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Introductory Note

This week report consists of 33 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 31 are national surveys from various countries.

SUMMARY OF POLLS

MIDDLE EAST

Massive Support for Going to UN Though Majority Expects US & Israelis Sactions

Findings of the third quarter of 2011 show that a semi consensus is evolving over the issue of seeking UN membership and recognition of Palestinian statehood despite the fact that a large majority believes that the step will lead to the suspension of American financial support and Israeli custom transfers and will lead to greater hardships on the ground with more Israeli checkpoints and settlement activities. (PCPSR)

September 19, 2011

SOUTH ASIA

The Illusion of Freedom.....

More than half the number of people in a CVOTER survey say they are not free in a free India; 74 per cent say India is really two countries a free India for the moneyed and powerful and a slave India that works for these vested interests. (CVoter)

September 2011

The Churn Within The Arab World....

Most Indians favour a continued UN role in Libya; more than half also see the US acting directly in Syria, a CVOTER survey finds. (CVoter)

September 2011

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Filipinos Optimistic about The Quality of Their Life in Near Future

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, conducted from June 3-6, found 36% of adults expecting their personal quality of life to improve in the next 12 months (termed as "Optimists"), and only 9% expecting it to get worse ("Pessimists"), for a Net Personal Optimism (the difference of Optimists over Pessimists) score of +27, 3 points higher than +24 in March 2011. (SWS)

September 14, 2011

SUB SAHARAN AFRICA

New National Minimum Wage

In a recent survey conducted by NOI Polls, respondents were asked if they were aware of the issues surrounding the adoption of the NGN 18,000 national minimum wage. 92% of respondents said they were aware while 8% said they are not aware. (NOI)

August 2011

Islamic Banking in Nigeria

A recent survey in Nigeria shows a high level of awareness of the issue of Islamic Banking amongst Nigerians, with just over three quarters (76%) responding 'Yes' to the question 'Are you aware of the CBN's proposal to introduce Islamic Banking in Nigeria?' (NOI)

August 2011

The Boko Haram Sect and Insecurity in Nigeria

A recent survey of Nigerians shows that Nigerians are highly aware of the sect Boko Haram. with over 9 in 10 respondents answering 'Yes' when asked if they were aware of a group called Boko Haram. And over four in ten suggest that federal government should employ military force in this regard. (NOI)

August 2011

EAST EUROPE

Opinions About Donald Tusk

After nearly four years in office as the Prime Minister, Donald Tusk still remains the most popular Polish politician. In a recent survey about half of the questioned people declare they trust him. (CBOS)

July 2011

Changes In Voting Methods

A recent survey in Poland shows that Polish are supportive of alternate voting systems. The highest support is for electronic voting system over the Internet. Almost fifty percent of Poles support the idea that all poles should be entitled for electronic vote. (CBOS)

July 2011

WEST EUROPE

Europe's Business Elite Want Both Digital And Traditional Media

Europe's most successful and influential business leaders are increasingly incorporating digital media into their lifestyles, though not at the expense of traditional means, according to the latest Business Elite Europe survey from Ipsos MediaCT. Whilst digital media is increasing in popularity 95% still utilise print and 86% TV on a daily basis. (Ipsos Mori)

September 08, 2011

Conservatives regain lead over Labour in UK

The September Reuters/Ipsos MORI Political Monitor shows that the Conservatives have regained a clear lead over Labour and the Liberal Democrats as having the best policies for managing the economy. Just over three in ten (33%) think the Conservatives have the best economic policies, compared to 23% who say Labour and 8% who say the Liberal Democrats. (Ipsos Mori)

September 14, 2011

NORTH AMERICA

Jewish Support for Obama Down, but Not Disproportionately

There is little sign that President Obama is suffering disproportionately in support among Jews; 54% approved of his job performance from Aug. 1-Sept. 15, 13 percentage points

higher than his overall 41% approval rating during that time, and similar to the average 14-point gap seen throughout Obama's term. (Gallup USA)

September 16, 2011

Perry "Ponzi Scheme" Remark Doesn't Faze Most Republicans

Texas Gov. and presidential candidate Rick Perry's comments on Social Security, which include calling it a "Ponzi scheme," appear to be a non-issue for most Republicans. However, they could cost him support with independents should he ultimately win the 2012 Republican presidential nomination. As many Republicans say they are more likely to vote for Perry for president because of his views on Social Security as say they are less likely -- 19% each. Among independents, 12% are more likely to vote for him and 32% less likely. (Gallup USA)

September 16, 2011

Residents in Mass., Connecticut Lead Nation in Dentist Visits

Three in four Massachusetts residents say they visited a dentist in the last 12 months, a higher rate than in any other state in the nation. Those living in Mississippi were least likely to say they go to the dentist, followed by Louisiana and West Virginia residents. (Gallup USA)

September 15, 2011

Unemployment Re-Emerges as Most Important Problem in U.S.

Thirty-nine percent of Americans in September name unemployment or jobs as the most important problem facing the country, up from 29% in August. Unemployment has now passed "the economy" as the most frequently mentioned issue. In the month since the passage of debt ceiling legislation, concerns about the federal budget deficit have eased, while the percentage citing dissatisfaction with government as the top problem has held steady at 14%. (Gallup USA)

September 15, 2011

Americans Favor Obama Jobs Plan by 45% to 32%

By 45% to 32%, more Americans want their member of Congress to vote for rather than against a jobs bill similar to the one President Obama proposed last week, with the rest having no opinion. (Gallup USA)

September 14, 2011

Three Years After Crisis, Little Sign of Economic Relief in U.S.

Three years after bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers jolted the U.S. economy into economic turmoil, job creation has rebounded from post-collapse lows, but economic confidence and consumer spending remain within the ranges seen in 2009. Gallup finds underemployment and unemployment essentially where they were a year ago. (Gallup USA)

September 14, 2011

More Now See GOP as Very Conservative

Though voters' views of the ideologies of the political parties have shifted little since the summer of 2010, an increasing number see the Republican Party as very conservative, while slightly fewer see the Democratic Party as very liberal. (Pew Research Center)

September 12, 2011

Romney and Perry Seen as Best Presidential Choices for GOP in 2012

Two prospective Republican Party presidential contenders are currently ahead of their rivals as Americans ponder who would serve well in the White House, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid)

September 15, 2011

Perry Leads but Romney Gaining in GOP Favorability

Rick Perry and Herman Cain continue to generate the most intensely positive favorable ratings from Republicans familiar with them in Gallup Daily tracking conducted over the past two weeks -- prior to Monday night's CNN/Tea Party Republican presidential debate in Florida. (Gallup USA)

September 13, 2011

Upper-Income Americans' Economic Confidence Shaken

Upper-income Americans' economic confidence was badly shaken in August, with 80% saying the economy is "getting worse," up from 66% in July. This is the first month since the financial crisis of late 2008 and early 2009 that upper-income Americans are more pessimistic about the future direction of the U.S. economy than other Americans. (Gallup USA)

September 13, 2011

Congressional Job Approval at 15%

Congressional job approval is now 15%, up slightly from the record-tying low of 13% recorded in August, while disapproval is 82%, compared with 84% last month. (Gallup USA)

September 12, 2011

Record-High 86% Approve of Black-White Marriages

Americans are approaching unanimity in their views of marriages between blacks and whites, with 86% now approving of such unions. Americans' views on interracial marriage have undergone a major transformation in the past five decades. When Gallup first asked about black-white marriages in 1958, 4% approved. More Americans disapproved than approved until 1983, and approval did not exceed the majority level until 1997. (Gallup USA)

September 12, 2011

Perry Holds Big Lead Among GOP Voters, But Only Romney Leads Obama

Rick Perry has slipped a few points among likely Republican primary voters from two weeks ago, but still holds a big lead over all announced Republican presidential candidates. Perry is the top choice of 37% of GOP voters, with Mitt Romney coming in second with 14%. Perry received 41% in our August 29 poll. (Zogby-Ibope)

September 13, 2011

Jobs Speech Improves Obama Approval

President Barack Obama's address to Congress on job creation seems to have helped his job approval (up three points to 42%) and the percentage of voters saying he deserves re-election (up six points to 39%), a new IBOPE Zogby poll finds. (Zogby-Ibope)

September 12, 2011

Voters Split on Approaches Government Should Take to Help Create Jobs

Voters are split on how government can best create jobs, including the ratio of tax cuts to new spending, the value of infrastructure projects versus reduced regulations and taxes, the benefit of public sector jobs to the economy and the importance of so-called "green"

public investments. Democrats and Republicans hold sharply different views on all of these issues. (Zogby-Ibope)

September 14, 2011

Commemorations Capture Public Attention

The 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks topped the public's news interest last week, but Americans also continued to closely track news about the nation's struggling economy. (Pew Research Center)

September 13, 2011

A Pivotal Presidential Speech Drives The News

The president's speech on job creation drove the news agenda last week, making the economy the No. 1 story despite sharing the week with a lively GOP presidential debate, a special 9/11 anniversary and a new terror threat. (Pew Research Center)

September 14, 2011

Canadians' Consumer Confidence Continues To Fall In Uncertain Economic Times

Canadians' confidence in the economy continued its drop from last month as the economic climate continues to worsen in both Europe and the United States. The TNS Canadian Consumer Confidence Index dropped more than another point, from 97.6 to 96.4, after dropping two points in August. Continuing fluctuations in the stock markets, and uncertain economic news emanating from Europe and the United States are continuing to bode poorly for our own economic outlook. (TNA Canada)

September 15 2011

AUSTRALASIA

New Zealand National-LED Government's Winning Lead Surges

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is virtually unchanged at 61.5% (up 5.5%). Support for Key's National Party is 57% (up 5% - the highest since October 2009), ACT NZ 1.5% (down 0.5%), the Maori Party 2.5% (up 1%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged). (Roy Morgan)

September 16, 2011

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

Britons Question Global Warming More Than Americans and Canadians

Half of respondents in the two North American countries think climate change is a fact and is caused by emissions—fewer Britons concur. While Canadians continue to be more likely than Americans and Britons to blame global warming on man-made emissions, they are not as unwavering about it as they were last year, a new three-country Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. (Angus-Reid)

September 12, 2011

Public Narrowly Backs UN Recognition of Palestine: Global Poll

As debate continues over whether the Palestinians should ask for a UN resolution recognising Palestine as an independent state, a new global poll for BBC World Service reveals that, in all 19 countries surveyed, more citizens would prefer to see their government vote to support the resolution than vote against it – although only by a modest margin in many countries.

September 18, 2011

CYBER WORLD

7 In 10 Canadian Adults Aware Of Online Daily Group Deal Sites; Groupon Most Popular

A recent survey in Canada found that just over 70% of adults nationally have heard of at least one online daily group deal site. Awareness was highest in Ontario and lowest in Quebec. (TNS Canada)

September 12, 2011

MIDDLE EAST

189-43-1. Massive Support for Going to UN Though Majority Expects US & Israelis Sanctions

19 September 2011

Palestinian Public Opinion Poll No (41)

Massive support for going to the UN, but a majority expects US and Israeli financial and political sanctions and three quarters want an actual exercise of sovereignty throughout the West Bank

15-17 September 2011

These are the results of the latest poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR) in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip between 15-17 September 2011. The poll was conducted after the PLO declaration of its intention to seek membership in the UN. President Abbas announced the intention to go to the UNSC during data collection. This press release covers Palestinian attitudes regarding the UN issue, the performance of the governments of Salam Fayyad and Ismail Haniyeh, the internal balance of power between Fateh and Hamas, and the views of the public on the most vital Palestinian goals and the most serious problems confronting Palestinians today. Total size of the sample is 1200 adults interviewed face to face in 120 randomly selected locations. Margin of error is 3%. While this press release covers domestic Palestinian issues and the decision to seek UN membership, other issues related to the peace process and Israeli-Palestinian relations will be covered in a separate joint Palestinian-Israeli press release and later in our more detailed report on the poll.

For further details, contact PSR director, Dr. Khalil Shikaki, or Walid Ladadweh at tel 02-296 4933 or email pcpsr@pcpsr.org.

Main Findings:

Findings of the third quarter of 2011 show that a semi consensus is evolving over the issue of seeking UN membership and recognition of Palestinian statehood despite the fact that a large majority believes that the step will lead to the suspension of American financial support and Israeli custom transfers and will lead to greater hardships on the ground with more Israeli checkpoints and settlement activities. Findings also show that the overwhelming majority of the public want the PA to exercise actual sovereignty throughout the entire West Bank and to insist on assuming control over the Allenby Crossing with Jordan even if such steps lead to a confrontation with the Israeli army and settlers. While findings show widespread opposition to return to an armed intifada, a majority supports, and wants to participate in, large scale peaceful demonstrations. Only 50% however expect Palestine to become a member of the UN this month.

Findings also show that the popularity of Abbas and Fateh has increased somewhat in light of the debate over the UN step. Findings also show a surprising increase in the percentage of those who wish to immigrate from the Gaza Strip, reaching 50%. They also show widespread criticism of, and objection to, Hamas' government decision to ban travel of Gazan students to the US for studies and to the decision requiring prior approval of NGO staff to travel abroad to participate in conferences. Findings also show very little support to the decision by the PA

Attorney General to ban the airing of the satirical TV series “*Watan ala Water*” seeing the decision as a violation of the freedom of expression.

(1) Going to the UN:

- 83% support going to the UNSC to obtain recognition of Palestine as a state. Moreover, 74% believe that there is no point in returning to negotiations with Israel without acceptable terms of reference or without freezing settlement construction and that therefore president Abbas is right in seeking UN involvement.

- In response to the Palestinian decision to go to the UN, an overwhelming majority of 78% expects Israel to suspend transfer of custom funds to the PA or to suspend the transfer and take additional measures to make occupation harsher by setting more checkpoints and expanding settlement construction.

- Similarly, 64% expect the US to respond to the UN drive by suspending its financial contribution to the PA or by suspending the contribution and imposing political restrictions.

- 77% expect the US to use its veto power at the UNSC to prevent admission of Palestine to the UN but 58% believe that most European countries will recognize the new state of Palestine.

- 50% expect Palestine to become a UN member state this September and 43% do not expect that.

- After the UN recognition of Palestine as a state, 75% (76% in the West Bank and 71% in the Gaza Strip) want the PA to exercise sovereignty throughout the entire West Bank even if such a measure leads to a confrontation between the PA and the Israeli army and settlers.

- Similarly, 73% (71% in the West Bank and 77% in the Gaza Strip) want the PA to assert Palestinian sovereignty over the Allenby crossing with Jordan even if such a step leads to the closure of the crossing

- Only 35% support a return to an armed intifada and 64% oppose it.

- By contrast, 61% support resort to popular, unarmed and non-violent resistance and 54% say they will participate in peaceful demonstrations that would seek to breach checkpoints and block roads used by Israeli army and settlers after the UN recognition of the state of Palestine

(2) Domestic Conditions:

- 23% describe conditions in the Gaza Strip as good or very good and 50% describe them as bad or very bad. By contrast, 39% describe conditions in the West Bank as good or very good and 30% describe them as bad or very bad.

- 71% say there is corruption in the PA institutions in the West Bank while only 58% say there is corruption in the institutions of the dismissed government in the Gaza Strip. These percentages are similar to those obtained three months ago.

- 65% say there is, or there is to some extent, press freedom in the West Bank and 30% say there is no such freedom in the West Bank. By contrast, 48% say there is, or there is to some extent, press freedom in the Gaza Strip while 38% say there is no such freedom in the Gaza Strip.

- 36% say people in the West Bank can criticize the authority in the West Bank without fear. By contrast, 26% say people in the Gaza Strip can criticize the authorities in Gaza without fear.

- Perception of safety and security stands at 68% in the West Bank and 65% in the Gaza Strip.
- Positive evaluation of the performance of the governments of Ismail Haniyeh stands at 34% and Salam Fayyad's at 53%. Three months ago, these percentages stood at 39% and 43% respectively.
- Findings show that the percentage of Gazans who say they seek immigration to other countries stands at 49%; in the West Bank, the percentage stands at 28%. Three months ago, these figures stood at 40% and 26% respectively.
- Percentage of satisfaction with the performance of President Abbas stands at 52% while 44% say they are dissatisfied with his performance. Satisfaction with the performance of the president stands at 39% in the Gaza Strip and 59% in the West Bank.

(3) Presidency and Legislative Elections:

- If new presidential elections are held today, and only two were nominated, Abbas would receive the vote of 59% and Haniyeh 34% of the vote of those participating. The rate of participation in such election would reach 60%. In the Gaza Strip, Abbas receives 51% and Haniyeh 42% and in the West Bank Abbas receives 63% and Haniyeh 29%. These results indicate a significant increase in Abbas' popularity and a decline in Haniyeh's compared to the situation three months ago when Abbas received the support of 54% and Haniyeh 38%.
- If the presidential elections were between Marwan Barghouti and Ismail Haniyeh, the former would receive 65% and the latter would receive 30% of the participants' votes. The rate of participation in this case would reach 67%.
- If new legislative elections are held today with the participation of all factions, 67% say they would participate in such elections. Of those who would participate, 29% say they would vote for Hamas and 45% say they would vote for Fateh, 13% would vote for all other third parties combined, and 14% are undecided. These results indicate an increase of three percentage points in Fateh's popularity compared to the situation three months ago. Vote for Hamas in the Gaza Strip in this poll stands at 36 % and in the West Bank 25%. Vote for Fateh in the Gaza Strip stands at 43% and in the West Bank 46%.

(4) Banning the TV series “*Watan ala Watar*” in the West Bank and travel ban in the Gaza Strip:

- Only 23% support the decision by PA's Attorney General to ban the satirical TV series “*Watan ala Watar*” and 42% oppose the decision while 35% have no opinion on the matter. Supporters of the decision accuse the series of mocking PA institutions and ridiculing its leaders or being of low quality and repulsive. Opposition to the decision is based on the argument that it represents a gross violation of freedom of expression or because it is not up to the Attorney General to suspend a TV series.
- 71% oppose and 20% support the decision by the Hamas government to prevent students who received scholarships from Amideast to travel to the US for studies.
- Similarly, 63% oppose and 27% support the decision by the Hamas government instructing staff of NGOs wishing to travel abroad to attend conferences to submit a request for permission to travel two weeks in advance of travel date.

(5) Most vital Palestinian goals and the main problems confronting Palestinians today:

- The largest percentage (59%) believes that the *first* most vital Palestinian goal should be to end Israeli occupation in the areas occupied in 1967 and build a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital. By contrast, 24% believe the first most vital goal should be to obtain the right of return of refugees to their 1948 towns and villages, 11% believe that it should be to build a pious or moral individual and a religious society, one that applies all Islamic teachings, and 7% believe that the first and most vital goal should be to establish a democratic political system that respects freedoms and rights of Palestinians. Three months ago, only 48% viewed statehood within the 1967 borders as the most vital goal. It is likely that the drive to gain UN membership and recognition has pushed this goal to the top priority for a greater number of Palestinians.
- Five main problems confront Palestinians today: the most serious in the eyes of 25% of the public problem is the spread of poverty and unemployment while an identical percentage believes that it is the absence of national unity due to the West Bank-Gaza Strip, and 24% believe that it is the continuation of occupation and settlement activities while 13% believe it to be the corruption in some public institutions, and 7% believe it to be the siege and the closure of the Gaza border crossings.

Source: <http://www.pcpsr.org/survey/polls/2011/p41epressrelease.html>

SOUTH ASIA

189-43-2. The illusion of freedom.....

More than half the number of people in a CVOTER survey say they are not free in a free India; 74 per cent say India is really two countries a free India for the moneyed and powerful and a slave India that works for these vested interests.

“At the stroke of midnight, as the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom.” These words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India’s first prime minister, have been immortalized and are known to most of us, more than six decades after they were first uttered. Nehru, of course, was making his famous tryst with destiny speech to members of the constituent assembly on August 15, 1947, when he said the above lines. And the poetic words summed up the mood of a young nation, whose birth had been so difficult, marred by violence and bloodshed, but where citizens nevertheless were rejoicing at having finally shaken off the yoke of the British empire. But while this is an oft quoted line from Nehru’s poignant speech, the rest of the speech that not just valorised the national struggle for freedom under Gandhi but also underscored the vision of the political leadership of the day to ensure liberty and equality for all in a progressive nation, is rather less known.

Do u think that you are free ?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	1.3
Yes	48.2
No	50.5
Total	100

We all know of the humanistic, socialist Nehruvian ideal and it is very much part of the historic speech. A good paragraph to ponder over is: “bring freedom and opportunity to the

common man, to the peasants and workers of India; to fight and end poverty and ignorance and disease; to build up a prosperous, democratic and progressive nation, and to create social, economic and political institutions which will ensure justice and fullness of life to every man and woman.” The declaration of Independence ends with an exhortation to work together and cautions against narrow religious divisiveness. India may have celebrated its 65th Independence Day this year but all these ideas remain as pertinent today to us, the people of India, as they did all those years ago.

If yes, then why ?	
	Percent
Can't say	3
India is a free country, being a citizen of India we are also free.	13.1
The country runs on constitution which gives the guarantee of freedom.	3.4
I have the freedom of speech	4.4
Because everybody has equal opportunity.	1.7
Everyone in this country as the right of worship, religion and belief.	2.1
Everybody in this country as the right to vote and choose the government.	2.7
Everybody has the right to live the way they want to live.	14.2
Everybody is equal in the eyes of constitution.	3.2
Others	0.4
Total	48.2

For those born in a free India, especially, the children of a post-Liberalised order that has seen so much economic gain, August 15 is just another public holiday. A time to party, to hang out with friends or get a much-needed break from work. But this is also a day when one must ponder the concept of freedom and how it applies to our daily lives. In a democratic state that ensures universal adult franchise, we are all, of course, free. But is this a mere technicality? In the face of poverty and oppression, corruption, disease and the world’s largest population of the hungry, not able to afford even one square meal a day, are we really free? Is there a political and bureaucratic class of the privileged that is really pulling the strings, taking all decisions and impacting our lives even as we live in a fool’s paradise? Of late, this seems to have been the impression millions of Indians have been forced to admit to themselves. It is not a mere coincidence perhaps that so many came out on the streets protesting with Anna Hazare just a day after the Independence Day celebrations when a weakened Prime Minister made a sorry speech claiming that he was helpless against corruption.

A CVOTER survey across the National Capital Region in August polled various people of their definition of freedom of individual liberty and whether they thought they were really free in 21st century India. The results were illuminating.

When asked whether they thought they were free, while more than 48 per cent of the people polled replied in the affirmative, a shocking majority of about 50 per cent half the people polled replied in the negative: “no, we are not free,” was the loud and clear message emanating from the masses.

If no, why ?	
	Percent
Can't	3.4
Freedom is for the rich people, and slavery is destiny of the poor people	9.5
Freedom is for the powerful people not for weak people.	5.9
Court, judiciary and police are all sellable.	10.1
We don't have enough food and a job.	3.6
Here we have to be scared of the powerful people to survive.	1.9
Due to economic compulsions, we cannot live a free life.	6.3
Freedom is only for few castes, not for SC,OBC and ST.	0.6
Others	9.1
Total	50.5

Of those who believed that they were free, a substantial 13 per cent said they were free merely because they were the citizens of a free India. Another 14 per cent said that everyone in the country had a right to live how they please and thus the citizen had full liberty. On the other hand, a variety of explanations were given by people who believed that they were not free. These included common points of frustration for the middle classes who typically feel powerless against the “system”: “Freedom is for the rich people, and slavery is destiny of the poor. Freedom is for the powerful, not the weak”, were some common utterances made by the people polled, pointing to the high level of hopelessness in the electorate.

Anger against corruption by those in power was also evident when about 10 per cent of the people polled said that since the police, judiciary and so on were all for sale, there could be no true justice and hence liberty for the people of India. In comparison, only a miniscule .6 per cent of the people said that freedom was only for the high castes and not the SC-STs and OBCs. This points to lower level of complaints against the caste issue. While political parties have traditionally played this card, and said that they have been working for the upliftment of the backward communities, 64 years after Independence, this kind of marginalization seems to be a less relevant issue than the other pressing concerns of corruption and so on. More than 6 per cent of the people polled said that because of economic compulsions they were not able to lead a free life. Obviously, poverty and sharing the fruits of economic progress with the growing middle class are big concerns too.

More than 53 per cent of the people polled also felt that their freedom had been reduced in the recent years. Of these, a majority of 20 per cent felt that this was due to corruption, pointing to a burning anger over the systemic abuse of power by politicians and bureaucrats. More than 47 per cent of people said that their freedom was based on social factors, only 17 per cent thought it to be mere political freedom. An overwhelming 85 per cent saw our freedom threatened by forces within the country not outside.

Do you think in the recent years the freedom has decreased ?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	3.4
Yes	53.9
No	42.7
Total	100

Significantly, about a quarter of the people polled said that a new freedom struggle should ensue against the government! A majority of 44 per cent said that it should be against a corrupt system. Clearly the mood of the common man is against self-serving politicians who have done very little good for the masses over the years, instead, lining just their own pockets.

Another interesting finding of this survey was against the powerful elite still seen to be “ruling” the country. Almost three quarter of those polled said that while Britishers had left the country, a handful of Indians acting like Britishers were ruling the country still! More than 74 per cent of the people polled also agreed that India was made up of two Indias one a free India of the powerful, the other a slave India that worked for these vested interests. Again, an overwhelming 78 per cent said that freedom in this country was dependent on how much money one had. Even the policies of economic liberalization came in for a hit when more than 58 per cent of the people polled said that they had contributed to a lessening of freedom. Journalists, on the other hand, got a reprieve, with 61.4 per cent believing in the independence of the media.

The revolutionary mood in the country came across clearly in the final answer when a majority of 53.4 per cent said that they were in fact ready to die for their freedom.

It is time for the political class to hear this desperation.

Methodology: Snap poll of 473 randomly selected respondents by CATI in Delhi/NCR on 6th August 2011.

Source: http://teamevoter.com/2011/newsletter9i1/newsletter_9issue1_2011.pdf

189-43-3. The Churn Within The Arab World....

Most Indians favour a continued UN role in Libya; more than half also see the US acting directly in Syria, a CVOTER survey finds.

After more than 40 years in power, the people’s will finally caught up with Libyan dictator Colonel Gadaffi this August. The dictator who had been governing the fortunes of the oilrich African nation for so many decades was ousted from power by rebel forces and seems to have gone into hiding ever since. At least his location is not known at present at neither is that of his son and second-in-command Seif al-Islam and his wife and three children have fled to Algeria, representing a definite shift in power in Libya; a country that had for so long been held to ransom by the often cruel, violent and repressive regime of Gadaffi.

