

## **BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD**

### **Global Opinion Report No. 191**

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### **Introductory Note**

This week report consists of 31 surveys. Five of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 25 are national surveys from various countries.

## **191-32 Commentary: *Just 22% Of British Cinemagoers Think 3D Films Improve Cinema Experience***

### ***Are 3D Films A Gimmick? Just 22% Of British Cinemagoers Think 3D Films Improve Cinema Experience***

26 September 2011



British cinemagoers are divided on their opinion of 3D films, but feel an apparent lack of enthusiasm towards this viewing experience that has re-entered the film industry in the last few years. Only around one in five British cinemagoers feels 3D improves the cinema experience, our recent poll has found, while almost half felt it either made no difference to the experience, or even made it worse.

- 22% of British cinema goers feel that 3D cinema improves the cinema experience
- 47% either thought 3D made no difference, or made it worse
- Just 19% feel that 3D improves the quality of a film
- But 41% think that 3D is just a gimmick



- When asked whether they would be more likely to see a film in 3D or 2D, if it was being shown in both formats, at the same time and for the same price, under half (47%) said they would choose to see the film in 3D
- Less than two in five (37%) said they would view it in 2D



- In most cinemas it costs more to watch a film in 3D than in 2D, but our poll shows that over a third of people would choose to see a film in 2D, even if it was the same price to see it in 3D
- While just under half (48%) of British cinema goers would not pay any more money to see a film in 3D instead of 2D
- 49% of those polled agreed with the statement that the hype about 3D films was a phase that would pass

### Notes to Editors

All figures, unless otherwise stated are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2796 adults. The data has been weighted to be representative of the British adult population as a whole. Fieldwork was undertaken between the 4th and 5th September 2011. The survey was carried out online.



Source: <http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-3DFilmsGimmick.pdf>

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191-33 UK





## SUMMARY OF POLLS

### **MIDDLE EAST**

#### **Syrians Highly Approving President Assad but are Optimistic About Their State**

Despite huge disapproval of President Assad, majority of Syrians are optimistic about political and economic conditions in the country. Over eight in ten believe that political and economic conditions in the country will improve. (Democracy Council of California)

September 20, 2011

#### **Massive support for going to the UN, but a majority expects US and Israeli sanctions**

A recent survey of Palestinians shows that there is a massive support for going to the UN, but a majority expects that US and Israeli will respond with financial and political sanctions. Three quarters want an actual exercise of sovereignty throughout the West Bank. (PCPSR)

September 27, 2011

#### **Economic Negativity Abounds in Iraq**

Iraqis' dissatisfaction with economic conditions in their country is the highest it has been in three years, highlighting the challenges the government faces as the U.S. plans to withdraw its troops. The percentage of Iraqis who say the country's overall economy is getting worse rose 17 percentage points in the past year, jumping to 37% in 2011 from 20% in early 2010. (Gallup Abu Dhabi)

September 26, 2011

### **WEST ASIA**

#### **"Suffering" in Iran Nearly Doubles to 26%**

A recent survey by Gallup shows that "suffering" in Iran has nearly doubled, up from 14% in 2008 to 26% in 2011. (Gallup USA)

September 29, 2011

### **NORTH EAST ASIA**

## Survey on Food Safety Shows That Public Confidence Needs to be Revived-2011 09

A recent survey by Ipsos China shows that there has been an overall decline in consumer confidence towards food industry. “Chain Reaction” has resulted from Food safety Issues.

(Ipsos China)

September 01, 2011

## **EAST EUROPE**

### August Problem Background

Three major problems of the country are alcohol and drug addiction, living standards and inflation. As before, alcohol and drug addiction holds the first position among top national problems (50%). The second place is held by living standards (49%). The inflation problem that held the first position in the previous month is now ranked third (48%). (Russian Center for Public Opinion Research)

September 01, 2011

## **WEST EUROPE**

### Miliband's Image Improves, But Still Behind Cameron On Key Leadership Qualities

A recent survey shows that though Miliband trails the Prime Minister on most aspects and is lowest of the three leaders on likeability, Ed Miliband's image has improved since last December, especially when it comes to understanding the problems facing Britain. Cameron has clearest vision for Britain, most capable and best in crisis but also seen as out of touch.

(Ipsos Mori)

September 27, 2011

### Economic gloom in Britain (Multi-country survey)

Just one in ten (11%) Britons describe Britain's current economic situation as good according to new research from Ipsos' Global Advisor online survey conducted in 26 countries. This represents no change from the previous month and places Britons in line with the French towards the bottom of the league of economic optimism. Americans are similarly negative about their own economy, with just 14% describing it as strong. Of the countries surveyed Italy (8%), Ireland (7%), Japan (6%), Spain (6%), Hungary (4%) and Greece (4%) have populations more negative on the economy than Britain. (Ipsos Mori)

September 26, 2011

### Just 22% Of British Cinemagoers Think 3D Films Improve Cinema Experience

British cinemagoers are divided on their opinion of 3D films, but feel an apparent lack of enthusiasm towards this viewing experience that has re-entered the film industry in the last few years. Only around one in five British cinemagoers feels 3D improves the cinema experience, our recent poll has found, while almost half felt it either made no difference to the experience, or even made it worse. (Yougov)

September 26, 2011

### Internal Market: Awareness, Perceptions And Impacts (Multi-country survey)

A recent Eurobarometer survey shows that only one individual in four (26%) thinks that the Internal Market relates to trade within the EU, just over a third of people (35%) were unable to think of anything. The Internal Market is associated with at least one of the four freedoms for 19% of EU citizens, though this is much higher in the Netherlands (51%) and in Cyprus (40%). (TNS Opinion & Social)

September 2011

### Local Authorities and the governance of the Single Market (Multi-country survey)

In a Eurobarometer survey in around a third of the Member States, respondents did not recognise that their role involved policy making or the implementation of legislation. Similarly the interviews reported a mixed level of awareness of the Single Market Act amongst respondents, with some who were not really aware of the Act at all. (TNS Qual+)

September 2011

#### Unhealthy UK Workers' Lost Productivity Cost: 21 Billion Pounds

Full-time workers in the U.K. who are overweight or obese and have other chronic health conditions miss an estimated 103 million additional days of work each year compared with healthy workers -- resulting in an estimated cost of more than 21 billion pounds in lost productivity annually. (Gallup USA)

September 29, 2011

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### Democrats Dispirited About Voting in 2012

In thinking about the 2012 presidential election, 45% of Democrats and independents who lean Democratic say they are more enthusiastic about voting than usual, while nearly as many, 44%, are less enthusiastic. This is in sharp contrast to 2008 and, to a lesser extent, 2004, when the great majority of Democrats expressed heightened enthusiasm about voting. (Gallup USA)

September 29, 2011

#### Americans' Satisfaction With U.S. Remains Near 32-Year Low

Americans' satisfaction with the way things are going in the United States remains at 11% in September as it was in August, the lowest readings on this measure since December 2008 -- and among the worst on record in a trend that dates to 1979. (Gallup USA)

September 28, 2011

#### Despite Negativity, Americans Mixed on Ideal Role of Gov't

Americans have divided opinions when asked to think broadly about the purpose of government. About as many Americans (35%) prefer an activist government that tries in every way to improve the lives of its citizens as prefer a government that provides only the most basic government functions (37%), with the rest placing themselves between these two positions. (Gallup USA)

September 28, 2011

#### Herman Cain Well Liked, but Not Well Known in GOP Circles

Herman Cain's image among Republicans familiar with him is more intensely positive than any other Republican presidential candidate's, but his 51% name recognition continues to rank near the bottom of the field. Among the better-known candidates, Rick Perry has the strongest positive image. (Gallup USA)

September 27, 2011

#### Economic Confidence Slid in Past Week, Mirroring U.S. Stocks

Americans' confidence in the economy faltered last week -- reversing the slight improvement seen in early September -- and is now nearly as negative as it was throughout August after a steep decline in July. Gallup's Economic Confidence Index for the week ending Sept. 25 is -52, compared with -54 in late August and -34 at the start of July. Confidence continues to run well below year-ago levels. (Gallup USA)

September 27, 2011

#### Republican, Democratic Party Images Equally Negative

Americans have similar, mostly negative views of the Republican and the Democratic parties. Gallup's Sept. 8-11 update on party favorable ratings shows 53% viewing the Republican Party unfavorably and 43% favorably, and 55% having an unfavorable and 42% a favorable view of the Democratic Party. (Gallup USA)

September 30, 2011

#### Americans Give GOP Edge in Handling Nation's Problems

Americans see the Republican Party as better able than the Democratic Party to protect the country from terrorism and military threats, and to keep the country prosperous over the next few years. (Gallup USA)

September 30, 2011

#### How People Learn About Their Local Community

While local TV news remains the most popular source for local information in America, adults rely on it primarily for just three subjects -- weather, breaking news and to a lesser extent traffic. And for all their problems, newspapers (both print and on the web) are the source Americans turn to most for a wider range of information than any other source. (Pew Research Center)

September 26, 2011

#### The Toll of the Great Recession

The spread of poverty across the United States that began at the onset of the Great Recession of 2007-2009 and accelerated last year hit one fast-growing demographic group especially hard: Latino children. More Latino children are living in poverty—6.1 million in 2010—than children of any other racial or ethnic group. (Pew Research Center)

September 28, 2011

#### No Consensus About Whether Nation Is Divided Into 'Haves' and 'Have-Nots'

Despite an extended economic downturn, the public's impression of whether the nation is economically divided remains relatively stable. While 45% say American society is divided between "haves" and "have-nots," 52% say it is incorrect to think of the country this way. This is comparable to the balance of opinion a year ago. (Pew Research Center)

September 29, 2011

#### Half Say President, Congress Doing Worse Than Predecessors

Americans are more than twice as likely to say President Obama and the current Congress are doing a poor job (67%) as a good job (30%) of dealing with the most important problems facing the United States. (Gallup USA)

September 29, 2011

#### Americans Again Call for Compromise in Washington

A majority of Americans say it's more important that political leaders in Washington compromise in order to get things done, rather than stick to their beliefs, even as Congress heads for a government shutdown for the second time in less than two months because of partisan disagreements. (Gallup USA)

September 26, 2011

#### 59% Support End of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"; 51% Back Benefits for Same-Sex Military Partners

Small majorities of likely voters support the new military policy allowing gays to openly serve (59%) and agree that the military should also grant equal benefits to same-sex partners of service members (51%). (Zogby-Ibope)

September 27, 2011

#### Most Americans Back Obama's Plan to Tax High Income Earners



U.S. President Barack Obama's proposal to establish a new tax for high income earners is supported by two thirds of Americans, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. However, only one-in-five respondents think the national unemployment rate will drop in the next 12 months. (Angus-Reid)

September 30, 2011

#### Low Ratings Continue for Obama and Congress in the United States

U.S. President Barack Obama maintains a particularly low approval rating just 14 months before he seeks a new term in office, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found. Despite several public appearances in the past few weeks, the American President is only supported by two-in-five respondents. (Angus-Reid)

September 26, 2011

#### American Parents Stress Importance of Their Role in Teaching Kids about Money Management, But Most Aren't Having Regular Discussions

Nine in ten (89%) parents of children aged 5 to 17, with household income between \$15K and \$75K, believe that they are a very important resource when it comes to teaching children about basic money management, but most are not having regularly, weekly discussions with their children on the subject, according to a new Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of BMO Harris Bank. (Ipsos US)

October 03, 2011

#### Americans Express Historic Negativity Toward U.S. Government

A record-high 81% of Americans are dissatisfied with the way the country is being governed, adding to negativity that has been building over the past 10 years. (Gallup USA)

September 26, 2011

### MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

#### Germans Rate Their Lives Worse Than Americans, Britons

Germans rate their lives worse on average than do adults living in the U.K. and the U.S., according to the inaugural findings from the Germany Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. Less than half, 41.1%, of Germans rate their current lives and expectations for their lives in five years high enough to be classified as "thriving," compared with 52% of Britons and 52.9% of Americans who say the same. Relatively few Germans are "suffering," but a majority are "struggling." (Gallup USA)

September 27, 2011

#### In Greece, "Suffering" Up Sharply to 25%

The percentage of Greeks who rate their lives so poorly that they are considered "suffering" has more than tripled to 25% in 2011, from 7% in 2007. Greeks are more likely to be suffering than "thriving," a reality uncommon in the developed world. (Gallup USA)

September 25, 2011

### MIDDLE EAST

#### ***191-43-1. Syrians Highly Approving President Assad but are Optimistic About Their State***

##### **Executive Summary**

In 2011 the Democracy Council conducted a second wave of in-person surveys to determine Syrians' views on governance, the economy, politics, and their personal situations, and to assess their use of media. The first wave was collected from January 16 to February 6, 2010 and provides data from 1,046 adults. The second wave was collected from August 24 to September 2,

2011 from 551 respondents, and includes perceptions of the Syrian protestors and preferences for alternative governance. (Women were underrepresented in the survey sample due to their greater reluctance to participate, from several possible concerns; the data analysis compensates for the imbalance in survey respondents.)

2011 has seen unprecedented unrest and social ferment in Syria. Influenced by ongoing protests and changes of government elsewhere in the Arab world, and reflecting decades of disaffection with the ruling regime and a stagnant economy, thousands of Syrians have engaged in demonstrations against the Assad government. Participation continues to grow and the government's response, from the military, police, and allied paramilitary groups, has become increasingly violent, with at least 2,000 civilians and a smaller number of security forces killed; tens of thousands more have been beaten or imprisoned.

Anti-government protestors appear to have a variety of motivations and demands, including greater political freedoms and an end to the security state. They do not appear to be centrally organized, and social media play a critical day-to-day role in organizing the protests and in networking communities. The self-defined leadership of the opposition is disparate, comprising mostly exiled human-rights activists, youth-led coordinating committees, traditional opposition parties, and sectarian or religious groups. The results of a renewed effort to unite the opposition under a single national council in September 2011 have yet to be seen.

Comparatively, little is known about how ordinary Syrians understand the protest movement and how or why they decide whether to participate in anti-government activity. The government contends that the protests are being driven by religious radicals and foreign agitators. Less frequent pro-government demonstrations appear to be organized by the government, but many participants join voluntarily. As world opinion, including in Syria's neighboring states, hardens against the Assad regime, the regime has stiffened its resolve to put down the demonstrations. It has announced and implemented some substantial changes, but not enough to satisfy its opponents or critics inside or outside the country.

This report presents an analysis of the Democracy Council's 2011 survey results, with five key findings on popular sentiments and perceptions of current events.

- The public has very little confidence in the Assad regime and the government in general. 86.1% of respondents judge President Assad's performance negatively, and 88.2% do not think the current government is capable of solving the country's problems (up from 62.5% in early 2010).
- The anti-government protestors are popular, and most people perceive them as popular. 71.1% have positive views of the protestors and 5.5% have negative views, while 88.0% think that the majority of the population shares the protestors' concerns.
- Reforms will not placate. 11.5% prefer the regime to remain power and make reforms, while 81.7% want regime change; and 87.9% think that reforms will not satisfy the protestors.
- Despite thoroughly negative views of the current circumstances (or perhaps reflecting a sense that things could not get any worse), optimism prevails. 92% expect that the political situation will improve, 91.0% expect the economy to improve, and 78.3% feel more hopeful about the prospect for reforms in Syria in light of popular movements elsewhere in the Arab world.
- Men and women had substantially different views on many issues, with women generally more optimistic and less critical of the government, and women are less well-informed.

Source: [http://www.pepperdine.edu/pr/releases/2011/september/Syria\\_2011\\_09%2023%20Final\\_with%20cover.pdf](http://www.pepperdine.edu/pr/releases/2011/september/Syria_2011_09%2023%20Final_with%20cover.pdf)

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**191-43-2. Massive support for going to the UN, but a majority expects US and Israeli sanctions**

*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*

27 September 2011

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%.

**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 Watar" seeing the decision as a violation of the freedom of expression.

**(1) Going to the UN:**

- 83% support and 16% oppose going to the UN to obtain membership for a Palestinian state.
- In response to the Palestinian UN efforts, 78% expect Israel to stop transfer of custom funds to the PA and 64% expect the US to stop its financial support to the Palestinians.
- 77% expect the US to use its veto power at the UNSC to prevent admittance of the State of Palestine to the UN.

