August 25-28 from a nationally representative sample of 1,010 adults.

Source:<http://people-press.org/2011/08/30/hurricane-irene-top-story-for-public/?src=prc-newsletter>

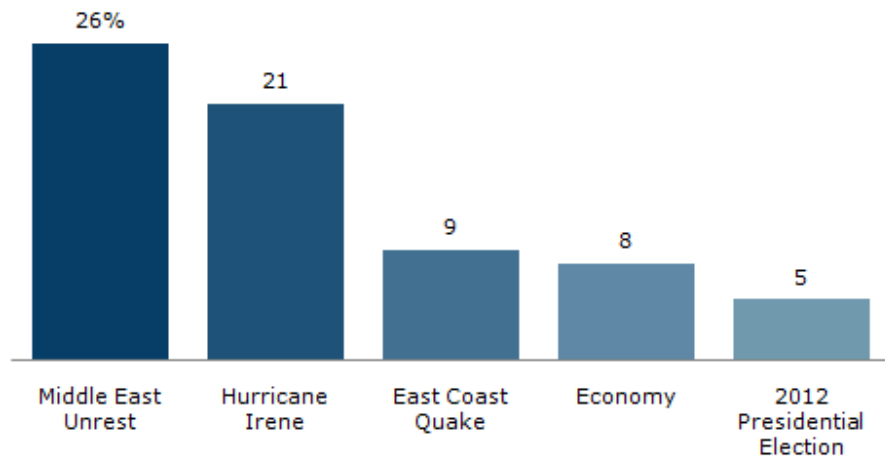
187-43-20. From Tripoli to the East Coast, a Week of Big Events

In a week in which two powerful natural disasters rocked the East coast media capitals, the rebel victory in war-torn Libya led the news.

The end of Col. Muammar Gaddafi's 42-year grip on the North African country was the No. 1 story for the week of August 22-28, accounting for 25% of the newshole,

Gaddafi's Ouster Leads the News

Percent of Weekly Newshole



News Coverage Index, August 22-28, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. Unrest elsewhere in the Mideast, particularly Syria, filled another 2% of the newshole.

The extensive coverage of the takeover of Green Square in Tripoli by NATO-backed rebels came after a dramatic decrease in recent media attention to the conflict and the region. The week the U.S. and NATO forces entered the Libyan fighting (March 21-27), coverage of Mideast turmoil spiked to 47% and remained very high (38%) the following week. But it fell to just 5% in the month leading up to the deposing of Gaddafi.

As the week went on, however, coverage of that international story diminished as the media turned to two potent acts of nature—Hurricane Irene and a 5.8 magnitude earthquake—both of which occurred in the greater Eastern seaboard region. Combined, those stories amounted to 30% of the newshole, more than Libya-related coverage.

Hurricane Irene, the No. 2 story last week at 21%, resulted in at least 35 deaths, flooding across the Northeast and power outages in millions of homes. Though it struck at the end of the week, Irene generated the most weekly coverage of any hurricane since PEJ began tracking news in January 2007—the closest competitor being Hurricane Gustav (17%) from September 1-7, 2008.

The hurricane also registered as the top story on TV news, at 33% of the airtime studied on the broadcast networks and 30% on cable. (Major weather events often attract more attention from television, which is drawn to stories with a strong visual element.) The hurricane, unusual in its Northeastern trajectory, followed an even more unusual event—an August 23 earthquake whose tremors were felt in major cities from Richmond, VA, to Boston, MA. Coverage of the quake amounted to another 9% of the newshole.

The No. 4 story last week was the U.S. economy at 8%, the lowest it has been since the week of May 2-8 (5%), when the death of Osama bin Laden completely dominated that week's coverage. Much of the coverage was driven by anticipation of and reaction to Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke's speech on the government's response to new economic worries. Bernanke acknowledged the current problems, but said "with respect to longer-run prospects, however, my own view is more optimistic."

Finally, at No. 5, was the presidential race, driven by a number of stories about the leading GOP candidates as they continued to jockey for position in the long lead-up to the primaries. The campaign was the subject of 5% of stories last week, a significant drop from 13% the previous week.

A Turning Point in Libya

Most of the intense fighting in Libya occurred early in the week, and about one-third of the week's coverage occurred on Monday, August 22, as pro-democracy rebel forces, aided by NATO support, occupied Tripoli.

U.S. news organizations had reporters in place to describe what appeared to be regime change unfolding. Cable and broadcast TV outlets provided live coverage, with correspondents often reporting amidst chaotic scenes, punctuated with gunfire.

In the scramble to understand the fog of war, news reports seemed to raise more questions than answers.

Early in the week, rumors emerged that Col. Gaddafi's two sons had been captured by the rebels, only to be debunked by the surprise sighting of one son, Seif al-Islam.

Line of the Week
"This was not a made-by-America revolution, and both we and the Middle East are better for that." - E.J. Dionne on the Libyan uprising, The Washington Post, Aug. 25

His sudden—even surreal—arrival at a Tripoli hotel where foreign journalists are staying threw the situation in the capital into confusion," reported usatoday.com on August 23.

TV reporters found it difficult at times to know what was happening right around them. Over sounds of gunfire on August 22, CNN's

Sara Sidner confessed, "It's hard sometimes to tell whether or not there's an actual major battle going on or whether or not you have a small fight with small arms fire and then celebrations going on in another part of the city."

One question that has been repeatedly raised by the media as the so-called Arab Spring has swept through the Mideast was who and what would follow a deposed leader. Conservative Fox News host Sean Hannity broached the subject on his August 23 program. "As a rebel victory in Libya looms, so does the prospect of a post-Gaddafi Libya, and concerns are arising tonight about what the country might look like after his fall." Hannity chose to focus on the draft constitution of the new regime, and his concerns that the power vacuum might be filled by advocates of Sharia law.

Indeed, by the end of the week, even the whereabouts of the embattled leader was unknown.

But by Tuesday evening, one thing at least seemed clear, that the rebels had emerged from the months-long conflict victorious. Brian Williams declared on the August 23 broadcast of NBC Nightly News, "It is all over for Muammar Gaddafi."

"I am standing in the heart of the Gaddafi compound, a place that was off-limits to all but the elite of this country" reported NBC News' Richard Engel in a radio broadcast the same day.

“It was overrun by rebels today; any question of who the victors are in the Libyan revolution has now been put to rest. They control the very heart of this country.”

Disaster Strikes by Land and by Sea

Almost one-third last week’s coverage was devoted to tracking the unusual confluence of both an earthquake and a hurricane in the Northeast.

The 5.8 magnitude earthquake, which occurred near Richmond, VA, was felt hundreds of miles away in major cities along the East coast, and beyond—some 22 states altogether.

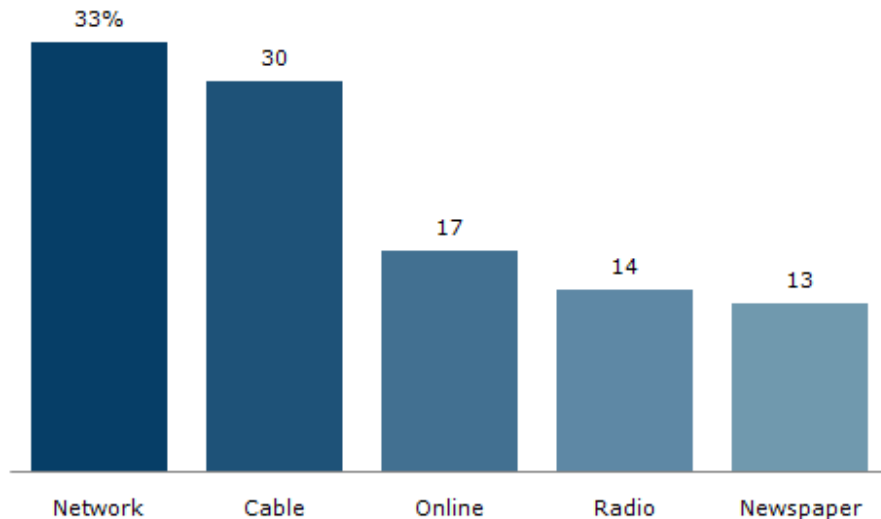
The morning after the earthquake, August 24, the media tried to capture the sense of shock felt by East coast residents. The Washington Post’s headline read “Earthquake Jolts D.C. Area.” The CBS Early Show put it this way: “Here’s the good news—no deaths, no major damage, but there were plenty of rattled nerves.”