Do you approve of NATO's further presence in Libya since Gaddafi has been defeated convincingly?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	28.6
Yes	48.3
No	23.1
Total	100

It was in February, when the unrest sweeping through much of the Arab world also erupted in several Libyan cities. It began as a relatively organized protest against the corrupt government in Benghazi but soon spread to the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Gaddafi's forces lashed out with exceptional violence against his own people but the rebel forces were not to be deterred. The balance of power in the civil war, however, apparently shifted once more when the United Nations Security Council voted to authorize military action aimed at averting a total carnage of the rebels by the dreaded Libyan military. In March, the US and European forces started bombing the Arab country, seeking to dismantle the cache of arms and ammunition at Gaddafi's disposal and by late May this NATO action seemed to have shifted the civil war once again in favour of the rebels. However, Gaddafi refused to relinquish power and his tentative hold on the country.

Will a fractured opposition with conflicting motives lead to an unstable Libya in future?	
	Valid Percent
Can't Say	27.5
Yes	50.5
No	21.9
Total	100

But last month, finally, after an assault on Tripoli, the rebels seemed to have finally captured control decisively. Since then, they have been trying to restore some order and services in the capital that saw many street battles.

Lately, the rebels have also been launching full-scale attacks to subdue loyalist holdouts in other cities. There have been allegations of how China, flouting the UN resolution, offered to help Gaddafi's forces with arms.

And British spies have also been blamed for cooperating with the Libyan dictator. But as both the West and Libya itself come to terms with a new order that will crucially control the country's precious oil resources the country's future still hangs in balance. We don't know what the rebel government, when it is finally established, will do as its first course of action, but for now, at least a corrupt and regressive regime seems to have been replaced by the voice of the people.

Do you see Saudi and US involvement in Syria?	
	Valid Percent
Cant Say	36.2
Yes	42.5
No	21.3
Total	100

However, Libya is hardly the only country in the Arab world on which all eyes are currently set. January this year saw protests start in that country too, which got escalated to a full fledged uprising against the ruling dispensation by March. Protests called for president Basar al-Assad to step down and for the ruling Baath party to allow other political parties in the arena, as also calling for other broad based freedoms to the people. However, as these protests took the shape of street fights and rioting, the repressive regime was quick to try and crush them using force. Various estimates say that more than 3,000 people have been killed and many more injured as a government turned on its own people.

The West that supports pro-democracy movements in this part of the world, not the least because of its crucial oil interests in the region, has been slower to react to the Syrian crisis however. While the latest is that the EU governments have reached a preliminary agreement to ban new investments in Syrian oil exploration, observers feel that a Libya-like UN-sanctioned strike is unlikely.

Meanwhile, India is as cautious as ever, given its historical ties with the region, including with the regressive regimes. It has not come out in support of the democratic protesters, also given the crucial oil situation. In such a scenario, it is interesting to see what the people of India as disparate from the official government line feel about both Syria and Libya. A recent CVOTER survey across the country unearthed precisely these candid views.

When asked whether they supported NATO's continued presence in Libya despite Gaddafi's ouster and disappearance, a majority of 48.3 per cent of the people polled replied in the affirmative. Clearly, the situation is still far from settled and almost half of Indians feel that some

When asked whether they supported NATO's continued presence in Libya despite Gaddafi's ouster and disappearance, a majority of 48.3 per cent of the people polled replied in the affirmative. Clearly, the situation is still far from settled and almost half of Indians feel that some mood especially, most Indians more than half also believe quite sensibly that a fractured rebel government in Libya, with opposing forces working to their own end will only make the region more unstable.

With regards to Syria, more than 48 per cent of the people polled were of the opinion that Russia and China will give a carte blanche to the UNSC to act in Syria as it did in Libya. A majority of 42.5 per cent of the respondents also felt that both Saudi Arabia and the US will play a role in Syria, where their interests are vital. This underlines the perception amongst the people and rightly so about the political processes and vested interests governing any eventual change in the Arab world.

Methodology: National representative sample of 1326 randomly selected respondents by CATI across 28 states in India during 25th to 27th August 2011. Data weighted to known census profile. Margin of error +/-3% at national level.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

189-43-4. Filipinos Optimistic about The Quality of Their Life in Near Future

14 September 2011

Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey:

Net Personal Optimism at +27; Net Economic Optimism up to +14

Social Weather Stations

The Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Survey, conducted from June 3-6, found 36% of adults expecting their personal quality of life to improve in the next 12 months (termed as "Optimists"), and only 9% expecting it to get worse ("Pessimists"), for a Net Personal Optimism (the difference of Optimists over Pessimists) score of +27, 3 points higher than +24 in March 2011 [*Chart 1, Table 1*].

Net Personal Optimism has been over 20 for eight consecutive quarters, since net +24 in September 2009.

On the matter of the general Philippine economy next year, 29% were optimistic that it would get better, and 16% were pessimistic it would get worse, for a Net Economic Optimism score of +14, 10 points up from +4 in the previous quarter [*Chart 2, Table 2*].

The new Net Economic Optimism is a recovery to double-digit positives, but still lower than the June to November 2010 levels, when it ranged from +29 to +39.

Regarding change in Personal Quality of Life compared to twelve months ago, 33% said their lives worsened ("Losers"), and 22% said they improved ("Gainers"), for a net Gainers-Losers score of -11, 2 points better than -13 in March 2011 [*Chart 3, Table 3*].

The SWS indicators of future economic trends are the people's perceived directions of forthcoming change in (a) their Personal Quality of Life, and (b) the economy as a whole. The indicator of the past economic trend is the people's perceived direction of change in their Personal Quality of Life from twelve months ago to the present.

Personal Optimism up in Balance Luzon and class ABC

Net Personal Optimism rose by 10 points in Balance Luzon, from +17 in March 2011 to +27 in June 2011, and by 4 points in Metro Manila, from +30 to +34.

However, it fell by 5 points in the Visayas, from +33 to +28, and by 3 points in Mindanao, from +25 to +22 [*Chart 4, Table 4*].

By class, it rose by 18 points in class ABC, from +21 to +39, and by 2 points in class D or masa, from +27 to +29.

It stayed at +17 in class E [*Chart 5, Table 5*].

Economic Optimism rose in most areas

Net Economic Optimism rose by 18 points in Balance Luzon, from -3 in March 2011 to +15 in June 2011, by 7 points in the Visayas, from +5 to +12, and by 2 points in Mindanao, from +9 to +11.

It hardly changed from +14 to +15 in Metro Manila [*Chart 6, Table 6*].

By class, it rose by 13 points in class D, from +1 to +14, and by 11 points in class ABC, from +3 to +14.

It stayed at +11 in class E [*Chart 7, Table 7*].

Net Gainers turns positive in class ABC

Net Gainers, or the percent of Gainers over Losers, became less negative in most areas except in Mindanao, and switched to positive in class ABC.

It rose by 7 points in Balance Luzon, from -19 to -12, by 2 points in Metro Manila, from -7 to -5, and by 2 points in the Visayas, from -8 to -6.

However, it fell by 6 points in Mindanao, from -10 to -16 [*Chart 8, Table 8*].

Net Gainers rose by 28 points in class ABC, switching from a negative -16 to a positive +12, and by 3 points in class D, from -11 to -8.

It fell by 10 points in class E, from -17 to -27 [Chart 9, Table 9].

Survey Background

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

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

The SWS survey questions about trends in personal quality of life and optimism with the Philippine economy are directed to an adult respondent. Such items are non-commissioned, and are always included on SWS's own initiative and released as a public service, with first printing rights assigned to *BusinessWorld*.

In Net Personal Optimism, scores ranging from +30 and above are termed "very high" and +20 to +29 as "high" since they are higher than what is normally expected, or are above the category containing the median and mode (termed as "fair", ranging from +10 to +19) [Table 10].

In the case of Net Economic Optimism and Net Gainers-Losers, the most common answers, the median and modal, are in the "low" and "very low" categories. The term "fair" is assigned to the negative category (-9 to zero) since it is above what is normally expected. The term "mediocre" is then assigned to the category between "fair" and "low".

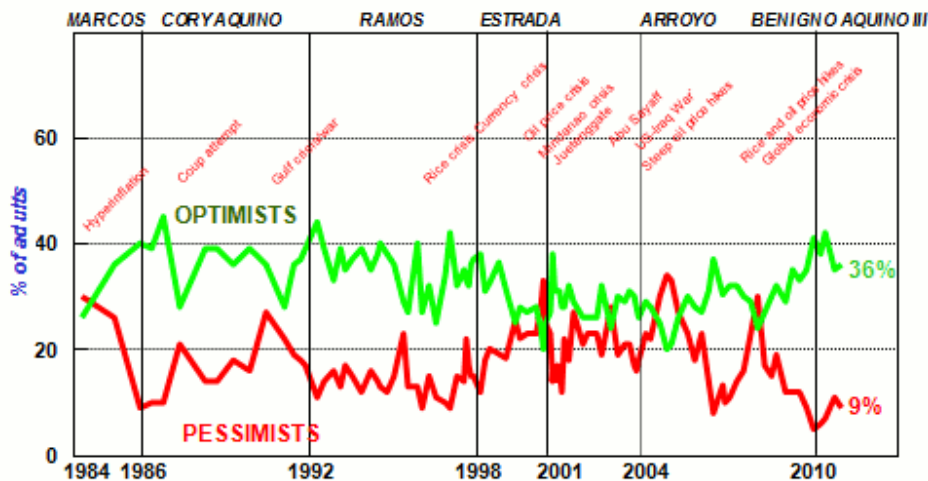
SWS employs its own staff for questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork, data-processing, and analysis, and does not outsource any of its survey operations.

#

Chart

1

EXPECTED CHANGE IN QUALITY OF LIFE IN NEXT 12 MONTHS, APR 1984 TO JUN 2011

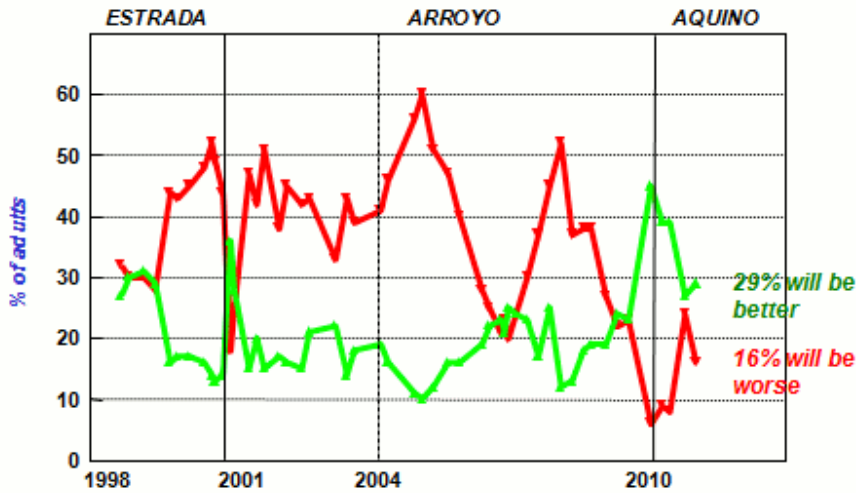


Question: In your opinion, what will be the quality of your life in the coming 12 months?
 Would you say that it ... (Will be better, Same, Will be worse)
 Optimists: "Will be better" Pessimists: "Will be worse"

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1983-2010 **Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report** June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart

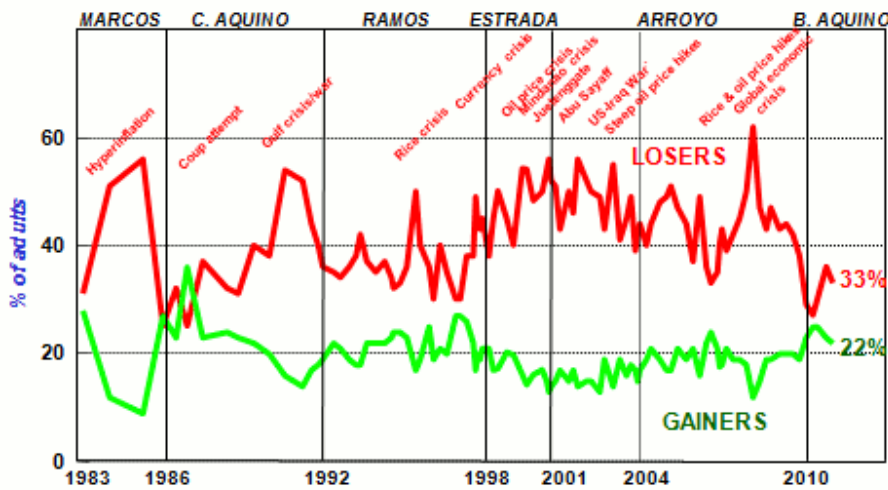
EXPECTED CHANGE IN THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY, SEP 1998 TO JUN 2011



Question: Sa darating na 12 buwan, ano sa palagay ninyo ang mangyayari sa ekonomiya ng Pilipinas? Masasabi ba ninyo na ito ay... [BUBUTI; KAPAREHO LANG; SASAMA; HINDI ALAM?]

Chart

CHANGE IN QUALITY OF LIFE OVER PAST 12 MONTHS, APR 1983 TO MAR 2011

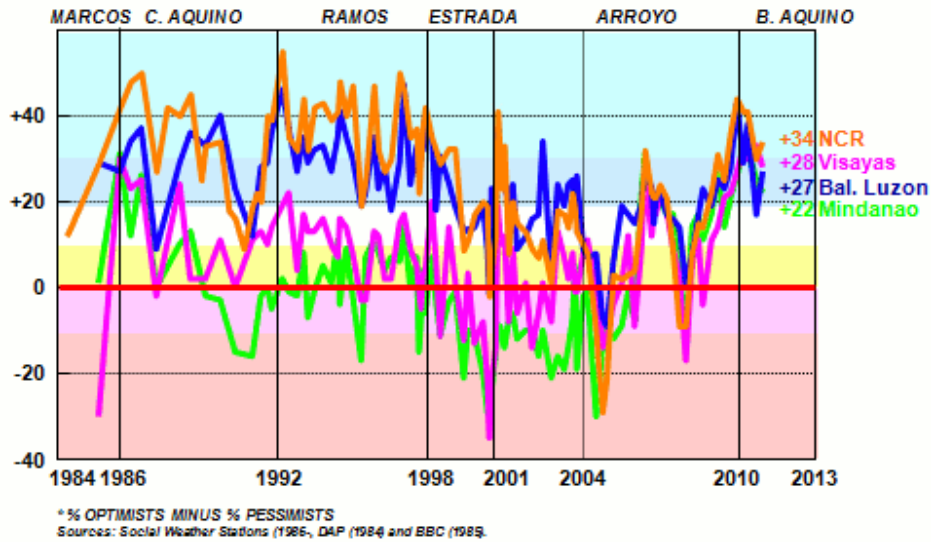


Question: Comparing your quality of life these days to how it was 12 months ago, would you say that your quality of life is ... (Better now, Same as before, Worse now) Gainers: "Better now" Losers: "Worse now"

Chart

4

NET PERSONAL OPTIMISTS* BY LOCATION, APR 1984 TO JUN 2011

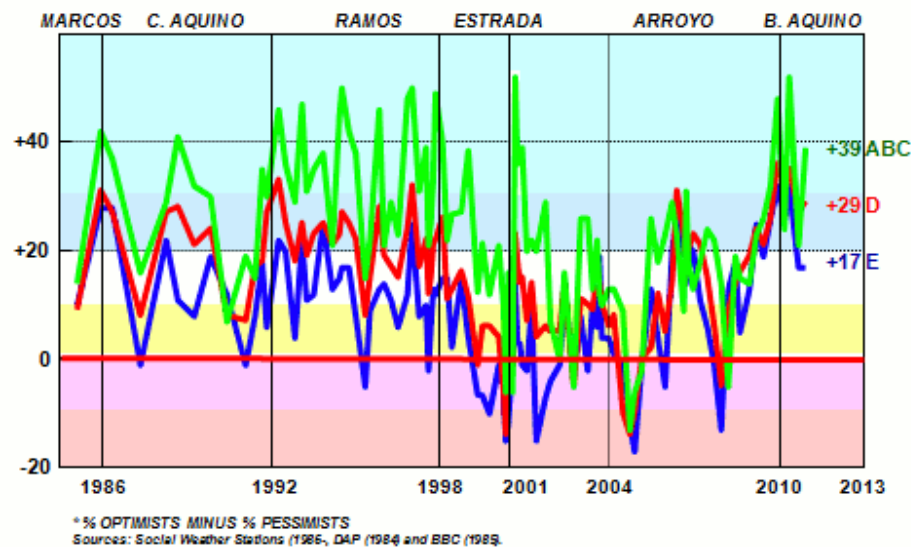


SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1983-2010
 Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart

5

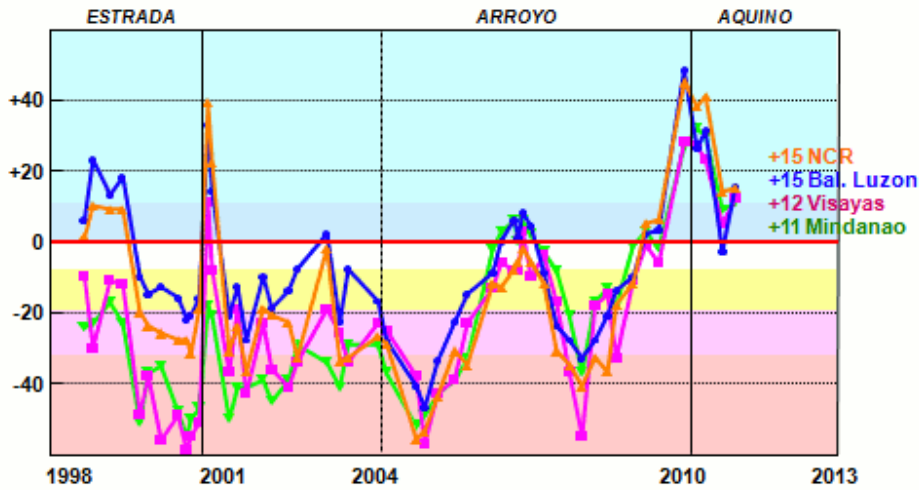
NET OPTIMISTS* BY CLASS, APR 1984 TO MAR 2011



SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS Silver Jubilee 1983-2010
 Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart

NET OPTIMISM* ON THE ECONOMY, BY LOCATION, SEP 1998 TO JUN 2011



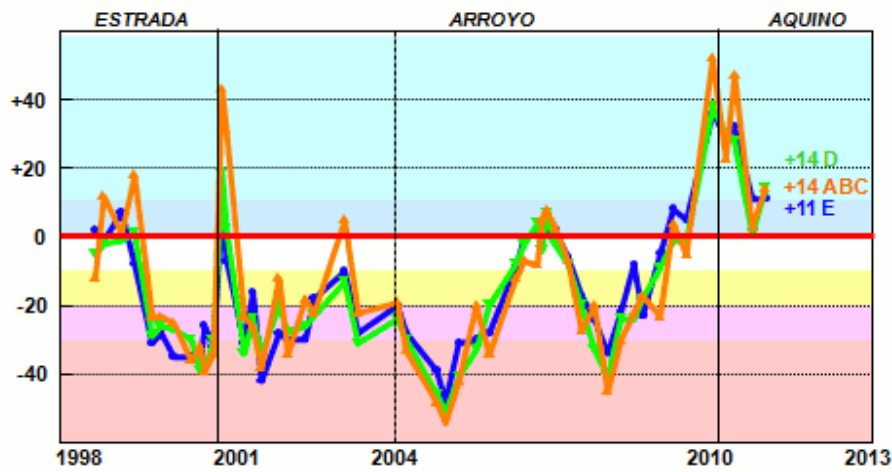
Question. Sa darating na 12 buwan, ano sa palagay ninyo ang mangyayari sa ekonomiya ng Pilipinas?
 Masasabi ba ninyo na ito ay...[BUBUTI; KAPAREHO LANG; SASAMA; HINDI ALAM]



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart

NET OPTIMISM* ON THE ECONOMY, BY CLASS, SEP 1998 TO JUN 2011



* % Will be better minus % Will be worse.

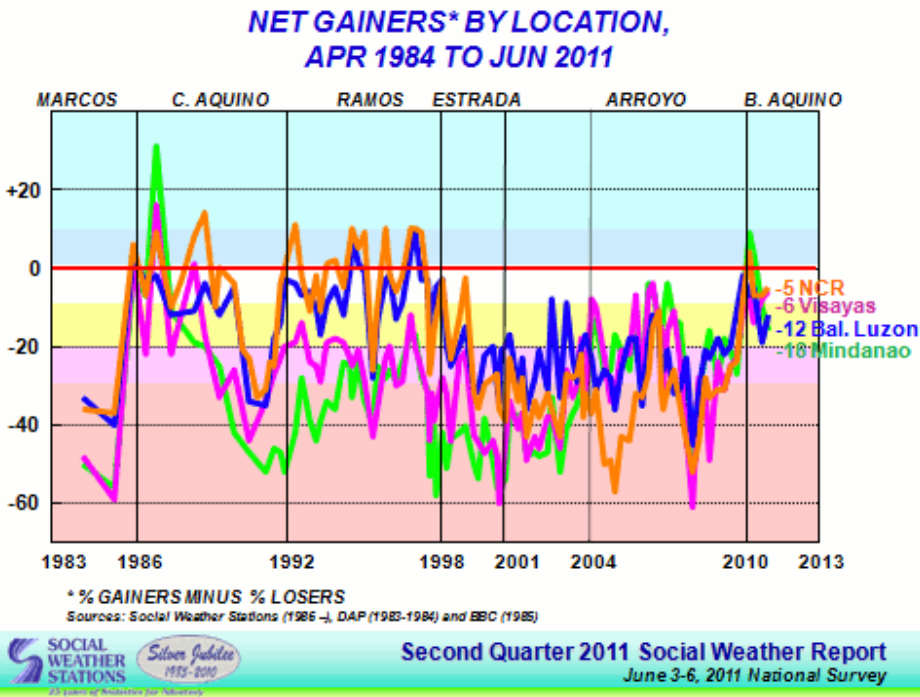
Question. Sa darating na 12 buwan, ano sa palagay ninyo ang mangyayari sa ekonomiya ng Pilipinas?
 Masasabi ba ninyo na ito ay...[BUBUTI; KAPAREHO LANG; SASAMA; HINDI ALAM]



Second Quarter 2011 Social Weather Report
 June 3-6, 2011 National Survey

Chart

8



Chart

9

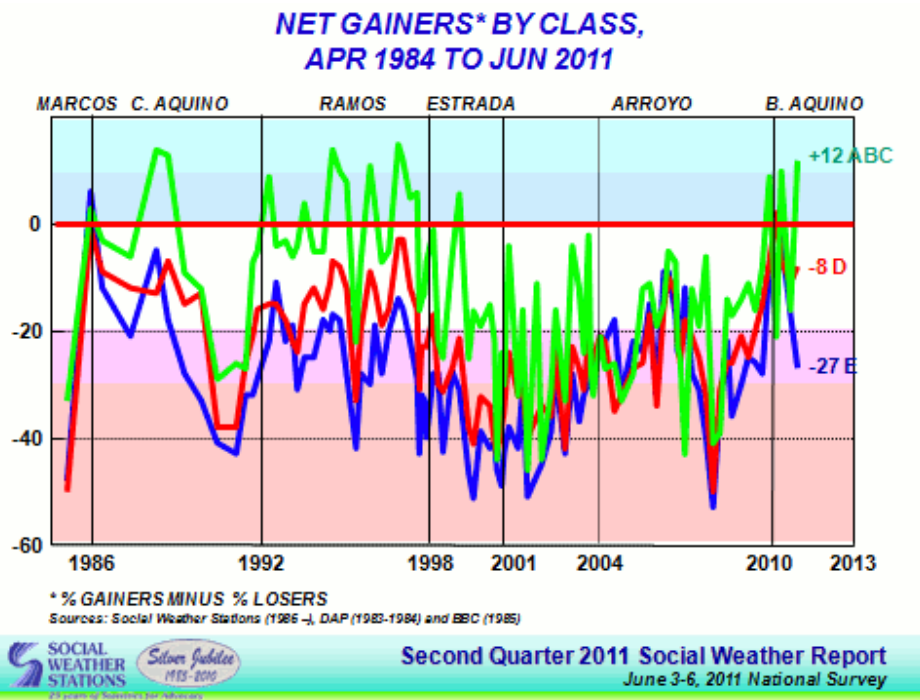


Table 10

21

**STANDARD TERMS FOR VALUES OF
SWS ECONOMIC TREND INDICATORS**

<i>Personal Optimism (Net)</i>	<i>Economic Optimism (Net)</i>	<i>Gainers- Losers (Net)</i>	
+30 up	+10 up	+10 up	Very high
+20 to +29	+ 1 to + 9	+ 1 to + 9	High
+10 to +19	- 9 to zero	- 9 to zero	Fair
+ 1 to + 9	-19 to -10	-19 to -10	Mediocre
- 9 to zero	-29 to -20	-29 to -20	Low
-10 down	-30 down	-30 down	Very Low

Comment: In the case of Personal Optimism, the term "fair" is assigned to the category containing the median and the mode. The term "mediocre" is used for the positive category (+1, +9) since it is below the median or less than what is normally expected.

Comment: In the case of Economic Optimism and Gainers-Losers (past trend in personal Quality of Life), the median are in the category "low" and the modal responses are in the category "very low," i.e., "low" and "very low" are the most common answers. The term "fair" is assigned to the negative category (-9, 0) since it is much above the median, or much more than what is normally expected. The term "mediocre" is then assigned to the category between "fair" and "low".