- After the UN vote, 75% want the PA to exercise sovereignty throughout the West Bank and 73% want the PA to assert control over the Allenby crossing with Jordan.
- A majority of 61% supports non-violent resistance as the means to impose Palestinian sovereignty and 54% say they want to participate in peaceful demonstrations.
- By contrast, only 35% support, and 64% oppose, return to an armed intifada.

83% support and 16% oppose 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. Support for going to the UN reaches 86% in the Gaza Strip and 81% in the West Bank. Support for the step increases among supporters of the peace process (87%) compared to those who oppose the peace process (70%), and among supporters of Fateh (91%) compared to supporters of Hamas (78%).

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. Support for imposition of Palestinian sovereignty increases in the West Bank (76%) compared to the Gaza Strip (71%), among supporters of the peace process (80%) compared to those opposed to the peace process (69%), among those with most use of internet (82%) compared to those who do not use the internet (73%), and among supporters of Fateh (79%) compared to supporters of Hamas (66%). 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. Moreover, an identical percentage says that if large scale peaceful demonstrations were to take place in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, they would contribute to the process of ending Israeli occupation. Belief that peaceful demonstrations can contribute to ending occupation is higher in the Gaza Strip (66%) compared to the West Bank (48%), among supporters of the peace process (57%) compared to those opposed to the peace process (50%), and among holders of BA degree (58%) compared to illiterates (39%).

## **(2) Conditions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, performance of the governments of Fayyad and Haniyeh, and presidency and legislative elections**

- Positive evaluation of conditions in the West Bank is higher than that of conditions in the Gaza Strip in areas of general conditions, freedom of the press, and the

ability of citizens to criticize authorities without fear. But percentage of those who believe corruption exists in PA institutions in the West Bank is higher than percentage of those who believe corruption exists in Hamas' public institutions in the Gaza Strip.

- Positive evaluation of the performance of Haniyeh's government stands at 34% and Fayyad's at 53%.
- 49% of Gazans say they want to immigrate while in the West Bank only 28% want to do the same.
- Satisfaction with the performance of president Abbas stands at 52% and dissatisfaction at 44%.
- If new presidential elections were to take place today, Abbas would receive 59% of the vote and Haniyeh 34%.
- If new legislative elections were to take place today, Hamas would receive 29% of the vote, Fateh 45%, third parties combined 13%, and 14% remain undecided.
- 23% support and 42% oppose the decision by the PA's Attorney General to ban the satirical series "Watan ala Watar" and 35% have no opinion.
- 20% support and 71% oppose the decision of the Hamas government in the Gaza Strip to ban the travel of students to the US to continue their studies.

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. Moreover, 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, only 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. On the other hand, 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. 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. 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%. 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%. Support for Abbas reaches 63% in the West Bank and 51% in the Gaza Strip while support for Haniyeh stands at 29% in the West Bank and 42% in the Gaza Strip.

Support for Abbas increases also among men (62%) compared to women (55%) while support for Haniyeh increases among women (39%) compared to men (30%). 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%.

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. Opposition to the decision is higher among the youth, between the ages of 18 and 28 years of age (50%) compared to those between the ages of 29 and 39 (44%) and those whose age is 40 or above (35%), among those who oppose the peace process (50%) compared to those who support the peace process (40%), among those with most use of internet (56%) compared to those who do not use the internet (32%), and among holders of BA degree (47%) compared to illiterates (16%). Opposition to the decision stands at 42% among supporters of Fateh and 39% among supporters of Hamas.

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. Opposition to the Hamas government's decision to ban travel of students to the US is higher in the West Bank (76%) compared to the Gaza Strip (63%), among the youth between the ages of 18 and 28 years of age (76%) compared to those whose age is 40 or over (69%), among those who say they are "somewhat religious" (77%) compared to those who say they are religious (64%) among supporters of the peace process (77%) compared to those opposed to the peace process (54%), among those with most use of internet (81%) compared to those who do not use the internet (70%), among holders of BA degree (77%) compared to illiterates (49%), and among supporters of Fateh (83%) compared to supporters of Hamas (45%).

### **(3) The Peace Process**

- 55% support and 40% oppose the Arab Peace Initiative
- 46% support and 52% oppose a mutual recognition of national identity of Israel and Palestine

- 73% are worried and 27% are not worried that they or members of their family would be hurt by Israelis or their land will be confiscated or homes demolished
- 58% believe that Israel's long term goal is to annex the West Bank and expel its inhabitants and 19% believe that its goal is to annex the West Bank and deny Palestinians their political rights

55% of the Palestinians support the Saudi initiative and 40% oppose it. The plan calls for Arab recognition of and normalization of relations with Israel after it ends its occupation of Arab territories occupied in 1967 and after the establishment of a Palestinian state. The plan calls for Israeli retreat from all territories occupied in 1967 including Gaza the West Bank, Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, and the establishment of a Palestinian state. The refugee problem will be resolved through negotiations in a just and agreed upon manner and in accordance with UN resolution 194. In return, all Arab states will recognize Israel and its right to secure borders, will sign peace treaties with her and establish normal diplomatic relations. In our June 2011 poll there was a similar level of support for the plan. Findings also show that 46% support and 52% oppose a mutual recognition of Israel as the state for the Jewish People and Palestine as the state for the Palestinian people after the resolution of all issues of conflict and the establishment of a Palestinian state. These figures are similar to those obtained in our last poll in June.

Moreover, 73% are worried and 27% are not worried that they or a member of their family may be hurt by Israelis in their daily life or that their land would be confiscated or home demolished. The level of perceived threat regarding the aspirations of Israel in the long run is very high. 58% of Palestinians think that Israel's goals are to extend its borders to cover all the area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea and expel its Arab citizens, and 19% think the goals are to annex the West Bank while denying political rights to the Palestinians. Only 21% think Israel's aspirations in the long run are to withdraw from part or all of the territories occupied in 1967.

#### **(4) Most vital Palestinian goals and the main problems confronting Palestinians today:**

- 59% believe that Israeli withdrawal and the establishment of a Palestinian state with the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital is the most vital Palestinian goal while 24% believe that the most vital goal should be to obtain the right of return
- Problems of poverty and unemployment, the absence of national unity, and the continuation of Israeli occupation are seen equally as the top three problems facing 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. The belief that Palestinian statehood should be the most vital goal increases in the West Bank (63%) compared to the Gaza Strip (50%), among supporters of the peace process (65%) compared to those opposed to the peace process (46%), among supporters of Fateh (64%) compared to supporters of Hamas (58%), and among illiterates and those with elementary education (70%) compared to holders of BA degree (54%).

Five main problems confront Palestinians today: the most serious problem in the eyes of 25% of the public 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.

**Poll No. 41**

**15-17 September 2011**

		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>0 0)</b>	<b>From among the following satellite news stations, which one you watched most during the last two months?</b>			
	1) Al Arabia	13.5%	10.1%	20.2%
	2) Al Jazeera	52.9%	62.2%	34.5%
	3) Al Hurra	.6%	.6%	.6%
	4) Al Manar	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%
	5) Palestine TV	12.1%	11.8%	12.8%
	6) Alaqsa	5.8%	1.7%	13.8%
	7) Do not watch TV	7.8%	7.6%	8.3%
	8) Others	2.9%	2.3%	4.0%
	9) Do not have a dish	.6%	.1%	1.4%
	10) DK/NA	.6%	.3%	1.2%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>0 1)</b>	<b>In general, how would you describe conditions of the Palestinians in the Palestinian areas in Gaza Strip these days?</b>			
	1) Very good	3.9%	4.4%	3.1%



		%		
	2) Good	18.9%	16.1%	24.4%
	3) So so	23.4%	21.5%	26.9%
	4) Bad	33.3%	36.8%	26.4%
	5) Very bad	16.7%	15.5%	19.1%
	6) DK/NA	3.7%	5.6%	.0%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>In general, how would you describe conditions of the Palestinians in the Palestinian areas in the West Bank these days?</b>			
<b>2)</b>	1) Very good	7.0%	6.2%	8.5%
	2) Good	31.8%	31.3%	33.0%
	3) So so	28.8%	27.4%	31.6%
	4) Bad	22.2%	25.4%	16.1%
	5) Very bad	7.5%	9.2%	4.0%
	6) DK/NA	2.7%	.6%	6.9%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>03)</b>	<b>Generally, do you see yourself as:</b>			
	1) Religious	43.1%	43.0%	43.4%
	2) Somewhat religious	51.8%	52.7%	50.0%
	3) Not religious	4.9%	4.2%	6.1%
	4) DK/NA	.2%	.1%	.5%
<b>04)</b>	<b>Generally, do you see yourself as:</b>			
	1) Supportive of the peace process	59.1%	58.2%	60.8%
	2) Opposed to the peace process	19.	20.0%	19.2%

		7%		
	3) Between support and opposition	20.0%	20.6%	18.8%
	4) DK/NA	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>05)</b>	<b>If new presidential elections are to take place today, and Mahmud Abbas was nominated by Fateh and Ismail Haniyeh was nominated by Hamas, whom would you vote for?</b>			
	1) Mahmoud Abbas	58.5%	63.3%	51.3%
	2) Ismael Haniyyah	34.4%	29.1%	42.3%
	4) DK/NA	7.1%	7.6%	6.4%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>06)</b>	<b>And if the competition was between Marwan Barghout representing Fateh and Ismail Haniyeh representing Hamas, whom would you vote for?</b>			
	1) Marwan Barghouti	65.0%	68.7%	59.2%
	2) Ismael Haniyyah	29.6%	25.7%	35.6%
	4) DK/NA	5.4%	5.6%	5.1%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>07)</b>	<b>The Palestinian society confronts today various problems, like the continuation of occupation and settlements, the spread of unemployment and poverty, the lack of national unity due to the split between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the continuation of the siege and blockade of the Gaza Strip and the closure of its border crossings, the spread of corruption in public institutions, and others. Tell us, what in your opinion, is the problem you see as the most fundamental, the one that must be on the top priority of the Palestinian Authority?</b>			
	1) Continuation of occupation and settlements,	24.4%	28.0%	17.4%
	2) Spread of unemployment and poverty	24.9%	26.0%	22.7%
	3) Lack of national unity due to the split	24.8%	21.7%	30.9%
	4) Continuation of the siege and blockade of the Gaza Strip and the	7.1%	4.9%	11.6%

	closure of its border crossings			
	5) The spread of corruption in public institutions	13.1%	15.8%	7.8%
	6) Others (----- )	3.7%	.9%	9.3%
	7) DK/NA	1.9%	2.8%	.3%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>08)</b>	<b>If new elections agreed to by all factions are held today and the same lists that took part in the last PLC elections were nominated, for whom would you vote?</b>			
	1) Alternative	2.0%	1.5%	2.8%
	2) Independent Palestine	2.7%	2.8%	2.6%
	3) Abu Ali Mustafa	1.8%	2.2%	1.2%
	4) Abu al Abbas	1.9%	2.3%	1.3%
	5) Freedom and social justice	.7%	.4%	1.1%
	6) Change and reform	29.0%	24.8%	35.5%
	7) National coalition for justice and democ	.1%	.1%	.0%
	8) Third way(headed by salam fayyad)	1.7%	2.4%	.6%
	9) Freedom and independence	.8%	.6%	1.0%
	10) Palestinian justice	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%
	11) Fateh	44.6%	45.7%	42.9%
	12) None of the above/ DK/NA/ Do not remember	13.6%	16.0%	9.7%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>09)</b>	<b>In your view, can people in the West Bank today criticize the authority without fear?</b>			
	1) Yes	36.0%	36.0%	36.0%
	2) No	58.8%	60.5%	55.6%
	3) DK-NA	5.2%	3.5%	8.5%

		%		
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
<b>10)</b>	<b>In your view, can people in the Gaza Strip today criticize the authority without fear?</b>			
	1) Yes	26. 2%	26.6%	25.3%
	2) No	60. 3%	54.5%	71.7%
	3) DK-NA	13. 5%	18.9%	3.0%
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
<b>11)</b>	<b>Tell us how do you evaluate the performance of the dismissed government of Ismail Haniyeh in the Gaza Strip in the areas of public services such as those of health, education, and road repairs? Is it good or bad?</b>			
	1) Very Good	7.2 %	5.4%	10.8%
	2) Good	27. 1%	27.6%	26.1%
	3) Neither good nor bad	26. 1%	23.0%	32.3%
	4) Bad	15. 0%	13.4%	18.0%
	5) Very Bad	5.5 %	2.4%	11.8%
	6) No Opinion/Don't know	19. 1%	28.3%	1.0%
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
<b>12)</b>	<b>Tell us how do you evaluate the performance of the government headed by Salam Fayyad in the areas of public services such as those of health, education, and road repairs? Is it good or bad?</b>			
	1) Very Good	11. 2%	10.9%	11.7%
	2) Good	42. 1%	47.0%	32.3%
	3) Neither good nor bad	24. 9%	22.2%	30.1%
	4) Bad	11. 6%	10.4%	14.1%
	5) Very Bad	5.3 %	5.1%	5.7%
	6) No Opinion/Don't know	5.0	4.4%	6.1%

		%		
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>13)</b>	<b>Do you think that there is corruption in PA institutions under the control of President Abu Mazin?</b>			
	1) Yes	71. 1%	74.4%	64.7%
	2) No	17. 9%	15.6%	22.4%
	3) DK-NA	11. 0%	10.0%	12.9%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>14)</b>	<b>Do you think that there is corruption in PA institutions under the control of the dismissed government in the Gaza Strip</b>			
	1) Yes	58. 4%	56.4%	62.2%
	2) No	18. 7%	14.7%	26.3%
	3) DK-NA	22. 9%	28.8%	11.5%
<b>15)</b>	<b>In your view, is there a press freedom in the West Bank?</b>			
	1) Yes	24. 4%	22.6%	27.9%
	2) To some extent	40. 8%	41.3%	39.7%
	3) No	30. 2%	32.2%	26.3%
	4) DK/NA	4.6 %	3.9%	6.1%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>16)</b>	<b>In your view, is there a press freedom in the Gaza Strip?</b>			
	1) Yes	14. 8%	12.1%	20.2%
	2) To some extent	32. 8%	31.0%	36.3%
	3) No	38. 2%	36.9%	40.8%
	4) DK-NA	14. 1%	19.9%	2.8%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>

		tal	Bank	Strip
17)	<b>Do current political, security, and economic conditions lead you to seek emigration abroad?</b>			
	1) Certainly seek to emigrate	14.7%	9.7%	24.7%
	2) Seek emigration	20.3%	18.2%	24.5%
	3) Do not seek emigration	37.0%	38.4%	34.2%
	4) Certainly do not seek emigration	26.9%	32.9%	15.2%
	5) DK/NA	1.1%	.9%	1.5%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
18)	<b>Are you satisfied or not satisfied with the performance of Mahmud Abbas since his election as president of the PA?</b>			
	1) Very satisfied	7.5%	6.4%	9.8%
	2) Satisfied	44.5%	52.5%	29.0%
	3) Not satisfied	32.6%	30.2%	37.2%
	4) Not satisfied at all	10.9%	6.2%	20.1%
	5) DK/NA	4.5%	4.7%	4.0%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
19)	<b>Would you say that these days your security and safety, and that of your family, is assured or not assured?</b>			
	1) Completely assured	7.7%	6.6%	9.9%
	2) Assured	58.9%	61.0%	54.8%
	3) Not assured	27.2%	27.1%	27.5%
	4) Not assured at all	4.7%	4.2%	5.7%
	5) DK/NA	1.5%	1.2%	2.1%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
20-1)	<b>From among the following vital national goals, which in your view should the first most important one and which should be the second most</b>			