At least one media commentator, liberal MSNBC host Rachel Maddow, took the opportunity to draw attention to the risks nuclear energy (a nuclear power plant was located near the epicenter of the quake). “We keep getting surprised by disasters, by the markets going nuts, by a ratings agency downgrading the United States on the basis of our dumb politics and brinksmanship about our debt. Is one of these shocks, or are all of these shocks, enough to change what is possible for our country?”

Unlike the earthquake which took everyone—including the media—by surprise, the arrival of Hurricane Irene was anticipated and feverishly monitored all week. Storm-tracking visualizations occupied prime real estate on newspaper home pages, radar

Hurricane Irene Coverage by Sector

Percent of Weekly News Hole



News Coverage Index, August 22-28, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

images appeared on television screens, and reporters stood in the wind and rain for days. Each hour seemed to bring updated predictions about where the storm might hit and how much damage it could conceivably do.

An August 23 Fox News web story warned that “the rapidly intensifying Irene...is the first hurricane to seriously threaten the U.S. in almost three years.”

“It’s a big one,” warned George Stephanopoulos on ABC’s World News Tonight on August 24. “Hurricane Irene is streaming toward New England’s shores,” reported the Boston Globe that same day.

As news organizations spent much of the week anticipating the hurricane’s trajectory, some reporters descended on the locations in the storm’s path. The Los Angeles Times depicted the calm before the storm in Roanoke Island, N.C on August 26:

“The shutters were up, pounded into place with a croquet mallet. The lawn furniture was dragged inside. The generator was full of gasoline, and the refrigerator and freezer were stuffed with steaks, ham and shrimp. John F. Wilson IV was ready for Hurricane Irene.”

Even with the extent of damage it caused, the hurricane—a Category 1 by landfall—was less fierce than many models and many in the media had predicted. And the press post-mortems quickly began. In a story headlined “A Hurricane of Hype,” the Daily Beast’s Howard Kurtz wrote that “the tsunami of hype on this story was relentless, a Category 5 performance that was driven in large measure by ratings.”

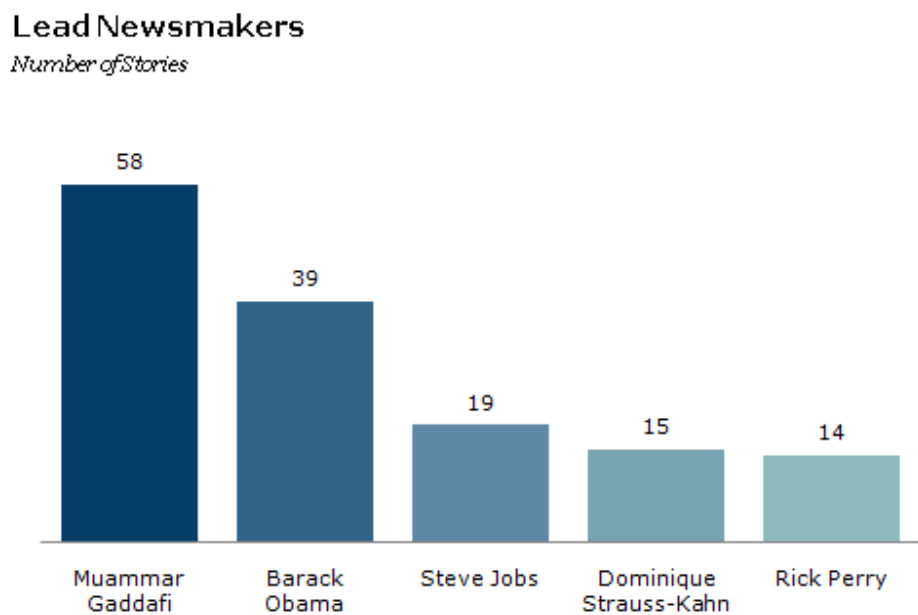
The Rest of the Week’s News

Much of last week’s economy coverage—the No. 4 story—was related to Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke’s speech from Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on August 26. News reports tracked the ups and downs of the stock market on hopes of a possible stimulus—a measure that Bernanke chose not to implement in the short term.

After several weeks of substantial coverage, attention to the No. 5 story, the presidential campaign, plunged last week as no single candidate or theme dominated. Some outlets highlighted Republican Congressman Paul Ryan’s decision not to enter the fray. Others tracked the rise of Texas Governor Rick Perry in the polls as he took a commanding lead in a Gallup survey, placing him more than 10 points over the previous frontrunner, former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney.

News-makers of the Week

From August 22-28, for the first time in three months, the ousted Libyan leader Col. Muammar Gaddafi registered as the No. 1 newsmaker, appearing prominently in 7% of stories, many of them questioning his whereabouts. (To register as a dominant newsmaker, someone must be featured in at least 50% of a story.)



News Coverage Index, August 22-28, 2011
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

At No. 2 was President Barack Obama (4%). The president spent much of the week vacationing on Martha's Vineyard, but the barrage of big breaking news events compelled him to stay in the spotlight, issuing statements on Libya and advising U.S. citizens to heed evacuation orders in preparation of Hurricane Irene. In the previous week, Obama was the dominant newsmaker in 15% of stories—almost four times as much as last week.

The famously private CEO of Apple, Steve Jobs, became the subject of numerous stories when he announced on August 24 he could no longer perform his duties at the helm of one of the most powerful technology companies in the world, and would step down. Though no direct reason was given, much of the coverage discussed the announcement in light of Jobs' health problems in recent years. He was the No. 3 newsmaker last week, appearing prominently in 2% of stories.

Former leader of the IMF Dominique Strauss-Kahn made headlines early in the week when, in a 12-minute hearing on August 23, the rape charges against him were dismissed. Strauss-Kahn was the lead newsmaker in 2% of stories.

Finally, at No. 5, was Texas Governor Rick Perry, who pulled ahead of all other Republican rivals for the GOP presidential nomination last week in a Gallup poll. Perry was featured prominently in 2% of all the stories studied by PEJ.

About the NCI

PEJ's weekly News Coverage Index examines the news agenda of 52 different outlets from five sectors of the media: print, online, network TV, cable and radio. (See **List of Outlets**.) The weekly study, which includes some 900 stories, is designed to provide news consumers, journalists and researchers with hard data about what stories and topics the media are covering, the trajectories of that media narrative and differences among news platforms. The percentages are based on "newshole," or the space devoted to each subject in print and online and time on radio and TV. (See **Our Methodology**.) In addition, these reports also include a rundown of the week's leading newsmakers, a designation given to people who account for at least 50% of a given story.

Source:

http://www.journalism.org/index_report/pej_news_coverage_index_august_2228_2011?src=prc-newsletter

187-43-21. Back-to-School Poll: 57% Want National Standard for Advancement

54% Say Test Score Cheating by School Officials Is Widespread

UTICA, NY--A majority of adults nationwide (57%) say there should be a national standard level of learning in the nation's public schools before students can move from one grade to another, and, 54% believe test score cheating by school officials to improve standardized test scores is widespread, a new IBOPE Zogby Interactive survey finds.

In regard to the best way to evaluate teachers, 64% prefer an even mix of standardized test scores and classroom observation.

The survey was conducted from Aug. 25-29, with results below.

Do you believe there should be a national standard level of learning for students in our nation's public schools before they can move from one grade to another?

Response	
Yes	7%

No	9%
Not sure	4%

Do you believe cheating by school officials to improve student standardized test scores is widespread, or does it happen only rarely?

Response	
Widespread	4%
Rare	2%
Not sure	4%

How much influence should standardized tests have in evaluating teachers?

Response	
Great deal	0%
Some	6%
Very little	2%
None at all	%
Not sure	%

Which of these do you believe is the best way to evaluate teachers?

Response	
An even mix of standardized test scores and classroom observation	4%
Primarily through classroom observation	4%
Primarily through standardized test scores	%
Not sure	%

How reliable of an indicator of learning do you believe standardized tests are?

Response	
Very reliable	%
Somewhat reliable	1%
Not very reliable	9%
Not reliable at all	

	%
Not sure	%

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,366 U.S. adults. A sampling of IBOPE Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender and education to more accurately reflect the population. The margin of error is +/- 2.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups. The MOE calculation is for sampling error only.