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

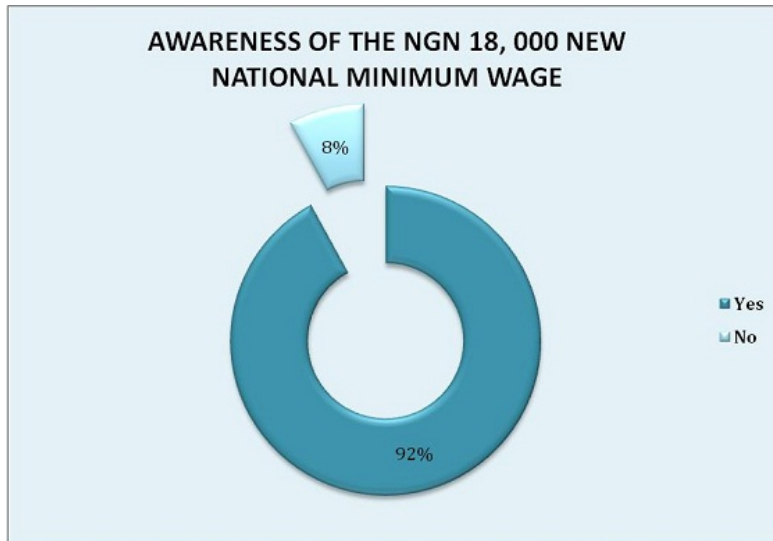
SUB SAHARAN AFRICA

189-43-5. New National Minimum Wage

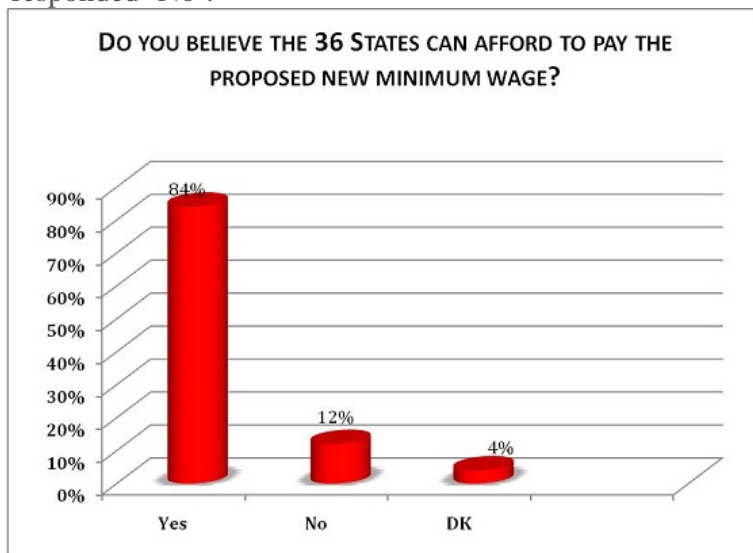
August 2011.

Earlier this year, President Goodluck Jonathan signed into law the ‘Minimum Wage Act’, to pave the way for the implementation of NGN 18, 000 wage for Nigerian workers. The signing of the Act followed earlier agitation by organized labour, which argued that the previous minimum wage was insufficient to cater for workers’ basic needs in the face of adverse economic conditions and persistent high rates of inflation. However, since the President signed the Act, issues have cropped up regarding its implementation. Specifically, some State governors have said that due to lack of resources, they are unable to implement the new national wage in their States; leading to workers in these states embarking on strike action.

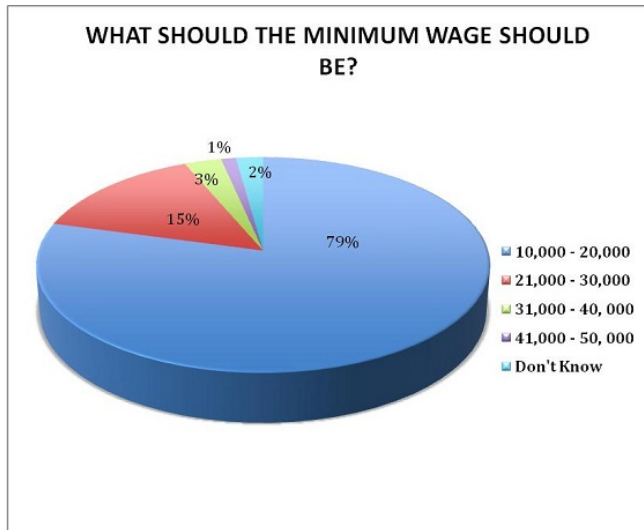
In a recent survey conducted by NOI Polls, respondents were asked if they were aware of the issues surrounding the adoption of the NGN 18,000 national minimum wage. 92% of respondents said they were aware while 8% said they are not aware.



When asked the question ‘In your opinion, do you believe that the 36 states can afford to pay the proposed new minimum wage?’ Over 8 in 10 (84%) respondents answered ‘Yes’, while 12% responded ‘No’.



Finally, respondents were asked what they think the minimum wage should be. Almost 8 out of 10 (79%) respondents quizzed stated that the minimum wage should be between NGN10, 000 – 20,000; 15% said between NGN21,000 – 30, 000 while 3% said that the minimum wage should be between 31, 000 – 40, 000. Only 1% of respondents said that the minimum wage should be between NGN41, 000 – 50, 000.



Respondents for the snap polls were randomly selected from a database of phone-owning Nigerians aged 18 and above across the six geopolitical zones in the country. 1155 people took part in the telephone interviews conducted from the 3rd and 8th of August, 2011. For a sample of this size, we can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

This poll is part of the ongoing snap poll exercise conducted by NOI Polls to rapidly assess public sentiments following various social, political or economic events. NOI Polls is a Nigeria based opinion research organization, which works in technical partnership with Gallup Polls (USA), to conduct periodic opinion polls on various socioeconomic issues in Nigeria.

Source: <http://www.noi-polls.net/Poll-Results/new-national-minimum-wage.html>

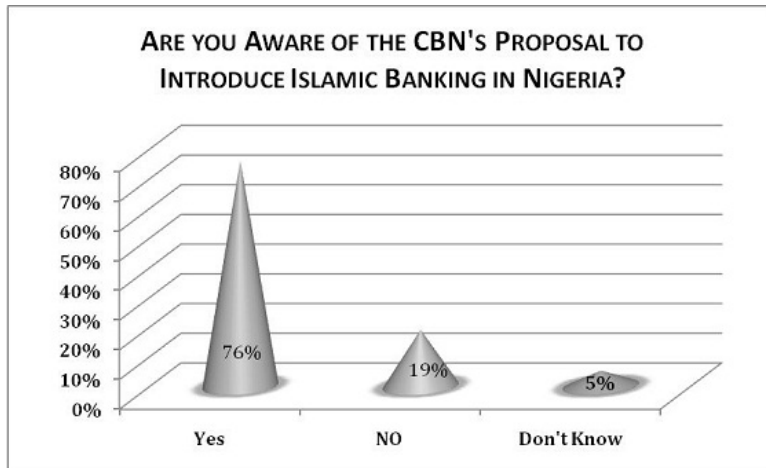
189-43-6. Islamic Banking in Nigeria

August 2011.

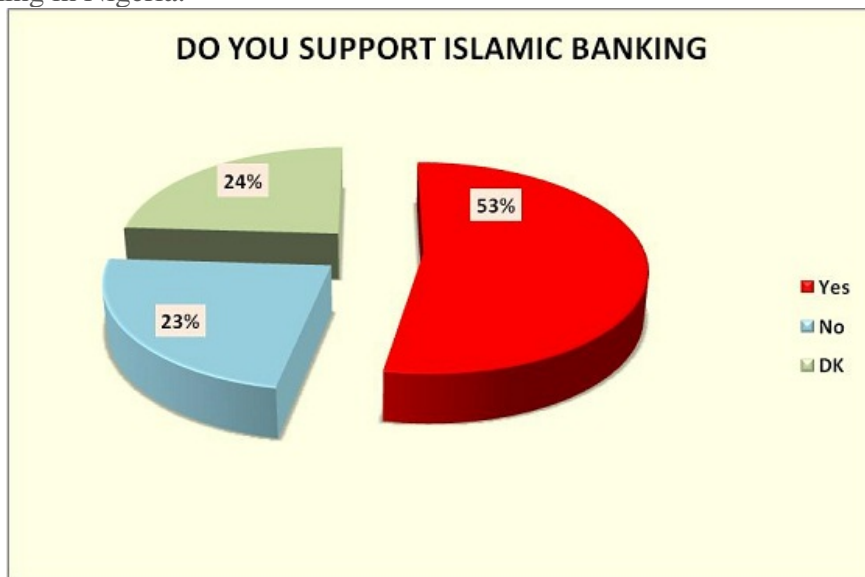
As a follow up of the draft framework for Islamic banking issued in March 2009 by the Central Bank of Nigeria, the CBN issued final guidelines pertaining to Islamic banking in June this year. The CBN stated that the introduction of Islamic banking in the Country is part of its drive to stimulate financial inclusion for a larger proportion of Nigerians by introducing alternative financial services/products.

The announcement by the CBN generated significant controversy among the public and the business community; while receiving support from sections of the country it has also be roundly denounced by others (particularly some Christian groups) who argue that the policy is capable of exacerbating interreligious tensions in the country.

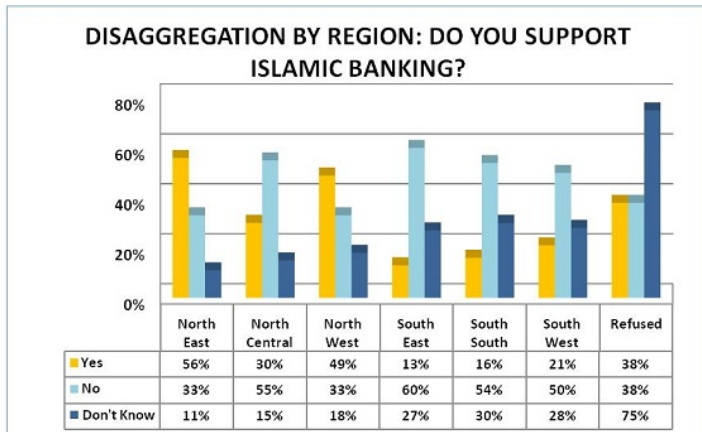
Consequently, NOI Polls decided to conduct a survey to find out the views of Nigerians on Islamic Banking. The poll results show a high level of awareness of the issue amongst Nigerians, with just over three quarters (76%) responding 'Yes' to the question 'Are you aware of the CBN's proposal to introduce Islamic Banking in Nigeria?'



Respondents were then asked if they were in support of Islamic Banking. Just over half (53%) of the respondents quizzed said they were not in support, while nearly one quarter (24%) were in support. Another 24% did not provide an opinion for or against the introduction of Islamic Banking in Nigeria.

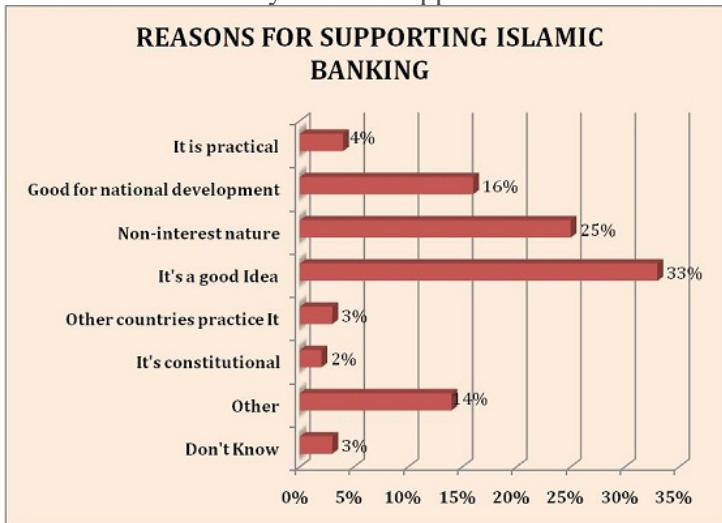


Support for Islamic Banking was highest In the North East, with 56% of respondents in the region answering 'Yes' to the question 'Do you support Islamic Banking?'. On the other hand, 60% of respondents from North East were not while nearly 1 in 3 (33%) of respondents in the South South were neither for or against Islamic Banking.

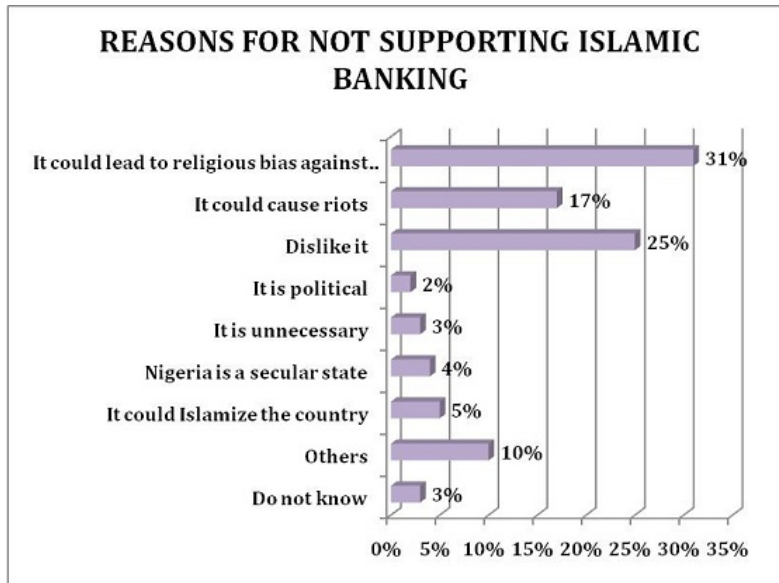


Respondents were further asked to give their reasons for supporting/not supporting Islamic Banking.

Of the 23% of respondents in support of Islamic Banking, the majority (53%) simply said they thought that 'It's a good Idea'. Another 25% were in support because of its non-interest nature while 16% said they were in support because it would be good for national development.



Of the 53% of respondents who were not in support of Islamic banking, nearly 1 in 3 (31%) said they were not in support because it could lead to religious bias against non-Muslims while 25% simply do not like this type of banking. In addition, 17% of respondents said they believed that Islamic Banking could lead to riots while 5% said they believed that it could lead to the Islamization of Nigeria.



Respondents for the snap polls were randomly selected from a database of phone-owning Nigerians aged 18 and above across the six geopolitical zones in the country, compiled by NOI Polls. 1155 people took part in the telephone interviews conducted from the 3rd and 8th of August, 2011. For a sample of this size, we can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

This poll is part of the ongoing snap poll exercise conducted by NOI Polls to rapidly assess public sentiments following various social, political or economic events. NOI Polls is a Nigeria based opinion research organization, which works in technical partnership with Gallup Polls (USA), to conduct periodic opinion polls on various socioeconomic issues in Nigeria.

Source: <http://www.noi-polls.net/Poll-Results/islamic-banking-in-nigeria.html>

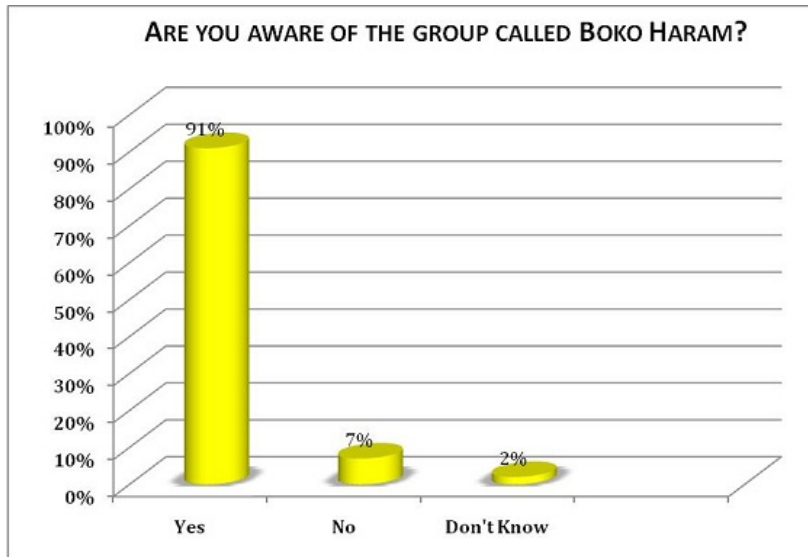
189-43-7. The Boko Haram Sect and Insecurity in Nigeria

August 2011.

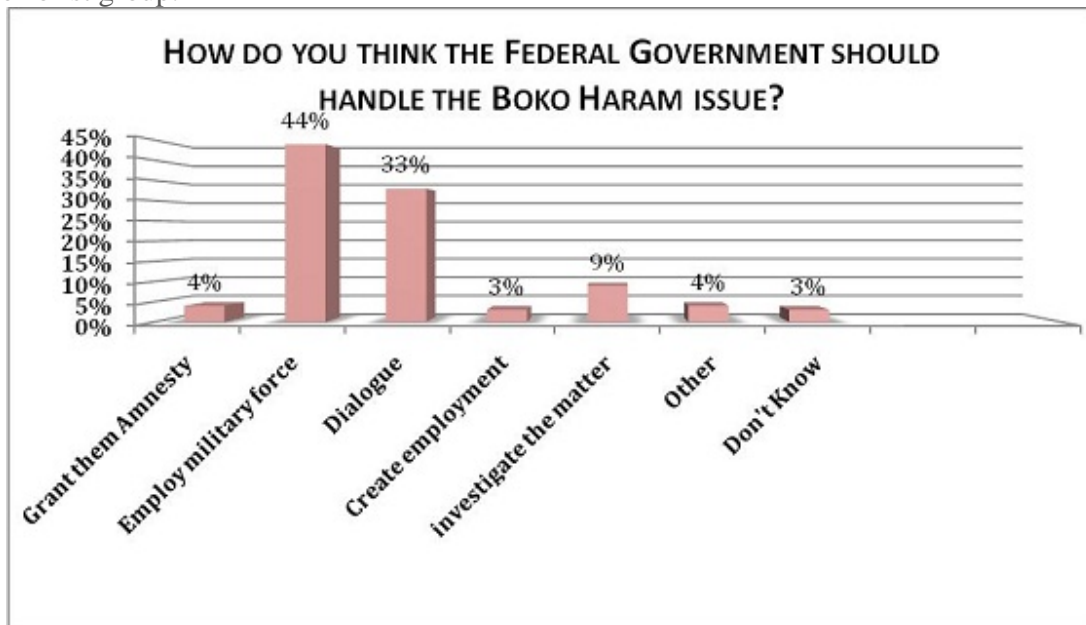
In recent times, the level of insecurity in Nigeria has increased significantly, due in no small measure to the activities of the ‘Boko Haram’ (which means Western or non-Islamic education is a sin) Sect. The extremist group, whose official name is Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad, is fighting to establish Sharia law in Nigeria and is reportedly responsible for the spate of killings and bombings mostly in the Northern part of the country. Arguably, the most notable of Boko Haram’s attacks was on the 26th August, 2011 bombing of the UN main office in Abuja - where 26 humanitarian and development agencies are based – which killed at least 18 people. In a bid to address the security fears of Nigerians, the Federal Government has deployed security forces in the areas where the group is known to be operational as well as set up a committee to review security problems in the area, and make recommendations for bringing a timely end to the Boko Haram crisis.

NOI Polls decided to quiz Nigerians about their views on the extremist sect as well as their confidence in the Government’s ability to provide security for the citizens of this country.

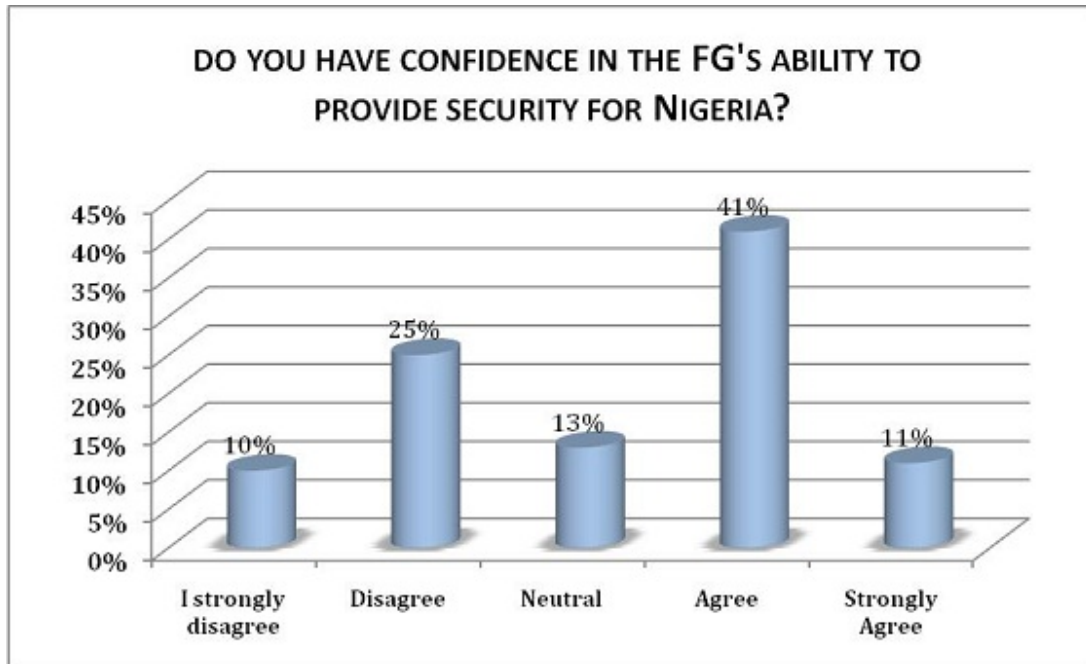
The results of the survey show a high level of awareness of the sect with over 9 in 10 respondents answering ‘Yes’ when asked if they were aware of a group called Boko Haram.



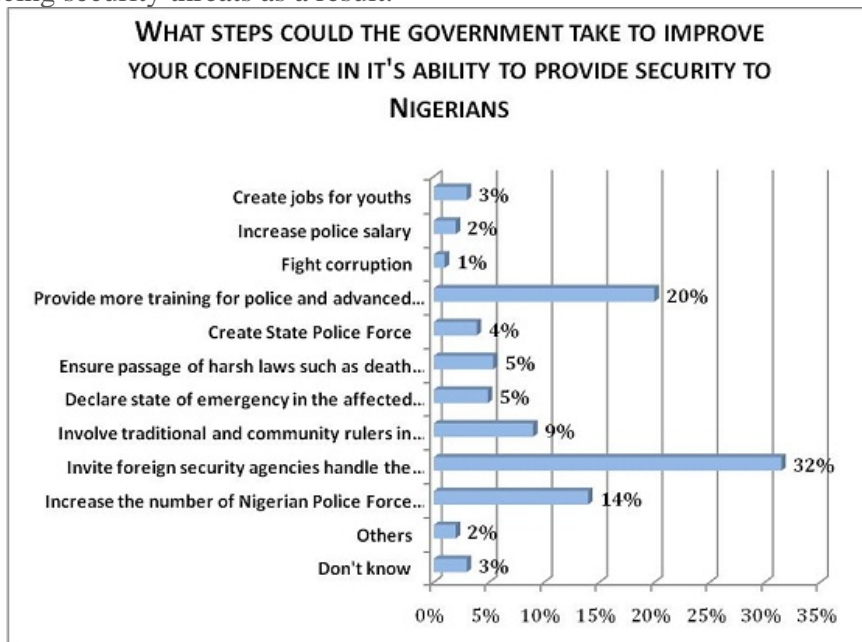
When asked how they think the Federal Government should handle the Boko Haram Issue, the largest proportion of respondents (44%) of the respondents said that the government should employ military force; the second largest proportion (33%) said the government should engage in dialogue with the group and, only 4% respondents agree that the FG should grant amnesty to the terrorist group.



Respondents were asked if they had confidence in the government's ability to provide security for Nigerians. 52% of respondents expressed at least some confidence in the government's ability to provide security for Nigerians while just over a third (35%) said they lacked confidence in the government's ability to provide security.



The 35% of respondents who said that they lacked confidence in the government's ability to provide security were asked what the government could do to increase their confidence. 32% said that the government should invite foreign security agencies handle the situation; 20% said the government provide more training for the police and provide them with modern equipments while 14% said the FG should increase the number of the Nigerian police force in each state. However, 3% believes that creation of jobs will help reduce security problem while 2% believe improving the salary of police officers will help them focus more on the job, thereby reducing security threats as a result.



Respondents for the snap polls were randomly selected from a database of phone-owning Nigerians aged 18 and above across the six geopolitical zones in the country. For this survey,

1155 people took part in the telephone interviews conducted from the 3rd and 8th of August, 2011. For a sample of this size, we can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

This poll is part of the ongoing snap poll exercise conducted by NOI Polls to rapidly assess public sentiments following various social, political or economic events. NOI Polls is a Nigeria based opinion research organization, which works in technical partnership with Gallup Polls (USA), to conduct periodic opinion polls on various socioeconomic issues in Nigeria.