	<b>important goal that the Palestinian people should strive to achieve?</b>			
	1) Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital	59.0%	63.3%	50.2%
	2) Obtain the right of return to refugees to their 1948 towns and villages	24.1%	19.9%	32.5%
	3) Establish a democratic political system that respects freedoms and rights of Palestinians	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%
	4) Build a pious or moral individual and a religious society, one that applies all Islamic teachings	10.5%	10.3%	10.8%
		<b>Tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>From among the following vital national goals, which in your view should the first most important one and which should be the second most important goal that the Palestinian people should strive to achieve?</b>			
<b>0-2)</b>	<b>second</b>			
	1) Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state	16.2%	16.3%	16.0%
	2) Obtain the right of return to refugees to their 1948 towns and villages	46.5%	46.9%	45.8%
	3) Establish a democratic political system that respects freedoms and rights of Palestinians	20.0%	20.2%	19.6%
	4) Build a pious or moral individual and a religious society, one that applies all Islamic teachings	17.3%	16.6%	18.6%
		<b>Tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Fateh and Hamas have reached an agreement to unify the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the formation of a government of specialists, and the holding of elections in a year from today. In your view, will the two sides succeed in implementing the agreement and unifying the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?</b>			
<b>1)</b>				
	1) Certainly yes	3.6%	3.4%	3.9%
	2) Yes	44.3%	46.1%	40.7%
	3) No	35.3%	34.0%	38.0%
	4) Certainly no	11.	10.2%	12.9%

		1%		
	5) DK/NA	5.6%	6.3%	4.4%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2)</b>	<b>PA's Attorney General ordered the suspension of the broadcasting of the series called Watan Ala Watar which was aired by Palestine TV during Ramadan. Do you support or oppose the suspension?</b>			
	1) Certainly support	7.1%	5.8%	9.6%
	2) Support	15.7%	16.9%	13.4%
	3) Oppose	30.6%	30.0%	31.6%
	4) Certainly oppose	11.3%	11.8%	10.4%
	5) DK/NA	35.4%	35.5%	35.1%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2)</b>	<b>If you support the suspension of the broadcasting of the series, what are your reasons for that?</b>			
	1) Support the suspension because of the low quality of the work and its repulsive language and style	28.8%	30.0%	26.7%
	2) Support the suspension because of its ridicule of Palestinian civil and security services	33.8%	40.5%	21.6%
	3) For the two reasons above	32.1%	24.2%	46.4%
	4) Other reasons: specify ----- -----	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2)</b>	<b>If you oppose the suspension of the broadcasting of the series, what are your reasons for that?</b>			
	1) Oppose the suspension because it represents a violation of freedom of expression	54.3%	55.4%	52.2%
	2) Oppose the suspension because it is not up to the Attorney General to suspend a TV series	19.4%	18.8%	20.5%
	3) For the two reasons above	24.4%	23.5%	26.2%
	4) Other reasons: specify -----	1.9%	2.2%	1.1%



	-----	%		
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
2 5)	<b>Hamas government in the Gaza Strip decided to prevent students from travel after they were granted scholarships from American AMIDEAST institution to study in the US. Hamas says the decision is justified in order to protect Palestinian social and cultural values while those opposed to the decision argue that it is not justified because it violates the rights and freedoms of citizens. What is your view?</b>			
	1) Justified to protect Palestinian values	19.7%	17.0%	25.1%
	2) Unjustified as it violates citizens' rights	71.4%	75.8%	62.7%
	3) Other: specify -----	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%
	4) DK/NA	7.6%	6.0%	10.9%
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
2 6)	<b>Also, Hamas government issued instructions ordering staff of NGOs wishing to travel abroad to attend conferences to submit a request for permission two weeks in advance of travel date. Hamas says that the decision is justified in order to protect order and enforce the law while those opposed to the decision argue that it is not justified because it seeks to diminish the independence of the NGOs and force them under its wing. What do you think?</b>			
	1) Justified to protect Palestinian values	26.8%	24.4%	31.5%
	2) Unjustified because it diminishes NGOs'	62.7%	66.2%	56.0%
	3) Other: specify -----	1.2%	.9%	1.9%
	4) DK/NA	9.3%	8.6%	10.7%
		To tal	West Bank	Gaza Strip
2 7)	<b>Last month, Israel witness widespread popular demonstrations in Israel demanding social justice, particularly affordable housing. Do you see in this development something good or bad for Palestinians? Or will this have no effect on Palestinians?</b>			
	1) Good for Palestinians	24.4%	25.8%	21.5%
	2) Bad for Palestinians	25.2%	25.2%	25.1%
	3) Will have no effect on	44.	44.8%	44.4%

	Palestinians	7%		
	4) DK/NA	5.8%	4.2%	8.9%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2 8)</b>	<b>And what about you? Do the rising cost of living and your inability to provide a better future for you and your family push you to demonstrate in order to demand a better standard of living and a better life?</b>			
	1) Certainly yes	19.4%	17.1%	24.0%
	2) Yes	46.1%	46.5%	45.3%
	3) No	27.6%	29.9%	23.1%
	4) Certainly no	5.1%	5.2%	4.9%
	5) DK/NA	1.8%	1.3%	2.8%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>2 9)</b>	<b>Few weeks ago, an armed attack against Israelis took place near Eilat and the Egyptian Sinai borders with Israel against. In your view, did it serve or harm Palestinian interests?</b>			
	1) Certainly served Palestinian interests	16.0%	16.9%	14.2%
	2) Served Palestinian interests	45.4%	49.8%	36.8%
	3) Harmed Palestinian interests	15.9%	12.6%	22.2%
	4) Certainly harmed Palestinian interests	7.7%	4.1%	14.7%
	5) DK/NA	15.1%	16.6%	12.1%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 0)</b>	<b>What do you expect to happen between Palestinians and Israelis now after the Palestinian decision to seek membership in the UN on 20 September 2011?</b>			
	1) Negotiations will continue and armed confrontations will stop	27.8%	28.7%	25.9%
	2) Negotiations will continue but some armed attacks will continue	28.3%	26.4%	31.9%
	3) Armed confrontations will not stop and the two sides will not return to negotiations	23.3%	22.0%	25.9%

	4) DK/NA	12. 9%	14.5%	9.8%
	1) Negotiations will continue and armed confrontations will stop	7.8 %	8.4%	6.5%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 1)</b>	<b>Now more than 40 years after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, what in your view are the chances for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state next to the state of Israel in the next five years? Are they high, medium, low, or none existent?</b>			
	1) None existent	21. 8%	21.3%	22.6%
	2) Low	42. 1%	41.9%	42.4%
	3) Medium	27. 9%	29.7%	24.5%
	4) High	6.1 %	5.5%	7.2%
	5) DK/NA	2.1 %	1.5%	3.2%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 2)</b>	<b>To what extent are you worried or not worried that you or a member of your family could be hurt by Israel in your daily life or that your land would be confiscated or home demolished?</b>			
	1) Very Worried	27. 2%	26.4%	28.8%
	2) Worried	45. 5%	45.1%	46.2%
	3) Not worried	22. 7%	24.2%	19.8%
	4) Not worried at all	4.1 %	4.3%	3.6%
	5) DK/NA	.5 %	.0%	1.6%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 3)</b>	<b>What do you think are the aspirations of Israel for the long run?</b>			
	1) Withdrawal from the territories it occupied in 1967 after guaranteeing its security	7.1 %	5.9%	9.3%
	2) Withdrawal form part of the occupied territories after guaranteeing	13. 6%	14.1%	12.6%

	its security			
	3) Annexation of the West Bank while denying political rights of Palestinian citizens	18.6%	15.6%	24.5%
	4) Extending the borders of the state of Israel to cover all the area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea and expelling its Arab citizens	58.2%	62.1%	50.6%
	5) DK/NA	2.5%	2.2%	3.1%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>3</b> <b>4)</b>	<b>According to the Saudi plan, Israel will retreat from all territories occupied in 1967 including Gaza the West Bank, Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, and a Palestinian state will be established. The refugees problem will be resolved through negotiation in a just and agreed upon manner and in accordance with UN resolution 194 which allows return of refugees to Israel and compensation. In return, all Arab states will recognize Israel and its right to secure borders, will sign peace treaties with her and establish normal diplomatic relations. Do you agree or disagree to this plan?</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	5.5%	5.3%	5.9%
	2) Agree	49.9%	49.1%	51.3%
	3) Disagree	31.8%	33.6%	28.1%
	4) Certainly Disagree	8.2%	6.5%	11.5%
	5) DK/NA	4.6%	5.4%	3.2%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>3</b> <b>5)</b>	<b>There is a proposal that after the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the settlement of all issues in dispute, including the refugees and Jerusalem issues, there will be a mutual recognition of Israel as the state of the Jewish people and Palestine as the state of the Palestinians people. Do you agree or disagree to this proposal?</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	3.4%	2.6%	4.9%
	2) Agree	42.9%	42.8%	43.2%
	3) Disagree	39.2%	41.4%	34.7%

	4) Certainly Disagree	12.6%	10.9%	15.9%
	5) DK/NA	2.0%	2.4%	1.2%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 6-1)</b>	<b>Going to the Security Council to obtain a recognition of a Palestinian state</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	24.2%	15.9%	40.5%
	2) Agree	58.8%	65.5%	45.7%
	3) Disagree	14.8%	16.7%	11.1%
	4) Certainly Disagree	1.0%	.3%	2.1%
	5) DK/NA	1.2%	1.6%	.5%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 6-2)</b>	<b>Unilaterally declare the establishment of a Palestinian state</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	12.1%	7.1%	22.0%
	2) Agree	47.3%	50.0%	42.1%
	3) Disagree	35.4%	38.7%	28.9%
	4) Certainly Disagree	3.9%	2.5%	6.5%
	5) DK/NA	1.3%	1.7%	.5%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>3 6-3)</b>	<b>Abandon the two state solution and demand the establishment of one state for Palestinians and Israelis</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	4.5%	2.9%	7.7%
	2) Agree	21.2%	21.4%	20.9%
	3) Disagree	56.2%	63.2%	42.4%
	4) Certainly Disagree	15.9%	10.2%	27.1%
	5) DK/NA	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%

		%		
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>3</b> <b>6-4)</b>	<b>Resort to popular non violent and unarmed resistance</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	9.4 %	6.6%	14.8%
	2) Agree	51. 2%	52.8%	48.0%
	3) Disagree	33. 2%	34.2%	31.2%
	4) Certainly Disagree	4.7 %	4.3%	5.6%
	5) DK/NA	1.5 %	2.1%	.5%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>3</b> <b>6-5)</b>	<b>Return to the armed intifada and confrontations</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	12. 6%	6.1%	25.1%
	2) Agree	22. 6%	17.2%	32.9%
	3) Disagree	52. 4%	62.9%	31.8%
	4) Certainly Disagree	11. 1%	11.9%	9.6%
	5) DK/NA	1.4 %	1.8%	.5%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>3</b> <b>6-6)</b>	<b>Dissolve the Palestinian Authority</b>			
	1) Certainly agree	9.1 %	6.6%	14.0%
	2) Agree	26. 9%	25.0%	30.7%
	3) Disagree	46. 6%	52.8%	34.6%
	4) Certainly Disagree	14. 6%	12.1%	19.5%
	5) DK/NA	2.7 %	3.5%	1.1%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>

3 7)	<b>If at the end of 2011 the Palestinian side unilaterally declares the establishment of a Palestinian state without an agreement with Israel, do you think such a declaration will lead to actual change on the current conditions in the Palestinian areas with regard to settlements and control of the occupation forces over roads and crossings in the West Bank?</b>			
	1) Certainly lead to positive change	1.3 %	.8%	2.2%
	2) Will lead to change to the better	24. 9%	24.0%	26.6%
	3) Will not lead to any change, positive or negative	30. 0%	24.2%	41.3%
	4) Will lead to negative change	32. 7%	38.6%	21.0%
	5) Certainly will lead to negative change	6.3 %	7.1%	4.8%
	6) DK/NA	4.9 %	5.3%	4.1%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
3 8)	<b>In light of the successes achieved by the peaceful revolts in Arab countries like Egypt and Tunisia, do you think that if a peaceful popular revolution is to erupt against the occupation and the settlements in the West Bank it would be capable of ending occupation or stopping settlements?</b>			
	1) Certainly capable	4.0 %	3.2%	5.7%
	2) Capable	30. 1%	25.8%	38.4%
	3) Incapable	51. 5%	56.4%	42.0%
	4) Certainly incapable	12. 3%	12.4%	12.2%
	5) DK/NA	2.1 %	2.2%	1.8%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
3 9)	<b>If no agreement is reached on the resumption of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and armed confrontations between Palestinians and Israelis erupted, do you think they will help achieve Palestinian national rights in ways that negotiations could not?</b>			
	1) Certainly they will help	5.4 %	4.2%	7.9%
	2) Will help	34. 4%	28.8%	45.4%
	3) Will not help	48.	53.3%	38.4%

		2%		
	4) Certainly they will not help	7.4%	8.7%	4.9%
	5) DK/NA	4.5%	5.1%	3.4%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>President Abbas says that there is no point in returning to negotiations without an acceptable term of reference or a freeze on settlement construction and that he intends to go to the UN in September to seek a recognition of a Palestinian state. Do you support or oppose this Palestinian intention?</b>			
<b>0)</b>	1) Certainly support	15.2%	13.0%	19.4%
	2) Support	58.4%	62.6%	50.4%
	3) Oppose	19.4%	18.9%	20.2%
	4) Certainly oppose	3.3%	2.3%	5.1%
	5) DK/NA	3.7%	3.1%	4.9%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>In your view, will a state of Palestine become or will not become a member of the UN in September?</b>			
<b>1)</b>	1) Certainly will become a UN member	5.0%	3.4%	8.0%
	2) Will become a UN member	44.9%	45.6%	43.4%
	3) Will not become a UN member	37.1%	40.4%	30.7%
	4) Certainly will not become a member	5.7%	4.0%	9.2%
	5) DK/NA	7.3%	6.6%	8.7%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>In order to join the UN as a member state, the Palestinian state needs the positive votes of the majority of the members of the UN Security Council with no use of veto, in your view, will the US use or not use its veto power in the UN Security Council in September in order to prevent the UN from admitting the state of Palestine as a UN member?</b>			
<b>2)</b>	1) Certainly yes	28.7%	26.2%	33.6%



	2) Yes	48.0%	51.4%	41.2%
	3) No	13.4%	12.8%	14.5%
	4) Certainly no	2.6%	2.5%	2.9%
	5) DK/NA	7.3%	7.1%	7.9%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>In your view, if the Palestinian side goes to the UN with a request for membership, how would the US respond?</b>			
<b>3)</b>	1) Will stop its financial support and will increase political pressure on the PA	56.3%	59.0%	50.9%
	2) Will only stop its financial support	7.8%	7.7%	8.0%
	3) Will continue its financial support but will increase political pressure on the PA	21.9%	20.0%	25.6%
	4) Will do nothing and the status quo will continue	8.7%	8.5%	9.1%
	5) Others (specify ---- )	.4%	.4%	.2%
	6) DK/NA	5.0%	4.4%	6.2%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>
		<b>tal</b>	<b>Bank</b>	<b>Strip</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>And what about the Israeli response to Palestinian request for UN membership?</b>			
<b>4)</b>	1) Will stop transfer of custom funds to the PA and will make conditions of occupation harsher,	67.7%	70.7%	61.8%
	2) Will only stop transfer of custom funds	9.8%	8.6%	12.2%
	3) Will not stop transfer of customs funds but conditions of occupation will become harsher	11.6%	12.3%	10.4%
	4) Will do nothing and the status quo will continue	8.1%	5.9%	12.4%
	5) Others (specify ---- )	.5%	.3%	.8%
	6) DK/NA	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%
		<b>To</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Gaza</b>

		tal	Bank	Strip
4 5)	<b>After the UN issues its recognition of the Palestinian state in September, do you think the PA president and his government should enforce Palestinian sovereignty over all the territories of the West Bank, for example by opening roads in area C or by starting to build an airport in the Jordan valley, or by deploying Palestinian security forces in area C, even if this lead to confrontation with the Israeli occupation forces and settlers?</b>			
	1) Certainly should	15.6%	14.5%	17.6%
	2) Should	59.0%	61.9%	53.4%
	3) Should not	16.7%	15.3%	19.5%
	4) Certainly should not	3.8%	4.0%	3.2%
	5) DK/NA	4.9%	4.2%	6.2%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
4 6)	<b>And after the UN issues its recognition of the Palestinian state, do you think the Palestinian side should insist on assuming control of the Allenby Bridge terminal from the Israeli side even if this lead to the closure of the terminal and the cessation of Palestinian movement across the bridge to and from Jordan?</b>			
	1) Certainly should	19.3%	17.1%	23.6%
	2) Should	53.9%	54.2%	53.2%
	3) Should not	20.3%	22.2%	16.7%
	4) Certainly should not	2.7%	3.1%	2.0%
	5) DK/NA	3.8%	3.4%	4.6%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
4 7)	<b>And after the UN issues its recognition of the Palestinian state how do you think Palestinians can force the Israelis to withdraw from the territories of the Palestinian state?</b>			
	1) Popular peaceful demonstrations that would break through check points and block roads used by army and settlers	36.7%	34.2%	41.6%
	2) Armed attacks on army and	25.	23.2%	30.6%

	settlers	7%		
	3) Return to negotiations with the Israeli government	29.9%	33.5%	22.7%
	4) Other (specify: ----- )	3.2%	4.0%	1.7%
	5) DK/NA	4.5%	5.1%	3.4%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>4 8)</b>	<b>After the recognition of the Palestinian state in September, if large peaceful demonstrations were to take place in the West Bank and Jerusalem in order to break through check points and close army and settler roads, do you think you will participate in such demonstrations? [to be asked only to West Bank including East Jerusalem residents]</b>			
	1) Certainly yes	13.3%	13.3%	.0%
	2) Yes	40.7%	40.7%	.0%
	3) No	34.9%	34.9%	.0%
	4) Certainly no	8.4%	8.4%	.0%
	5) DK/NA	2.7%	2.7%	.0%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>4 9)</b>	<b>If such large peaceful demonstrations were to take place in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, do you think they would contribute to speeding the process of ending Israeli occupation?</b>			
	1) Certainly yes	9.5%	7.9%	12.7%
	2) Yes	44.3%	39.8%	53.2%
	3) No	35.7%	40.7%	25.8%
	4) Certainly no	7.8%	9.4%	4.7%
	5) DK/NA	2.6%	2.1%	3.6%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>5 0)</b>	<b>In your view, will most European countries recognize the Palestinian state this September?</b>			
	1) Certainly will	5.1%	3.1%	8.9%