ABOUT IBOPE Zogby International

IBOPE Zogby International is a non-partisan, premier global public opinion polling and market research firm that offers timely, accurate results and in-depth analysis and insights. IBOPE Zogby International works with issue experts in a vast array of fields including healthcare, technology, finance, insurance, energy, agriculture, public affairs, and media who offer insightful data analysis and exceptional service to clients in countries throughout the world. IBOPE Zogby International experts analyze data and work with clients to develop and implement new strategies, and offer customized and attractive solutions to challenges our clients face. IBOPE Zogby International was formed in January 2010 following the acquisition of Zogby International by IBOPE Inteligencia of Brazil, a subsidiary of IBOPE Group.

Source:<http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/09/02/ibope-zogby-back-school-poll-57-want-national-standard-advancement/>

187-43-22. More Bad Numbers for Obama, as 40% Approve of Performance & 35% Say He Deserves Re-Election

One-Third of Those Who Approve Are Disappointed with Obama

UTICA, NY--Majorities of likely voters continue to disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance (60%) and say it is "time for someone new" (55%) in the White House.

Among those who do approve of Obama's performance, 34% say they are disappointed by the president, but don't want to undermine him by saying they disapprove.

The job approval and re-election results in the Aug. 25-29 IBOPE Zogby interactive poll are little changed from the last similar survey conducted Aug. 2-4.

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

Obama Job Performance	Aug 29	Aug 4	July 25	July 18	July 12	July 5	June 21	June 9	June 6	May 31	May 23	May 9
Disapprove	60%	58%	54%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%
Approve	40%	41%	44%	43%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%
Not sure	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The 60% disapproval matches the highest found in an IBOPE Zogby interactive, which came on Nov. 22, 2010.

Do you think President Obama deserves to be re-elected or do you think it is time for someone new?

Response	A Aug 29	A Aug 4	J July 25	J July 18	J July 11	J July 5	Ju ne 21	J une 9	J une 6	M ay 31
Time for someone new	55%	54%	51%	53%	54%	56%	55%	52%	53%	51%
Obama deserves to be re-elected	35%	36%	40%	38%	36%	38%	39%	39%	41%	41%
Not sure	10%	9%	9%	9%	10%	6%	7%	9%	7%	8%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Only the 40% of voters who said they approved of President Obama's job performance were asked this question:

Which of these statements comes closest to your feelings about President Obama's job approval?

Statement A: *I am disappointed with President Obama, but I don't want to undermine him and give support to Republicans by saying I disapprove of his job performance.*

Statement B: *I am satisfied with President Obama, and that is my only consideration in saying I approve of his job performance.*

Statement	
A: Disappointed	4%
B: Satisfied	3%
Neither	3%
Not sure	%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The poll also finds no change from the beginning of the month in the percentage who say the nation was "on the wrong track" (72%) and those who say it is headed in the right direction (15%). Our Aug. 4 poll showed 73% choosing wrong track, the highest total of Obama's presidency.

Job approval of Congress is again 12%. Approval of Congressional Republicans is 29%, and approval for their Democratic counterparts is 26%.

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,335 voters. A sampling of IBOPE Zogby International's online panel, which is representative of the adult population of the U.S., was invited to participate. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, gender and education to more accurately reflect the population. The margin of error is +/- 2.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups. The MOE calculation is for sampling error only.

For more information, contact the Communications Dept--202-429-0022

ABOUT IBOPE Zogby International

IBOPE Zogby International is a non-partisan, premier global public opinion polling and market research firm that offers timely, accurate results and in-depth analysis and insights.

IBOPE Zogby International works with issue experts in a vast array of fields including healthcare, technology, finance, insurance, energy, agriculture, public affairs, and media who offer insightful data analysis and exceptional service to clients in countries throughout the world. IBOPE Zogby International experts analyze data and work with clients to develop and implement new strategies, and offer customized and attractive solutions to challenges our clients face. IBOPE Zogby International was formed in January 2010 following the acquisition of Zogby International by IBOPE Inteligencia of Brazil, a subsidiary of IBOPE Group.

Source:<http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/08/29/ibope-zogby-poll-more-bad-numbers-obama-40-approve-performance-35-say-he-deserves-re-election/>

187-43-23. Support for Same-Sex Marriage Increases Considerably in U.S.

(08/31/11) -

Generations Y and X lead the way in calling for changes, but older Americans are not as convinced.

The proportion of Americans who express support for same-sex marriage has increased dramatically in the country over the past year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,007 American adults, 46 per cent of respondents believe same-sex couples in the United States should be allowed to legally marry, up 10 points since last year.

About one-in-five respondents (22%) think same-sex couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry, while 23 per cent of Americans believe there should be no legal recognition for same-sex couples.

Respondents from Generation Y (68%), Generation X (48%), and Americans who report having gay or lesbian friends or relatives (59%) are more likely to support same-sex marriage than members of other groups.

If a referendum on the definition of marriage took place tomorrow in their state, 47 per cent of respondents would vote to define marriage as between a man and a woman, while 45 per cent would define marriage as between two people. One year ago, there was an 18-point gap between these two options.

There is also some fluctuation in the question about homosexuality. Two-in-five respondents (40%, +3) believe people are born gay, while just over one third (36%, -8) think people choose to be gay.

Some churches have promoted conferences that pledge to convert gays and lesbians into heterosexuals through prayer. Only one-in-four Americans (25%) believe this is possible, while a sizeable majority (62%) deems this impossible. Three-in-ten respondents who have no gay or lesbian friends or relatives (30%)—as well as two-in-five Republicans (40%)—believe gays and lesbians can be converted into heterosexuals through prayer.

Analysis

Since the survey conducted by Angus Reid Public Opinion on this same topic a year ago, support for same-sex marriage in the United States has clearly risen, and is now on the verge of reaching 50 per cent. In another sweeping change, there is now a split in the question about the definition of marriage, which last year was dominated by the group that would limit it as between a man and a woman.

The notion of praying for the purported conversion of gays and lesbians is rejected by a large majority of respondents, but appears to be more popular among Republicans and Americans who have no homosexual friends or relatives.

Overall, the views expressed in this survey are marked by generational lines. Respondents born before 1946 and Baby Boomers are definitely not as welcoming to same-sex marriage as the members of Generation X and Generation Y. In fact, only one-in-four respondents born after 1979 would define marriage as between a man and a woman.

Methodology: From July 20 to July 21, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,007 randomly selected 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 data to ensure samples 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/44003/support-for-same-sex-marriage-increases-considerably-in-u-s/>

187-43-24. Canadians Remember Layton Fondly, Support State Funeral to Honour Him

Two thirds of Canadians think the NDP will not be able to find a new leader as strong as Layton.

(08/27/11) -

A large majority of Canadians agree with the idea of holding a state funeral to honour Jack Layton, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 Canadian adults, two thirds of respondents (67%) say Layton will be remembered for his role in the NDP becoming the Official Opposition earlier this year.

A majority of Canadians (55%) think Layton showed that politicians can have the common touch, and almost half (48%) think he will be lauded for his ability to engage with young Canadians.

Across the country, one-in-five Canadians (20%) think the NDP will be able to find a new leader as strong as Jack Layton, while two thirds (66%) disagree. However, 34 per cent of Quebecers—and 25 per cent of NDP voters—do expect the party to find a leader as strong as Layton.

Four-in-five Canadians (81%) think holding a state funeral for Layton is justified, including a majority of respondents in every region. At least seven-in-ten Canadians who voted for parties other than the NDP in the last federal election believe Layton deserves this honour.

Layton was the only federal leader to post an approval rating of 50 per cent during the last federal electoral campaign, and the effect his leadership had on his party's fortunes cannot be underestimated.

Respondents who voted in the 2011 federal election were asked how much of a role did three factors play in their decision to support one party over another by allocating a percentage to each factor.

NDP voters were far more likely to say that the party's leader played a role in their decision (43.7%), considerably more than those who voted for the Bloc Québécois (32.4%), the Conservative Party (32.4%) or the Liberal Party (28.9%).

Methodology: From August 25 to August 26, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age,

gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source: <http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/43998/canadians-remember-layton-fondly-support-state-funeral-to-honour-him/>

LATIN AMERICA

187-43-25. Fewer Than Half See Progress in Drug War

Crime and Drug Cartels Top Concerns in Mexico

August 31, 2011

Support for Using Mexican Army to Fight Traffickers and for U.S. Aid to Mexican Forces

<i>Government's campaign against traffickers</i>	2009	2010	2011	10-11 change
	%	%	%	
Making progress	--	--	45	--
Losing ground	--	--	29	--
About the same	--	--	25	--
Don't know	--	--	1	--
<i>Using Mexican army to fight traffickers</i>				
Support	83	80	83	+3
Oppose	12	17	14	-3
Don't know	5	3	3	0
<i>U.S. help in training Mexican military</i>				
Support	78	78	74	-4
Oppose	17	19	26	+7
Don't know	5	3	1	-2
<i>Provide money to Mexican police/military</i>				
Support	63	57	64	+7
Oppose	28	37	33	-4
Don't know	8	6	3	-3
<i>Deploy U.S. troops to Mexico</i>				
Support	30	26	38	+12
Oppose	59	67	57	-10
Don't know	11	7	4	-3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q107, Q108, & 109a-c.