Source: <http://www.noi-polls.net/Poll-Results/the-boko-haram-sect-and-insecurity-in-nigeria.html>

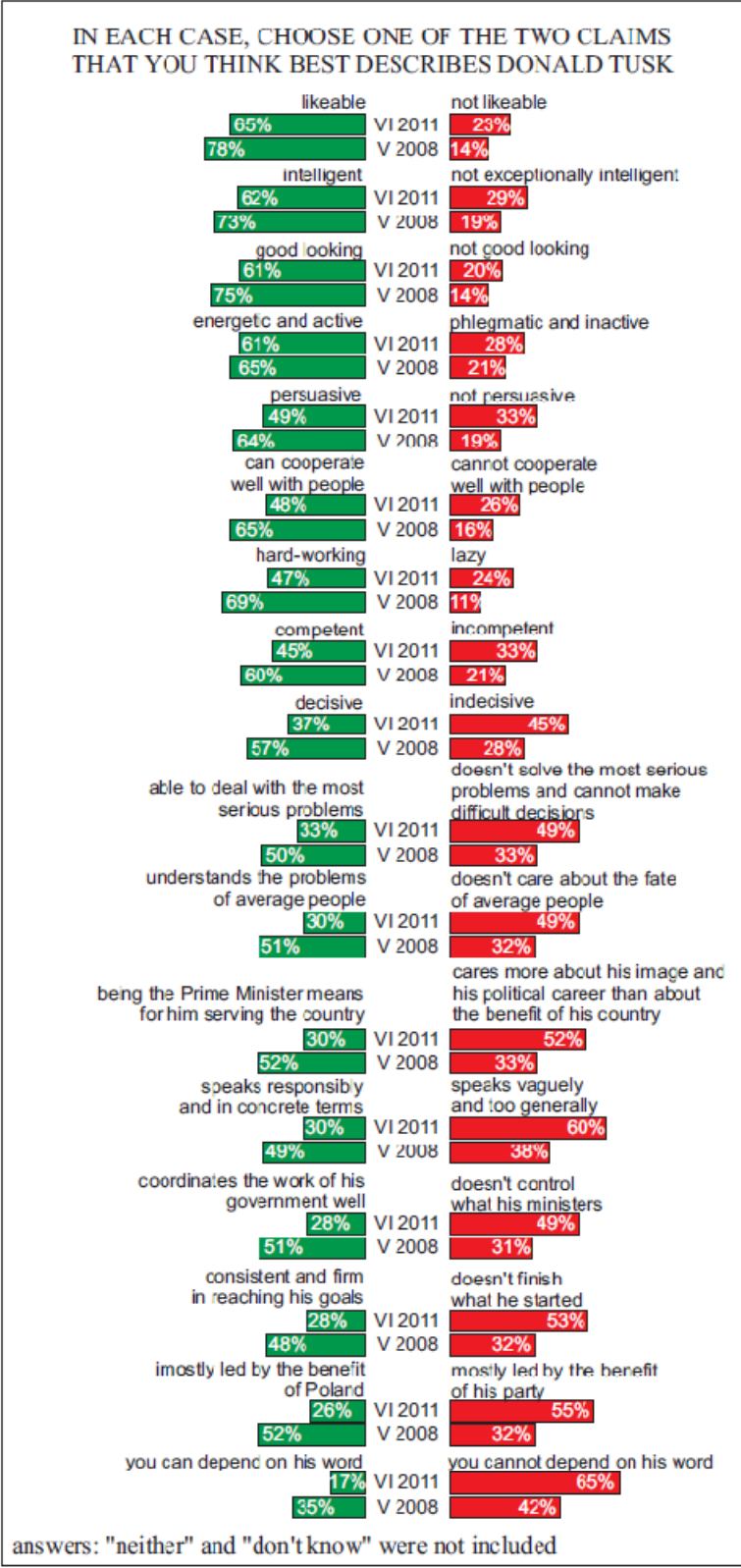
EAST EUROPE

189-43-8. Opinions About Donald Tusk

After nearly four years in office as the Prime Minister, Donald Tusk still remains the most popular Polish politician. About half of the questioned people declare they trust him.

Despite so much support, Donald Tusk is not perceived as unquestionably positive figure. It seems that the results of the survey show a dichotomy in how the Prime Minister is seen. On the one hand, he is considered to be clearly a person able to win people over, endowed with many features commonly seen as attractive. On the other hand, Tusk is perceived as the leader of a government who disappointed many voters.

The strength of the Prime Minister lies undoubtedly in his personality. However, what is less to his advantage, according to respondents, is the way he handles politics and performs his office duties.



A vast majority of respondents believe the Prime Minister is a likeable person (65%), intelligent (62%) and good looking (61%). Three out of five people think (61%) Donald Tusk is

an energetic and active man. Nearly half of respondents highlight the fact that he is persuasive (49%), cooperative (48%) and hard-working (47%).

His skills as the head of the Polish Government are seen in a somewhat worse, though still positive, light. Two out of five people believe (45%) Donald Tusk is suitably qualified and skilled to perform the duties of Prime Minister.

With regard to other characteristics, negative assessment of Donald Tusk is dominant. There are more people who believe he is indecisive, does not have clear views and changes his mind too often (45%) than there are those who think the opposite (37%). Poles are even more sceptical about the Prime Minister's responsiveness to social problems, ability to make difficult decisions, skills to coordinate and supervise the Government as well as determination to achieve his goals. Nearly half of respondents claim (49%) that the Prime Minister does not understand and is indifferent to the problems of an average man. The same number of people think that the Prime Minister does not solve the most pressing problems in the country and cannot make difficult decisions. Also 49% of respondents criticise him for the way he manages the Government and supervises his ministers. Over half of the questioned people (53%) say Donald Tusk is too indecisive and lacks determination to achieve his goals.

The Prime Minister's motivation and priorities are also assessed negatively. The clearly prevailing view among Poles is that Tusk values more his own political career and party interests than serving the country and working for the benefit of Polish society. As much as 52% of respondents claim that Tusk values his image and political career more than serving the country, and the majority of people (55%) also believe that the Prime Minister is more interested in the benefit of his party than of his country.

The content of Donald Tusk's speeches and their credibility is assessed worst of all. The majority of Poles (60%) think that the Prime Minister's speeches are pointless - vague and too general. However, the fact that you cannot rely on Tusk's words and that he does not fulfil his promises are seen as the Prime Minister's main shortcomings. Two thirds of respondents (65%) said that Donald Tusk's words are unreliable, that he makes promises too often and that he should focus more on doing things, rather than on talking about them.

Being a prime minister is one of the greatest challenges for politicians. Typically, the longer a prime minister is in office, the less he/she is popular. Donald Tusk is not an exception. Despite the fact that he is still among the most likeable and trusted Polish politicians, his image among Poles has deteriorated considerably in comparison to the beginning of his work in office.

Source: http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2011/07_2011.pdf

189-43-9. Changes In Voting Methods

The conventional voting method is to go in person to a polling station and vote there. However, for some time now, various countries have been introducing alternative methods such as proxy voting, postal voting, electronic voting or using the so called mobile ballot box (a ballot box is brought to the voter's home). After the political transformation in Poland in 1989, the voting system has been very rigid for about twenty years, allowing only for personal voting in a polling station.

Since the early 1990s, there has been a debate about ways to secure the right to universal suffrage by eliminating voting obstacles. Years of effort have resulted in changing the conservative approach. In 2010, the disabled and the elderly were granted the right to proxy vote and this year, the new Election Code gives people staying abroad the right to vote by post in the oncoming elections.

Poles, in general, are open to other methods than personal voting in a polling station. When asked about different possible solutions, respondents said they are rather in favour of incorporating them into Polish election law. We can, however, notice differing degrees of support for these methods in general as well as the target group which should be entitled to use them.

The method that is most supported (75%) is voting via the Internet. In this group, 49% believe that all the voters should be entitled to it and 26% think that only those who have serious problems with reaching their polling station.

Proxy vote has been assessed positively by 67% of Poles. The majority of this group (51%) claim it should be the privilege of people encountering difficulties with reaching their polling station and 16% say that all the voters should have this right.

The idea that members of the voting committee should take a ballot box and come to a given voter's home is also relatively well assessed - 59% of respondents support it. Only 11% of people in this group claim that this right should apply to all the voters and 48% mention people who cannot reach their polling station. The most controversial method is voting via post - 46% of respondents are in favour of it. In this group, 20% think it should be addressed to all the voters and 26% believe only people in special circumstances should be allowed to use it. Nearly half of the surveyed people oppose this method (46%).

Most people are rather conservative about their own approach to how they themselves would prefer to vote. Even if given a choice, 72% of Poles would like to vote in a polling station. The remainder point to other methods, most popular of which is voting via the Internet (23%). Only a few (3%) prefer amobile ballot box.

Source: http://www.cbos.pl/PL/publikacje/public_opinion/2011/07_2011.pdf

WEST EUROPE

189-43-10. Europe's Business Elite Want Both Digital And Traditional Media

Published: 8 September 2011

Fieldwork: February to June 2011

Europe's most successful and influential business leaders are increasingly incorporating digital media into their lifestyles, though not at the expense of traditional means, according to the latest Business Elite Europe survey from Ipsos MediaCT. Whilst digital media is increasing in popularity 95% still utilise print and 86% TV on a daily basis.

The survey also found that volatile markets and managing economic uncertainty remains the key issue for many of the Business Elite. However, it's the price of fuel and raw materials that represents the fastest growing concern, increasing year on year by 17 percentage points to 41%.

Finally, while budgets have been revised down slightly, it is the Business Elite who continue to control the largest budgets, of on average €3.3 million. In their personal lives they also wield an equal amount of financial power. By adjusting their investment portfolios and taking advantage of the property market, their net worth has fallen slightly but remains in a healthy position at more than €770,000. Their salaries also remain high at an average of €155,000. While their net worth and salaries have been affected by the current economic climate, it is all relative. When compared to the general European population they remain the people with the most money – their salaries are almost eight times that of the general population.”

Director of Ipsos MediaCT, **James Torr**, said:

“With the availability of information continuing to increase the Business Elite are using digital to help them pool relevant information from numerous sources and keep up to date while

on the move. However, instead of replacing traditional media, digital supplements their use of print and television.

“With the current economic outlook again looking uncertain, it’s no surprise we see managing economic uncertainty and the price of fuel and raw materials as key issues for the Business Elite. This also has an impact on budgets shifting but ultimately the seniority of the Business Elite means they have control of business spend. In terms of business to business advertising they are a group that should not be ignored.”

Technical note

- BE:EUROPE is one of a family of international media surveys, with sister surveys covering Asia, Japan, North America, Australia and the Middle East. These include BE:ASIA, BE:AUSTRALIA, BE:JAPAN, BE:USA, BE:MENA, All except for MENA use a common methodology

- Methodology: qualifying establishments are sampled from business directories. Individuals occupying eligible job functions at selected establishments are identified by telephone screening. Media consumption and other behaviour are measured via a self-completion questionnaire administered by mail. Respondents are also offered the opportunity to complete the questionnaire via a unique URL outlined in the covering letter

- The 17 countries in which individuals were surveyed were: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

- Fieldwork period: February 2011 to June 2011

- Sample size: 7,887.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2858/Europes-Business-Elite-want-both-digital-and-traditional-media.aspx>

189-43-11. *Conservatives regain lead over Labour as having the best policies on managing the economy, but half of the public are still pessimistic about the economy*

Published: 14 September 2011

Fieldwork: 10 - 12 September 2011

Reuters/Ipsos MORI September 2011 Political Monitor

After a boost following the phone hacking scandal, satisfaction with Miliband falls to his lowest ratings since he became leader of the Labour party; Labour vote share also falls slightly

CON 35(+1); LAB 37 (-3); LIB DEM 13 (-2)

The September Reuters/Ipsos MORI Political Monitor shows that the Conservatives have regained a clear lead over Labour and the Liberal Democrats as having the best policies for managing the economy. Just over three in ten (33%) think the Conservatives have the best economic policies, compared to 23% who say Labour and 8% who say the Liberal Democrats.

In March, the Conservatives’ lead had fallen to just three points; 31% believed they had the best policies on managing the economy, compared with 28% who felt this was true of Labour. It is not though as large as the 13 point lead they had in October 2010.

However, economic optimism remains low; in line with last month a fifth (20%) believe the economic condition of the country will improve in the next twelve months, and half (52%) think that it will get worse.

Satisfaction with the government is unchanged this month and remains negative on balance(59% are dissatisfied while 32% are satisfied). David Cameron’s ratings are also consistent with August (52% dissatisfied, 39% satisfied).

Ed Miliband's ratings have fallen and are now the lowest since he took office. His net satisfaction score now stands at -16, compared to -7 last month and is similar to the rating he got in June, before the phone hacking scandal. In particular, his ratings have fallen among the over 35s (but are stable among 18-34s). However, all three leaders currently have low satisfaction ratings. Net satisfaction with Nick Clegg has fallen slightly, from -25 to -28, while David Cameron is on -13 (52% dissatisfied, 39% satisfied) consistent with August's ratings.

Voting intentions this month are Conservatives 35%, Labour 37% and Liberal Democrats 13%, among those who are certain to vote. This is a slight decrease in the Labour share of three points from August, and its lowest share since last October.

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative sample of 1,008 adults aged 18+ across Great Britain. Interviews were conducted by telephone 10-12 September 2011. Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2860/ReutersIpsos-MORI-September-2011-Political-Monitor.aspx>

NORTH AMERICA

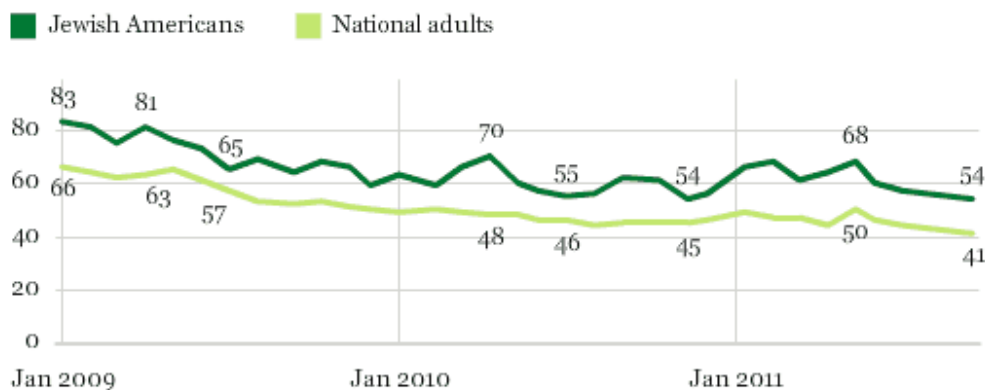
189-43-12. Jewish Support for Obama Down, but Not Disproportionately

Current 13-point gap between Jewish and national support is about average
September 16, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- There is little sign that President Obama is suffering disproportionately in support among Jews; 54% approved of his job performance from Aug. 1-Sept. 15, 13 percentage points higher than his overall 41% approval rating during that time, and similar to the average 14-point gap seen throughout Obama's term.

Job Approval Ratings of President Obama

% Approve, monthly averages



Note: Most recent readings are based on Aug. 1-Sept. 15, 2011, data

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

American Jews' support for Obama has come into question after Republican Bob Turner won a surprise special election victory in the heavily Jewish 9th Congressional District in New York. The seat was previously held by Democratic Rep. Anthony Weiner and has been reliably Democratic for decades. Some analysts suggested that Turner's victory was a result of the

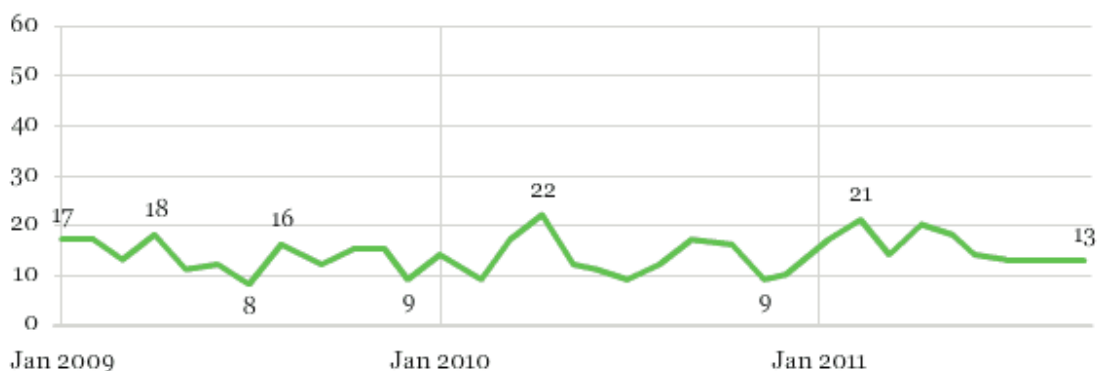
district's Jewish voters sending a message about their dissatisfaction with President Obama's policies.

The current findings are based on interviews with 514 Jewish Americans from Aug. 1-Sept. 15 as part of Gallup Daily tracking. Although the differences between Jewish and nationwide approval of Obama differ somewhat from month to month -- partly because Jewish approval averages vary more, given smaller sample sizes averaging about 350 per month -- the patterns of both averages have generally followed each other closely. The 13-point gap between Jewish and national Obama approval ratings from early August through mid-September 2011 is essentially no different from the 14-point average across the 32 months since Obama took office.

Obama Approval: Difference Between Approval Among Jews and Approval Nationwide

% Approve among Jews minus % approve among national adults

Monthly averages, in percentage points



Note: Most recent reading is based on Aug. 1-Sept. 15, 2011, data

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Obama's [41% approval rating in August](#) was the lowest monthly average of his administration, but his current approval rating among Jews is not unprecedented. Jews gave Obama a 55% approval rating as long ago as July 2010, and Jewish approval reached 54% in November 2010.

Bottom Line

Although Obama's approval rating among Jewish Americans has been declining, it has generally declined no more than it has among all Americans. This calls into question attempts to link a decline in Obama's approval among Jews to his statements or policies on matters important to Jewish policymakers and lobbyists. These include [his major "1967 borders" speech in mid-May](#) and the apparent rebuke of the president in this week's special congressional election in New York, which a Republican won in a heavily Jewish district. All in all, Obama continues to do better among Jews than among all Americans, and there has been little change in that pattern so far throughout the first 2 ½ years of his administration.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking. The monthly averages reported here span January 2009 through August 2011. Those based on national adults aged 18 and older generally include more than 15,000 interviews per month and have a maximum margin of sampling error of ±1 percentage point. Results based on Jewish

Americans aged 18 and older are generally based on more than 350 interviews per month, with a maximum margin of sampling error of ± 7 percentage points.

Results for Aug. 1-Sept. 15, 2011, polling are based on 22,479 interviews with national adults, with a maximum margin of sampling error of ± 1 percentage point, and on 514 interviews with Jewish Americans, with a maximum margin of sampling error of ± 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.

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/149522/Jewish-Support-Obama-Down-Not-Disproportionately.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

189-43-13. Perry "Ponzi Scheme" Remark Doesn't Faze Most Republicans

Solid majority believe Social Security should be preserved
September 16, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Texas Gov. and presidential candidate Rick Perry's comments on Social Security, which include calling it a "Ponzi scheme," appear to be a non-issue for most Republicans. However, they could cost him support with independents should he ultimately win the 2012 Republican presidential nomination. As many Republicans say they are more likely to vote for Perry for president because of his views on Social Security as say they are less likely -- 19% each. Among independents, 12% are more likely to vote for him and 32% less likely.

Effect of Rick Perry's Statements on Social Security on Support for His Candidacy

Based on what you have heard or read about Texas Governor Rick Perry's statements about Social Security, including calling it a Ponzi scheme, are you -- [more likely to support him for president, does it make no difference to you, are you less likely to support him for president], or don't you know enough to say?

	More likely to support	Makes no difference	Less likely to support	Don't know enough to say	No answer
	%	%	%	%	%
Republicans	19	24	19	36	2
Independents	12	21	32	30	6

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-14, 2011

GALLUP

These results are from a Sept. 13-14 *USA Today*/Gallup poll, conducted less than a week after Perry made his comments about Social Security during the Sept. 9 Republican presidential debate -- repeating something that appears in his book "Fed Up," published last year. Perry's [chief rival for the Republican presidential nomination](#), Mitt Romney, has subsequently jumped on the issue as a way to paint Perry as out of touch with mainstream views and unelectable.

In fact, Perry's statements on Social Security are more likely to harm his campaign indirectly by weakening his perceived viability than they are to turn off Republicans who disagree with his views. In contrast to the 19% of Republicans who say they would personally be less likely to support Perry over his Social Security views, 37% believe those views would hurt his chances of being elected president if he were the GOP nominee. Just 17% say they will help his chances.

Independents tilt even more strongly toward perceiving the issue hurts rather than helps Perry's electability, 40% vs. 11%.

Perceived Impact of Rick Perry's Views on Social Security on His Ability to Win Presidency

Regardless of what you think about Rick Perry's views on Social Security, do you think his views on the issue will -- [help his chances of being elected president, will make no difference, or will they hurt his chances of being elected president] -- if he is the Republican nominee?

	Will help his chances	Will make no difference	Will hurt his chances	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
Republicans	17	36	37	11
Independents	11	28	40	22

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-14, 2011

GALLUP

Majority in GOP Wants to Preserve Social Security

The political peril in Perry's suggestion that Social Security isn't working and should possibly be turned over to the states is evident in another question asking Republicans and independents about the extent to which Social Security needs to be reformed. Most Republicans

(55%) and independents (53%) take the position that Social Security requires changes but that the primary focus should be on protecting the program. Significantly fewer -- 41% of Republicans and 36% of independents -- believe Social Security in its current form is unsustainable for the long haul and should be fundamentally overhauled.

Views on Social Security Reform

Thinking now about Social Security, which comes closer to your view -- [Social Security needs changes but the most important thing is to protect the program, (or) Social Security is unsustainable for younger workers and should be fundamentally overhauled]?

	System needs changes but more important to protect the program	System is unsustainable and needs to be overhauled	No opinion
	%	%	%
Republicans	55	41	4
Independents	53	36	11

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 13-14, 2011

GALLUP

Bottom Line

Perry's decision to critique the financing structure of Social Security in stronger terms than are typically heard from most presidential candidates may not be risky within Republican circles. As many Republicans say they are more likely to support Perry as a result as say they are less likely, with most indicating it won't make a difference. However, independents view his comments more negatively and, in line with Romney's argument that this makes Perry unelectable, nearly 4 in 10 Republicans agree it could hurt Perry in a general election.

Tactically speaking, Perry might benefit in the short term by playing to the large minority of Republicans who favor more radical changes to the system. That could help him consolidate conservative support, further squeezing out Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, and others. But as the Republican presidential field is winnowed during the primaries -- and particularly if it is reduced to just Perry and Romney -- this controversy could complicate Perry's chance of winning the nomination and, ultimately, the general election.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 13-14, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey with a random sample of 1,414 Republicans and political 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 and independents, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 591 Republicans, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 5 percentage points.

For results based on the total sample of 823 independents, 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/149513/Perry-Ponzi-Scheme-Remark-Doesn-Faze-Republicans.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

189-43-14. Residents in Mass., Connecticut Lead Nation in Dentist Visits

Those living in Southern states are the least likely to visit the dentist
September 15, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Three in four Massachusetts residents say they visited a dentist in the last 12 months, a higher rate than in any other state in the nation. Those living in Mississippi were least likely to say they go to the dentist, followed by Louisiana and West Virginia residents.

*Top 10 States for Dentist Visits,
Last 12 Months*

State	%
Massachusetts	75.3
Connecticut	74.4
Hawaii	73.3
Minnesota	72.3
Rhode Island	71.6
Wisconsin	71.1
New Jersey	71.0
New Hampshire	70.6
New York	69.2
Utah	69.1

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

GALLUP®

*Bottom 10 States for Dentist Visits,
Last 12 Months*

State	%
Mississippi	51.9
Louisiana	54.8
West Virginia	55.4
Texas	56.1
Alabama	56.3
Kentucky	56.3
Arkansas	56.6
Oklahoma	56.8
Tennessee	57.9
Missouri	58.6

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

GALLUP®

These state-level data, collected as part of the [Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index](#), are from January through June 2011 and encompass more than 177,000 interviews conducted among national adults, aged 18 and older. Nationwide, an average of 65% of all American adults say they visited a dentist in the last 12 months during this time period, essentially unchanged from past years.

See page 2 for all incidence of dentist visits for all states.

Regionally, people living in states in the Northeast and upper Midwest are the most likely to say they visited the dentist in the past 12 months. Southern states, on the other hand, have the lowest percentages of people who say they visited the dentist. The nine states with the lowest incidence of dentist visits are in the South.

Health Insurance, Dentist Visits Linked

Health insurance appears to play a role in whether Americans go to the dentist. States where residents are the most likely to visit the dentist also have some of the lowest uninsured rates in the nation. The top 10 states for dental visits, for example, have an average health insurance rate of nearly 72%. This compares with an average of 56% in the bottom 10 states.

State Dentist Visits and Health Insurance, by Quintiles

	Average % who visited the dentist in last 12 months	Average % with health insurance
Top quintile	88.3	71.8
Second quintile	85.9	67.8
Third quintile	83.8	65.7
Fourth quintile	79.8	61.6
Bottom quintile	79.3	56.1

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

GALLUP

Implications

Poor oral care can lead to many potential negative health outcomes. When combined with other risk factors, poor oral health can be linked to heart disease, stroke, atherosclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and diabetes, among others. Maternal periodontal disease, too, has been linked to preterm births.

The range in good oral health behaviors across the 50 states is considerable and may be indicative of several factors, including household income. Having health insurance coverage -- which is related to income -- also appears to be a critical factor in dental visits. However, it should be noted that the Well-Being Index only confirms whether a respondent has health insurance, not dental insurance. Based on the Well-Being Index data, a 10-percentage-point increase in the percentage of Americans with health insurance could mean as much as a 6-point increase in the percentage who visit the dentist each year, with a potentially considerable positive effect on many of the negative health outcomes associated with poor oral health.

This story is part of a series of midyear updates on [Gallup's State of the States data](#). Gallup.com will report new full-year totals in early 2012 based on all 2011 surveys.

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.

To view and export trend data and for more information on each of the six Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index sub-indexes, please see the following charts: [Well-Being Index](#), [Life Evaluation Index](#), [Emotional Health Index](#), [Physical Health Index](#), [Healthy Behavior Index](#), [Work Environment Index](#), and [Basic Access Index](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2-June 30, 2011, with a random sample of 177,237 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 0.2 percentage points. The margin of sampling error for most states is $\pm 1-2$ percentage points, but as high as ± 4 points for smaller states such as Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Hawaii.

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

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

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/149504/Residents-Mass-Connecticut-Lead-Nation-Dentist-Visits.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing

189-43-15. Unemployment Re-Emerges as Most Important Problem in U.S.

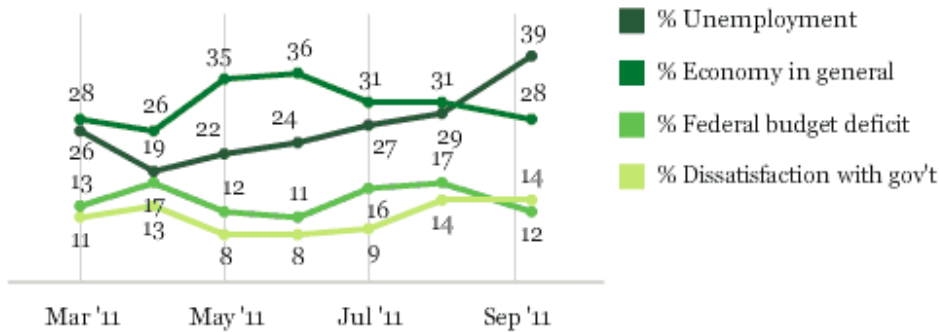
Overtakes the economy in September

September 15, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Thirty-nine percent of Americans in September name unemployment or jobs as the most important problem facing the country, up from 29% in August. Unemployment has now passed "the economy" as the most frequently mentioned issue. In the month since the passage of debt ceiling legislation, concerns about the federal budget deficit have eased, while the percentage citing dissatisfaction with government as the top problem has held steady at 14%.