		%		
	2) Will	53.1%	53.6%	52.1%
	3) Will not	32.2%	35.6%	25.5%
	4) Certainly will not	2.8%	1.6%	5.1%
	5) DK/NA	6.8%	6.1%	8.4%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>5 1)</b>	<b>From among the countries in the region and the world, which one you see as more supportive of the Palestinians and their just rights?</b>			
	1) Jordan	4.3%	6.1%	.5%
	2) Iran	4.4%	4.6%	4.2%
	3) Saudi Arabia	5.4%	5.5%	5.2%
	4) Turkey	35.1%	35.6%	34.2%
	5) Syria	2.6%	1.9%	4.0%
	6) Egypt	18.1%	11.7%	32.3%
	7) Qatar	2.2%	1.3%	4.1%
	8) Lebanon	1.1%	1.5%	.3%
	9) France	3.2%	3.9%	1.8%
	10) No opinion/Don't know	10.2%	13.6%	2.7%
	11) Others	13.3%	14.4%	10.9%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>5 2)</b>	<b>Concerning armed attacks against Israeli civilians inside Israel, I....</b>			
	1) Strongly support	9.6%	4.0%	20.7%
	2) Support	31.6%	25.9%	42.8%
	3) Oppose	46.7%	55.3%	29.8%

	4) Strongly oppose	8.9 %	11.1%	4.7%
	5) DK/NA	3.1 %	3.7%	2.0%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>5 3)</b>	<b>Which of the following political parties do you support?</b>			
	1) PPP	1.6 %	1.6%	1.6%
	2) PFLP	3.0 %	2.8%	3.4%
	3) Fateh	34. 3%	35.2%	32.4%
	4) Hamas	18. 1%	12.8%	28.4%
	5) DFLP	.6 %	.4%	.8%
	6) Islamic Jihad	1.1 %	.5%	2.4%
	7) Fida	.1 %	.0%	.2%
	8) National initiative (almubadara)	.5 %	.5%	.6%
	9) Independent Islamist	3.2 %	3.5%	2.6%
	10) Independent nationalist	2.8 %	2.6%	3.2%
	11) Third way headed by salam feyyad	.7 %	.8%	.5%
	12) None of the above	32. 7%	37.7%	23.0%
	13) Others	1.3 %	1.6%	.8%
		<b>To tal</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>54)</b>	<b>If you use the internet to surf social sites like Facebook, Twitter, and various groups or to access email, how many times do you normally do that?</b>			
	1) More than once a day	11. 5%	8.7%	17.0%
	2) Daily	17. 9%	15.5%	22.6%
	3) Between 2-5 times weekly	12. 3%	11.4%	14.1%

	4) Once a week	% 6.3	5.6%	7.6%
	5) Once a month	% 5.8	5.5%	6.4%
	6) Others (specify -----)	% .2	.1%	.4%
	7) Does not apply—I have no email and do not visit social sites	46.0%	53.2%	31.9%

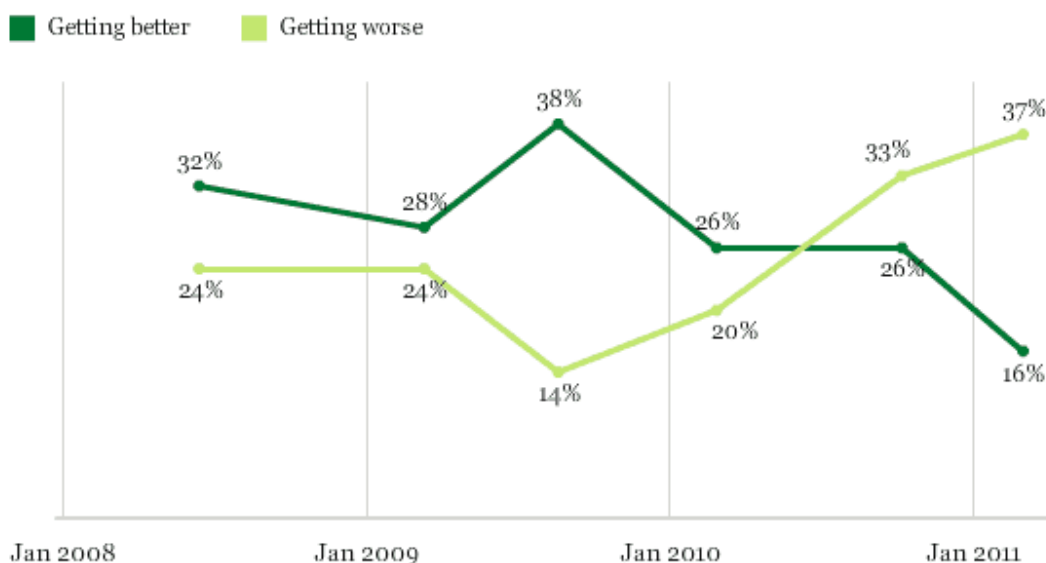
Source: <http://www.pcpsr.org/survey/polls/2011/p41efull.html>

### **191-43-3. Economic Negativity Abounds in Iraq**

New low of 16% of Iraqis say economic conditions are getting better  
September 26, 2011

ABU DHABI -- Iraqis' dissatisfaction with economic conditions in their country is the highest it has been in three years, highlighting the challenges the government faces as the U.S. plans to withdraw its troops. The percentage of Iraqis who say the country's overall economy is getting worse rose 17 percentage points in the past year, jumping to 37% in 2011 from 20% in early 2010.

*Sharp Rise in Percentage of Iraqis Who Say Economic Conditions Are Getting Worse*

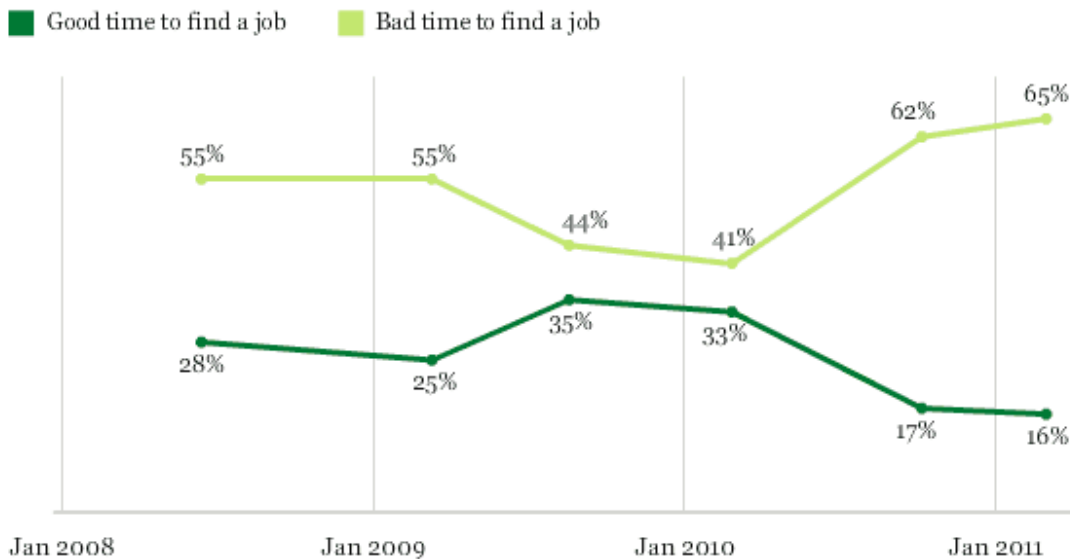


GALLUP

These results are based on the latest Abu Dhabi Gallup Center brief, "Economic Negativity Abounds in Iraq," which explores Iraqis' growing pessimism about the direction in which their economy is moving, their concerns about providing for their families and the availability of jobs, and their general lack of confidence in governmental institutions.

Iraqis' discontent with the economic conditions in the cities and areas where they live spiked as well in the past year. Thirty percent of Iraqis now say their local economies are getting worse, double the percentage who said that in early 2010. This may reflect Iraqis' increasing pessimism about their local job market. Nearly two-thirds of Iraqis (65%) say it is a bad time to find a job in the city or area where they live, up from 41% in early 2010.

*2011 Marks Iraqis' Highest Level of Pessimism About Jobs Situation in Their Local Area*



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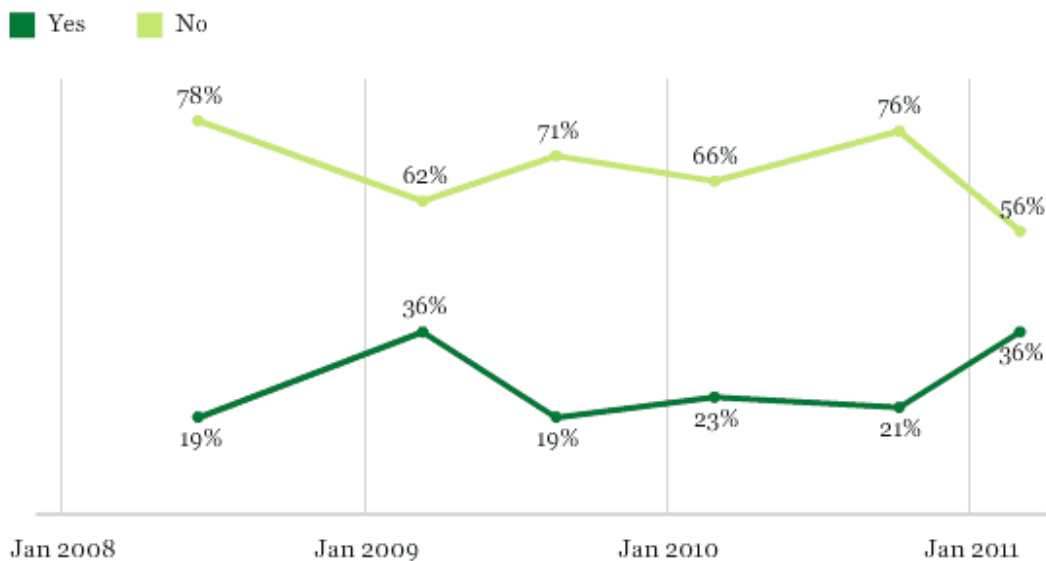
Sixteen percent of Iraqis -- less than half the level at about the same time one year ago -- say now is a good time to find a job locally.

**More Iraqis Struggling to Afford Housing and Get by on Present Incomes**

Gallup survey results hint at the devastation that eight years of war have visited on Iraq and its people's psyche. In a Gallup survey conducted in 2004 -- nearly a year after forces from the U.S., the U.K., and other countries invaded Iraq and toppled Saddam Hussein's regime -- almost half of Iraqis (46%) said they thought the coalition invasion had done more harm than good. A much smaller percentage (33%) said it had done more good than harm. With major parts of the country's infrastructure destroyed and a substantial portion of Iraq's 30 million citizens living in poverty, those early fears seem to have been borne out.

Fifty-three percent of urban Iraqis now live in slum conditions, according to the United Nations, versus 17% in 2000 before the Iraq war began. The percentage of Iraqis who say they did not have enough money at times to pay for shelter jumped to 36% from 21% in late 2010.

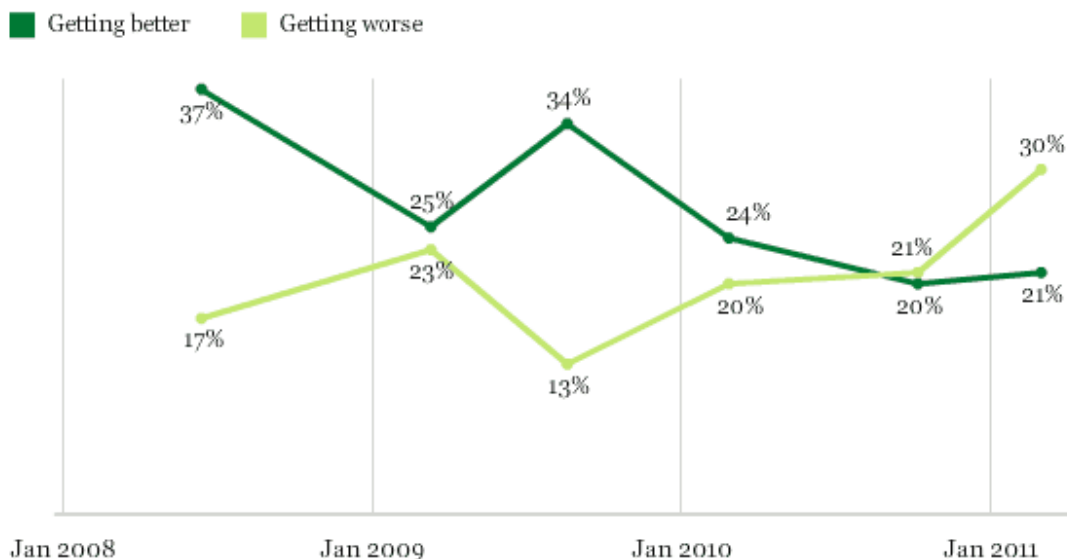
### *Uptick in Percentage of People Who Lacked Money for Shelter in the Last Year*



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More than half of all Iraqis now say they are dissatisfied with their standard of living, and more Iraqis see their standard of living getting worse than getting better -- the first time this has been the case since Gallup started asking the question three years ago.

### *More Iraqis Say Their Standard of Living Getting Worse Than Getting Better*



GALLUP®

As another sign of Iraqis' rising discontent with economic conditions, the number of residents who say it is "difficult" or "very difficult" to get by on their present income has risen to 65% from 39% in early 2010.

### **Implications**



The deepening pessimism comes at a time when Iraqis are seeing change all around them. First, there is the planned withdrawal of U.S. troops, which may complicate reconstruction efforts and plans to secure foreign investment if sectarian violence resurges after the military's departure. There are also the protests and the incipient revolutions elsewhere in the Arab world, which may be causing some Iraqis to take stock of how much control they feel they have over their own lives. Gallup has routinely asked Iraqis whether they are satisfied with their freedom to choose what they do with their lives. In 2011, 25% of Iraqis say they are satisfied, the lowest percentage yet recorded and down from 40% in late 2010.

These data, along with Iraqis' increasing pessimism about their national and personal economic situations reinforce how vital it is for the government to create jobs. Some of the mechanisms for this are already in place, with a 100,000-home residential construction project being led by a Korean company and talk of building a high-speed railway to connect Baghdad to Iraq's southern provinces. These and other projects will need to be financed, safeguarded, and managed in ways that will put Iraqis to work, and give them reason to hope.

Read more about Iraq's challenges in the [in-depth report](#) from the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center.