As the death toll continues to rise in Mexico's drug war, now claiming more than 35,000 lives since President Felipe Calderón took office in December 2006, fewer than half (45%) of Mexicans say their government is making progress in its campaign against drug cartels; 29% say the government is losing ground and 25% say things are about the same as they have been in the past.

Still, an overwhelming majority (83%) continues to endorse the use of the Mexican army to fight drug traffickers, virtually unchanged in recent years. Moreover, many welcome U.S. help in training Mexican police and military personnel (74%) and providing money and weapons to Mexican police and military forces (64%).

And while Mexicans broadly oppose the deployment of U.S. troops to combat drug traffickers in Mexico (38% support and 57% oppose), more now support this strategy than did so in 2010, when only about a quarter (26%) favored the deployment of U.S. troops in their country and two-thirds opposed it.

The survey of Mexico conducted by the Pew Research Center’s Global Attitudes Project between March 22 and April 7 also finds that illegal drugs and cartel-related violence rank among the top national problems facing Mexico; 71% say illegal drugs are a *very* big problem in their country and even more (77%) see the violence associated with drug cartels as a major challenge.

Concerns about illegal drugs and cartel-related violence are especially widespread in the North, where Mexico’s cartels have been especially active. Nearly nine-in-ten (87%) in North Mexico say illegal drugs are a very big problem in their country, compared with 69% in the South and in the Greater Mexico City area and 63% in Central Mexico. Similarly, 94% in the North see the violence associated with drug cartels as a very big problem; 75% in Mexico City, 73% in the South and 69% in Central Mexico share this concern.

Who Is Mostly to Blame for the Drug Violence in Mexico?

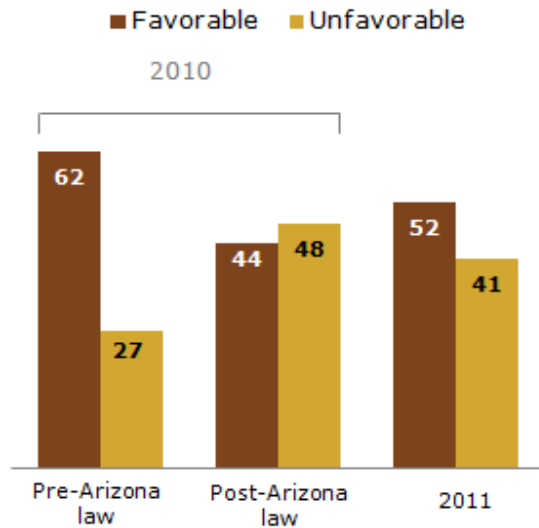
	2009	2010	2011	10-11 Change
	%	%	%	
U.S.	25	27	18	-9
Mexico	15	14	16	+2
Both	51	51	61	+10
Neither (VOL)	4	4	2	-2
Don't know	5	5	3	-2

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q110.

When asked who is most to blame for the drug violence in their country, more now say both Mexico and the U.S. are to blame than did so in recent surveys. About six-in-ten (61%) Mexicans blame both nations; 51% held this view in 2009 and 2010. Currently, 18% say the U.S. is mostly to blame and about the same percentage (16%) blame Mexico; a year ago, nearly twice as many said the U.S. was mostly to blame as named Mexico (27% vs. 14%).

U.S. Image Positive

U.S. Favorability in Mexico



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q3a.

The image of the U.S. has rebounded somewhat since the passage of Arizona's controversial immigration bill in April 2010, but it remains far more negative than it was prior to the law's enactment. Currently, a slim majority (52%) of Mexicans hold a favorable view of the U.S., while 41% express a negative opinion.

A year ago, 56% had a favorable view of the U.S., but those who were interviewed before Gov. Jan Brewer signed the Arizona measure into law on April 23, 2010, offered far more positive opinions than those interviewed following the law's enactment; 62% of those interviewed April 14-20, 2010 rated the U.S. favorably, compared with just 44% of those interviewed May 1-6, 2010. In 2009, nearly seven-in-ten Mexicans (69%) expressed a positive attitude toward the U.S.

Fewer See a Better Life in U.S.

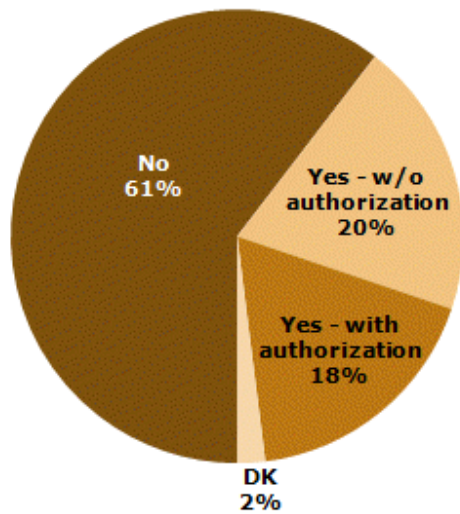
Life in the United States Is...

	2007	2009	2011	09-11 Change
	%	%	%	
Better	51	57	44	-13
Worse	21	14	22	+8
Neither	23	22	29	+7
Don't know	5	7	4	-3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q52MEX.

Mexicans are less likely than they were two years ago to say that people from their country who move to the U.S. have a better life than those who stay in Mexico. Fewer than half (44%) now say this is the case; 22% say life is worse in the U.S. and 29% say it is neither better nor worse. In 2009, nearly six-in-ten (57%) said people who moved to the U.S. from Mexico enjoyed a better life in the host country, while 14% believe life was worse for those who moved to the U.S. and 22% said it was neither better nor worse.

Would You Move to the U.S.?



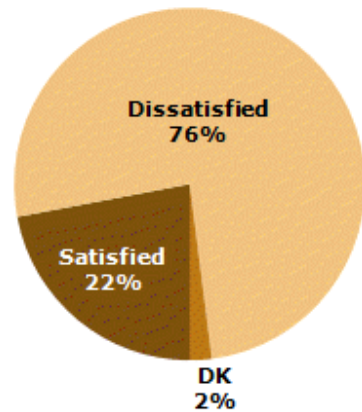
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q106MEX & Q106MEXb.

As was the case in 2009, most Mexicans (61%) say they would not move to the U.S. if they had the means and opportunity to do so. Among the sizeable minority (38%) who would move to the U.S. if they could, 53% (or, 20% of the total population) say they would be inclined to do so without authorization. (*For a more detailed analysis of Mexican immigration patterns, see "The Mexican American Boom: Births Overtake Immigration," Pew Hispanic Center, released July 14, 2011.*)

Younger respondents are more likely than older ones to say they would move to the U.S. Slightly more than half (52%) of those younger than age 30 say they would move if they had the means and opportunity to do so, including 28% who say they would be inclined to work and live in the U.S. without authorization. In contrast, just 36% of those ages 30 to 49 and 27% of those 50 and older say they would move to the U.S. (20% and 11%, respectively, say they would do so without authorization).

Most Unhappy With Country's Direction

Dissatisfaction With Country Direction Remains



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q2.

After shrinking in 2009, during the global recession, Mexico's economy rebounded impressively in 2010 – growing at its fastest rate in a decade. Still, an overwhelming majority of Mexicans remain dissatisfied with economic conditions and with their nation's direction overall. Roughly three-quarters (76%) say they are unhappy with the way things are going in their country, little changed from assessments in 2009 and 2010. Dissatisfaction with the country's direction is common across the different regions of Mexico and cuts across income and educational levels.

Discontent with current economic conditions is similarly widespread with about two-thirds (68%) describing the economy as poor, down slightly from 75% in 2010; just 30% say the economic situation in Mexico is good.