What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

Recent trend



GALLUP

The results are based on a Sept. 8-11 Gallup poll, conducted just after President Obama announced his proposed jobs bill to Congress to address the United States' high unemployment rate. Obama's proposal came shortly after the government reported that no net new jobs were created in the U.S. in August. The increased government attention to unemployment is likely the reason behind the bump in the percentage of Americans citing it as the most important problem.

More generally, economic concerns continue to dominate Americans' perceptions of the country's top problems. Seventy-six percent mention some economic issue as the most important problem, including three of the top four specific issues -- unemployment, the economy in general, and the budget deficit. Dissatisfaction with government ranks as the top non-economic issue, followed by healthcare. No other problem is mentioned by more than 4% of Americans this month.

What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

	% Mentioning
Unemployment/Jobs	39
Economy in general	28
Dissatisfaction with government	14
Federal budget deficit	12
Healthcare	7
Immigration	4
Lack of money	4
Education	4
Ethical/Moral decline	3
Wars/Fear of war	3

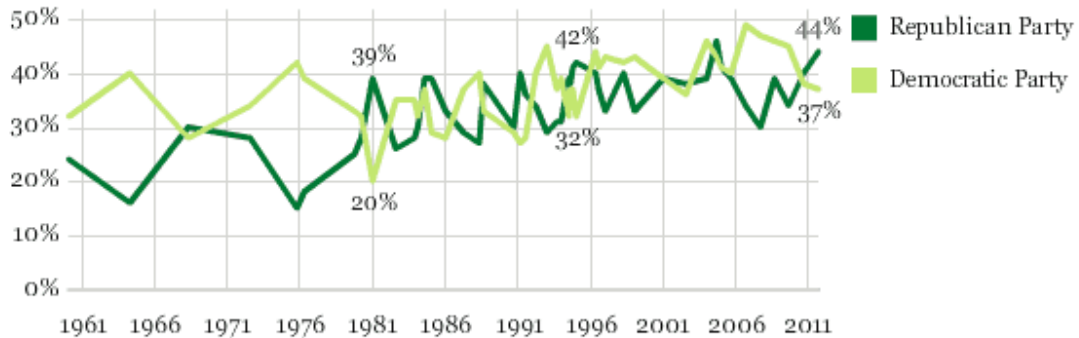
Gallup, Sept. 8-11, 2011

GALLUP

Republicans Seen as Better Able to Handle Most Important Problem

The September poll also asked Americans to say which party they thought would do a better job of handling whichever problem they named as most important. More Americans chose the Republican Party (44%) than the Democratic Party (37%) as better able to handle that problem.

Which political party do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you think is most important -- the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?



GALLUP

The current seven-point spread is one of the bigger Republican advantages on this question, which Gallup has asked periodically since 1956. It is the largest GOP advantage since January 1995, when Republicans had a 10-point edge. At that time, crime was the top overall problem according to Americans. The all-time-high Republican advantage was 19 points in January 1981, just after Ronald Reagan took office, when the economy was the most important problem.

Among those in the current poll who cite unemployment as the biggest problem facing the U.S., 42% say the Republican Party is better able to deal with it and 40% say the Democratic Party. Among those saying the economy in general is the top problem, the Republicans have a wider advantage, 57% to 31%.

Those differences to some degree reflect the fact that Americans who identify as Democrats are much more likely to name unemployment than the economy as the nation's top problem, while those who identify as Republicans are only slightly more likely to mention unemployment than the economy. Thus, the data speak to what each party's supporters are most concerned about, as well as Americans' perceptions of the party's relative abilities on the issue.

Views of Most Important Problem, by Political Party Affiliation

Democrats	Independents	Republicans
1. Unemployment (49%)	1. Unemployment (33%)	1. Unemployment (38%)
2. Economy (23%)	2. Economy (28%)	2. Economy (33%)
3. Government (15%)	3. Government (15%)	3. Budget deficit (22%)
4. Healthcare (9%)	4. Budget deficit (11%)	4. Government (12%)

Gallup, Sept. 8-11, 2011

GALLUP

Implications

The nation is still struggling to recover from the 2008-2009 recession. Unemployment remains high, and Americans once again cite it as the top overall problem facing the United States. President Obama has laid out a plan to address the issue and submitted a bill to Congress, though at this point it is not clear if the measure will pass. Regardless of whether it passes, the jobs outlook over the next 13 months will be an important factor in determining whether voters elect to keep Obama in his current job beyond January 2013.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 8-11, 2011, with a random sample of 1,017 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/149453/Unemployment-Emerges-Important-Problem.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

189-43-16. Americans Favor Obama Jobs Plan by 45% to 32%

Majority of those closely following news about it favor its passage
September 14, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- By 45% to 32%, more Americans want their member of Congress to vote for rather than against a jobs bill similar to the one President Obama proposed last week, with the rest having no opinion.

From what you know or have read about it, would you want your member of Congress to vote for or against a jobs bill similar to the one President Obama has proposed?

	Vote for	Vote against	Don't know/ Refused
Sep 12-13, 2011	45%	32	23

GALLUP

Obama proposed the "American Jobs Act of 2011" in his speech to Congress on Sept. 8, and sent the bill to Congress on Sept. 12, saying the purpose of the bill is to "put more people back to work and put more money in the pockets of working Americans."

Sen. Harry Reid has introduced the bill in the Senate, but so far it has not been introduced in the House. There is no indication yet as to when either body will take up the bill, or what the chances are that Congress will pass some or all of it. A number of Republican leaders have already gone on record as opposing the bill.

Attentive Americans Solidly Back Jobs Bill

While fewer than half of all Americans favor passage of a jobs bill similar to Obama's, a solid majority of Americans who are following news of the bill very closely, 57%, want to see it passed.

Those who are not following it too closely also tend to favor the bill's passage, 43% vs. 26%, with a fairly large percentage having no opinion. The majority of those who say they are not following news about the Obama jobs bill at all have no opinion on the issue, with the rest closely divided but tilting against the bill.

Would you want your member of Congress to vote for or against a jobs bill similar to the one President Obama has proposed?

By attention paid to news about President Obama's jobs bill

	Vote for	Vote against	Don't know/ Refused
	%	%	%
Following very or somewhat closely	57	36	7
Following not too closely	43	26	31
Not following at all	18	25	57

Sept. 12-13, 2011

GALLUP

Fifty-six percent of Americans are following news about Obama's jobs bill either very or somewhat closely, while 22% are not following it closely and another 21% say they are not following it at all. There is little difference in the percentages of Democrats, independents, and Republicans who are following news of the bill closely.

Independents Tilt in Favor of Bill

The Gallup survey describes the bill as "similar to the one President Obama has proposed," making it not surprising that Democrats strongly support it, while Republicans oppose it. Still, Democrats' support is more widespread than Republicans' opposition. This -- combined with independents' greater likelihood to favor than to oppose the bill -- results in the overall 45% to 32% tilt in support among all Americans.

Would you want your member of Congress to vote for or against a jobs bill similar to the one President Obama has proposed?

By party ID

	Vote for	Vote against	Don't know/ Refused
	%	%	%
Democrats	70	9	22
Independents	44	32	24
Republicans	19	60	21

Sept. 12-13, 2011

GALLUP®

Implications

The jobs bill President Obama proposed has many parts to it, and most Americans at this point no doubt do not understand fully what would be involved if it were to be passed either in part or as a whole. Still, over half say they are paying very or somewhat close attention to news about the bill, and the initial reaction from this group is much more positive than negative, suggesting that the president has public opinion on his side on this issue at this initial juncture.

Republican leaders have already objected to many parts of the bill, and 6 in 10 rank-and-file Republicans across the country say they would want their member of Congress to vote against the bill. But 4 in 10 Republicans either don't have an opinion on the bill or say they favor it, and this, combined with the plurality support from independents and the strong support among Democrats, gives the bill its overall positive footing.

Discussion and debate of Obama's proposals will likely expand in the weeks to come and, as is usual with these types of policy issues, this discussion and spin will change the public's views. At this point, however, while the president cannot count on majority support for his bill, he can note that more Americans support his ideas than oppose them.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking survey Sept. 12-13, 2011, with a random sample of 1,010 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/149447/Americans-Favor-Obama-Jobs-Plan.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

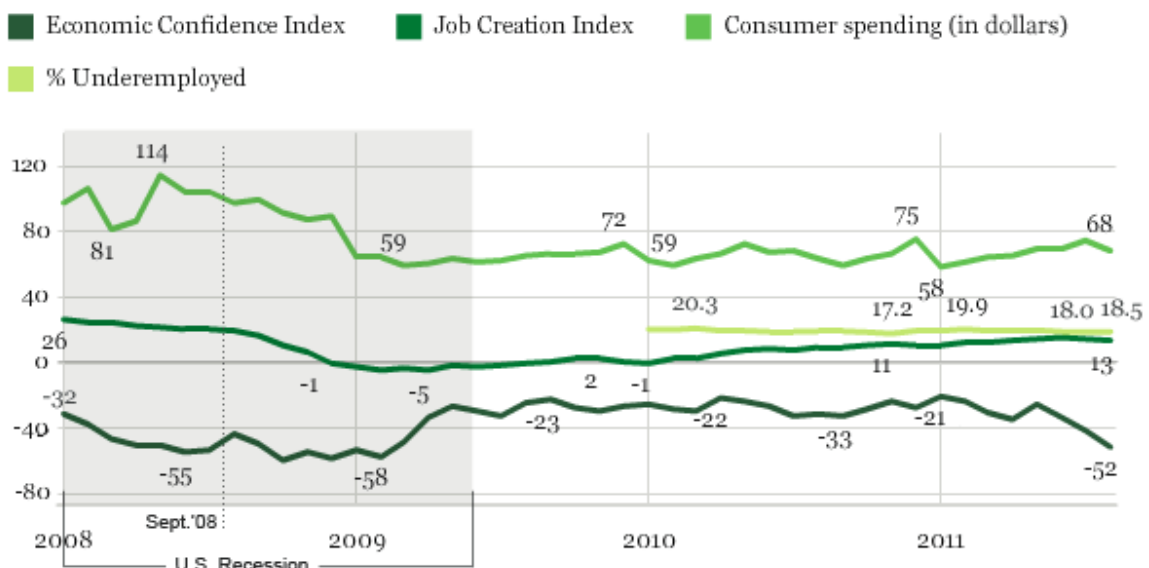
189-43-17. Three Years After Crisis, Little Sign of Economic Relief in U.S.

Economic confidence and consumer spending stuck in ranges seen in 2009
September 14, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Three years after bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers jolted the U.S. economy into economic turmoil, job creation has rebounded from post-collapse lows, but economic confidence and consumer spending remain within the ranges seen in 2009. Gallup finds underemployment and unemployment essentially where they were a year ago.

Gallup Economic Metrics, January 2008-August 2011

Monthly averages*



*Underemployment figures are 30-day rolling averages ending the last day of each month

GALLUP

Gallup has been tracking Americans' economic confidence, consumer spending, and employee reports about hiring and firing at their workplaces since 2008, and employment since January 2010, as part of its Gallup Daily tracking program. The findings in this analysis are based on monthly averages, based on approximately 15,000 interviews per month.

The measures provide Americans' ground-level reports of the impact of the economic events that have been unfolding around them, be it in their communities or workplaces or in the news.

Economic Confidence: Back at Recessionary Levels

Americans' confidence in the U.S. economy is now at its lowest point since February 2009 -- near the conclusion of the recession that officially ended in June 2009. Gallup's Economic

Confidence Index was -52 in August, above its financial crisis lows, but much lower than the -21 to -35 range measured from June 2009 to June 2011.

The index saw sharp declines this year in April after the federal government nearly shut down amid budget negotiations, and in July and August after protracted negotiations that ultimately produced an agreement to increase the nation's debt ceiling.

Americans' current level of economic confidence -- which represents their views on the current state and future direction of the nation's economy -- is decidedly negative. Seventy-seven percent said the economy was getting worse in August, the highest -- by far -- since February 2009, the month in which Congress passed a \$787 billion stimulus bill in hopes of lifting the U.S. economy out the depths of the recession. Americans' negativity about the future of the economy eased in March and lessened further in April of that year.

Job Creation: Improved From 2009-2010 Lows, but Far From Early 2008 Levels

The **+13 Job Creation Index for August** falls into the +10 to +15 range Gallup has measured since October 2010. The good news is that for nearly a year, Gallup has found consistently higher rates of net new job creation (the difference between hiring and letting go) than it did for the first two years after the global economic collapse. The not-so-good news is that the current rate of job creation is still just half of the +26 score Gallup found when it began tracking this metric in January 2008, when the nation was already technically in a recession.

Currently, 32% of workers say their employer is hiring and 19% say their employer is letting workers go, compared with 40% and 14%, respectively, in January 2008. Although the official recession, which began in December 2007, had not yet been declared, Gallup's job creation metric documented the stalling economy; the gap between hiring and firing narrowed from 26 percentage points in January 2008 to 19 points by August 2008. The gap moved into negative territory soon after the events of three years ago, with the nation's Job Creation Index score going from +16 in September 2008 to -1 in December 2008 and -5 by February 2009. It stayed negative or near zero through March 2010; after that, it began to sustain comfortable positive territory, climbing to double digits in October 2010 and staying there since then.

Underemployment and Employment: Stuck at Year-Ago Levels

Gallup found **18.5% of workers underemployed**, including 9.1% unemployed, in August 2011. These figures are based on Gallup's measure of employment, which is not seasonally adjusted. Both of the current figures are statistically similar to what they were a year ago, meaning the employment situation in the U.S. is no better now than it was at that time.

Gallup's trend dates back to January 2010, so Gallup cannot say definitively how its latest numbers compare to what they would have been before the global economic collapse. However, comparisons with January 2010 reveal that the trajectory is neither linear nor positive. At that time, Gallup found 19.9% of workers underemployed and 10.9% unemployed. The current figures are slightly improved from then, but underemployment is significantly higher than the 17.2% recorded in November 2010 and unemployment is significantly higher than the 8.7% recorded as recently as June 2011.

Consumer Spending: Nowhere Near 2008 Levels

Americans' spending has remained essentially stagnant since it fell dramatically in January 2009. Spending in stores, restaurants, gas stations, and online has averaged \$66 per day so far in 2011 -- similar to the \$65 in 2010 and \$64 in 2009. This compares with an average of \$96 per day in 2008. That year, Americans' daily spending ranged from \$81 to \$114 per day in monthly averages. Since 2009, monthly spending averages have ranged between \$58 and \$75.

Bottom Line

Gallup's key economic metrics document the ups and downs of the U.S. economy over the past three years from the perspective of average American consumers and workers. The findings showcase that recovery is far from reality in terms of economic confidence, job creation, employment, and consumer spending. Among these measures, only job creation has measurably improved from 2009 levels and it still has far to go before it reaches 2008 levels. Gallup's continuous measurement of these metrics will provide daily, weekly, and monthly updates on consumers' and workers' states of mind and on the state of the workforce as the U.S. economy continues its attempts to achieve a sustained economic recovery.

Survey Methods

Results for Gallup's economic confidence and consumer spending measures are based on Gallup Daily tracking interviews with approximately 15,000 national adults each month, aged 18 and older. Results for Gallup's underemployment and unemployment measures are based on interviews with approximately 15,000 American workers each month, aged 18 and older. Results for Gallup's job creation measure are based on interviews with approximately 15,000 U.S. employees each month, aged 18 and older. For these samples, 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.

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/149426/Three-Years-Crisis-Little-Sign-Economic-Relief.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

189-43-18. More Now See GOP as Very Conservative

Views of Parties' Ideologies

September 12, 2011

Modest Changes in Voters' Views of Parties' Ideologies

<i>Political views of ...</i>	June 2010	Aug 2011
Republican Party	%	%
Very conservative	18	23
Conservative	38	37
Moderate	26	21
Very liberal	4	5
Liberal	9	7
Don't know	5	7
	100	100
NET Conservative	56	60
NET Liberal	13	12
Democratic Party		
Very liberal	26	22
Liberal	32	32
Moderate	26	26
Very conservative	3	3
Conservative	9	11
Don't know	4	6
	100	100
NET Liberal	58	54
NET Conservative	12	14

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

Though voters' views of the ideologies of the political parties have shifted little since the summer of 2010, an increasing number see the Republican Party as very conservative, while slightly fewer see the Democratic Party as very liberal.

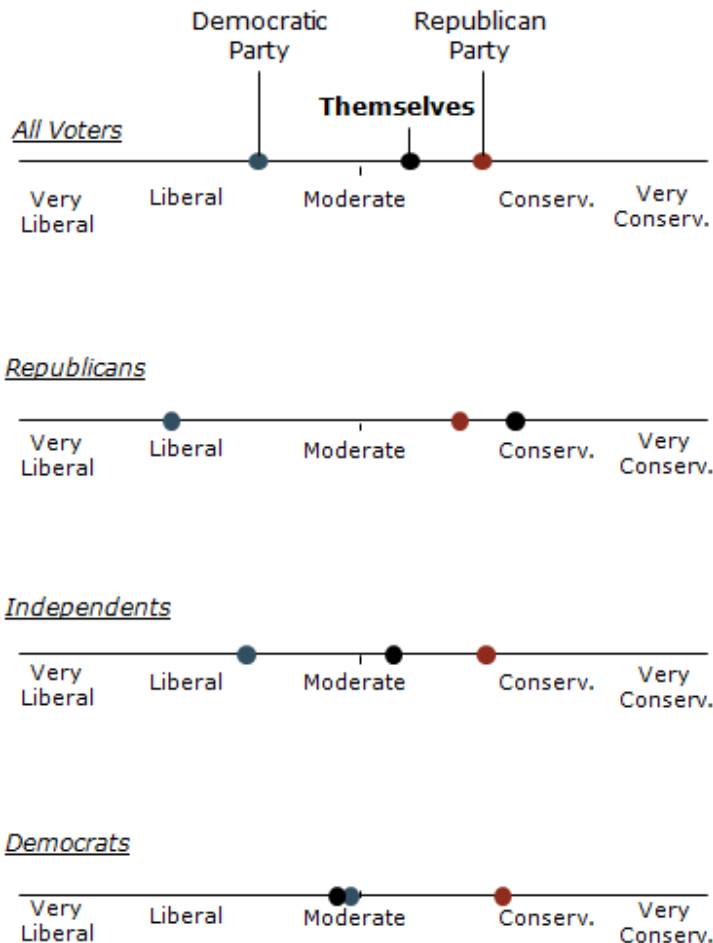
In 2010, somewhat more, on balance, viewed the Democratic Party as very liberal than said the GOP was very conservative (26% vs. 18%). Currently, nearly identical percentages view the Democratic Party as very liberal and the Republican Party as very conservative (22%, 23% respectively).

This trend notwithstanding, many Republicans' own ideological assessments fall to the right of the assessments they give to the GOP. Nearly four-in-ten (38%) Republican voters rate own ideology as more conservative than their impression of the Republican Party's ideology.

Overall, perceptions of the parties' ideologies are little changed from June 2010. Six-in-ten (60%) say the Republican Party is either very conservative or conservative, while 54% say the Democratic Party is either very liberal or liberal. In June 2010, 56% saw the GOP as conservative or very conservative and 58% saw the Democrats as liberal or very liberal.

The latest survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Aug. 17-21 among 1,509 adults (1,205 registered voters), finds that voters' descriptions of their own political views also are little changed. Roughly four-in-ten (41%) say they are either very conservative (8%) or conservative (33%), while about half as many (19%) say they are either very liberal (5%) or liberal (14%); another 38% describe themselves as moderate.

Views of Ideology: Where Voters Place Themselves and the Parties



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Based on registered voters. The black dot represents the average of how voters describe their own political views ranging from very liberal to very conservative. Red and blue dots represent the average ideological ratings voters give to the Republican and Democratic parties, among those who can offer an opinion of each.

Looking at the ideological perceptions of the parties and voters' descriptions of themselves, voters on average place themselves just right of center and slightly closer to the Republican Party than to the Democratic Party.

Republican voters see themselves as somewhat more conservative than they see their party – and they see the Democrats as solidly liberal. These perceptions are amplified among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party.

Democrats, by contrast, view their party's political views as moderate. On average, Democrats' own ideological assessments place them close to the middle of the political spectrum.

Partisans Rate Their Own Ideology

How Partisans See Themselves

<i>Among registered voters ...</i>	<i>Political views of...</i>			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Very conservative	8	18	3	4
Conservative	33	55	20	29
Moderate	38	24	41	47
Liberal	14	2	23	14
Very liberal	5	1	9	3
DK/Refused	3	*	4	3
	100	100	100	100
NET Conservative	41	73	23	33
NET Liberal	19	3	32	17

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

A large majority of Republican registered voters (73%) describe their political views as either conservative (55%) or very conservative (18%). About a quarter (24%) say their views are moderate, while very few (3%) say their views are liberal or very liberal.

Among Republicans and Republican-leaning independent voters who agree with the Tea Party movement, 84% say they are either conservative (61%) or very conservative (23%); just 14% describe their views as moderate. Republicans who disagree or have no opinion of the Tea Party are more divided: 51% say they are either conservative (44%) or very conservative (7%) and 41% see themselves as moderate.

Among Democrats, 41% describe their views as moderate, 32% say they are liberal (including 9% who say they are very liberal) and 23% say they are conservative.

Nearly half of independents (47%) say their political views are moderate, about the same as last year. The remainder tilt conservative, with 33% saying they are either conservative (29%) or very conservative (4%); 17% say their views are either liberal (14%) or very liberal (3%).

Many Republicans Place GOP to the Left of Their Own Views

Comparing Voters' Own Views with Their Ratings of the Parties

Compared w/ the _____, your political views are ...	All			
	Voters	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Democratic Party				
More conservative	52	86	24	52
More liberal	17	5	31	15
The same	24	8	38	23
Don't know	7	2	7	9
	100	100	100	100
Republican Party				
More conservative	26	38	19	23
More liberal	42	19	60	46
The same	24	42	13	22
Don't know	8	1	8	10
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Aug. 17-21, 2011. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100%.

_____ Voters were asked to rate their own political views – and the parties' political views – on the same scale, from very conservative to very liberal. This makes it possible to compare voters' own views with their assessments of the parties' ideologies.

As in June 2010, about half of registered voters (52%) rate their own political views as more conservative than the rating they give the Democratic Party. Fewer voters (42%) see their own ideology as more liberal than the Republican Party's.

Many Republican voters – particularly those who agree with the Tea Party – place themselves to the right of the GOP ideologically. Nearly four-in-ten Republican voters (38%) rate their own views as more conservative than the Republican Party's. Just 19% see the GOP's views as more liberal than their own, while 42% say the Republican Party's ideology is about the same as their own.

Among Republicans and Republican-leaning voters who agree with the Tea Party, half (50%) place the GOP's political views to the left of their own. Just 11% see the GOP as more conservative while 37% view the Republican Party's views as similar to their own. By contrast, just 23% of Republicans and Republican leaners who do not agree with the Tea Party rate the GOP's ideology as more liberal than their own, while 42% say the party's views are about the same as their own and 33% see the GOP's ideology as more conservative than their own.

Democratic voters are about as likely as Republican voters to say their own views are similar to their party's (38% of Democrats, 42% of Republicans). Comparable percentages of Democrats say their own views are more liberal (31%), or more conservative (24%), than the party's.

Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/09/12/more-now-see-gop-as-very-conservative/?src=prc-headline>

189-43-19. Romney and Perry Seen as Best Presidential Choices for GOP in 2012

(09/15/11) -

Independent voters like Ron Paul more than any other Republican contender.

Two prospective Republican Party presidential contenders are currently ahead of their rivals as Americans ponder who would serve well in the White House, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of a representative sample of 1,787 American adults asked respondents whether nine declared GOP contenders—as well as former vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin—would be good or bad presidents.

Across the United States, 23 per cent of respondents think former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney would make a good president, followed by Texas Governor Rick Perry with 21 per cent, and Texas Congressman Ron Paul with 20 per cent.

Support was lower for Minnesota Congresswoman Michelle Bachmann (18%), Palin (also at 18%), former House Speaker Newt Gingrich (12%) and businessman Herman Cain (10%), while three other candidates were in single digits: former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum (8%), former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman Jr. (6%) and former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson (4%).

Paul was the top choice among the ten Republicans for men (25%, closely followed by Romney and Perry with 24% each) while Romney had the highest level of support among women (22%, followed by Palin with 18% and Perry with 17%).

Among Republicans, four candidates are ahead of the pack, with 44 per cent saying that Perry would make a “good president”. Romney is in second place among GOP voters with 42 per cent, followed by Palin with 41 per cent, and Bachmann with 40 per cent. No other contender is regarded as a future “good president” by more than a third of Republicans.

It is important to note that the proportion of Independents who believe Paul would make a “good president” stands at 26 per cent, the highest for any prospective Republican nominee. Only Romney (23%) and Perry (20%) come close to matching the Texas Congressman among Independents.

Analysis

Since an Angus Reid Public Opinion survey conducted in July 2010, the one contender who has lost the most ground is Newt Gingrich, falling five points among all respondents and 15 points among Republican voters. Conversely, Ron Paul has gained six points among all Americans and 11 points among GOP voters.

Despite her absence from recent debates and the lack of an official declaration, Sarah Palin is still regarded as a good choice for two-in-five Republicans. However, she is the only one of the ten people tested who is seen as a “bad president” by more than half of Americans.

Mitt Romney has maintained a steady level of support, while Rick Perry and Michelle Bachmann are connecting with the base. Some Independents appear to have developed a fondness for Paul, but his numbers among Republicans are closer to Herman Cain and Gingrich than to the four frontrunners.

Methodology: From September 1 to September 2, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,787 randomly selected American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.3%. 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/44042/romney-and-perry-seen-as-best-presidential-choices-for-gop-in-2012/>

189-43-20. Perry Leads but Romney Gaining in GOP Favorability

Bachmann and Palin slip to new lows
September 13, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Rick Perry and Herman Cain continue to generate the most intensely positive favorable ratings from Republicans familiar with them in Gallup Daily tracking conducted over the past two weeks -- prior to Monday night's CNN/Tea Party Republican presidential debate in Florida. Perry's Positive Intensity Score of 24 is holding near the upper boundary of his scores since he entered the race, similar to the 25 recorded in the prior two weeks. Cain's 22, however, is on the low end of his recent scores, and down five percentage points since late August.