#### **About the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center**

Building on Gallup's seminal work in the field of [Muslim studies](#), the Abu Dhabi Gallup Center offers unmatched research on the attitudes and aspirations of Muslims around the world. [Learn more.](#)

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on face-to-face interviews in Iraq with 9,435 adults from 2004 through 2011. Surveys were conducted March 22-April 9, 2004; March 5-April 1, 2008; Feb. 20-March 12, 2009; Aug. 10-20, 2009; Feb. 17-27, 2010; Sept. 2-Oct. 8, 2010; and Feb. 21-March 3, 2011. Interviews were conducted with respondents aged 18 and older in 2004 and respondents aged 15 and older from 2008 forward.

For results based on the total sample of adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from  $\pm 1.7$  to  $\pm 3.7$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149702/Economic-Negativity-Abounds-Iraq.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149702/Economic-Negativity-Abounds-Iraq.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World)

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#### **WEST ASIA**

##### ***191-43-4. "Suffering" in Iran Nearly Doubles to 26%***

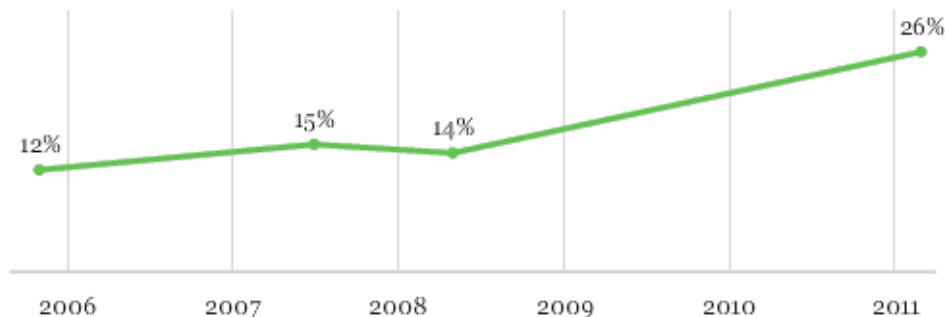
Upward of 15% are unemployed; more than 35% are underemployed

September 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- "Suffering" in Iran has nearly doubled, up from 14% in 2008 to 26% in 2011.

### *Percentage "Suffering" in Iran*

Among those aged 15 and older



"Suffering" means respondents rate their current and future lives 4 or lower on a scale from 0 to 10.

### **GALLUP**

Gallup classifies respondents worldwide as "thriving," "struggling," or "suffering" according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10 based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale.

The percentage of people suffering in Iran is in the higher range of what Gallup found worldwide in 2010, and on par with levels seen last year in Haiti (27%), Central African Republic (26%), and Cambodia (23%) and this year in Greece (25%). Additionally, 55% of Iranians are struggling, while 20% are thriving. When Gallup first measured wellbeing globally in 2005, 12% in Iran were suffering, while 64% were struggling and 24% were thriving.

Gallup research finds that significant increases in suffering or substantial decreases in thriving often can be leading indicators for civil unrest. Most recently, Gallup found considerable drops in thriving in Egypt, Tunisia, and Bahrain and a significant increase in suffering in Greece.

In addition, wellbeing worldwide is highly correlated with the percentage of the workforce employed full time for an employer. In Iran, that percentage ranges from 20% to 29%. This lack of good jobs adds to the other political challenges Iran faces, including sanctions from much of the developed world.

The official statistics from the Iranian government put unemployment at about 15%. Gallup finds unemployment in Iran exceeding 15%, and among the highest rates in the world. Further, adding the percentage of the workforce who works part time but wants full-time work puts underemployment in Iran above 35%, which is also one of the highest rates in the world. Gallup also finds that more than 50% of people surveyed in Iran are not in the workforce, meaning they are either students, homemakers, retired, or people who have stopped looking for work.

### **Bottom Line**

Joblessness not only negatively affects gross national wellbeing, but also negatively influences gross national product. As the country engages in the coming war for good jobs, Iran finds itself falling behind.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,003 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted Feb. 26-March 30, 2011 in Iran. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error,

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149756/Suffering-Iran-Nearly-Doubles.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149756/Suffering-Iran-Nearly-Doubles.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Muslim%20World%20-%20Wellbeing)

## NORTH EAST ASIA

**191-43-5. Survey on Food Safety Shows That Public Confidence Needs to be Revived-2011 09 09.01.2011**

### Background:

Food is of the utmost importance for human beings. Recently, China Business News joined together with Ipsos, a global market research leader, to conduct a public survey. The survey focuses on hot topics like consumer concerns about food safety and the impact food safety scandals have on consumers. It also appraises and elects the "Trust 100 Brands" among three major categories within the food industry, including food and beverage producers, catering enterprises and food retail chains.



Chart 2

Data source: Ipsos

### Research Method:

Online

City Coverage: Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Chengdu, Wuhan, Shenyang, Xi'an

Fieldwork Duration: 15th - 23rd June, 2011

Respondent Criteria: Local Residents Between 19-45 years (F:M=1:1) who have resided for more than 3 years in the stated city and who are the main decision makers when purchasing food. Questions cover three major categories including food and beverage producers, catering enterprises and food retail chains.

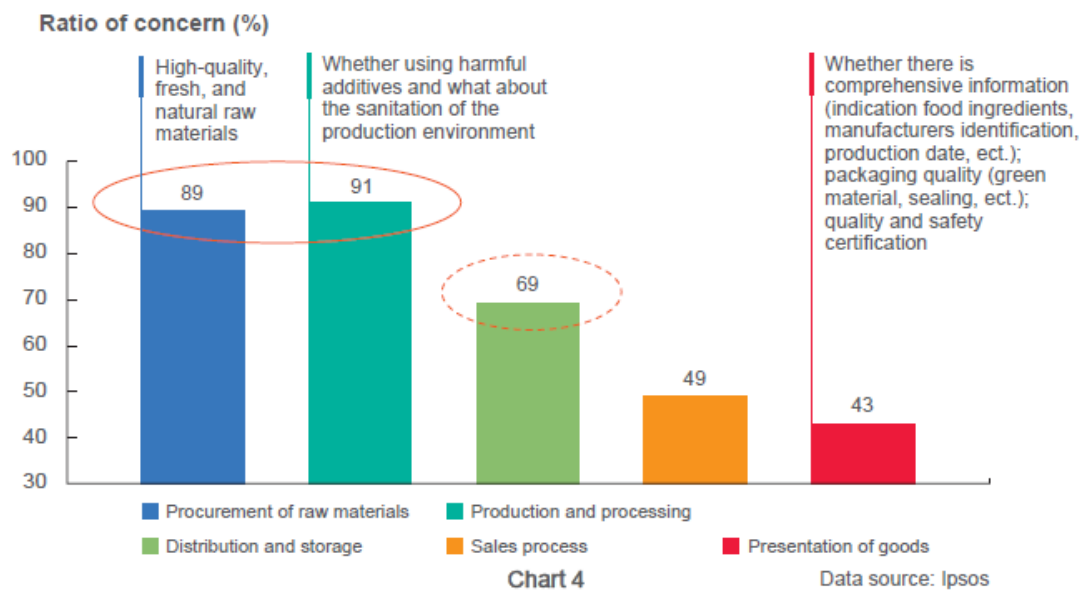
Sample Size: n=1511, an average of 70 respondents per city and category

### Main findings:

Overall Decline in Confidence towards Food Industry

"Chain Reaction" Resulted from Food Safety Issues

Consumption Patterns Influenced



Source: <http://www.ipsos-gc.com/sites/default/files/9%E6%9C%88%E8%8B%B1%E6%96%87%E8%B0%83%E6%9F%A5%E8%BD%ACPDF.pdf>

## EAST EUROPE

### 191-43-6. August Problem Background

Three major problems of the country are alcohol and drug addiction, living standards and inflation.

**MOSCOW, September 1, 2011.** Russian Public Opinion Center (VCIOM) presents the data concerning the national problems that troubles Russians most. For the press release please go to the VCIOM electoral page: <http://vybory.wciom.ru/>

As before, alcohol and drug addiction holds the first position among top national problems (50%). The second place is held by livings standards (49%). The inflation problem that held the first position in the previous month is now ranked third (48%).

Top national threats also include the situation in the housing and communal services sector (47%), unemployment (45%), corruption and bureaucracy (43%).

Less sensitive issues are pension provision, youth situation (34% for each), healthcare (33%), and crime rate (31%). This is followed by the influence of oligarchs on the life in the country (23%), terrorism (22%), situation in education, environmental issues, questions about morality and values (19% per each), situation in the army (18%), delay in salary payments and economic crisis (16% for each). Russians are least worried about the democracy and human rights problem.

The anxiety of Russians over a number of social problems has increased over the recent month; they are living standards (from 45 to 49%), youth situation (from 26 to 34%) and healthcare (from 25 to 33%). Russians are also worried about corruption-related issues (from 37 to 43%) and crime problems (from 24 to 31%). On the contrary, the problems that Russians are worried less are pension provision (from 39 to 34%), education (from 26 to 19%), and demographic situation (from 21 to 16%).

*The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on August 27-28, 2011. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 138 sampling points in 46 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.*

<b>Which of the national problems stated below are the most important for our country? (close-ended not more than seven answers)</b>									
	VI. 2010	VIII. 2010	IX. 2010	X. 2010	I. 2011	IV. 2011	V. 2011	VI. 2011	VII. 2011
Inflation, increase of prices for goods and services	50	55	59	56	9 <sup>5</sup>	60	60	47	50
Alcohol and drug addiction	51	57	59	53	7 <sup>4</sup>	56	60	56	48
Living standards	43	41	48	42	1 <sup>5</sup>	47	43	52	45
Unemployment	51	50	51	46	9 <sup>3</sup>	45	43	47	45
Corruption and bureaucracy	39	41	41	44	8 <sup>4</sup>	47	43	41	37
Housing and Communal services	33	28	33	34	2 <sup>5</sup>	54	42	51	45
Pension provision	28	27	26	33	0 <sup>4</sup>	31	36	32	39
Situation in health care	25	28	27	30	2 <sup>3</sup>	36	33	40	25
Crime problems	36	32	32	31	0 <sup>3</sup>	31	32	36	24
Youth problems	33	26	26	26	2 <sup>3</sup>	32	31	34	26
Situation in education	23	17	19	19	4 <sup>1</sup>	19	26	20	26
Terrorism	36	22	38	26	5 <sup>1</sup>	26	25	22	26
Moral and values	21	22	21	23	8 <sup>1</sup>	18	21	25	16
Influence of oligarchs on country's political life	14	20	17	18	8 <sup>1</sup>	20	20	19	23
Demographic situation (fertility, mortality)	15	16	13	16	7	15	16	12	21
Environm	21	22	18	16	2	17	16	22	28

ental issues					0				
Situation in the army	13	10	10	11	11	12	15	14	21
Delay in salary payments	16	14	13	13	17	12	13	10	19
Democrac y and human rights	9	11	9	8	10	10	10	9	15
Economic crisis	17	14	15	15	16	10	10	18	16
National security	8	10	9	8	8	8	9	-	-
Extremism , fascism	9	5	5	5	9	5	8	-	-
Interethnic and interfaith relations	4	8	8	7	6	7	8	-	-
Russia`s position in the world	10	7	5	7	5	4	5	-	
Relations with the CIS member states	5	7	4	7	4	4	5	-	
Hard to tell	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	1

Source: <http://www.wciom.com/index.php?id=61&uid=411>

## WEST EUROPE

### 191-43-7. Miliband's Image Improves, But Still Behind Cameron On Key Leadership Qualities

Published: 27 September 2011

Fieldwork: 10 - 12 September 2011

#### **Miliband's image improves, but still behind Cameron on key leadership qualities**

Although he trails the Prime Minister on most aspects and is lowest of the three leaders on likeability, Ed Miliband's image has improved since last December, especially when it comes to understanding the problems facing Britain

Cameron has clearest vision for Britain, most capable and best in crisis but also seen as out of touch

*Nick Clegg is seen as likeable but also more style than substance*

Newly released data from the Reuters/Ipsos MORI Political Monitor shows that Ed Miliband still trails David Cameron, who is seen as a more capable leader and better in a **crisis**. This is despite an improvement in the Labour leader's image since the end of last year. The data comes on the day of his address to the Labour Party conference.

Three in five people (59%) think the Prime Minister is a capable leader while only 37% say the same of the Labour leader and 31% of the Deputy Prime Minister. Around twice as many

people think David Cameron is good in a crisis (47%) than Ed Miliband (24%) or Nick Clegg (22%). This is an improvement for David Cameron on his perceived ability in a crisis from the end of last year (41%).

Ed Miliband also has some work to do to set out a clear vision for Britain. The Prime Minister is seen having the clearest vision for Britain (57%) compared to 37% who say that Ed Miliband has a clear vision and 33% for Nick Clegg.

Although he trails David Cameron, Ed Miliband is seen as a more capable leader and better in a crisis than at the end of last year. Ed Miliband's strongest attribute is understanding the problems facing Britain – roughly the same proportion say this about the Labour leader as for David Cameron (52% and 54% respectively).

Further, Ed Miliband is seen as most in touch with ordinary people. Almost two-thirds of the public (63%) say the Conservative leader is out of touch while half say the same of Nick Clegg (52%) but fewer say that Ed Miliband is out of touch (43%). Moreover, both David Cameron and Nick Clegg are seen as more style than substance (both 52%) than Ed Miliband (41%) – although they are also seen as more likeable than the Labour leader.

All three leaders are now seen as more out of touch with ordinary people than at the end of last year, however.

Conservative voters are significantly more positive about their leader than Labour supporters or Liberal Democrats. Nine in ten (92%) Conservative voters say David Cameron is a capable leader while six in ten (62%) Labour supporters say the same of Ed Miliband. Conservatives and Liberal Democrats are more likely to think their respective leaders are likeable than Labour supporters (84%, 85% and 60% respectively). Twice as many Conservative voters as Labour voters say that their leader is good in a crisis (80% compared to 42%).

Ipsos MORI's Gideon Skinner, said:

'This poll shows that Ed Miliband's conference speech has to help him achieve a number of goals: mapping out his vision for Britain, boosting the support of the party faithful and painting him as a competent and credible future Prime Minister. He must do all this whilst building on his image as a leader who understands the lives of ordinary Britons.'

#### **Notes to Editors:**

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/2866/Milibands-image-improves-but-still-behind-Cameron-on-key-leadership-qualities.aspx>

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#### **191-43-8. Economic gloom in Britain**

Ipsos MORI Global @dvisor: Wave 24

Published: 26 September 2011

Fieldwork: 5 - 18 August 2011

Just one in ten (11%) Britons describe Britain's current economic situation as good according to new research from Ipsos' Global @dvisor online survey conducted in 26 countries.

This represents no change from the previous month and places Britons in line with the French towards the bottom of the league of economic optimism. Americans are similarly negative about their own economy, with just 14% describing it as strong. Of the countries surveyed Italy (8%), Ireland (7%), Japan (6%), Spain (6%), Hungary (4%) and Greece (4%) have populations more negative on the economy than Britain.



Meanwhile, the citizens of fellow G8 countries Canada and Germany are by comparison very happy with their economic state – 73% and 66% respectively describe their country's economic situation as good.

Managing Director, Ipsos MORI, **Bobby Duffy**, said:

“People in Britain, as in many other developed countries around the world are really worried about the shape of the economy. As bad news continues to break across the globe it is hard to see where the all important rise in consumer optimism will come from.”

#### **Ipsos Global @dvisor Wave 34: The economic pulse of the world**

##### **Technical Note**

Global @dvisor is a monthly online survey conducted by Ipsos via the Ipsos Online Panel system in 24 countries around the world. This month, fieldwork took place in 26 countries – adding Ireland and Greece.

For the results of the survey presented herein, an international sample of 19,755 adults age 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, were interviewed. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey, where each have a sample approximately 500+.

Weighting was employed to balance demographics and ensure the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data available and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe, (in the small number of developing countries where access to the internet is limited respondents are more likely to be affluent and well connected than the average member of the population.)

Source:<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/2865/Economic-gloom-in-Britain.aspx>

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***191-43-9. Just 22% Of British Cinemagoers Think 3D Films Improve Cinema Experience*** Are 3D Films A Gimmick? Just 22% Of British Cinemagoers Think 3D Films Improve Cinema Experience

26 September 2011

British cinemagoers are divided on their opinion of 3D films, but feel an apparent lack of enthusiasm towards this viewing experience that has re-entered the film industry in the last few years. Only around one in five British cinemagoers feels 3D improves the cinema experience, our recent poll has found, while almost half felt it either made no difference to the experience, or even made it worse.