Despite Uptick, Economic Mood Still Negative

	2009	2010	2011	10-11 change
<i>Current economic situation is...</i>				
Good	30	24	30	+6
Bad	69	75	68	-7
Don't know	1	1	2	+1
<i>Over the next 12 months, the economic situation will...</i>				
Improve	61	47	48	+1
Remain the same	24	25	29	+4
Worsen	14	26	22	-4
Don't know	2	3	1	-2

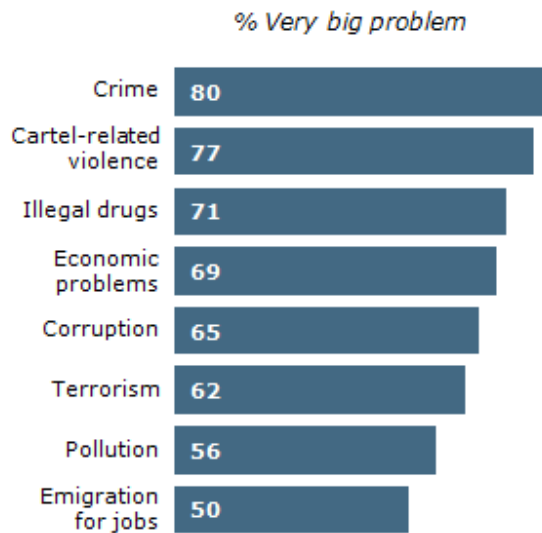
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q4 & Q5.

Looking ahead, Mexicans are no more optimistic than they were a year ago about their country's economic prospects. Roughly half

(48%) believe the economy will improve over the next 12 months, while 29% think it will remain the same and 22% say it will worsen, virtually unchanged from 2010. In 2009, however, as the effects of the global recession and the faltering U.S. economy were beginning to be felt, Mexicans were actually more optimistic, with 61% saying economic conditions would improve in the coming year.

Crime and Drug-Related Violence Top Concerns

How Big of a Problem Is...



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q12a-b, Q12d-g, & Q12k-l.

As noted earlier, among the challenges confronting their country, Mexicans most frequently name crime (80%) and cartel-related violence (77%) as very big problems. Roughly seven-in-ten (71%) see illegal drugs in the same light. Most (69%) also describe economic problems as a major challenge. Indeed, when asked specifically about rising prices and lack of job opportunities, majorities (74% and 70%, respectively) say these are very big problems in Mexico today. Slightly smaller numbers place corruption (65%) and terrorism (62%) in this category, while fewer than six-in-ten (56%) characterize pollution as a very big problem. Just half say people leaving the country for jobs elsewhere is a major issue.

While crime and cartel-related violence rate as major challenges among all Mexicans, those with lower incomes are especially concerned about terrorism, with more than seven-in-ten (73%) among this group describing terrorism as a very big problem.¹ Only 54% of middle-income and 49% of higher-income Mexicans see terrorism in the same light.

Despite the economy not topping the public's list of major challenges, when asked separately about rising prices and lack of job opportunities, strong majorities (74% and 70%, respectively) say these are very big problems in Mexico today.

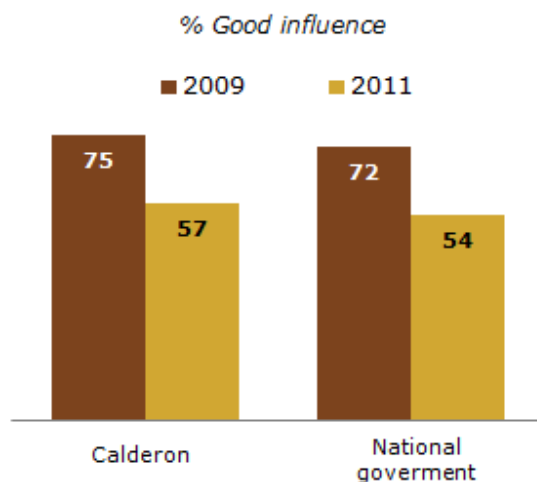
Not surprisingly, given the high levels of concern about crime and cartel-related violence, Mexicans by a 58%-to-26% margin say it is more important for the government to try to maintain law and order than to protect people's personal freedoms. About one-in-seven (15%) volunteer that the government should give equal weight to both. Compared with two years ago,

the number of Mexicans who think personal freedoms should take precedent over law and order has increased eight percentage points, rising from 18% in spring 2009.

Supporters of President Calderón's PAN tend to be more insistent that law and order should be the government's top priority. Roughly seven-in-ten (71%) PAN supporters say it is more important for the authorities to maintain law and order than to protect personal freedoms; only 52% of those who back the opposition PRI agree with this view.

Views of Calderón and the National Government

Influence of the President and the National Government



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q33a & Q33b.

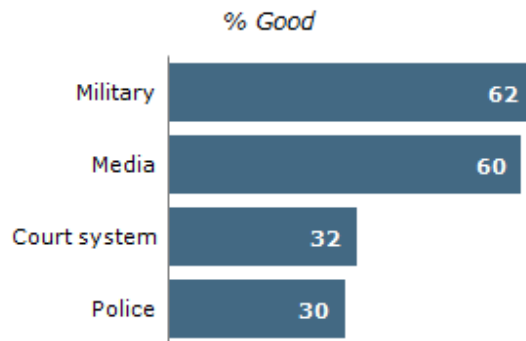
Despite overwhelming concerns about crime and drug-related violence and negative assessments of the country's economy and overall direction, most Mexicans continue to say that President Calderón and the national government are having a positive impact on the country. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) say the president's influence is good, while 39% describe it as bad; 54% give the national government a positive rating, while 41% say the government is having a negative influence.

Compared with two years ago, however, views of Calderón and the government have become increasingly negative. In 2009, three-quarters said Calderón was having a positive influence and 72% said the same about the national government; just 22% and 26% gave the president and the government, respectively, a negative rating.

Views of the national government are tied, at least in part, to opinions about the government's handling of drug traffickers; a solid majority (63%) of those saying the Mexican government is making progress against drug traffickers describe the national government's influence as good, compared with 47% of those who say the government is losing ground and 46% of those who say things are about the same as they have been in the past.

Military and Media Receive Positive Ratings

Influence of Groups and Institutions



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q33c-d & Q33f-g.

Most Mexicans say the military and the media are having a very or somewhat good influence on the way things are going in Mexico (62% and 60%, respectively). In contrast, only about three-in-ten say the court system (32%) and the police (30%) are having a positive influence.

Declining Support for Mexican Groups and Institutions

<i>% Saying influence is good</i>	2009	2011	Change
	%	%	
Military	77	62	-15
Media	68	60	-8
Police	35	30	-5
Court system	37	32	-5

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q33c-d & Q33f-g.

While the military remains popular, the percentage saying it is having a good influence has declined by double digits, from 77% in 2009. Ratings for the media have also declined over the last two years, though not as dramatically; 68% said the media was having a good influence on the way things were going in Mexico in 2009. In 2002, when the question was first asked, 84% of Mexicans saw the media's influence as positive.

Rating Political Leaders

A slim majority (55%) of Mexicans have a favorable opinion of President Felipe Calderón, while 42% express an unfavorable opinion; in 2009, about two-thirds (68%) had a positive view of the president. Gustavo Madero Muñoz, the president of Calderón's PAN party, receives negative ratings on balance, with nearly four-in-ten (39%) expressing an unfavorable opinion, 18% voicing a favorable opinion and 43% of respondents not offering an opinion of the current president of the PAN party.

Views of Mexican Political Leaders

	Fav	Unfav	DK
	%	%	%
Enrique Peña Nieto	61	31	9
Felipe Calderón	55	42	3
2009	68	29	4
Beatriz Paredes Rangel	43	38	18
2009	47	32	21
Marcelo Ebrard	35	46	18
Andrés Manuel López Obrador	33	62	5
Jesus Ortega Martinez	22	45	33
2009	37	35	28
Gustavo Madero Muñoz	18	39	43

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q50a-g.

Enrique Peña Nieto, current governor of the State of Mexico and potential presidential candidate for the PRI, is viewed favorably by about six-in-ten (61%) Mexicans, while only 31% express an unfavorable view of him. Majorities across all demographic groups offer a positive opinion, with especially high ratings among those who identify with the PRI (80% favorable). Beatriz Paredes Rangel, former president of the PRI, receives more mixed ratings; 43% of Mexicans voice a favorable opinion of her and 38% offer an unfavorable view.

Marcelo Ebrard, current mayor of Mexico City and a member of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), is seen favorably by 35% of Mexicans, while nearly half (46%) have an unfavorable view of him. Ebrard is viewed most warmly by residents of Mexico City; 56% have a favorable view, compared with about three-in-ten in North (32%) and Central (31%) Mexico and 26% in the South.