Positive Intensity Scores of Potential 2012 GOP Presidential Candidates

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

	Aug. 15-28, 2011	Aug. 29-Sept. 11, 2011
Rick Perry	25	24
Herman Cain	27	22
Rudy Giuliani	17	18
Mitt Romney	11	16
Michele Bachmann	13	10
Sarah Palin	16	10
Rick Santorum	10	8
Newt Gingrich	7	7
Ron Paul	6	7
Jon Huntsman	1	-1

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

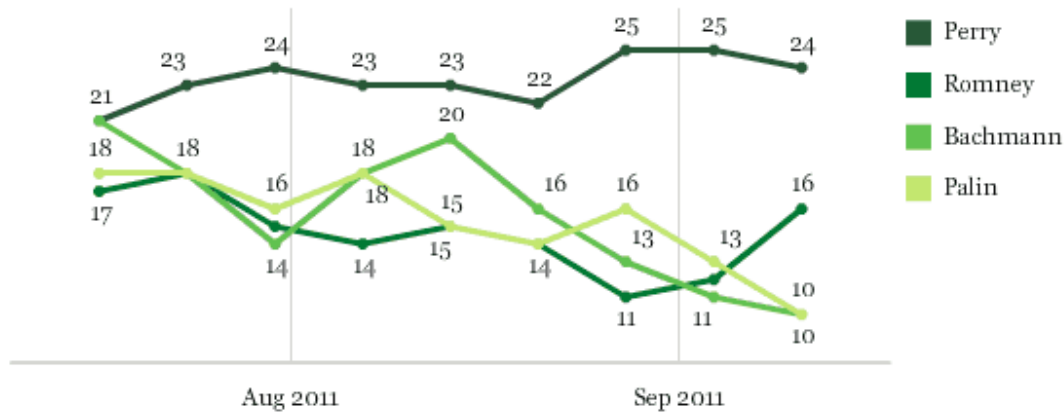
GALLUP

Mitt Romney is the only announced candidate whose Positive Intensity Score has improved significantly in recent weeks. His current 16 is up from 11 in late August and is his highest rating since mid-July, thus narrowing the gap with Perry. Rudy Giuliani, who has yet to decide if he will run, still edges out Romney with an 18.

Sarah Palin and Michele Bachmann have seen significant declines in their Positive Intensity Scores since late August. Palin, who has also not decided whether to run, is down six points, from 16 to 10, and Bachmann is down three points, from 13 to 10. Both women are now at new lows for the year, with Bachmann's score cut in half since early August.

Recent Trends in Positive Intensity[^]

Continuous two-week rolling averages since July 4, 2011



[^] Percentage strongly favorable minus strongly unfavorable, among Republicans familiar with each

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Newt Gingrich's score remains slightly better than the low single digits he registered for most of the summer, but shows no signs of recovering to the mid-teens, where he was when he entered the race earlier this year. Ron Paul's 7 score is consistent with his readings since early June.

Gallup computes Positive Intensity Scores by subtracting the percentage of Republicans with highly unfavorable views of each candidate from the percentage with highly favorable views, based on those who say they have heard of the candidate. The results are reported on the basis of continuous two-week rolling averages. The Aug. 29-Sept. 11 field period for the latest results includes four days of interviewing after the Sept. 7 Republican presidential debate held at the Ronald Reagan Library.

Palin and Giuliani Remain the Biggest Names

Despite missing out on the media attention brought by participation in candidate debates like those recently held in Tampa and Simi Valley, Palin and Giuliani remain the most well-known of the 10 possible Republican presidential candidates Gallup tracks. Ninety-seven percent of Republicans nationwide say they are familiar with Palin and 89% with Giuliani.

With roughly 84% to 86% name recognition among Republicans, Gingrich, Romney, and Bachmann all now approach the high recognition Giuliani enjoys, while Paul is not far behind with 81%. Perry still lags on this measure, recognized by 75%, but that is after an early August surge in recognition from his initial 55% reading. Perry is well ahead of Rick Santorum (54%), Herman Cain (48%), and Jon Huntsman (46%).

Recognition Scores of Potential 2012 GOP Presidential Candidates

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Aug. 15-28, 2011	Aug. 29-Sept. 11, 2011
	%	%
Sarah Palin	97	97
Rudy Giuliani	91	89
Mitt Romney	88	86
Newt Gingrich	85	86
Michele Bachmann	85	84
Ron Paul	78	81
Rick Perry	75	75
Rick Santorum	52	54
Herman Cain	50	48
Jon Huntsman	43	46

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Bottom Line

With just under five months remaining before Republican primary voters start casting ballots for the 2012 Republican nomination, Perry continues to generate more positive intensity from Republicans who know him than any other announced or potential candidate Gallup tracks. This is particularly notable because Perry has managed to maintain a strong Positive Intensity Score as his recognition among Republicans has expanded from 55% in July to 75% today. Romney, however, remains better known, and has recently seen his sagging Positive Intensity Score rebound, although he still lags significantly behind Perry on this measure.

The news is not as good for Bachmann, who has lost much of the passionate support she generated as recently as early August. Positive intensity for Palin among national Republicans has also slipped to a new low for the year.

Republicans' views of Paul, Gingrich, Santorum, and Huntsman all seem to be in a holding pattern at levels seemingly keeping these men out of serious contention for the nomination. Huntsman does particularly poorly in Republicans' eyes, and is the only candidate tracked whose Positive Intensity Score is a net negative, meaning that more Republicans who know him have a strongly unfavorable opinion than have a strongly favorable opinion.

Cain continues to be an anomaly, scoring high in positive intensity among those who know him, yet unable to push his recognition above the 50% level, and scoring low in trial-heat ballot measures.

With three more debates between now and mid-October, all of the candidates will have an opportunity to change their images among Republicans. They all certainly tried to advance their positions in the recent debates, and the extent to which they were successful should be evident in Gallup's Sept. 5-18 positive intensity update.

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

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Aug. 29-Sept. 11, 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 (with no interviewing on Labor Day, Sep. 5), each candidate was rated by a minimum of 1,400 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents.

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

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

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

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.

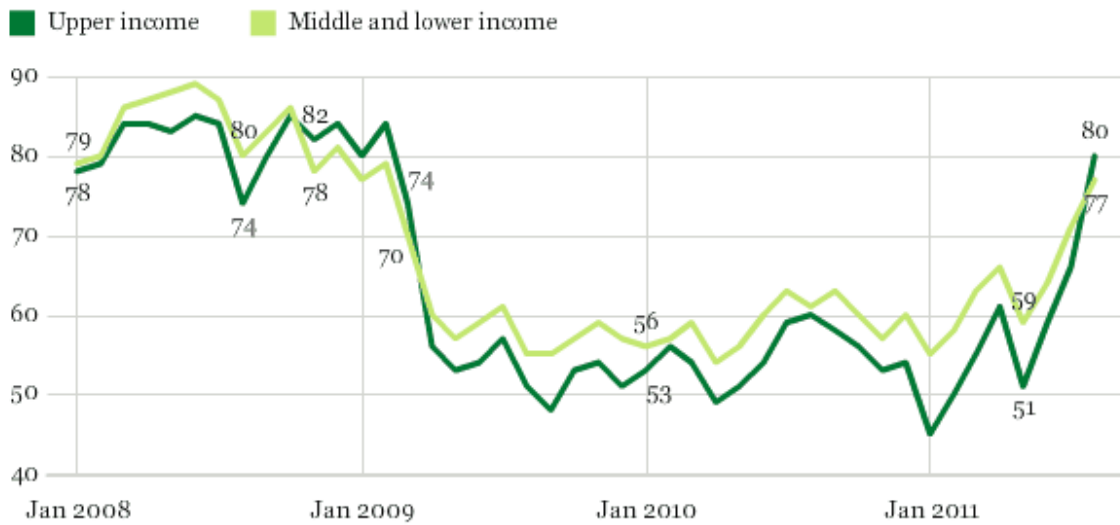
Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149423/Perry-Leads-Romney-Gaining-GOP-Favorability.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

189-43-21. Upper-Income Americans' Economic Confidence Shaken

Gallup's Economic Confidence measure is at -52, down sharply from -42 in July September 13, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Upper-income Americans' economic confidence was badly shaken in August, with 80% saying the economy is "getting worse," up from 66% in July. This is the first month since the financial crisis of late 2008 and early 2009 that upper-income Americans are more pessimistic about the future direction of the U.S. economy than other Americans.

Percentage Saying Economic Conditions Are "Getting Worse" by Month, 2008 to 2011



Gallup Daily tracking

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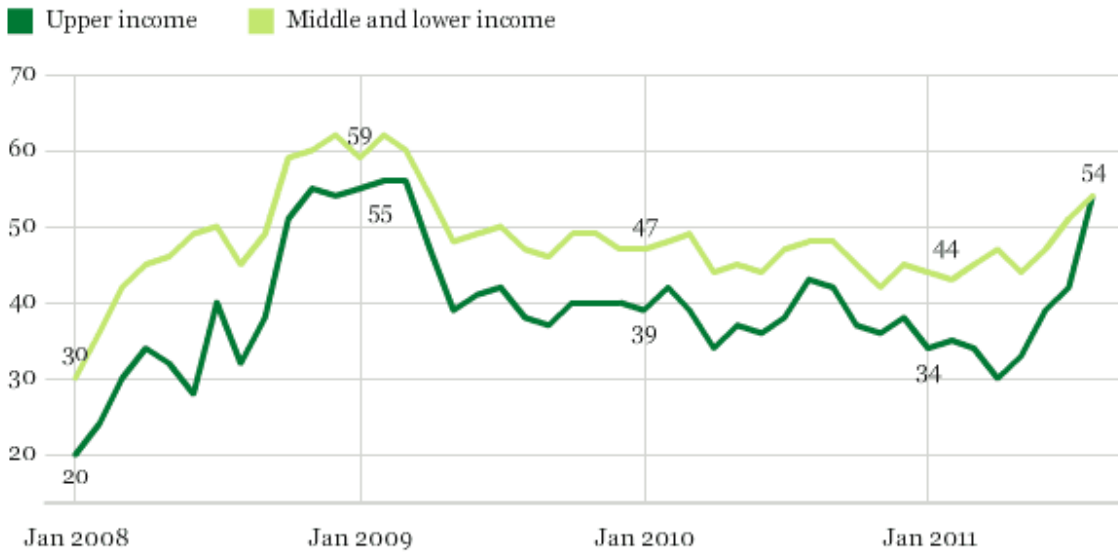
Normally, upper-income Americans tend to be more optimistic about the future of the economy than those with lower incomes. Additionally, the percentage of upper-income Americans expressing concerns about the future direction of the economy is the highest it has been since February 2009.

Middle- and lower-income Americans' outlook also deteriorated in August, with 77% saying the economy is "getting worse." This is up from 71% in July and its highest level since February 2009.

More Upper-Income Americans Rating the Economy "Poor"

Fifty-four percent of upper-income Americans rate current economic conditions "poor" in August, up from 42% in July. This is the highest percentage providing this rating since March 2009.

Percentage Saying Current Economic Conditions Are "Poor" by Month, 2008 to 2011



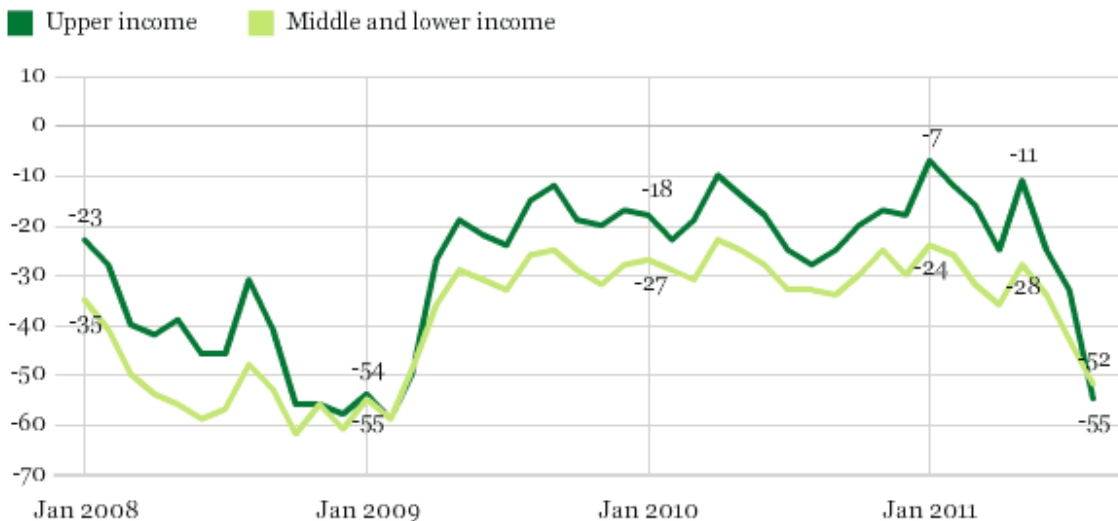
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

Fifty-four percent of middle- and lower-income Americans also rate current economic conditions poor in the August, up from 51% in July and the highest since April 2009.

Gallup's Economic Confidence Index, which combines the prior two measures, plummeted among upper-income Americans in August to -55, from -33 in July. The index fell to -52 among middle- and lower-income Americans. Economic Confidence Index scores for both income groups have now sunk to their lowest levels since February 2009.

Economic Confidence Index by Month, 2008 to 2011



Gallup Daily tracking

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Gallup's Economic Confidence Index fell to -52 nationally in August, down sharply from -42 in July. The overall index is at its [lowest level since February 2009](#).

Upper-Income Americans' Lack of Confidence Reason for Concern

Upper-income Americans' sharp decline in optimism about the future direction of the economy may be related in part to the volatility on Wall Street, concerns about the federal deficit, the lack of new action by the Fed, and growing concerns about a European financial crisis. Like all other Americans, those with higher incomes tend to be concerned about high unemployment rates, increasing job insecurity, high food and energy prices, and a general lack of confidence in the government's ability to help improve the economy. The sharp decline in upper-income Americans' confidence may also reflect a growing realization among corporate managers and small-business owners -- who tend to be in the higher-income group -- that the U.S. economy is going to experience slow growth, at best, during the second half of 2011.

Whatever its source, repeating the unusual situation in which upper-income Americans are more pessimistic than their middle- and lower-income counterparts may be reason for concern. This is reminiscent of what happened during the financial crisis: upper-income Americans sharply pulled back on their spending, making the recession worse. Upper-income Americans tend to have the disposable income to spend even when other Americans do not. If they reduce their spending going forward, it increases the chances of a double-dip recession.

On a more positive note, Gallup's Economic Confidence measure improved modestly nationwide during the first two weeks of September -- more during the holiday week than the week that followed. While such a modest improvement in perceptions tends to be normal following a holiday, any improvement in how consumers feel about the economy is helpful at this point.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking August 2011, with a random sample of 15,001 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

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

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

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/149414/Upper-Income-Americans-Economic-Confidence-Shaken.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_conten

[t=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](#)

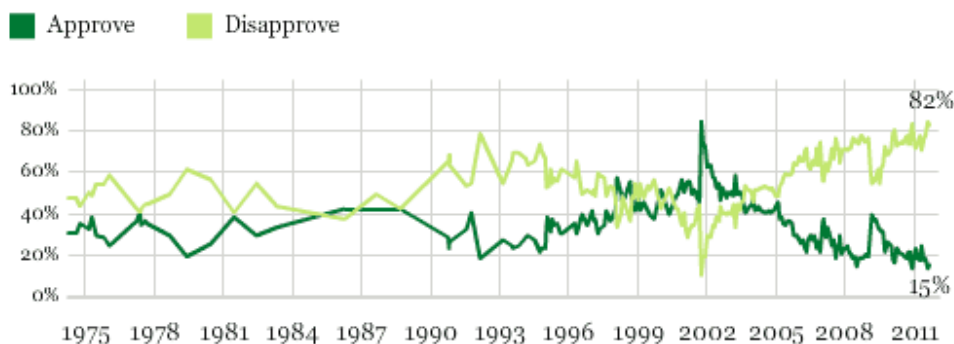
189-43-22. Congressional Job Approval at 15%

Democrats now less positive than Republicans about Congress
September 12, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Congressional job approval is now 15%, up slightly from the record-tying low of 13% recorded in August, while disapproval is 82%, compared with 84% last month.

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

Full trend



GALLUP

These results are based on interviews conducted in a Sept. 8-11 Gallup poll, as President Barack Obama urged Congress to pass his newly announced major jobs plan legislation and amid news coverage of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Gallup has recorded only three measures lower than this month's rating of 15%, although Americans have never responded very positively when asked to rate Congress. The average approval rating since Gallup first began asking Americans to rate Congress in 1974 is 34%. Congressional job approval has generally drifted downward since it reached 39% in March 2009, shortly after President Obama took office. The average congressional job approval rating for 2010 was 19%.

Last month's 13% approval tied the record low from December 2010. The highest congressional job approval rating measured by Gallup came in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, with a single reading of 84% in October 2001.

Americans are not very positive in their ratings of most things associated with the federal government these days. A recent update on [Americans' images of 25 business and industry sectors](#) found the federal government dead last on the list, with 17% of Americans saying their image of the federal government was positive and 63% saying it was negative.

A number of measures in the Sept. 8-11 poll -- to be reported in the days ahead -- also find the public's trust and confidence in the government and legislative branch to be very low, including the finding that 81% of Americans say they are dissatisfied with the way the nation is being governed.

Democrats' Approval of Congress Drops

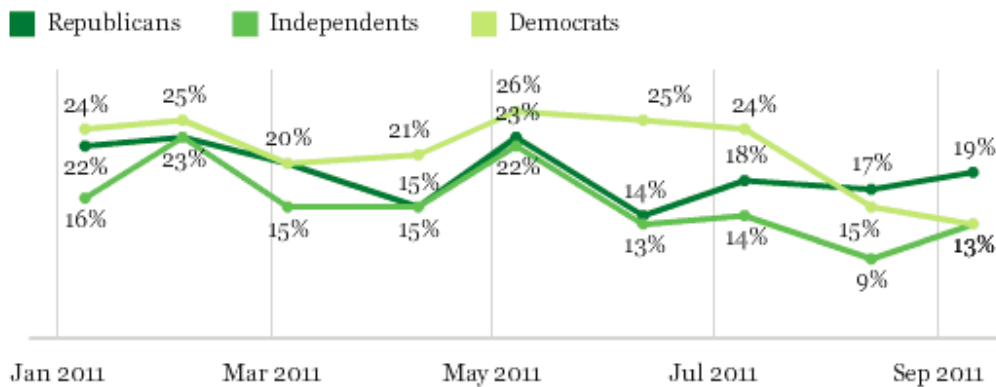
Democrats have become less positive in their ratings of Congress in the last two months, from 24% approval in July to 15% in August to 13% this month. As a result, the relative partisan landscape has changed. Whereas Democrats gave Congress the highest approval ratings from

April through July, Republicans are now the most positive, with Democrats and independents less so.

Rank-and-file Democrats may be downgrading their ratings of Congress because of their perceptions of the way in which the GOP-controlled House failed to work toward a compromise with Obama and Democratic leaders on the debt ceiling.

Approval Ratings of Congress, by Political Party

% Approve, 2011 trend



GALLUP

Implications

It is perhaps not surprising to find that most Americans continue to disapprove of the job being done by the men and women they elect to represent them in Congress, given that Americans' confidence in the economy and overall satisfaction with the way things are going in the U.S. are very low. The highly partisan and rancorous debate over raising the debt ceiling no doubt contributed to August's all-time-low congressional job approval rating; the only silver lining for Congress in the September update is that congressional approval has not fallen to a new all-time low.

Much is on Congress' plate at the moment, including consideration of a possible vote on parts of President Obama's jobs plan and the ongoing work of the congressional "supercommittee" attempting to find ways to cut the federal budget. The future trajectory of congressional job approval ratings may depend on how both of these work out, the direction of the economy, and whether or not Congress is seen in the months ahead as being able to negotiate and compromise rather than contentiously argue.

Survey Methods

Results for this Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 8-11, 2011, with a random sample of 1,017 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

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

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

Source: http://www.gallup.com/poll/149399/Congressional-Job-Approval.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA

189-43-23. Record-High 86% Approve of Black-White Marriages

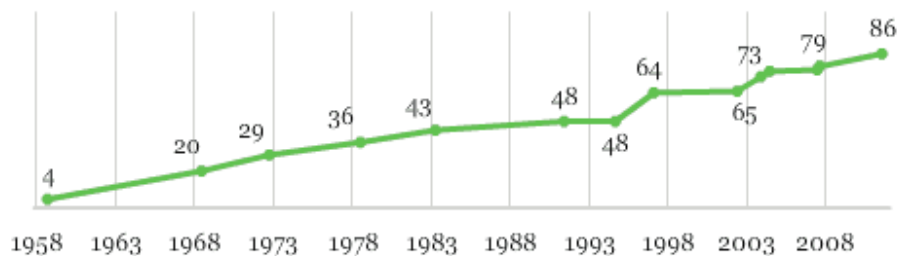
Ninety-six percent of blacks, 84% of whites approve

September 12, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans are approaching unanimity in their views of marriages between blacks and whites, with 86% now approving of such unions. Americans' views on interracial marriage have undergone a major transformation in the past five decades. When Gallup first asked about black-white marriages in 1958, 4% approved. More Americans disapproved than approved until 1983, and approval did not exceed the majority level until 1997.

Do you approve or disapprove of marriage between blacks and whites?

■ % Approve



1958 wording: "...marriages between white and colored people."

1968-1978 wording: "...marriages between whites and non-whites."

GALLUP

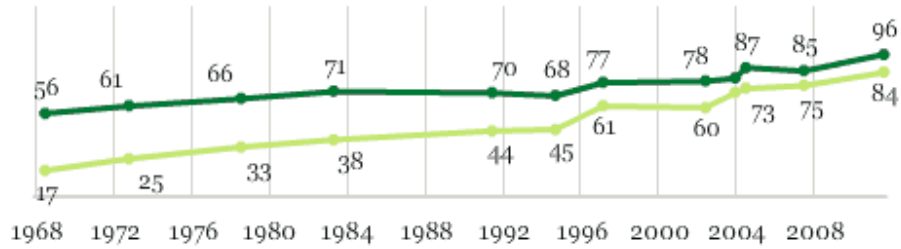
The latest results are based on an Aug. 4-7 *USA Today*/Gallup poll, which included an oversample of blacks.

Approval of black-white marriages is at a record high among blacks and whites. Blacks have always been more approving than whites of interracial marriage, going back to 1968 when Gallup first was able to report reliable estimates on each group's opinions. However, the gap in approval ratings has narrowed considerably, averaging 13 percentage points since 1997 but 32 points from 1968-1994.

Approval of Marriage Between Blacks and Whites, by Race

Percentage who approve

Blacks Whites



958 wording: "...marriages between white and colored people."

1968-1978 wording: "...marriages between whites and non-whites."

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Wide Generation Gap in Views of Black-White Marriage

Approval of black-white marriage is well above the majority level among all key subgroups, though slightly lower among Southerners, Republicans, conservatives, and those with no college education. Senior citizens are the least approving of black-white marriage among major subgroups, at 66%.

Approval of Marriage Between Blacks and Whites, by Subgroup

	% Approve
Men	87
Women	85
18- to 29-year-olds	97
30- to 49-year-olds	91
50- to 64-year-olds	88
65 years old and older	66
East	90
Midwest	86
South	79
West	91
High school or less	78
Some college	91
College graduate only	92
Postgraduate	94
Liberal	95
Moderate	90
Conservative	78
Democrat	88
Independent	89
Republican	77

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

GALLUP

Today's older Americans, those aged 50 and older, are much more likely to approve of black-white marriage than people of the same age a generation ago; 78% today vs. 27% in 1991, a 51-point shift. At the same time, there has also been a 33-point increase among 18- to 29-year-olds (64% to 97%) and a 35-point increase among 30- to 49-year-olds (from 56% to 91%) between the two time periods.

The increase in approval of black-white marriage among all Americans, however, is probably more the result of changing attitudes within the population than it is changes in the composition of the population with more socially progressive younger adults replacing less progressive older ones. This is evident from examining the same age cohorts in 1991 and now. Each cohort shows 30 point or more increases in approval of black-white marriage today compared with the same group's attitudes 20 years ago.

Approval of Marriage Between Blacks and Whites, by Age Cohort

1991 vs. 2011

Age	% Approve, 1991	% Approve, 2011	Change (pct. pts.)
All Americans	48	86	+38
Age 18-37 today (0-17 in 1991)	n/a	97	n/a
Age 38-49 today (18-29 in 1991)	64	90	+26
Age 50-69 today (30-49 in 1991)	56	86	+30
Age 70+ today (age 50+ in 1991)	27	61	+34

GALLUP

However, generational replacement is still a factor as today's younger Americans, who were children or not even born 20 years ago and are nearly unanimous in their approval of black-white marriage, are replacing now-deceased Americans who were generally less likely to approve of interracial marriage when they were alive.

Implications

Americans' acceptance of marriage between people of different races continues to grow and is approaching unanimity, with 86% now approving of marriages between blacks and whites. Widespread approval of interracial marriage is a dramatic shift from roughly 50 years ago when 4% approved, and even 20 years ago, when about half as many approved as do so today.

The trend mimics the growing [support for gay marriage](#) -- though Americans are still less likely to accept that practice than interracial marriage. It also follows the trend toward increasing racial tolerance on other measures such as [voting for a black president](#) and an increasing belief in [progress and equality for blacks](#) in the U.S. more generally.

Survey Methods

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

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

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

For results based on the sample of 796 non-Hispanic whites, the maximum margin of 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.

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/149390/Record-High-Approve-Black-White-Marriages.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA

189-43-24. Perry Holds Big Lead Among GOP Voters, But Only Romney Leads Obama

Bachmann Continues to Slip

September 13, 2011

UTICA, NY--Rick Perry has slipped a few points among likely Republican primary voters from two weeks ago, but still holds a big lead over all announced Republican presidential candidates.

Perry is the top choice of 37% of GOP voters, with Mitt Romney coming in second with 14%. Perry received 41% in our August 29 poll.

Although Romney trails Perry by a wide margin, he is the only announced Republican to hold a lead over President Barack Obama in a poll of all likely voters.

In head-to-head match-ups with Obama, Romney leads the president: 45%-41%. Obama leads Perry: 47%-43%. Romney leads Obama among independents: 41%-33%, while Perry trails Obama among those voters: 44%-40%.

These results are from an IBOPE Zogby interactive poll conducted from Sept. 9-12, before the Sept. 12 debate between Republican presidential candidates.