22% of British cinema goers feel that 3D cinema improves the cinema experience

47% either thought 3D made no difference, or made it worse

Just 19% feel that 3D improves the quality of a film

But 41% think that 3D is just a gimmick

When asked whether they would be more likely to see a film in 3D or 2D, if it was being shown in both formats, at the same time and for the same price, under half (47%) said they would choose to see the film in 3D

Less than two in five (37%) said they would view it in 2D

In most cinemas it costs more to watch a film in 3D than in 2D, but our poll shows that over a third of people would choose to see a film in 2D, even if it was the same price to see it in 3D



While just under half (48%) of British cinema goers would not pay any more money to see a film in 3D instead of 2D

49% of those polled agreed with the statement that the hype about 3D films was a phase that would pass

#### **Notes to Editors**

All figures, unless otherwise stated are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2796 adults. The data has been weighted to be representative of the British adult population as a whole. Fieldwork was undertaken between the 4th and 5th September 2011. The survey was carried out online.

Source: <http://www.yougov.co.uk/corporate/pdf/YG-press-3DFilmsGimmick.pdf>

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#### **191-43-10. Internal Market: Awareness, Perceptions And Impacts**

The Internal Market<sup>1</sup> is a cornerstone of the European Union. First introduced in 1993, its purpose was to break down barriers between individual Member States and, in doing so, to create “**four freedoms**” across the EU: the free movement of people; the free movement of capital; the free movement of goods; and the freedom to provide services. Through these freedoms, the EU has been able to further integration, to deliver economies of scale, and to improve the opportunities available to European citizens.

However, previous research has shown that **awareness of the Internal Market and its benefits is not yet widespread** throughout all of European society, and the main objective of this study is therefore to gauge the current level of awareness amongst the general public. The survey also measures attitudes to cross-border work (whether people support it, and are interested in taking advantage of this freedom themselves), to public procurement that may involve foreign companies, to counterfeiting and piracy, and to citizens’ rights.

By the EU’s own admission, **the Internal Market remains an ongoing project**. While many barriers to integration have been removed since 1993, some obstacles still remain, especially in the provision of services. The barriers remain higher in some Member States than in others. By assessing public perceptions of these outstanding obstacles, this survey aims to contribute to their eventual removal.

The results of this survey will be compared with those of a **2009 Flash Eurobarometer study** of the Internal Market to help highlight possible trends in attitudes to labour freedoms and to the Internal Market in general. However it needs to be borne in mind that the earlier study had a completely different methodology, and therefore these comparisons should be taken only as indicative, rather than as statistically valid analysis.

In the course of this Eurobarometer survey, **26,836 European citizens** aged 15 and above were interviewed about the Internal Market and related issues by the TNS Opinion & Social network between **9th February and 8th March 2011** in all 27 European Union Member States<sup>2</sup>. The methodology used is that of surveys as carried out by the Directorate General for Communication (“Research and Political Analysis” Unit).

A technical note on the methodology for interviews conducted by the institutes within the TNS Opinion & Social network is annexed to this report. This note indicates the interview methods and the confidence intervals<sup>4</sup>.

The study will provide detailed analysis of the degree to which the Internal Market and four freedoms are understood both across the EU and also in individual Member States.

It will assess social attitudes to core principles of the Internal Market, such as the right of citizens to work in any Member State, and also form a picture of which countries are most and least positive towards the idea of an EU free market. The survey also provides **demographic**

**analysis** to help understand how some sections of European society view the values and outcomes of the Internal Market differently from others. The statistical breakdowns include: male/female; age range; the impact of education levels and household income; internet usage; and a range of other socio-economic factors.

### **Perceptions of the Internal Market**

While one individual in four (26%) thinks that the Internal Market relates to trade within the EU, just over a third of people (35%) were unable to think of anything.

The Internal Market is associated with at least one of the four freedoms for 19% of EU citizens, though this is much higher in the Netherlands (51%) and in Cyprus (40%).

In some Member States – especially Malta, the UK and Latvia – almost nobody mentioned any of the four freedoms

Overall there appears to have been a negative shift in opinion towards the Internal Market since 2009.

More people think that the Internal Market has a negative impact than in 2009, while fewer now think it has positive effects.

While 62% of people believe the Internal Market only benefits big companies, only 32% of people think it benefits poor or disadvantaged people.

Citizens in Finland and Slovakia are more likely to be positive, while people in France, Greece and the UK are often less likely to feel that the Internal Market brings benefits

Overall, those citizens who are better aware of the Internal Market (who mentioned at least one of the four freedoms) are more likely to have positive perceptions and to acknowledge the benefits of the Internal Market.

### **Free movement of workers and regulated professionals**

Around one in 10 citizens have worked in another Member State, though a much higher proportion have done so in Luxembourg (35%) and Ireland (21%).

More than half of the EU population (53%) is simply not interested in working Abroad.

Almost one in three citizens (28%) would consider working in another Member State in the future although this ranges from 71% in Sweden and 46% in Finland down to 15% in Austria and 13% in Cyprus.

The language barrier and family considerations are the two main reasons why people choose not to work in another EU country.

The difficulty in finding an appropriate job comes third as a barrier for EU12 citizens while cultural differences do so in the EU15.

Two-thirds of people believe that doctors and nurses are free to work in any EU Member State, although awareness of this ranges from 90% in Cyprus to 48% in Italy.

While a high proportion of people in some countries, such as Cyprus (77%) and Luxembourg (70%) have seen a doctor from another EU country, this is much lower in some countries such as Bulgaria (6%) and Romania (7%).

Two-thirds (64%) of EU citizens are happy to be treated by a doctor from anywhere in the EU, although this ranges from 82% in Malta down to just 33% in Austria.

### **Citizen rights in the Internal Market**

EU citizens have limited understanding of where to learn more about their rights under the Internal Market.

EU citizens show no clear preference for any single information source when it comes to finding out about their rights.

Friends, family and colleagues remain the most popular sources of information, ahead of official resources, such as the EU website.

Renting a car, shopping online and switching provider for gas, electricity or phone were generally seen as easy. Obtaining residence card, recognition of academic diplomas, redress after travel, reclaiming VAT and transferring social security rights caused the most difficulty for EU citizens.

In all cases, EU citizens with a higher level of education tended to find it easier to get things done in another EU country.

### **Intellectual property rights**

A majority (58%) of people say that they are aware of EU common laws to combat piracy and counterfeiting, although more people (75%) claimed awareness in the 2009 survey.

There is considerable variation in awareness between Member States, for example 77% of people in Luxembourg say they are aware of common anti-piracy laws, as opposed to just 35% in Bulgaria.

20% of people have bought goods in the EU that they later realised were counterfeit. This experience is much more common in certain Member States, such as Romania (40%) and Lithuania (38%).

Fashion wear and accessories are the fake products most commonly purchased. Only 12% of EU citizens think that counterfeiting is justifiable under any circumstances, but almost half (44%) think it is acceptable when the original product is too costly.

### **Public procurement**

Over two-thirds of EU citizens (68%) believe that companies from their country should be able to compete for contracts anywhere in the world, though only 55% think all foreign companies should be allowed to compete in their country.

Support for the right of overseas companies to compete in their country is strong in some countries – especially Denmark (69% in favour) and Sweden (67%) – but less so elsewhere, notably in Hungary (34%) and Austria (38%).

Only one person in five thinks that a company's nationality should be the deciding factor when it comes to the awarding of public contracts.

The idea that a company's nationality is important in awarding public contracts is most prevalent in Ireland (29% agree) and Austria (27%). But in countries such as Sweden (7%) and Luxembourg (11%), fewer people think nationality is relevant.

Two-thirds (68%) of people agree that EU-wide rules on the awarding of public contracts help to reduce corruption, but while 87% of people in Malta agree with this, only 48% of those in Latvia agree.

There is widespread agreement that cost is not the only important factor when awarding public contracts, with social considerations, environmental aspects and local employment all regarded as being particularly important.

Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs\\_363\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_363_en.pdf)

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## **191-43-11 Local Authorities and the governance of the Single Market**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Given the importance of local authorities in the overall governance of the Single Market and in view of their proximity to the EU citizens, the Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services (DG MARKT) wanted to engage them in discussion with the following objectives in mind:

To identify potential areas of improvement of the EU policy making process.

To let local authorities suggest ideas for strengthening the Single Market.

The method used for this survey was **in-depth interviews across all 27 EU Member States with two target groups:** elected representatives and senior employees (chief executives or similar high level executive staff) from a range of local governmental authorities.

5 interviews in each Member State with elected representatives from a range of local and government authorities.

9 interviews in each Member State with senior employees (chief executives or similar high level executive staff) from a range of local government authorities.

All respondents had to be responsible at a local level for implementing EU policy or regulating economic activities in the town/city.

### **EU POLICY MAKING**

Before exploring their role in the transposition or implementation of EU laws, the interview concentrated on knowledge of EU policy making at local authority level.

#### **3.1 Key findings**

In around a third of the Member States, respondents did not recognise that their role involved policy making or the implementation of legislation.

Although the research was conducted primarily with local government level respondents, some interviews were conducted at national level (e.g. Luxembourg, Malta). In terms of respondents' involvement in policy making at EU level, the interviews suggested a clear differentiation between the roles of respondents at national level on the one hand, and those at local level on the other. It was respondents at national level who were more likely to regard themselves as interacting with the EU on policy making, while respondents at local level and often did not perceive this to be part of the remit of local government.

Many were often only spontaneously aware of EU funds and awareness was limited to their role as a participant in EU funding programmes. However, during the interview almost all respondents at local level could see their role in relation to the EU but it was almost exclusively as implementers of EU law.

Only a handful said they were involved in the transposition process and this tended to consist of limited consultation by national governments on draft policy.

*"We don't have much to do with the European Union or with European law." (FR – civil servant)*

In terms of which information channels are used, respondents tend to hear about EU policy and policy making through formal structures and personal contacts. Examples of more formalised communications include information on draft policies being received from the relevant central government department, internal information management structures (e.g. in-house research departments, information managers) and participation in expert groups including policy workgroups and industry bodies.

When respondents look for information themselves, the **internet and mass media** were the most commonly mentioned sources. Respondents from more than half of the Member States cited the internet as the main source of information. The EU website was the most commonly mentioned but the Commission and EUR-Lex were also used. Those who had used EUR-Lex were particularly positive about the usefulness of the information contained. While respondents were happy with the content of EU websites, the structure of the websites was sometimes criticised. Information is known to be there, but it is not necessarily easy to access.

*“It would be very good to have some kind of start kit to be able to navigate on EU websites. The few times I’ve visited one, cannot remember which, but I found it extremely confusing so it was difficult to find my way around.” (DK – elected representative)*

Some suggested a clearer, centralised, thematically organised way of providing information. Mass media was also popular – with TV and print media mentioned by around a third of Member States. However Internet and direct contact were the preferred sources of information.

Respondents were asked whether they have access to all the information they require and whether there are areas where they find it difficult to obtain information on EU policy making. Most were satisfied with the level of information they receive – mostly due to the fact that there was little perceived need for such information in their role. Indeed, some expressed the feeling that there was in fact too much information.

Despite this, a range of **information gaps** were still identified. The most prominent of these related to information on the interpretation of legislation, information on the different steps in the law making process and specialist policy information. Some expressed a wish for more guidance and less prescription – guidelines to help authorities understand how to interpret legislation, backed up with examples and case studies.

*“I feel that information on how to interpret the given EU rule is missing, which is often more important than the [rule] itself...” (CZ – civil servant)*

The content was not the only information issue which respondents mentioned. As with the EU websites, the way in which policy-related information is delivered was just as important for many. Respondents identified a number of aspects of the process of looking for information and the **format** in which it was presented that concerned them, the most prominent of which was a need for the **clearer organisation** of information as information searches are time consuming and respondents are not always able to find the information they want amongst all the information available. Language needs to be accessible and relevant documentation needs to be available on a regular basis, with adequate time to respond.

*“I would really need such short analytical reports let us say once a week about the legislation passed in Europe...a summary. Because if you subscribe to those news, you get hundreds of them a day and it is natural that you do not read anything...” (LT – elected representative)*

There was also a feeling that information is stored in too many disparate places and that a centralised database would be useful.

*“From the user[s] perspective, looking for information is complicated. Information should be organised by themes and within them by years, for instance.” (PT - civil servant)*

In general, attitudes to EU policy-making is that it is far removed from the respondent’s day to day role – there is little awareness of personal involvement and it is seen as largely relevant to their work.

*“People start mocking...some decisions made in Brussels, because they are totally irrelevant to their everyday reality. These decisions bring artificial solutions and discussions, wrong policies. And people expect completely different topics to be discussed.” (BG – civil servant)*

Many respondents did not feel they know enough to give an opinion. Where respondents felt qualified to comment, the most positive aspect of the EU policy-making process was the idea of a unified approach to policy, in other words, the harmonisation of policies across all Member States and closer cooperation between countries. The **most negatively regarded aspect** tended to relate to **the consultation process** itself – this was felt to be not extensive enough and not

applied locally. It was also felt that stakeholders were not given enough time to respond. Conversely, the transparency of the consultation process was felt to be positive. Other negative aspects of policymaking included more general criticisms of an inflexible, “one size fits all” approach to policy which does not take into account local considerations, the fact that directives are often too detailed, and as a result the whole policy making process takes too long and is unable to respond quickly enough to local need.

*“It’s very laboured [because there are 27 Member States represented] and slow. Sometimes it’s so slow that it lags behind what is actually happening on the ground.” (BE – civil servant)* Finally there was a feeling amongst some that not all Member States have an equal voice in driving policy decisions.

Respondents had mixed views about whether they felt ownership of EU policies, or not and this often related to respondents’ level of involvement in the policy-making process and to what extent people see their activities are related to the EU.

The majority of respondents were keen in **principle** to be more involved in EU policy-making but many were concerned about the resource constraints and the lack of time available to do this. The majority of respondents who expressed a view on this topic were in favour of web-based consultation.

*“...of course I would be interested in becoming more involved in EU policy making...” (CY – civil servant)*

Improving the consultation process will help to increase engagement. Increasing the consultation at local level (including more consultation with citizens) was also seen as important.

*“Absolutely, always the best approach is to create the laws and the regulations from the bottom upwards. It is impossible to evaluate the needs, no matter if this concerns the business or the civil society, if they do not know what is going at the lowest level...” (BG – elected representative)*

There were mixed opinions on the nature of this consultation, with respondents divided between the idea of direct communication with the EU or for recommendations to be collected at local level by national government who would be the intermediary. The main recommendation for the consultation process was that it be meaningful – in other words, listened to and acted upon. If recommendations are not acted upon, the reasons for this need to be communicated. Timeliness is also a key issue – stakeholders need to be given adequate time to formulate a response. Web-based consultations were generally recognised to be the preferred way of conducting these exercises for reasons of cost-efficiency and speed.

## **SINGLE MARKET ACT**

### ***Key findings***

The interviews reported a mixed level of awareness of the Single Market Act amongst respondents, with some who were not really aware of the Act at all.

Respondents were sent a list of the actions which comprise the Single Market Act prior to the interview and were asked which they felt were most or least important. Strong, sustainable and equitable growth for business. The table below summarises the most and least important actions identified by respondents in this section of the Act.

The most important aspects were public procurement (no.17), energy efficiency (no.11), and SME access to finance (no 12). The least important aspects were EU project bonds (no.15), Common consolidated tax base (no. 19) and EU patent (no. 1)

Public procurement was ranked as most important in around half of the Member States – it was part of respondents’ everyday responsibility at local level, was seen to encourage

competition and transparency and respondents were positive about the principle of standardisation on policy. However it was something many respondents tended to find particularly complex and difficult to implement. They also tended to find it time and resource intensive and would like to see it simplified.

*“All our services and equipment contracts are made according to the code of public procurement, which is the application of an EU directive. Thus this simplification and greater flexibility would make our life much easier” (PT - elected representative)*

Energy efficiency was seen as important in around a third of MS – climate change is an increasing priority at local level. It is often part of the procurement process and therefore impacts on many local development projects. The issue of increasing costs for the consumer also is an issue. The global nature of the issue means that many saw energy efficiency policy as ideally suited to a standardised EU-wide approach.