Fellow PRD member Andrés Manuel López Obrador has the highest unfavorable ratings of the politicians tested, with over six-in-ten (62%) voicing an unfavorable opinion of the 2006 presidential election runner-up and one-third expressing a positive view. Views of Jesus Ortega Martinez, president of the PRD, are also negative, on balance (22% favorable vs. 45% unfavorable); one-third of Mexicans do not offer an opinion. Favorable ratings for Martinez have declined 15 percentage points since 2009, when nearly four-in-ten (37%) Mexicans offered a favorable view of the PRD leader.

Source: <http://pewglobal.org/2011/08/31/crime-and-drug-cartels-top-concerns-in-mexico/?src=prc-headline>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

187-43-26. Sustainable Efforts & Environmental Concerns Around the World

Global unease over the use of pesticides, packaging waste and water shortages overtake global warming as top concern

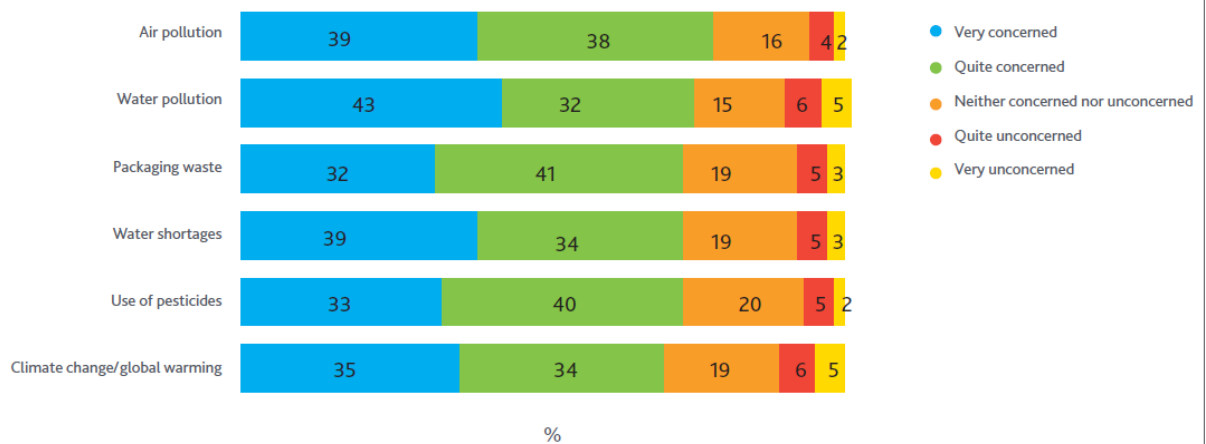
Concern about climate change/global warming among online consumers around the world took a back-seat to other environmental issues such as air and water pollution, water shortages, packaging waste and use of pesticides, according to Nielsen's 2011 Global Online Environment & Sustainability Survey of more than 25,000 Internet respondents in 51 countries.

The latest findings, which were compared to 2007 and 2009 results, show that while 69 percent of global online consumers say they are concerned about climate change/global warming

(up from 66 percent in 2009, but down from 72 percent in 2007), concern for other environmental issues are taking a higher priority in the minds of consumers and are rising with greater intensity. Three out of four global consumers rated air pollution (77%) and water pollution (75%) as top concerns, both increasing six percentage points compared to 2009. But the areas where concern is mounting fastest among 73 percent of global online consumers is worry over the use of pesticides, packaging waste and water shortages, with reported concern increasing 16, 14 and 13 percentage points, respectively.

How concerned are you about the following environmental issues:

Global Average



Source: Nielsen, Global Online Survey, Q1 2011.

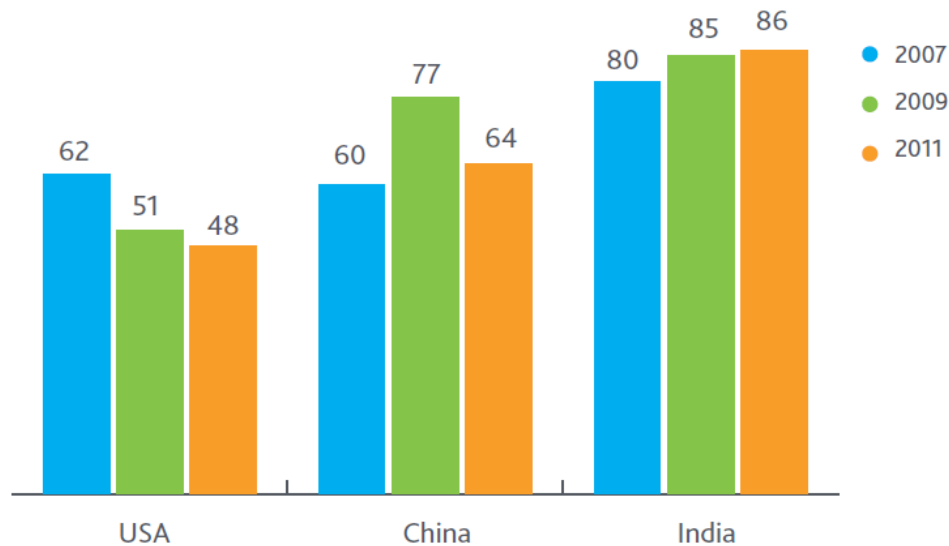
“There are many possible reasons for declines in concern about climate change/global warming. Focus on immediate worries such as job security, local school quality, crime and economic well-being have all diminished media attention for climate stories in the past two years. In the face of other pressing concerns, a public “caring capacity” for climate change has been tested,” said Dr. Maxwell T. Boykoff, Senior Visiting Research Associate, Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford. “Without continued attention paid to global warming/climate change in the media, such concerns may have faded from the collective public conscience.”

Top environmental concerns among Asia Pacific consumers include water shortages and air pollution, while water pollution was the main concern for Latin Americans, Middle Eastern/Africans, Europeans and North Americans.

The Big Three: Concerns Falling in U.S., Uneven in China, and Rising in India

With their large populations and high carbon dioxide emissions, many consider the United States, China and India instrumental to any potential international climate change agreements. Yet, concern is falling in the U.S., which recorded one of the steepest declines in concern about climate change/global warming among global markets from 2007 to 2011, with reported concern dropping 14 percentage points.

Climate change/global warming concerns falling in U.S., uneven in China, and rising in India



Source: Nielsen, Global Online Survey, Q1 2011.

Today, less than half of Americans (48%) say they are concerned about climate change, which contrasts sharply with reported concern across the regions of the world: Latin America (90%), Middle East/Africa (80%), Asia Pacific (72%), and Europe (68%). Among the 21 percent of Americans who are decidedly not concerned, 63 percent indicated they believe natural variation—and not people—causes climate change/global warming.

“During this period, Nielsen’s Global Online Consumer Confidence Survey found heightened American consumer concern around the economy, rising gas prices, and debt,” said Todd Hale, SVP Consumer & Shopper Insights, Nielsen U.S. “With financial concerns still on the minds of many Americans, they’re indicating less and less concern about climate change and other environmental issues.”

In China, concern about climate change/global warming is higher than in the U.S., but dropped 17 percent in the last two years from 77 percent in 2009 to 64 percent in 2011. Meanwhile, concern in India has gradually risen in the past four years, and with 86 percent of Indians currently worried, it remains one of the markets most concerned about climate change in the world.

Concerns Run High in Coastal Countries and Latin America

Among the countries most concerned about climate change are several island-nations and other countries with high percentages of coastal borders. In many of these countries, the percentage of consumers concerned about climate change almost reaches 100, including Thailand and Portugal (93%), Indonesia (92%), Philippines and Vietnam (91%), Malaysia (90%), Greece (89%), Taiwan (88%), and Singapore (84%).

Regionally, Latin Americans remain the most concerned about climate change/global warming, at 90 percent up from 85 percent in 2009, while Middle East/Africa consumers posted the highest increase as concern grew from 69 to 80 percent in the two year span. “Latin America has experienced a number of distressing and impactful environmental events over the last several

years, and the region's consumers are increasingly attributing these events to broad climate change," said Arturo García, President, Nielsen Latin America. "People are expressing clear concern about unusual weather patterns including increased rainfall, hurricanes, and floods in some parts of Latin America, and severe droughts in others."

As for the sharp rise in concern in the Middle East/Africa, "The hot and dry climates in many Middle Eastern and African countries and the widely held perception that temperatures are rising every summer has likely led to an increased concern about climate change and weather variation," said Ram Mohan Rao, Managing Director, Nielsen Egypt.