Match-Ups with Barack Obama (All voters)

If the election for President were held today and the candidates were Democrat Barack Obama and each of the following Republicans, for whom would you vote?

Republican	Ob ama	Someone else	Not Sure
Romney (45%)	41%	9%	5%
Perry (43%)	47%	8%	5%
Cain (42%)	45%	8%	5%
Bachmann (40%)	47%	10%	4%
Santorum (40%)	45%	11%	5%

Gingrich (39%)	46 %	12%	3%
Paul (39%)	42 %	15%	5%
Huntsman (32%)	37 %	20%	11%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Announced GOP Candidates (GOP primary voters)

If the Republican primary for President were held today, for whom would you vote?

Candidate	Sept 12	Aug 29	July 25	July 11	June 30	June 21
Rick Perry	37 %	41 %	-	-	-	-
Mitt Romney	14 %	12 %	17 %	15 %	14 %	15 %
Herman Cain	12 %	8 %	18 %	16 %	15 %	15 %
Ron Paul	11 %	11 %	11 %	13 %	11 %	13 %
Michele Bachmann	7 %	9 %	25 %	28 %	34 %	24 %
Rick Santorum	3 %	3 %	5 %	3 %	7 %	5 %
Jon Huntsman, Jr.	3 %	3 %	3 %	4 %	4 %	2 %
Newt Gingrich	2 %	3 %	1 %	4 %	2 %	2 %
Gary Johnson	1 %	<1 %	<1 %	1 %	<1 %	2 %
Fred Karger	1 %	<1 %	1 %	<1 %	0 %	0 %
Other	2 %	8 %	3 %	4 %	1 %	4 %
Not sure	8 %	2 %	9 %	10 %	8 %	13 %

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,088 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 +/- 2.2 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups. The MOE calculation is for sampling error only.

IBOPE Zogby International also conducted an online survey of 1,023 likely Republican primary voters. The margin of error is +/- 3.2 percentage points.

Source: <http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/09/13/ibope-zogby-poll-perry-holds-big-lead-among-gop-voters-only-romney-leads-obama/>

189-43-25. Jobs Speech Improves Obama Approval

Outlook on National Direction Also Less Negative
September 12, 2011

UTICA, NY--President Barack Obama's address to Congress on job creation seems to have helped his job approval (up three points to 42%) and the percentage of voters saying he deserves re-election (up six points to 39%), a new IBOPE Zogby poll finds.

The percentage of voters who say the nation is on the wrong track dropped to 70% this week after hitting a record high of Obamas term last week at 75%.

The survey, conducted from Sept. 9-12, found proposals in Obamas jobs speech do not get high marks, but he does better with both Democrats and independents than he did a week ago on both job approval and his re-election.

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obamas job as president?

Obama Job Performance	S ept 12	S ept 5	A ug 29	A ug 4	J uly 25	J uly 18	J uly 12	J uly 5	J une 21	J une 9	J une 6	J ay 31
Disapprove	58%	61%	60%	58%	54%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%
Approve	42%	39%	40%	44%	44%	43%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%
Not sure	1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Obamas Sept. 5 score on job approval had been the lowest since he took office. The improvement in this latest poll comes from a six-point increase from independent voters (32% to 38%) and a four-point bump among Democrats (74% to 78%).

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

Response	Se pt 12	S ept 5	A ug 29	A ug 4	J uly 25	J uly 18	J uly 11	J uly 5	Ju ne 21	J une 9
Time for someone new	53%	57%	55%	54%	51%	53%	54%	55%	55%	55%
Obama deserves to be re-elected	39%	33%	33%	33%	40%	38%	36%	33%	39%	33%
Not sure	8%	10%	9%	9%	9%	9%	10%	6%	7%	9%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Obama saw gains from Sept. 5 in these totals from both Democrats (65% to 76%) and independents (25% to 31%).

How confident are you that the jobs proposals outlined by President Obama in his address to Congress would increase consumer demand and create jobs if these proposals were enacted?

Response	All voters	Demo crats	Republi cans	Indepen dents
Very Confident + Somewhat Confident	38%	72%	4%	34%
Not Very Confident + Not at All Confident	56%	22%	93%	60%

Not Sure	6%	6%	3%	7%
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Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How confident are you that Congress will pass a jobs bill similar to what President Obama proposed in his address to Congress?

Response	All voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Very Confident + Somewhat Confident	11%	15%	8%	11%
Not Very Confident + Not at All Confident	83%	82%	85%	83%
Not Sure	5%	3%	7%	6%

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Last week, 75% said the nation was on the wrong track and 15% said it was headed in the right direction. Now, 70% say the nation is on the wrong track and 18% right direction.

Congressional approval remains quite low at 13% for all of Congress, 29% for Congressional Republicans and 26% for Congressional Democrats.

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,088 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 +/- 2.2 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/2011/09/12/ibope-zogby-poll-jobs-speech-improves-obama-approval/>

189-43-26. Voters Split on Approaches Government Should Take to Help Create Jobs

Not Much Willingness for Added Taxes to Pay for Projects

September 14, 2011

UTICA, NY – Voters are split on how government can best create jobs, including the ratio of tax cuts to new spending, the value of infrastructure projects versus reduced regulations and taxes, the benefit of public sector jobs to the economy and the importance of so-called “green” public investments. Democrats and Republicans hold sharply different views on all of these issues.

However, there is not much willingness to pay more in taxes to fund regional infrastructure projects, as 42% don’t want to pay any more at all and 16% would pay less than \$200.

These results are from an IBOPE Zogby interactive poll conducted from Sept. 9-12.

In President Barack Obama's jobs proposal outlined in his Sept. 8 address to Congress, he recommended a two-to-one ratio of tax cuts to new spending on infrastructure and aid to states and cities. In our poll, 41% would prefer a plan with more tax cuts, while a combined 46% agree with Obama's ratio or would prefer more spending. Among Republicans, 77% want more tax cuts.

President Obama's jobs proposal has a two-to-one ratio of tax cuts to new spending (on infrastructure projects and aid to cities and state). Do you support this ratio, or would you prefer more in tax cuts or more in spending on infrastructure projects and aid to cities and states?

Response	All	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Support the two-to-one ratio of tax cuts to spending in the President's proposal.	19%	31%	6%	20%
Prefer more tax cuts.	41%	12%	77%	37%
Support more spending on infrastructure projects and aid to cities and states.	26%	48%	3%	25%
Not sure	14%	10%	14%	18%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

How much more in total annual taxes would you be willing to pay if you knew it would be used for infrastructure projects (roads, bridges, sewers, schools, communications, etc.) in the region where you live?

Response	All	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Nothing	4%	17%	73%	41%
Less than \$200	16%	19%	11%	18%
\$200 to \$500	22%	36%	6%	22%
More than \$500	9%	15%	2%	10%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%	10%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Which of these statements comes closest to your opinion about the best way to create jobs?

Statement A: *Reduce regulations on businesses and lower taxes for both individuals and businesses.*

Statement B: Modernize the nation's infrastructure and help pay for it by ending the Bush tax cuts for households earning more than \$250,000 and closing tax loopholes for large corporations.

	Response	A	Demos	Republicans	Independents
	Statement A	48%	13%	87%	47%
	Statement B	46%	80%	6%	48%
	Neither	4%	4%	3%	4%
	Not sure	3%	4%	4%	1%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Which of these statements about jobs in the public sector comes closest to your opinion?

Statement A: Public sector jobs are mostly a drag on the economy and do not add to the nation's productivity.

Statement B: Public sector jobs pump money into the private sector economy and perform valuable public services.

	Response	A	Demos	Republicans	Independents
	Statement A	41%	13%	69%	44%
	Statement B	44%	75%	14%	38%
	Neither	10%	6%	11%	12%
	Not sure	6%	6%	7%	6%

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding

How important are so-called "green" public investments to the nation's economy and future well-being?

	Response	A	Demos	Republicans	Independents
	Very important	49%	81%	12%	50%
	Not very important at all	7%	15%	84%	47%
	Not sure	4%	4%	4%	3%

IBOPE Zogby International conducted an online survey of 2,088 likely 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 +/- 2.2 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.

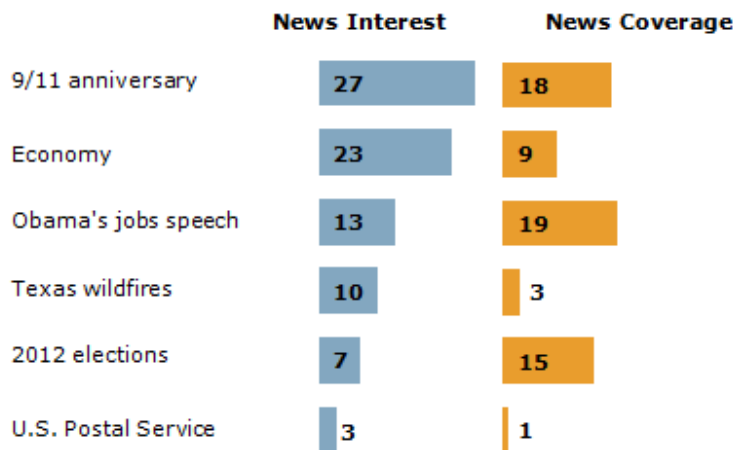
Source: <http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/09/14/ibope-zogby-poll-voters-split-approaches-government-should-take-help-create-jobs/>

189-43-27. 9/11 Commemorations Capture Public Attention

Rick Perry Most Visible Among GOP Contenders

September 13, 2011

News Interest vs. News Coverage



News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, Sept. 8-11, 2011. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, Sept. 5-11, 2011.

The 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks topped the public's news interest last week, but Americans also continued to closely track news about the nation's struggling economy.

About a quarter (27%) say they followed coverage of the solemn 9/11 anniversary more closely than any other news. Nearly as many (23%) say they followed news about the economy most closely. Another 13% cite President Obama's speech to Congress to unveil his jobs plan as

their top story, according to the latest weekly News Interest Index survey, conducted Sept. 8-11 by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press among 1,010 adults.

These two topics – the 9/11 anniversary and the economy’s troubles – also topped media coverage. News about the anniversary and developments related to terror on the home front together accounted for 18% of coverage, according to the Pew Research Center’s Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). News about the economy made up a total of 28% of the newshole. About two thirds of that (19% of all coverage) focused on Obama’s Sept. 8 jobs speech, while 9% focused on economic news more generally.

Most Americans (60%) say that news organizations gave the right amount of coverage to the Sept. 11 anniversary. Fewer (44%) say this about coverage of the early stages of the 2012 presidential campaign.

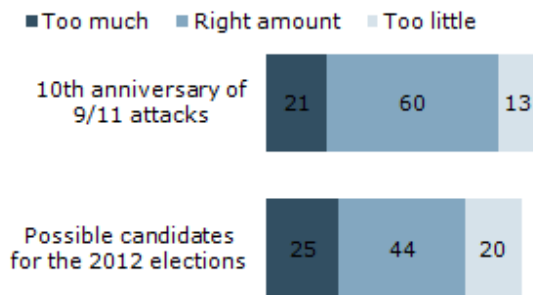
With Rick Perry quickly attaining front-runner status since jumping into the race last month, 31% say the Texas governor is the possible Republican candidate they have heard about most in the news recently. No one else comes close: 12% say that candidate is former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney while 7% say it is Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota. In mid-August, Americans were about equally likely to say they had heard the most about Perry or Bachmann.

Right Amount of 9/11 Coverage?

Four-in-ten (42%) say they very closely followed news about the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks. That is more than said they followed news about the 9/11 anniversary in 2010 very closely (33%) and comparable to the 39% that followed the first anniversary of 9/11 in 2002 very closely. Differences among partisan and demographic groups are generally small.

Among those reached on Sunday, Sept. 11, nearly half (48%) say they followed news about the anniversary very closely. For the three days leading up to the commemoration events, 38% say they followed 9/11 news very closely.

Most See Amount of 9/11 Coverage as Right



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Sept. 8-11, 2011. Don't know responses not shown.

Most Americans (60%) say news organizations have given the anniversary the right amount of coverage; 21% say it received too much coverage and 13% say it received too little. In 2002, just before the first anniversary of 9/11 56% said the anniversary received the right amount of coverage, while 35% thought there was too much coverage. At that point, just 3% said the events commemorating 9/11 received too little coverage.

A plurality (44%) continues to say that news organizations are giving the right amount of coverage to possible candidates for the 2012 election; 25% say the presidential campaign has gotten too much coverage while 20% say it has gotten too little coverage.

Differences among partisans are relatively narrow, though Republican (56%) are more likely than Democrats (45%) or independents (39%) to say news organizations are giving the candidates the right amount of coverage.

Perry Getting Most Attention

Perry Most Visible in 2012 Republican Field

<i>GOP candidate heard most about?</i>	<i>General Public</i>			<i>Republicans and Republican-leaners</i>		
	July 21-24	Aug 18-21	Sep 8-11	July 21-24	Aug 18-21	Sep 8-11
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Rick Perry	3	22	31	3	30	44
Mitt Romney	13	7	12	16	12	11
Michele Bachmann	23	23	7	25	23	7
Sarah Palin	7	4	5	7	3	5
Donald Trump	4	3	3	3	3	3
Ron Paul	1	3	2	2	2	3
Jon Huntsman	1	*	1	1	0	0
Newt Gingrich	1	1	1	1	*	*
Herman Cain	*	1	*	*	2	1
Other	--	--	2	--	--	1
Don't know	<u>44</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>26</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	999	1,007	1,010	395	365	408

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sep. 8-11, 2011. Other category from previous surveys not shown because of changes in candidates mentioned. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding and changes in "other" category.

Three-in-ten (31%) name Perry when asked which GOP candidate they have heard the most about in the news recently. That is much higher than the percentages naming Romney (12%) or Bachmann (7%). The survey was completed before Monday's GOP debate in Tampa.

In mid-August – with Bachmann coming off a win in the Iowa straw poll and Perry joining the race – about as many said they had heard the most about Bachmann (23%) as Perry (22%). Since then, Bachmann's visibility has dropped sharply.

Among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, 44% say they are hearing the most about Perry, while just 11% say this about Romney. Fewer than one-in-ten Republicans and GOP leaners say they have heard the most about Bachmann. Among those in the general public following the early stages of the 2012 campaign very closely, nearly half (48%) say they have heard the most about Perry; 14% name Romney and 6% name Bachmann.

The Week's News

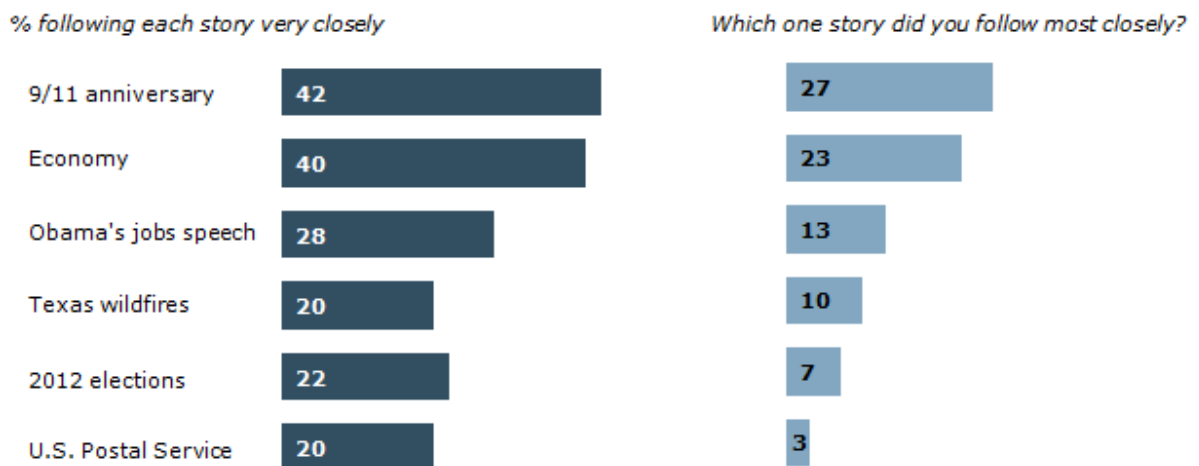
While 42% say they followed news about the Sept. 11 anniversary very closely last week, a comparable 40% say they followed news about the economy very closely. The number tracking economic news very closely is little changed from recent weeks. Republicans, Democrats and independents are about equally likely to say they are tracking economic news very closely.

Overall, 28% say they followed news about the speech to Congress very closely; 13% say this was the news they followed most closely. More than four-in-ten Democrats (43%) say they followed this news very closely, compared with 16% of Republicans and 26% of independents.

Two-in-ten (20%) say they followed news about the destructive Texas wildfires very closely; 10% say this was the news they followed most closely. Not surprisingly, more people in the South followed this news very closely (28%) than those in any other region.

About two-in-ten (22%) say they followed news about the 2012 elections very closely; 7% say this was their top story. The number following very closely is unchanged from the previous week. Though much of the coverage at this point is about the Republican candidates, partisans are about equally likely to say they followed candidate news very closely (25% of Republicans, 21% of Democrats and 22% of independents).

News Interest



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 8-11, 2011.

Two-in-ten (20%) say they followed news about the serious financial problems facing the U.S. Postal Service. Just 3% say this was the news they followed most closely. News about the Postal Service – and the possibility of deep cuts in its operations – made up 1% of coverage, according to PEJ.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected Sept. 5-11, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected Sept. 8-11 from a nationally representative sample of 1,010 adults.

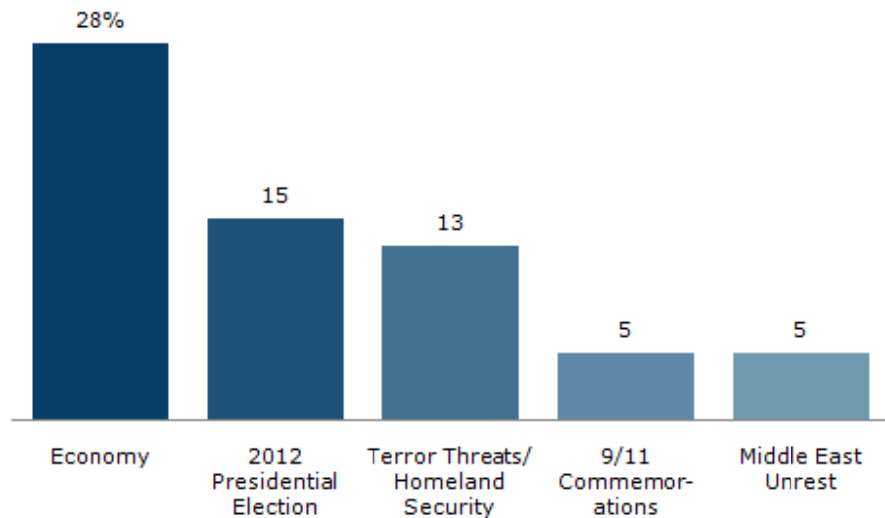
Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/09/13/911-commemorations-capture-public-attention/?src=prc-newsletter>

189-43-28. A Pivotal Presidential Speech Drives The News

The president's speech on job creation drove the news agenda last week, making the economy the No. 1 story despite sharing the week with a lively GOP presidential debate, a special 9/11 anniversary and a new terror threat.

Economy Leads the News

Percent of Weekly Newshole



News Coverage Index, September 5-11, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

Deepening concerns over a double-dip recession, and coverage of

Barack Obama's answer to them, helped the economy fill 28% of the newshole during the week of September 5-11, according to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. That was significantly more coverage than the economy generated the week before, when it was the No. 2 story, at 16% of the newshole.

Obama's September 8 speech, which introduced a \$447 billion package aimed at creating new jobs, was treated by the media as a high-stakes event with implications not only for averting another recession, but also for his presidency. And the pundit reaction to it seemed to break down primarily along partisan lines.

The speech accounted for almost two-thirds of all economic coverage last week. Obama himself was the lead newsmaker in over 50% of all economy stories last week. (To register as a dominant newsmaker, someone must be featured in at least 50% of a story).

Last week's Republican presidential debate made the 2012 election the No. 2 subject last week, at 15% of the newshole, roughly doubling coverage from the week before. The media narrative about the September 7 event held at the Reagan Library in California focused largely on the battle between two front-runners, Rick Perry and Mitt Romney. Some accounts noted the conspicuously small role Michele Bachmann played in the debate.

Two related stories connected to the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and the continuing war on terror combined to account for 18% of the newshole. The No. 3 story (at 13%) focused on U.S. efforts to combat terror, including a warning last week about a possible attack in either Washington, D.C., or New York to mark the 9/11 anniversary. Commemorations and memorials devoted to that anniversary registered as the No. 4 story, at 5%.

The fifth-biggest story, at 5% of the newshole, was coverage of unrest in the Middle East, as Libyan rebels continued their hunt of deposed leader Muammar Gaddafi, who remained at large, though some members of his family were reported to have fled to neighboring countries. That marked the fourth week in a row that the turmoil in that region ranked among the top five stories, although coverage has dropped for two weeks in a row.

Pass This Bill

It was clear from the coverage leading up to Barack Obama’s speech on jobs that much was at stake for the president. Gone was much of the previous week’s attention to the mini-controversy that caused Obama to reschedule the speech at House Speaker Republican John Boehner’s request. That narrative was replaced by the setting of great expectations

“There are huge expectations for this speech,” declared Fox News’ Brett Baier on September 6.

Some in the media closely linked Obama’s hopes for re-election to the speech, including ABC News’ Jake Tapper on World News Tonight on September 8: “Down in the polls, haunted by skyrocketing unemployment, President Obama will give a speech this evening that many Democrats believe could be one of the most important of his career.”

Following a September 2 report that employers added no jobs in August, the Associated Press reported on Sept 5 that, “The disappointing report sparked new fears of a second recession and injected fresh urgency into efforts by Obama to help get millions of unemployed people back into the labor market—and help improve his chances of getting re-elected.”

The substance of Obama’s speech, in which he implored Congress to pass the American Jobs Act, a job creation bill with a \$447 billion price tag, was met with predictably mixed reactions, largely along partisan lines.

Conservative talk host Sean Hannity, in an interview with Eric Cantor on September 8, said “I don’t know what to say except ‘yawn,’ ‘repetitive,’ ‘doubling down on stupid.’ I’ll let you use your own terms here, but it sounded a lot like the stimulus

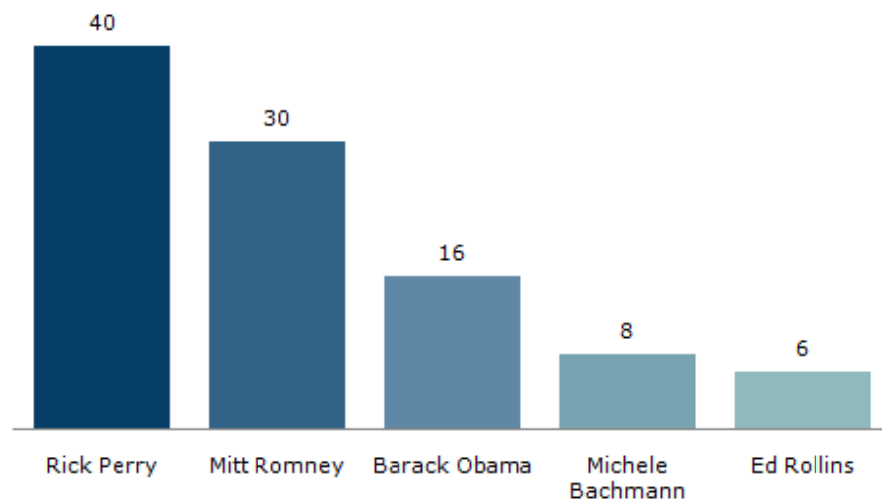
proposal that he had that created no jobs.”

The speech was met more favorably by some on the left, including MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow who, in her September 8 program, called the jobs bill “Republican-friendly but still rather bold.”

Other accounts reactions characterized Obama’s delivery as spirited and galvanizing for his political base. “The president spoke with a renewed sense of urgency,” reported the Washington Post on Sept. 9, and noted his “strong rhetoric and explicit challenge to Republicans.”

Lead Newsmakers in 2012 Presidential Election Coverage

Number of Stories



News Coverage Index, September 5-11, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

Many news reports, however, suggested that American voters are still skeptical that Washington will be able to do anything to truly jumpstart the economy any time soon.

GOP Candidates on Stage

Much of the 15% devoted to the campaign last week revolved around the September 7 Republican debate held in Florida.

The media made note of the liveliness of the debate, including the New York Times on Sept. 8: “The fight for the Republican presidential nomination began narrowing into an intense and ideological battle at a debate here Wednesday night.”

But of chief interest to journalists and pundits was the jostling for position among the top candidates that night. The spotlight seemed to fall on Texas Gov. Rick Perry, a lead newsmaker in nearly 40% of the week’s campaign stories, and former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney, a lead newsmaker in nearly 30%.

In a September 8 Washington Post story—whose headline was revealing in its selectivity (“Rick Perry, Mitt Romney square off in Republican presidential debate”) —Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann was cast as the loser of the encounter. “Any momentum that Rep. Michele Bachmann (Minn.), who won the Iowa straw poll in August, may have had from that victory has been extinguished by Perry.”

MSNBC’s Chris Matthews articulated the same sentiment in a post-debate analysis on September 7: “Bachmann is fading, if not falling.”

The Rest of the Week’s News

The No. 3 story last week was a collection of news items broadly related to the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks and terrorism. Much of the coverage featured the September 8 report that U.S. officials were tracking what was characterized as a credible threat of a possible al Qaeda car bomb attack in Washington, DC, or New York. Other stories highlighted newly uncovered video footage of Flight 93 after it crashed in a Shanksville, Pennsylvania field.

At No. 4, a closely related story was the coverage of the actual commemoration of the 9/11 anniversary itself. That included the permanent memorials and museums that have been built or were still being constructed at the various sites of the tragedy. But other reports chose to focus on individuals who were personally affected by what happened, including Tiffany Ramsaroop whose father died in the South Tower of the World Trade Center.

As a September 9 Los Angeles Times story put it: “Tiffany Ramsaroop has spent the last decade growing from a third-grader to a college freshman. Yet at every milestone there has been a hole where her dad should have been.”

Much of last week’s coverage of the No. 5 story—unrest in the Middle East—revolved around the continued hunt for Libya’s Muammar Gaddafi and his sons. The week began with reports of rebel groups surrounding the city of Bani Walid, a Gaddafi stronghold, but later reports traced his family members to Algeria and Niger.