*“We are currently having many projects concerning energy efficiency, we have for example a whole part of a town in Vantaa which is planned energy efficiently.” (FI – civil servant)*

Finally, the issue of SME support was also viewed as important. SMEs are seen to play a central role in the local economy and difficulties with access to funding (from banks) and to the market (being disadvantaged compared to bigger businesses during the procurement process) means that many respondents felt support was vital.

*“In Greece, we have a lot of small-medium businesses...I think that the backbone of the Greek state is not its heavy industry, it is the SME sector. So, everything that supports the small and medium-sized business is important.” (EL - elected representative)*

Respondents did not really see the relevance of EU project bonds for local authorities. Similarly the issue of EU patents was seen as more appropriate to businesses and central government. A common consolidated tax base was not perceived to be relevant and also some did not see the benefits of such a system.

Respondents mentioned a range of different issues that they thought were missing from this section of the Act, including:

Environment – more concrete objectives, improved pollution/ waste management, resource conservation

Support for science, research and development

Agriculture – improving trade, promoting organic food

Innovation – broader encouragement

E-government / a European public service – seen as important step to integration

Currency control – maintaining stability of the Euro

Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/archives/quali/ql\\_local\\_authorities\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/quali/ql_local_authorities_en.pdf)

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### **191-43-12. Unhealthy UK Workers' Lost Productivity Cost: 21 Billion Pounds**

Four in five workers are above normal weight or have at least one chronic condition  
September 29, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Full-time workers in the U.K. who are overweight or obese and have other chronic health conditions miss an estimated 103 million additional days of work each year compared with healthy workers -- resulting in an estimated cost of more than 21 billion pounds in lost productivity annually.

*Mean Unhealthy Days per Month and Estimated Annual Loss as a Result of Absenteeism, by Health Group Among UK Full-Time Workers*

Controlling for age, gender, income, education, race, marital status, and region

Group	Share of full-time U.K. working population	Mean unhealthy days per month	Estimated annual cost of lost productivity as a result of absenteeism*
Normal weight and no chronic conditions	20.2%	.34	BASELINE
Overweight or obese and no chronic conditions	20.6%	.69	1,369,925,151 pounds
Overweight or obese and one to two chronic conditions	25.7%	1.41	4,849,670,801 pounds
Overweight or obese and three or more chronic conditions	10.8%	5.04	8,307,373,520 pounds
Normal weight and one to two chronic conditions	17.5%	1.44	3,058,338,069 pounds
Normal weight and three or more chronic conditions	5.2%	5.13	3,976,178,563 pounds
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>21,561,486,104 pounds</b>

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Jan. 2-Aug. 31, 2011

\*209 pounds per day is based on research published in The Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (Goetzel, et al.) 2003; 45(1), 5-14., and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2009, Hourly Manufacturing Compensation Costs in the U.S. and U.K.

**GALLUP**

These findings are based on data from the first eight months of Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index tracking in the U.K., collected between Jan. 2 and Aug. 31, 2011. Gallup surveyed 8,866 residents in the U.K., 3,908 of which are full-time employees, meaning they say they work at least 30 hours per week.

Chronic health conditions in this analysis include being overweight or obese; having ever been diagnosed with a heart attack, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cancer, diabetes, asthma, or depression; and recurring physical pain in the neck or back or knee or leg in the last 12 months. Gallup calculated unhealthy days using respondents' answers to the question, "During the past 30 days, for about how many days did poor health keep you from doing your usual activities?"

Full-time workers who are a normal weight and do not suffer from chronic health conditions make up 20.2% of the U.K. workforce and average .34 unhealthy days each month (or about 4 days per year). The average number of unhealthy days per month doubles to .69 among those who are overweight or obese and do not have additional chronic health conditions. Unhealthy



days per month increase further to 1.41 for workers who are overweight or obese and have one to two additional chronic health conditions. Workers who are an above-normal weight and have *three or more chronic health conditions* report a significantly higher average of 5.04 unhealthy days per month. A similar pattern exists among workers who are a normal weight but have either currently or at some point in their lives other chronic health conditions.

To estimate how unhealthy days per month translate into missed work days, Gallup asked workers this question: "Earlier, you indicated that you had xx days in the last month where poor health prevented you from doing your usual activities. How many actual work days in the last month did you not work due to poor health?" The results indicated that one unhealthy day per month for full-time workers is equivalent to about 0.31 actual missed days of work.

See page 2 for a full description for estimating the economic cost of unhealthy days.

### **Clerical and Service Workers Suffer More Unhealthy Days**

Clerical and service workers in the U.K. report an average of two unhealthy days per month -- more than any other major occupational group surveyed. At the other end of the spectrum are construction workers, managers/executives, and business owners, all of whom report fewer than one unhealthy day each month. These results hold after controlling for all major demographic differences, including age and gender.

#### *Mean Unhealthy Days and Estimated Missed Days of Work per Month, by Occupation*

Controlling for age, gender, income, education, race, marital status, and region

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Mean unhealthy days per month</b>	<b>Estimated missed work days per month as a result of poor health</b>
Clerical	2.08	.69
Service	1.99	.66
Sales	1.83	.61
Manufacturing	1.45	.48
Professional	1.35	.45
Business owner	.85	.28
Manager/Executive	.84	.28
Construction	.73	.24

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Jan. 2-Aug. 31, 2011

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### **Implications**

The links between obesity and other chronic health conditions are well-known, including diabetes, depression, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and heart attack. The results of this new analysis expand on these known links to reveal the combined effects of being overweight or obese and having additional chronic conditions on absenteeism at work.

Considering that many British adults suffer from several chronic health issues, U.K. employers face a challenge in reducing lost productivity as a result of workers' mostly preventable health issues.

Additionally, the cost of 21 billion pounds in lost productivity estimated in this analysis would almost certainly increase if it included presenteeism. An analysis of presenteeism would account for when employees go to work but are less productive in their jobs because of poor

health or wellbeing. Including part-time employees would add to the estimate of costs in lost productivity.

Ultimately, U.K. employers and employees will need to improve the health situation of the nation's entire workforce to reduce these costs in lost productivity over time.

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

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

#### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey Jan. 2-Aug. 31, 2011, with a random sample of 8,866 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the United Kingdom, selected using random-digit-dial sampling. Of these, 3,908 were employed full time at the time of the interview.

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

#### *Sample Sizes for Reported Groups*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample size</b>
Normal weight and no chronic conditions (baseline)	722
Overweight or obese and no chronic conditions	736
Overweight or obese and one to two chronic conditions	917
Overweight or obese and three or more chronic conditions	387
Normal weight and one to two chronic conditions	625
Normal weight and three or more chronic conditions	187

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

Jan. 2-Aug. 31, 2011

#### **GALLUP**

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

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149747/Unhealthy-Workers-Lost-Productivity-Cost-Billion-Pounds.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149747/Unhealthy-Workers-Lost-Productivity-Cost-Billion-Pounds.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing)

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#### **NORTH AMERICA**

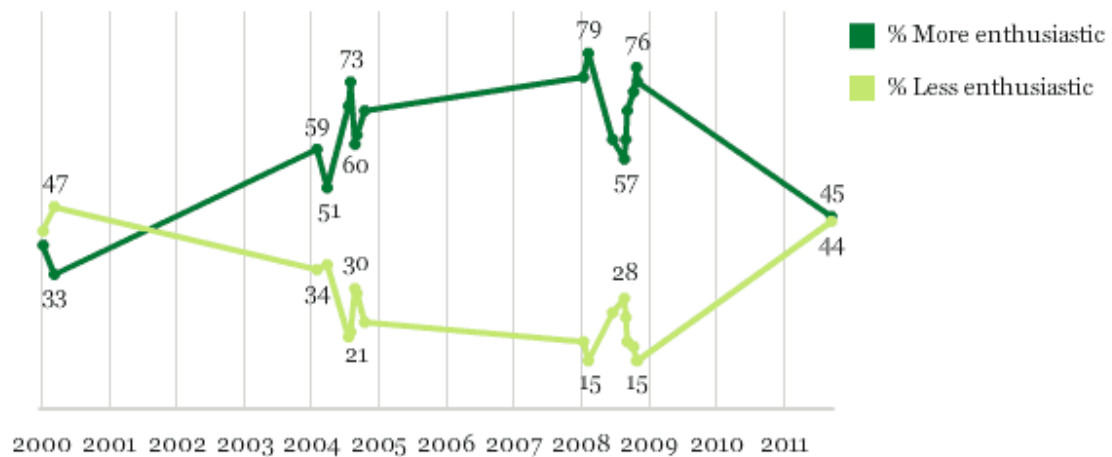
#### **191-43-13. Democrats Dispirited About Voting in 2012**

Republicans' enthusiasm for voting matches 2004 and exceeds 2008  
September 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- In thinking about the 2012 presidential election, 45% of Democrats and independents who lean Democratic say they are more enthusiastic about voting than usual, while nearly as many, 44%, are less enthusiastic. This is in sharp contrast to 2008 and, to a lesser extent, 2004, when the great majority of Democrats expressed heightened enthusiasm about voting.

#### *Democrats' Enthusiasm for Voting in Presidential Election Years*

Compared to previous elections, are you more enthusiastic than usual about voting, or less enthusiastic?



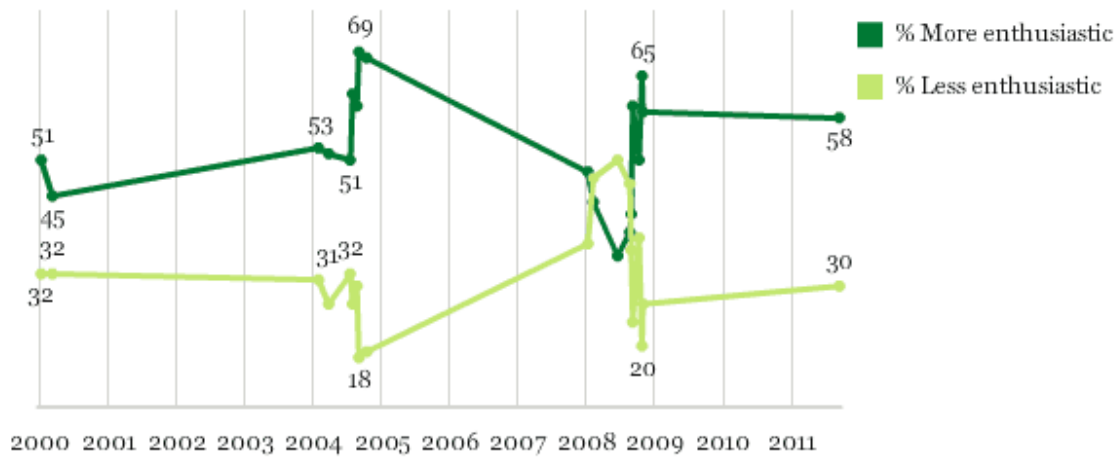
Based on Democrats and independents who lean Democratic

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Democrats' muted response to voting in 2012 also contrasts with Republicans' eagerness. Nearly 6 in 10 Republicans, 58%, describe themselves as more enthusiastic about voting. That is nearly identical to Republicans' average level of enthusiasm in 2004 (59%) and higher than it was at most points in 2008.

### Republicans' Enthusiasm for Voting in Presidential Election Years

Compared to previous elections, are you more enthusiastic than usual about voting, or less enthusiastic?



Based on Republicans and independents who lean Republican

#### GALLUP®

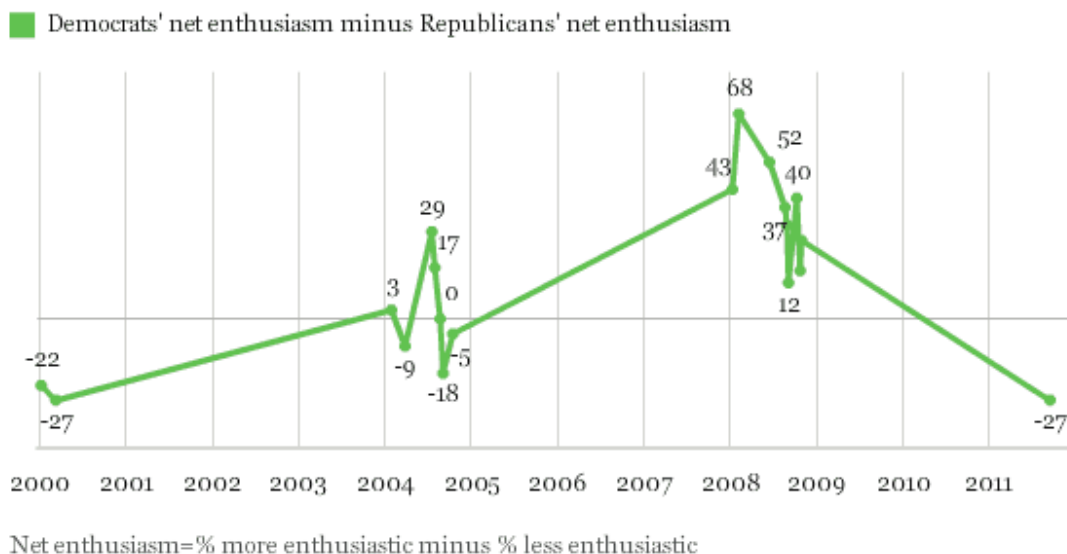
The latest results are from a *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted Sept. 15-18, nearly 14 months before the 2012 election is to be held. This is the earliest Gallup has asked Americans to rate their enthusiasm about voting in advance of a presidential election. All of the measures leading up to the 2000, 2004, and 2008 elections were conducted in the same calendar year, starting in January. Nevertheless, the robust level of Republican enthusiasm today suggests that Democrats' subdued enthusiasm is meaningful, rather than merely a reflection of the early timing.

#### Democrats' Relative Enthusiasm Is Lowest in a Decade

The difference between Democrats' enthusiasm and Republicans' enthusiasm can be summarized by plotting the difference in the two groups' net enthusiasm scores -- that is, the percentage of each group saying they are more enthusiastic minus the percentage less enthusiastic.

Democrats' net enthusiasm (+1) now trails Republicans' net enthusiasm (+28) by 27 percentage points. By contrast, Democrats held the advantage on net enthusiasm throughout 2008 -- on several occasions, by better than 40-point margins. Democrats occasionally trailed Republicans in net enthusiasm in 2004, but never by as much as is seen today. The current balance of enthusiasm among Republicans and Democrats is similar to what Gallup found in the first few months of 2000.

### Democrats' Advantage/Disadvantage Over Republicans in Net Enthusiasm



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Among all Americans, 48% say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting in 2012 and 40% are less enthusiastic. That 48% is significantly lower than the 65% more enthusiastic right before both the 2004 and 2008 presidential elections, owing largely to lower enthusiasm today among Democrats.

#### Bottom Line

Gallup's initial -- and early -- reading on Republicans' and Democrats' enthusiasm for 2012 indicates the emotional climate surrounding that election could be quite different from the climate in 2008, when Democrat Barack Obama won, partly owing to supermajority support from several groups. Democrats' current enthusiasm about voting is not only lower than it was in 2008, but lower than in 2004, when Republican George W. Bush won re-election.

While Gallup has not been able to establish a statistical link between heightened enthusiasm and greater turnout in past elections, the party with the enthusiasm advantage generally tends to fare better. Given that President Obama's job approval rating continues to hover around 40% and that he appears vulnerable in the general election, it is not surprising that Democrats are currently less enthusiastic than Republicans about voting in 2012. However, should this pattern continue well into next year, it could be an important indicator of which way the election will go.

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

#### Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 15-18, 2011, with a random sample of 1,004 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

For results based on the total sample of 439 Republicans/Republican leaners, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 6$  percentage points. For results based on the total sample of 454 Democrats/Democratic leaners, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 6$  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.