Climate change/global warming concern increased 10 points in Europe to 68 percent, fell three points in Asia Pacific to 72 percent, and North America was the least concerned region with a two point decline to 50 percent.

Extreme Weather Conditions Heighten Awareness

Thailand, Mexico, and Portugal were the world's most concerned countries about climate change, with 93 percent of respondents from each market indicating concern. Portugal and Mexico were also the world's most concerned countries about water shortages and air and water pollution. "In Portugal, severe weather patterns of extreme and uncharacteristic heat waves in the summer and snow in the winter over the past few years have heightened consumer concern and awareness over global warming and climate change issues," said Luís Bio, Marketing Director, Nielsen Portugal.

"In Mexico, as in the rest of Latin America, the media has been an influential force in raising awareness about the environment, with extensive coverage of environmental issues," said Paola Fonseca, Strategy and Innovation VP, Nielsen Latin America. "And, having recognized vast consumer concern, manufacturers, retailers and service companies are increasingly implementing environmentally-friendly social responsibility programs."

Poland and New Zealand consumers, who were among the top 10 least concerned about climate change/global warming in 2011, show the sharpest declines since 2007, dropping 27 and 18 percentage points, respectively. Since 2009, concern increased the most in the Ukraine (+27 percentage points), Portugal and Israel (+26), Sweden (+22) and Saudi Arabia (+18).

Global Warming Apathy is Growing

The study found that there are a number of consumers who are either indifferent or not concerned about this issue. One-in-five global online consumers say they are neither concerned nor unconcerned about climate change/global warming and one-in-ten are not concerned at all.

The global economic recession (and its lingering effects on the job market and inflation) appears to have misplaced climate change as a big worry for many. But while half (48%) of unconcerned global online consumers cite "more urgent and serious matters in the world today" as the main reason for climate change apathy, 37 percent believe that climate change is not the result of human behavior and 23 percent believe future technologies will solve the problem.

Source: <http://au.nielsen.com/site/documents/NielsenSustainabilityReportAug2011FINAL.pdf>

CYBER WORLD

187-43-27. Americans Rate Computer Industry Best, Federal Gov't Worst

Image of federal government is at an all-time low

August 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans view the computer industry the most positively and the federal government the least positively when asked to rate 25 business and industry sectors. All five of the top-rated sectors this year are related to either computers or food.

For each of the following business sectors in the United States, please say whether your overall view of it is very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

Industry	% Positive	% Neutral	% Negative	Net positive (positive minus negative, in pct. pts.)
Computer industry	72	16	10	62
Restaurant industry	61	25	12	49
Internet industry	56	26	16	40
Farming and agriculture	57	22	19	38
Grocery industry	52	24	24	28
Retail industry	44	33	22	22
Travel industry	42	35	21	21
Accounting	36	42	19	17
Publishing industry	38	38	22	16
Automobile industry	42	25	32	10
Telephone industry	39	30	31	8
Movie industry	38	23	37	1
Sports industry	37	25	36	1
Television and radio industry	39	21	40	-1
Electric and gas utilities	38	20	40	-2
Advertising and public relations industry	32	29	37	-5
Pharmaceutical industry	36	20	43	-7
Airline industry	29	30	39	-10
Education	35	18	47	-12
The legal field	29	24	45	-16
Banking	30	21	47	-17
Healthcare industry	27	18	55	-28
Real estate industry	23	23	52	-29
Oil and gas industry	20	15	64	-44
The federal government	17	20	63	-46

Aug. 11-14, 2011

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Gallup has asked Americans each August since 2001 to indicate whether they have positive or negative views of a list of business and industry sectors. The 2011 update is from Gallup's Aug. 11-14 survey.

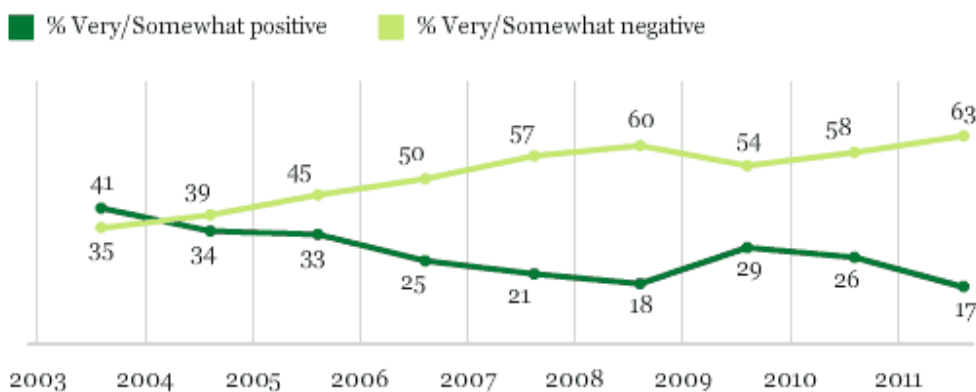
The results range from a +62 net positive rating for the computer industry to a -46 net positive rating for the federal government.

The sectors Americans view most negatively have all had well-publicized problems in recent years. The federal government has been near the bottom of the list in previous years, but is at the absolute bottom this year for the first time, displacing the oil and gas industry. Seventeen percent of Americans have a positive view of the federal government -- the lowest of any sector tested this year -- while 63% have a negative image. Only one sector, oil and gas, has a higher negative percentage, 64%. Other poorly ranked sectors include real estate, healthcare, banking, and the legal field.

Federal Government's Image at All-Time Low

The positive and the negative ratings for the federal government this year are the worst since Gallup began measuring its image in 2003.

Ratings of the Federal Government, 2003-2010



GALLUP

The deterioration in Americans' views of the federal government began in 2004 -- correlated with a downturn in President George W. Bush's job approval rating and rising concerns about the Iraq war and the economy. Views turned slightly more positive in 2009 during Barack Obama's first year as president, but dropped back down last year and again this year, likely reflecting rising concerns over the economy as well as the increase in government spending and power.

Other Gallup data from August of this year show that Congress has the lowest approval rating in Gallup history, and that satisfaction with the way things are going in this country is near its all-time low.

Images of Federal Gov't, Real Estate Industry Drop the Most Over the Past Decade

Americans' views of a number of sectors have worsened dramatically between 2001 and 2011, or, in the case of the federal government, between 2003 -- the first year Gallup asked about it -- and 2011.

The images of the federal government and the real estate industry have dropped the most over the past decade. The percentage of Americans rating the government positively has declined 24 points since 2003, and the real estate industry's positive ratings have fallen 23 points since 2001. Other sectors with double-digit drops include the banking sector, education, accounting, and healthcare.

Americans view four industries more positively now than they did in August 2001: the Internet industry, electric and gas utilities, and the computer and movie industries. The current

72% positive rating for the computer industry is the highest such rating of any industry since Gallup began tracking business sectors in 2001.

Change Over Time in Positive Ratings of Business and Industry Sectors, 2001-2011

% Positive view of industry

Industry	2001	2011	Change, 2001-2011
	%	%	Pct. pts.
Internet industry	44	56	12
Electric and gas utilities	31	38	7
Computer industry	67	72	5
Movie industry	33	38	5
Legal field	29	29	0
Telephone industry	39	39	0
Restaurant industry	62	61	-1
Sports industry	38	37	-1
Farming and agriculture	59	57	-2
Automobile industry	45	42	-3
Pharmaceutical industry	39	36	-3
Retail industry	47	44	-3
Television and radio industry	42	39	-3
Oil and gas industry	24	20	-4
Grocery industry	57	52	-5
Advertising and public relations industry	38	32	-6
Airline industry	37	29	-8
Travel industry	50	42	-8
Publishing industry	47	38	-9
Healthcare industry	37	27	-10
Accounting	47	36	-11
Education	50	35	-15
Banking	47	30	-17
Real estate industry	46	23	-23
Federal government	41*	17	-24

*Federal government first included in 2003

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Implications

The continuing high ratings for the computer and Internet industries likely reflect the global success of such American companies as Google, Apple, and Facebook, the technology industry's apparent success even in this time of economic uncertainty, and the increasingly major role that technology plays in Americans' lives. It is less clear why food-related sectors such as the

restaurant industry, farming and agriculture, and the grocery industry do so well in the eyes of Americans, but it could reflect the United States' relatively noncontroversial and efficient food supply system.