Newsmakers of the Week

From September 5-11, President Barack Obama was the top newsmaker, featured prominently in 16% of the stories studied by PEJ—up from 10% the week before. Obama’s prominence in the news drew from the heavy focus he received for his major speech before Congress on the state of the economy and his new jobs plan. Not since the week of May 2-8

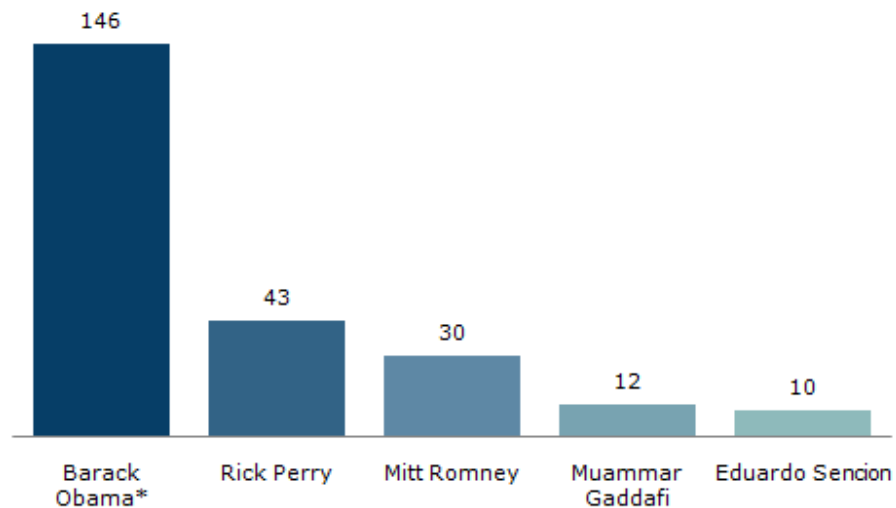
Line of the Week
"Never forgotten" - San Francisco Chronicle front page headline, Sept. 11, 2011

2011, when he announced that Osama bin Laden was dead, has Obama generated that much attention. (That week he was the lead newsmaker in 17% of stories studied).

The next leading newsmakers, Rick Perry and Mitt Romney, were singled out by the media as the stars of Tuesday night's Republican presidential debate. Perry was the No. 2 newsmaker at 5% of the stories, and Romney was No. 3 at 3%. For Perry, it was the fifth

Lead Newsmakers

Number of Stories



*Includes Barack Obama and Obama Administration as a lead newsmaker

News Coverage Index, September 5-11, 2011

PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S PROJECT FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

straight week of being counted among the top five newsmakers, and the single biggest week for attention so far.

At No. 4 was the Muammar Gaddafi, at 1%, the subject of numerous stories trying to follow his whereabouts.

Finally, at No. 5 (1%) was Eduardo Sencion, the gunman who killed four in a Carson City, Nevada, IHOP before turning the gun on himself.

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_september_511_2011?src=prc-headline?src=prc-newsletter

189-43-29. Canadians' Consumer Confidence Continues To Fall In Uncertain Economic Times: survey

15.09.2011 Canada

Canadians' confidence in the economy continued its drop from last month

TORONTO September 15 2011 – Canadians’ confidence in the economy continued its drop from last month as the economic climate continues to worsen in both Europe and the United States. The TNS Canadian Consumer Confidence Index dropped more than another point, from 97.6 to 96.4, after dropping two points in August. Continuing fluctuations in the stock markets, and uncertain economic news emanating from Europe and the United States are continuing to bode poorly for our own economic outlook.

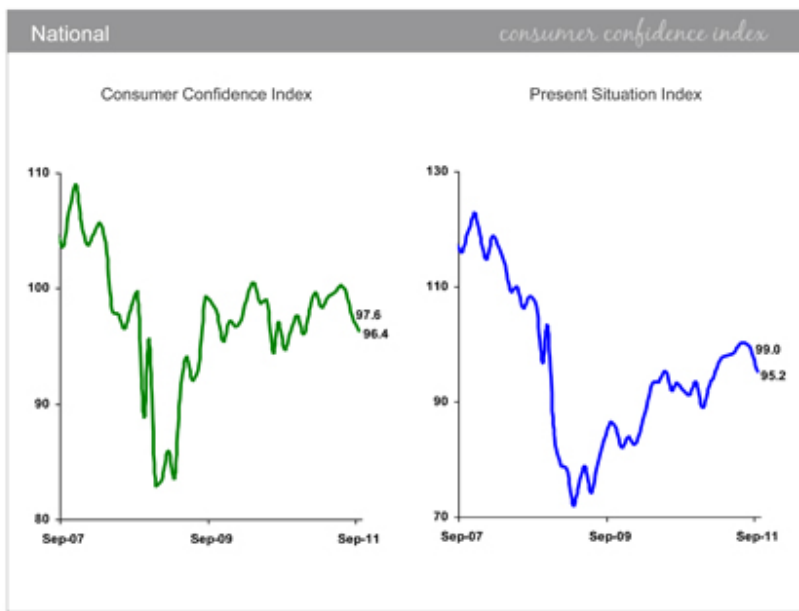
“It is often said that Canada is not an island, and we are certainly seeing the effects of global economic developments on how Canadians feel about their own prospects.” said Norman Baillie-David, Vice President of TNS Canada and director of the marketing and social research firm’s monthly tracking study. “Confidence is continuing to drop even though the Canadian economy continues to perform rather well. We are reacting to the world situation rather than our own. The fear is that falling confidence will halt spending and that tends to be a self-fulfilling prophecy.”

The Present Situation Index, which has been holding steady as Canadians tended to feel resilient despite the problems elsewhere, has now dropped almost four points, from 99.0 to 95.2. The Present Situation Index measures how people feel about the economy right now, meaning Canadians are not feeling very good about their own situation.

The Expectations Index, which measures people’s outlook for the economy six months from now, is the Index which shows the greatest impact of the fear caused by the economic uncertainty. This Index dropped another half-point from 99.6 to 98.4 after having dropped six full points in August. “In August, Canadians feeling about their future prospects fell hard. Now, this has translated into how they feel about the here and now.” added Mr. Baillie-David.

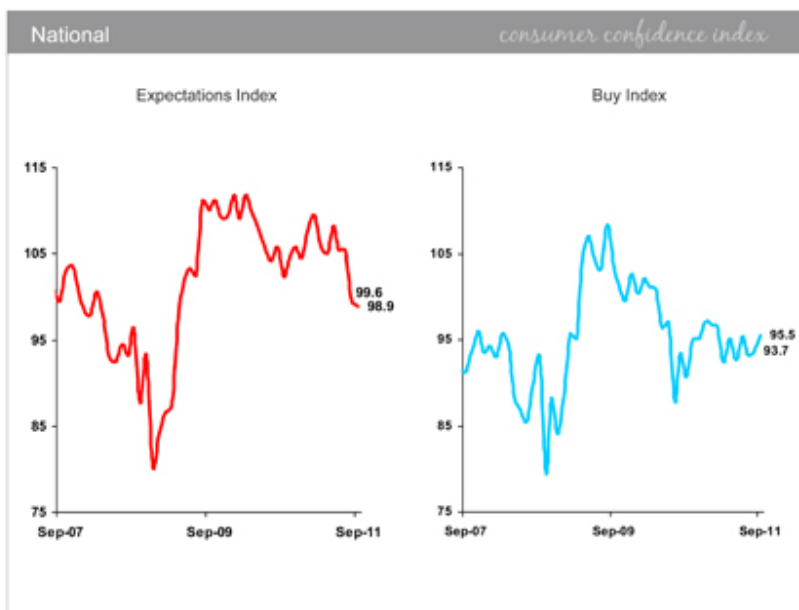
The Buy Index, which measures the extent to which Canadians’ feel that now is a good time to purchase a “big ticket item”, such as a car or a major household appliance, actually showed a slight increase moving from 93.7 to 95.5, but we attribute this to sampling error, given the results in the other three indices.

Consumer Confidence Index tracks Canadians’ attitudes about the economy each month and is part of a global study conducted by TNS in 18 countries. Three indices are produced each month to show how confidence in the economy is changing: Present Situation Index; an Expectations Index; and a Buy Index. The Canadian fieldwork is conducted using the firm’s national bi-weekly telephone omnibus service, TNS Express Telephone. A total of 1,015 nationally representative Canadian adults were interviewed between September 6 and September 9, 2011. For a survey sample of this size, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.



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About the CCI study

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

CCI Index: Includes all 7 variables

Present Situation Index:

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

Expectations Index:

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

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

Buy Index:

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

About Norman Baillie-David:

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

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

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

Before joining TNS Canada, Norm was Managing Partner of an Ottawa-based public opinion research and management consulting firm (2001-2009). He spent most of his preceding career at a major management consulting firm, as well as three years with a wellknown Quebec market research firm. He is a Certified Marketing Research Professional (CMRP), member of the Market Research Intelligence Association (MRIA), and he served as a President of the Ottawa Chapter from 2002 to 2004. If you would like to add proprietary questions to the CCI study, obtain full tabular results, receive a historical time series for all the index scores, or if you have other inquiries about CCI, please contact:

Norman Baillie-David

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www.tnscanada.ca

About TNS

TNS Canada (formerly known as TNS Canadian Facts) is the Canadian arm of TNS. TNS advises clients on specific growth strategies around new market entry, innovation, brand switching and stakeholder management, based on long-established expertise and market-leading

solutions. With a presence in over 80 countries, TNS has more conversations with the world's consumers than anyone else and understands individual human behaviours and attitudes across every cultural, economic and political region of the world.

Source: <http://www.tnsglobal.com/news/news-285C62DBC6434DCB9862F8086FC3F17F.aspx>

AUSTRALASIA

189-43-30. New Zealand National-Led Government's Winning Lead Surges 61.5% (UP 5.5%) cf. 38.5% (DOWN 5.5%). BIGGEST LEAD SINCE OCTOBER 2009

Finding No. 4700 - This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone with a NZ wide cross-section of 938 electors from August 29 – September 11, 2011. Of all electors surveyed 6% (up 1%) didn't name a party.: September 16, 2011

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows support for Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government is virtually unchanged at 61.5% (up 5.5%). Support for Key's National Party is 57% (up 5% - [the highest since October 2009](#)), ACT NZ 1.5% (down 0.5%), the Maori Party 2.5% (up 1%), and United Future 0.5% (unchanged).

Support for Opposition Parties is at 38.5% (down 5.5%) — Labour Party 26% (down 3.5% - [the lowest since March 2009](#)), Greens 7.5% (down 1.5%), New Zealand First 3.5% (unchanged), Mana Party 1% (unchanged) and Others 0.5% (down 0.5%).

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

The latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has risen 0.5 points to 132 — [the highest since March 2011](#) with 60% (up 1%) of New Zealanders saying New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction' compared to 28% (up 0.5%) that say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction.'

Gary Morgan says:

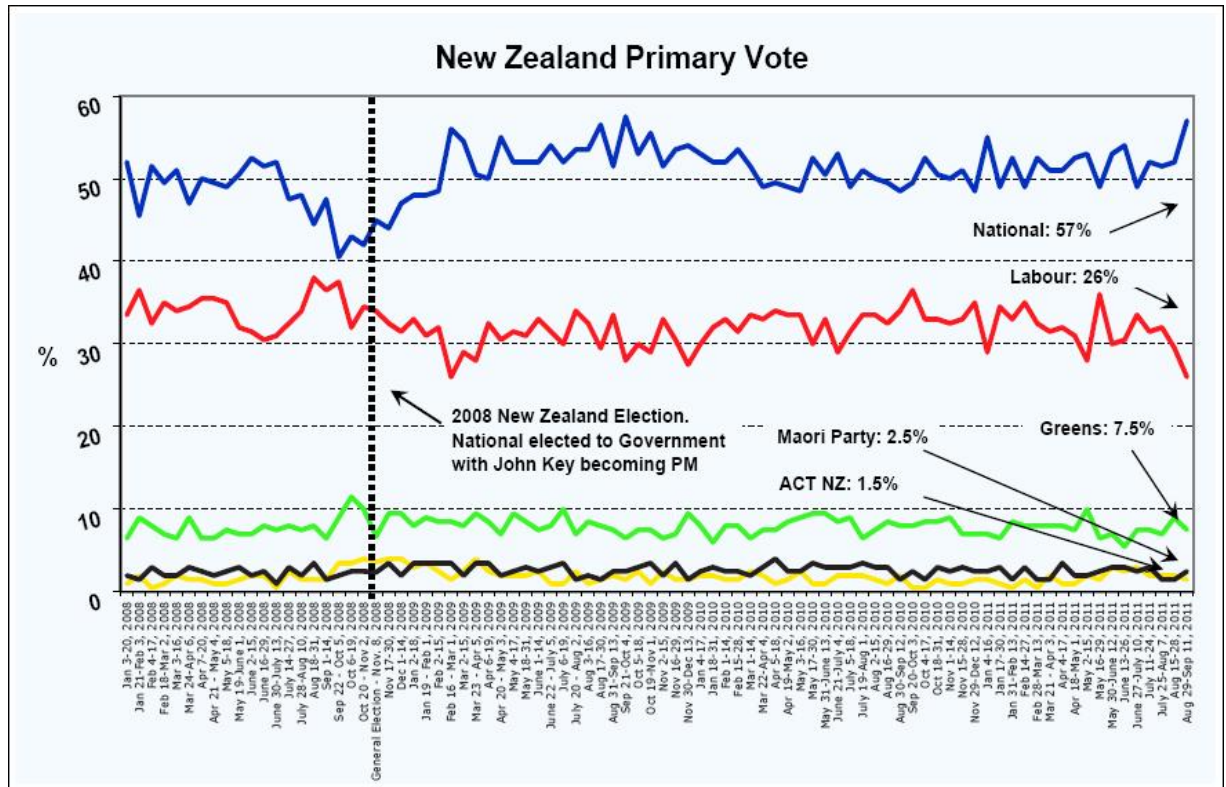
"Today's New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll shows a surge to Prime Minister John Key's National-led Government (61.5%, up 5.5%) strengthening its lead over the Opposition Parties (38.5%, down 5.5%). This is the biggest lead the Key Government has enjoyed since October 2009 — nearly two years ago. National itself has jumped to 57% (up 5%), while the main Opposition Labour Party has fallen to 26% (down 3.5%) — it's lowest since March 2009, just months after the election defeat.

"New Zealanders' focus is now fairly and squarely upon the Rugby World Cup — the biggest event ever to be held in New Zealand. The All Blacks are clear favourites for the tournament and will hope to be there when the final is contested on October 23, 2011.

"During a positive national event like the Rugby World Cup, the benefits of hosting generally accrue to the incumbent, which may explain the surge in the National vote leading up to the opening of the tournament last Friday, September 9. Throughout the period of the Rugby World Cup it will be almost impossible for the Labour Party to improve its position and challenge the large lead held by National."

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

This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone with a NZ wide cross-section of 938 electors from August 29 — September 11, 2011. Of all electors surveyed 6% (up 1%) didn't name a party.



Margin of Error

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

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

Source: <http://www.roymorgan.com/news/polls/2011/4700/>

MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

189-43-31. Britons Question Global Warming More Than Americans and Canadians (09/12/11) -

Half of respondents in the two North American countries think climate change is a fact and is caused by emissions—fewer Britons concur.

While Canadians continue to be more likely than Americans and Britons to blame global warming on man-made emissions, they are not as unwavering about it as they were last year, a new three-country Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of representative national samples also shows that belief in man-made climate change has reached the highest level in the United States since 2009, and has fallen considerably in Britain.

Overall, half of Canadians (52%, -8 since October) and Americans (49%, +7) say that that global warming is a fact and is mostly caused by emissions from vehicles and industrial facilities. Only 43 per cent of Britons (-4) agree with this assessment.

In the United States, one-in-five respondents (20%, -5) think that global warming is a theory that has not yet been proven, along with 20 per cent of Britons (+2) and 14 per cent of Canadians (=).

More than half of Canadians (55%, -6) believe it is more important to protect the environment, even at the risk of hampering economic growth, while 22 per cent (+4) would prefer to foster economic growth, even at the risk of damaging the environment.

In the United States, 47 per cent of respondents (+2) would emphasize protecting the environment, while 26 per cent (-4) would foster economic growth. The biggest change since last year comes in Britain, where only 40 per cent of respondents would protect the environment (-11) and 33 per cent would prefer to foster economic growth (+11).

Analysis

Since 2009, Angus Reid Public Opinion has conducted five three-country surveys on global warming. The latest poll outlines one of the lowest proportions of believers in man-made climate change ever recorded in Canada (52%). Still, Canadians are more likely than Americans or Britons to both believe in emissions as the primary source of global warming and to choose environmental protection over economic growth.

In the United States, despite the economic crisis, belief in man-made global warming has reached the high level that was observed before the so-called “climate-gate” controversy. In addition, the proportion of Americans who brand climate change as an unproven theory fell by five points, the biggest fluctuation observed in the past three years.

Britain has become the main source of skepticism, with the lowest proportion of believers in man-made global warming, and with a third of Britons acknowledging that they would foster economic growth even at the risk of damaging the environment—the largest proportion observed in all three countries.

Methodology: From August 25 to September 2, 2010 Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,001 Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panellists, 1,000 American adults who are Springboard America panellists, and 2,005 British adults who are Springboard UK panellists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1% for Canada and the United States, and 2.2 per cent for Great Britain. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada, the U.S. and Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source:<http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/44037/britons-question-global-warming-more-than-americans-and-canadians/>

189-43-32. Public Narrowly Backs UN Recognition of Palestine: Global Poll

September 18, 2011

As debate continues over whether the Palestinians should ask for a UN resolution recognising Palestine as an independent state, a new global poll for BBC World Service reveals that, in all 19 countries surveyed, more citizens would prefer to see their government vote to support the resolution than vote against it – although only by a modest margin in many countries.

The poll of 20,446 citizens conducted by GlobeScan shows that, while the public is five to two in favour, with three undecided, in only nine countries is there an outright majority of citizens in support of recognizing Palestine as a state.

Across the countries surveyed 49 per cent back the resolution, while 21 per cent say their government should oppose it, and a large proportion (30%) either say that it depends, that their government should abstain, or that they do not know what their government should do.

Support for recognition is strongest in Egypt, where 90 per cent are in favour and only nine per cent opposed. But there is also majority support in the other three predominantly Muslim countries polled – Turkey (60% support, 19% oppose), Pakistan (52% support, 12% oppose) and Indonesia (51% support, 16% oppose). Chinese people are the second most likely overall to favour their government voting for recognition of a Palestinian state, with 56 per cent in support, and just nine per cent opposed.

In terms of countries with a higher level of opposition, Americans (45% support, 36% oppose) and Indians (32% support, 25% opposed, with many undecided) are the most likely to prefer that their government vote against recognizing Palestine, along with Filipinos (56% support vs 36% oppose) and Brazilians (41% support vs 26% oppose).

The results are drawn from a survey of 20,466 adult citizens across 19 countries. It was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan. GlobeScan coordinated fieldwork between July 3, 2011 and August 29, 2011. Within-country results are considered accurate within +/- 2.1 to 3.5 per cent 19 times out of 20.

GlobeScan Chairman Doug Miller commented: “If countries' citizens had a vote at the UN, the poll suggests that Palestine would receive official UN recognition. However, with many people undecided or opposed, domestic repercussions are unlikely if their governments choose to vote against recognition.”

Detailed Findings

Public opinion in the three EU Member States included in the poll is strikingly similar on this issue: France (54% support vs 20% oppose), Germany (53% vs 28%) and the UK (53% vs 26%).

Russian public opinion is at variance with this picture, however, with over half not giving a definite answer and believing that ‘it depends’, that their country should abstain, or simply not being able to offer a view. Those favouring a ‘for’ vote outweigh their counterparts ‘against’ by a ratio of just under three to one (37% vs 13%), with the remainder undecided.

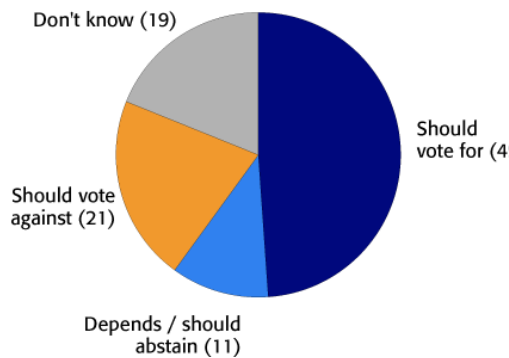
In Latin America, opinion is also equivocal, with much of the public undecided - particularly in Chile, with 52% in neither the ‘for’ nor ‘against’ camps. Nonetheless, the balance of opinion is still towards a vote for recognition rather than against. The percentage favouring a ‘for’ vote is highest in Mexico (45% vs 15%), followed by Brazil (41% vs 26%), Chile (39% vs 9%) and then Peru (38% vs 18%).

In Canada (46% vs 25%) and Australia (50% vs 17%), opinion is broadly in line with the global average.

Meanwhile, in Ghana there is a higher than average proportion advocating an ‘against’ vote (33%). This is the third-highest proportion seen in the poll after the US and the Philippines.

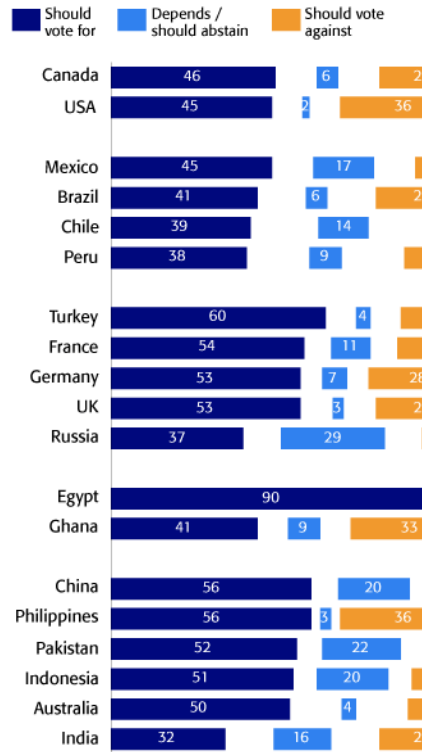
Opinion on How Country Should Vote on Recognition of Palestinian Territories as a State

19 countries, 2011



Opinion on How Country Should Vote on Recognition of Palestinian Territories as a State

By Country, 2011



The white space in this chart represents "DK/NA."

In total 20,466 citizens in 19 countries, were interviewed face-to-face, or by telephone between July 3, 2011 and August 29, 2011. Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan and its research partners in each country. In six of the 19 countries, the sample was limited to major urban areas. The margin of error per country ranges from +/- 2.1 to 3.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Source: http://www.globescan.com/news_archives/bbc2011_palestine/

CYBER WORLD

189-43-33. 7 In 10 Canadian Adults Aware Of Online Daily Group Deal Sites; Groupon Most Popular

12 September 2011

TORONTO — Leading global market research firm Synovate today released data from a recent omnibus survey which found that just over 70% of adults nationally have heard of at least one online daily group deal site. Awareness was highest in Ontario and lowest in Quebec. Adults aged 18-34 and 35-44 were more aware of daily deal sites, as were English speakers and households with children under 18. Men and women were about equally likely to have heard of an online daily group deal site.

The study showed that the most well-known deal site was Groupon, recognized by almost 50% of Canadian adults. The next most well-known deal sites were Kijiji Daily Deals (31%), WagJag (25%) and RedFlagDeals (20%). Knowing about discount sites is one thing; the

willingness to purchase an online daily deal is another. Of the 70% who are aware of online daily group deal sites, one-third indicated that they had actually purchased from one of the sites. Those in Ontario and British Columbia showed the highest level of purchasing from an online daily group deal site.

Among the multitude of deal sites, Groupon attracted the most purchasers, at 18% of adults nationally who are aware of such a site. Usage of Groupon was highest in BC and the Prairies, as well as being especially high among 18-34 year olds.

Adrian Murphy, Vice President of Syndicated Research North America for Synovate said, "Consumers generally seek to get the most value for their money, which is the impetus behind the development of online daily group deal sites. The concept may help retailers and manufacturers save on their advertising budgets and at the same time reinforce brand and product awareness — potentially a win-win situation all around!"

With a growing number of daily deal sites comes more variety of shopping choices. Food & Drink is the most popular category, bought by 44% of those adults who have ever purchased from a daily group deal site. Beauty & Spa was the second most popular category (21%), along with Sports & Recreation (16%) and Art & Entertainment (15%). Males were more likely to have purchased a deal on Food & Drink and Sports & Recreation, while women showed a higher preference for deals on Beauty & Spa than did men.

The source for this survey was Synovate Canada's bi-weekly eNation omnibus program, which also found that seven out of ten online daily group deal purchasers agree that buying such deals saves them a lot of money. Only 14% feel that they spend too much money on daily deal websites. Close to two thirds of deal site purchasers say that they are more willing to try new things through online deals, particularly 18-34 year olds. Interestingly, 33% of those who have purchased from a group deal site state that they have a lot of unused deals.

"The discounted pricing and safety-in-numbers concept that is the essence of online daily group deal sites provides strong incentive for consumers to actively seek out such deals" as stated by Asad Amin, Research Manager and lead for the omnibus program at Synovate Canada.

Other interesting findings from those that have purchased online daily deals include:

- On average purchasers buy about two online daily group deals a month
- Daily deal buyers (49%) will wait for the deal to become activated before making a purchase
 - 72% of purchasers agree that they read all the fine print of the online daily group deal before making a purchase; this activity is much higher among females (79%) than males (64%)
 - More than half (55%) believe that online group deals make great gifts

About the survey

This survey was conducted from August 18 to 22, 2011, with 1,012 Canadian adults aged 18+ through Synovate's twice weekly online omnibus survey, eNation Canada. Respondents for this survey were selected via a systematic random sample from among those who have agreed to participate in Synovate Panel surveys. The Synovate online panel is composed of around 115,000 Canadian households who have been recruited to regularly participate in Synovate's online surveys. Data were projected to represent the entire Canadian adult population based on census data from Statistics Canada, using various weighting factors including income, region and population density.

The information contained above conforms to the principles of survey disclosure and best practices for the market research industry. The full questionnaire is available on request.

Source:<http://www.synovate.com/news/article/2011/09/7-in-10-canadian-adults-aware-of-online-daily-group-deal-sites-groupon-most-popular.html>