At the other end of the spectrum, poorly rated sectors have been associated with various well-publicized political or economic problems in recent years. Americans' frustration with politicians and Washington -- exacerbated by the contentious debt ceiling negotiations -- comes through in the federal government's all-time low image rating. The oil and gas industry has never done well in these image assessments, which is likely tied to swings in gas prices and the overall high price of gas.

The bad image of the real estate industry most likely reflects the housing crisis that has beset the country in recent years, and the poor image of the healthcare industry may reflect the rising cost of healthcare and uncertainty about access issues. Americans continue to view banks poorly, which clearly reflects lingering concerns from the 2008 financial crisis and subsequent failure of many banks around the country. Lawyers and the legal field have never had positive images.

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.

Each respondent rated a randomly selected list of 13 of 25 industries. The data for each industry are thus based on approximately 500 national adults.

For results based on these total samples of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 5 percentage points.

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149216/Americans-Rate-Computer-Industry-Best-Federal-Gov-](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149216/Americans-Rate-Computer-Industry-Best-Federal-Gov-Worst.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

[Worst.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas - Business - Northern America - Politics - USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149216/Americans-Rate-Computer-Industry-Best-Federal-Gov-Worst.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

187-43-28. European IT market is becoming more complex

Findings for the first half of 2011

Nuremberg, August 31, 2011 – The IT markets in Europe have become significantly more heterogeneous in the first half of 2011 than in previous years. The industry has nevertheless demonstrated that it can adapt to the particular market situation. Overall, the IT sector in Europe

recorded a rise of 11% in the first six months. These are the latest GfK Retail and Technology findings prepared for IFA 2011, which is taking place in Berlin.

At present, differing market trends can be observed in Western and Eastern Europe as well as in the private and business customer segments. The tablet PC is at the center of hardware interest across all European countries. The next few quarters will certainly see further product innovations from various manufacturers in this area. As a result, the outlook for this sub-market is generally acknowledged to be bright, with very high growth rates expected both this year and next. Although private customers are currently mainly interested in iPads and similar devices, consumers are not buying tablet PCs instead of, but rather in addition to their existing IT equipment. There is currently no cannibalization of mobile computers by tablet devices, and none is expected in the medium term. The wide variety of computing devices, from tablet PCs through netbooks and notebooks, to all-in-one computers and desktops, is a reflection of the diverse nature of the digital lifestyle.

Central and Eastern Europe: positive developments

The markets in Central and Eastern Europe are recovering progressively from the financial and economic crisis, as demand remains positive both in the private commercial sectors. Sales of IT products grew by 33% in the first half of 2011. GfK Retail and Technology is optimistic that this trend will continue over the whole year.

Desktop computers are currently the primary beneficiaries of this pleasing development, both in the case of business customers and the more price-sensitive private consumers. The Windows 7 operating system is the reason for replacing hardware. Consumers in Eastern Europe are also increasingly buying mobile computers. As is the case with their Western neighbors, these devices are becoming more and more the standard computer in private households, even though their average prices are higher. A similar trend can be seen in small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which benefit from more flexible and individual computer usage by their employees.

Western Europe: notable differences between private and business customers

The IT markets for private customers in Western Europe are evidently saturated for the most part. The first six months of the year have seen sales 4% lower than a year before. Only some niche markets, such as large-format monitors, portable external hard disks and tablet PCs, are posting a rise in demand. In Germany for example, a situation where households are well-equipped with IT products and there is a restraint in making new investments, stagnation exists in the computer and monitor market, with -3% in the first half of 2011. In Southern European countries such as Portugal, Italy, Greece and Spain, on the other hand, the tough economic situation together with consumer unease has even led to a decline in private demand. In addition, there is no real innovation in many segments, so European consumers barely see any reason to make new purchases.

Completely the opposite picture can be seen in Western Europe in relation to business customers, with sales rising by 22% in the first half of the year. The trend towards cloud computing is having a highly positive effect. Businesses are currently investing primarily in the basic technical requirements so that they can offer and use these services on a greater scale in future. This trend should continue until mid-2012 since digital content in HD quality and high user numbers require a correspondingly powerful infrastructure. Because of this, demand for products such as switches, routers and network storage, is extremely positive at present. As in the

previous year, this is supplemented by PC replacement purchases due to the introduction of the Windows 7 operating system into companies.

Outlook: Single-digit growth in 2011

The IT sector is now much more complex than in the past. The trend towards strong growth in niche markets that are technologically sophisticated, together with the impact of replacement purchases, saturated submarkets and cloud computing products will increase further in the future. GfK Retail and Technology expects positive growth of the overall IT market in the single-digit range in Europe, both for this year and next.

The method

Through its retail panel, GfK Retail and Technology regularly gathers data on hardware and software, IT accessories, office equipment and supplies in more than 90 countries worldwide. The present analysis is based on current developments in the IT market in 26 European countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Hungary Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Source: http://www.gfk.com/group/press_information/press_releases/008608/index.en.html

187-43-29. Mobile Internet – Driver For Mobile Communications Market

Findings for the first half of 2011

Nuremberg, August 31, 2011 – The mobile communications market has been experiencing a global upswing. Smartphones, in particular, are appealing to even more consumers. This year, it is anticipated that around 400 million smartphones will be sold around the world. Above all, in Western industrialized nations, this boom is occurring at the expense of feature phones, which do not offer the diverse range of smartphone functions. These are the latest GfK Retail and Technology findings prepared for IFA 2011, which is taking place in Berlin.

The global mobile communications market is currently in a period of transition from standard mobile phones to multimedia devices, which make accessing the internet easy and appealing. Consequently, it is important that manufacturers position themselves as innovative smartphone providers to avoid being trapped in the stagnant declining feature phones market, which also generates weaker sales on the whole. In the first half of 2011, the number of smartphones sold noticeably increased in Western industrialized countries and Asia in particular. The share of overall sales of these devices in South-East Asia and China (including Taiwan and Hong Kong) already stands at 22% and 29% respectively. As a result of lower purchasing power and the focus of infrastructure networks on vocal transmission, the share of sales attributable to smartphones in emerging and developing states is lower, at less than 10% in India and below 15% in sub-Saharan African countries. The majority of sales in these regions are still generated by feature phones.

Europe: smartphones ensure growth

Despite restrained consumer sentiment in the eurozone, the European mobile phone market has developed positively, which is primarily attributable to the rising popularity of smartphones. In the first six months of the year, sales of mobile phones in Europe increased by 4%. Smartphones, in particular, experienced a real boom, with a 79% rise in the number of devices sold, and were therefore able to compensate for the 15% sales decline of feature phones, which are mobile phones that have proprietary operating systems. Currently, more than one in three mobile phones sold in Europe are smartphones, and this is set to increase further. Competition in

the premium segment is determined by technical innovations, such as faster processors and larger display screens.

Industry and network operators are expanding their range for consumers who are looking for a smartphone in the entry-level segment; this includes offering comparably cheap models, affordable monthly flat rates for mobile internet access and prepaid services. At the same time, the Android open operating system has further increased its market share, with almost 43% of smartphones sold in June 2011 using this system. Android has also removed entry barriers for new operators; this has resulted in a rapidly expanding diversity of products and intense competition, which ultimately leads to falling prices. While one year ago, European customers paid an average EUR 376 for an Android smartphone (handset only, without contract), the average price in June 2011 had dropped to EUR 308.

Germany: positive market trend

Sales of mobile phones in Germany increased by 6% in the first half of 2011 and, at present, every second mobile phone sold is a smartphone. Germany's mobile phone market sets itself apart from the five major Western European countries; France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK. The comparatively good consumer sentiment in Germany certainly plays a significant role.

Approximately one million operator-specific mobile broadband dongles providing internet access on the move have been sold since the start of this year. The rapid data transmission offered by dongles is a strong selling point. Retailers already offer products with download rates of up to 21.6 megabits per second (HSPA+), and in some areas the first dongles offering even more rapid data transmission of up to 50 MBit/s via the 4G network are available. In future, the smartphone segment will particularly benefit from the fact that consumers want to be able to comfortably use the internet on the move. In comparison to traditional computers, smartphones do not involve significant organizational and administrative effort. As a result, interest in online data storage, known as "cloud computing", will also rise. Mobile internet access will become increasingly popular due to the modern, high-performance 4G network.

The method

Through its retail panel, GfK Retail and Technology regularly collects data on mobile phones and landline telephones, mobile broadband dongles, mobile phone accessories, radio devices, phone tariffs and mobile content such as games and ringtones in more than 90 countries around the world.

Source: http://www.gfk.com/group/press_information/press_releases/008607/index.en.html