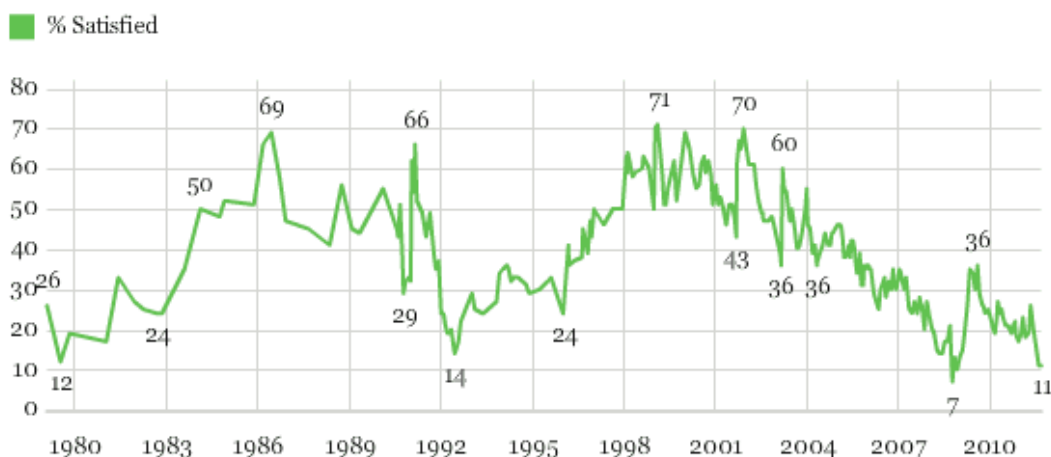
Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149759/Democrats-Dispirited-Voting-2012.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149759/Democrats-Dispirited-Voting-2012.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### **191-43-14. Americans' Satisfaction With U.S. Remains Near 32-Year Low**

More than half are very dissatisfied, the highest on record  
September 28, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Americans' satisfaction with the way things are going in the United States remains at 11% in September as it was in August, the lowest readings on this measure since December 2008 -- and among the worst on record in a trend that dates to 1979.

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



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Americans' level of satisfaction in September ties August's level for the lowest during Barack Obama's presidency. The current abysmal satisfaction level comes as Americans are more pessimistic than ever toward the U.S. government and deeply discouraged about the economy. Further, this measure relates to election outcomes, with lower satisfaction rates often translating to poorer incumbent performance.

### Republicans' Satisfaction Lowest on Record

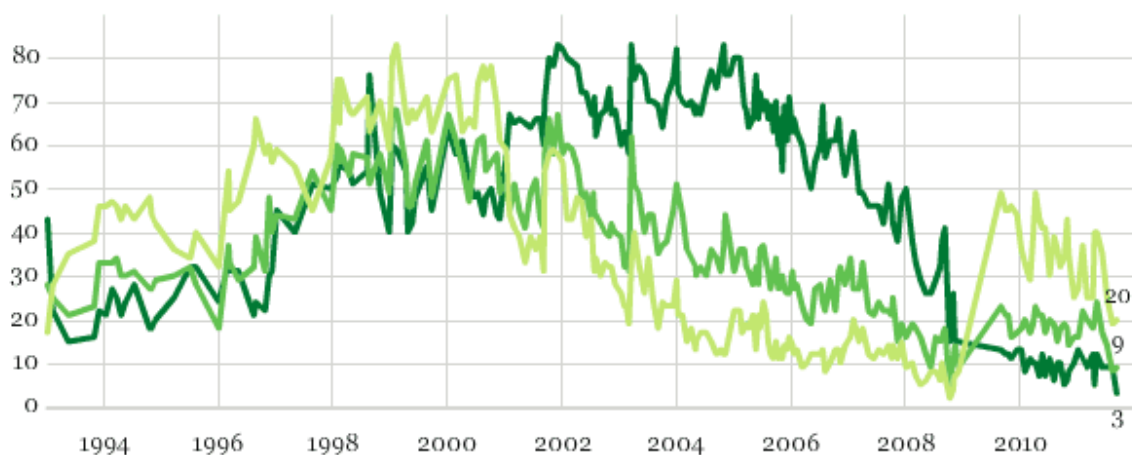
Three percent of Republicans are satisfied with the way things are going in the United States -- the lowest level since Bill Clinton took office in 1993. Republicans' satisfaction has registered in the single digits through much of 2011, including 5% in April.

Independents are similarly solemn, with 9% satisfied with the direction of the country. Democrats are a bit more positive, at 20%, but their satisfaction is essentially the lowest since Obama took office.

*Satisfaction With the United States, by Party*

% Satisfied

■ Republicans ■ Independents ■ Democrats



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Republicans' and Democrats' satisfaction with the nation is closely tied to whether the president in office is from their party. For example, Democrats' satisfaction improved when Obama took office in January 2009. That Democrats are less satisfied with the state of the country now than at any time during Obama's more than 2 1/2 years in office may put the president in a risky position among his base heading into the election.

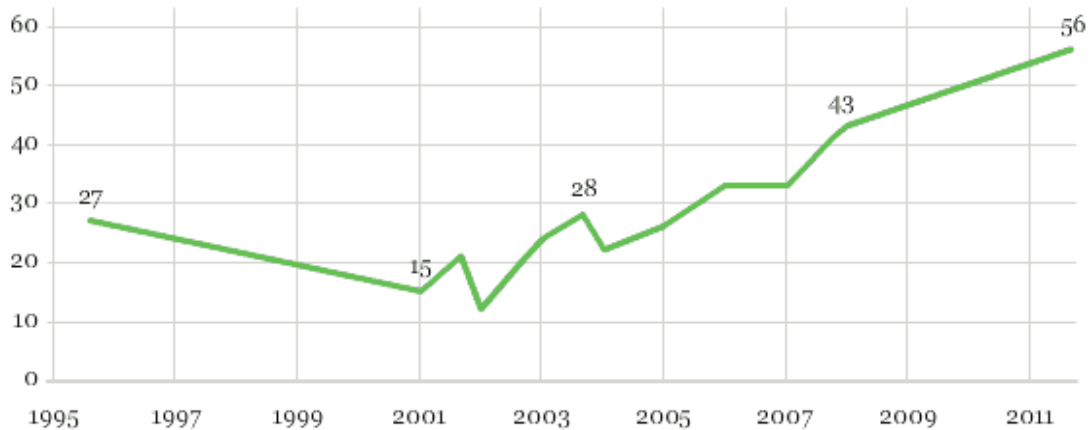
### More Than Half of Americans Are "Very Dissatisfied" -- Most Ever

In a follow-up question gauging how intense Americans' satisfaction or dissatisfaction is, 56% say they are "very dissatisfied." This is the highest level Gallup has ever found on this trend, which extends over a decade and a half. Just 1% of Americans say they are "very satisfied."



*Are you very [satisfied/dissatisfied], or just somewhat [satisfied/dissatisfied]?*

■ % Very dissatisfied



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Conservatives (67%) and Republicans (66%) are more likely to say they are very dissatisfied than are moderates (48%), liberals (52%), independents (58%), and Democrats (47%).

### **Implications**

Americans' low level of satisfaction, coupled with their historically high levels of negativity about the U.S. government at this point, a little more than a year before the November 2012 presidential election, do not bode well for President Obama's current re-election chances and perhaps for the fate of incumbent congressmen and congresswomen in Washington. Republicans are particularly upset about the state of the nation, which may drive them to the polls in November 2012.

While the election remains a long way off, economic conditions (which are related to satisfaction) including the unemployment situation would need to make a significant turnaround for Americans' attitudes to improve. On that front, Americans are not hopeful that the economy will be any better a year from now.

### **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 the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

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

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March



2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149750/Americans-Satisfaction-Remains-Near-Year-Low.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149750/Americans-Satisfaction-Remains-Near-Year-Low.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### **191-43-15. Despite Negativity, Americans Mixed on Ideal Role of Gov't**

At the same time, the majority tend to see government reaching too far  
September 28, 2011

*This story is part of an ongoing series on Gallup.com on Americans' views on the role and performance of government.*

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have divided opinions when asked to think broadly about the purpose of government. About as many Americans (35%) prefer an activist government that tries in every way to improve the lives of its citizens as prefer a government that provides only the most basic government functions (37%), with the rest placing themselves between these two positions.

*Next, I'd like you to think more broadly about the purposes of government.*

*Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means you think the government should do only those things necessary to provide the most basic government functions, and 5 means you think the government should take active steps in every area it can to try and improve the lives of its citizens? You may use any number from 1 to 5.*

	Sep 13-16, 2010	Sep 8-11, 2011
	%	%
5/ Government should take active steps in every area it can	19	21
4	15	14
3	33	27
2	15	18
1/ Government should provide only most basic functions	18	19
No opinion	1	1
Mean	3	3

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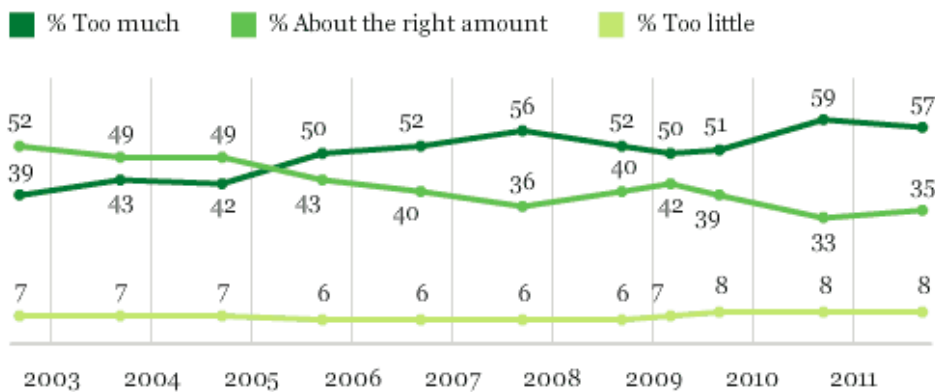
These attitudes, basically unchanged from a year ago, underscore the complex nature of Americans' views of government. Americans have strongly negative views of the way the nation is being governed and of Congress. They also, as will be reviewed here, have significant concerns about the power of the federal government, believe that government is doing too much

that individuals and businesses can do, and prefer fewer services and lower taxes. Yet, in a broad sense, Americans are as likely to prefer a more active government as a more limited one.

### Majority Perceives Too Much Government Power

A majority (57%) of Americans believe the federal government today has too much power. Most of the rest say the government has about the right amount of power. Few say the government has too little power. Americans were least likely to be concerned about the government's power in the years immediately after 9/11, but half or more since 2005 have said it has too much power.

*Do you think the federal government today has too much power, has about the right amount of power, or has too little power?*



Note: March 5-8, 2009, question asked of a half sample; responses rotated

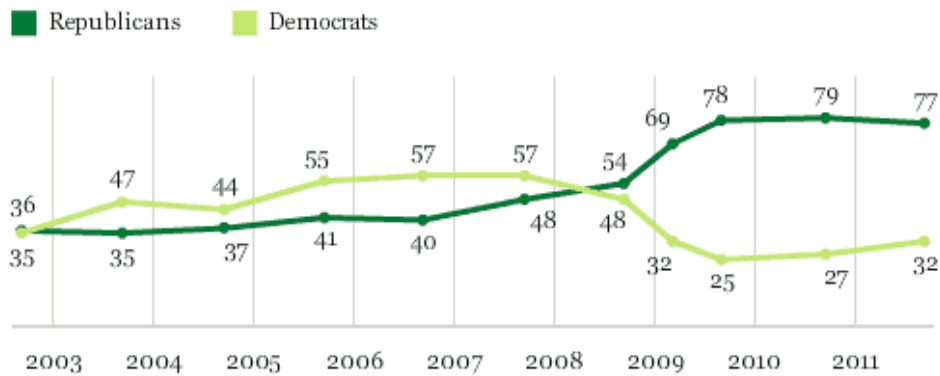
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Partisan views about government power are highly dependent on which party controls government, and on the political and social environment at the time of the survey. At this point, 77% of Republicans say the government has too much power, compared with 63% of independents and 32% of Democrats -- which reflects the current Republican position that there is too much government spending and power in domestic and economic affairs.

However, when George W. Bush was president, Democrats were more concerned than Republicans about government power. In Gallup's September 2005 Governance survey, for example, 55% of Democrats said the government had too much power, compared with 50% of independents and 41% of Republicans. At that point, Democrats were almost certainly interpreting this question in terms of government anti-terrorism actions taken after 9/11, including the Patriot Act.

*Do you think the federal government today has too much power, has about the right amount of power, or has too little power?*

% Too much power

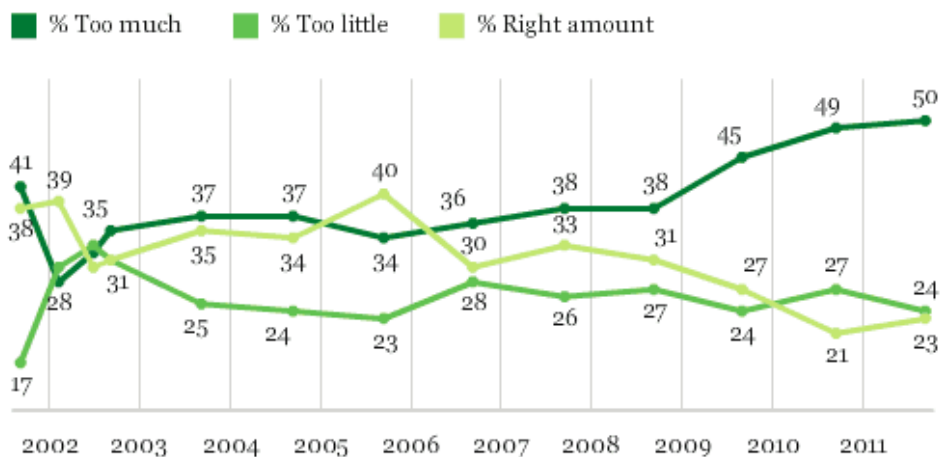


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### Majority Perceives Too Much Government Regulation of Business

Half of Americans say there is too much government regulation of business and industry, by one percentage point the highest in Gallup's history of asking this question, dating to 1993. Americans were least likely to say the government regulated business too much in February 2002, just months after 9/11 and at a time when President Bush and Congress were involved in efforts to combat terrorism and had high approval ratings. The "too much regulation" attitude held in the 30% range for most of the last decade, but jumped after President Obama took office in 2009.

*In general, do you think there is too much, too little, or about the right amount of government regulation of business and industry?*



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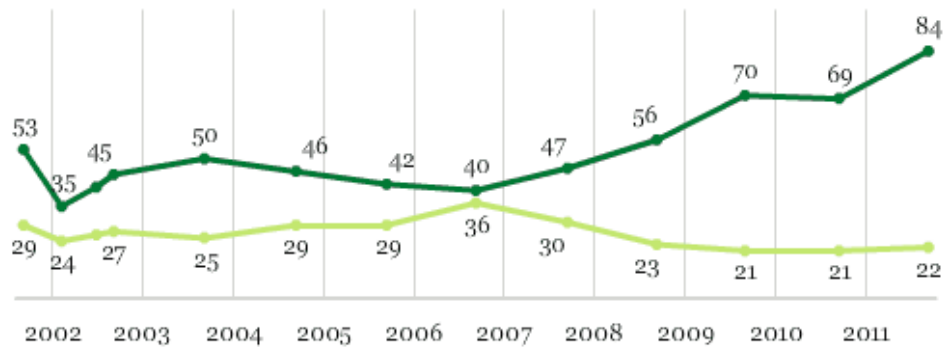
Republicans have consistently been more likely than Democrats to say there is too much government regulation of business, but in recent years, the gap between Republican and Democratic views on this issue has widened substantially.

*In general, do you think there is too much, too little, or about the right amount of government regulation of business and industry?*

% Too much

■ Republicans

■ Democrats



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### Majority Willing to Trade Off Lower Taxes for Fewer Services

A majority of Americans (56%) say they would be willing to pay less in taxes and accept fewer services, rather than either leaving things as they are now or paying more taxes for more services.

This supports the general position of some conservatives and libertarians, including GOP presidential candidate Ron Paul. They argue that citizens should want their government to do less, and thus collect fewer taxes. Liberals, on the other hand, have focused on the value of the services the government provides, particularly in terms of creating jobs and providing a social safety net, and the necessity of keeping tax revenue flowing in order to fund those services. Fewer than half of Americans, however, currently want to keep or add to the level of taxes and services they have now.

As would be expected, 81% of Republicans would opt for reduced taxes and fewer services, as would 58% of independents. Democrats have more mixed reactions, but about two-thirds would either keep things as they are now (36%) or would opt for more services and more taxes (30%).

*Would you rather have more government services if that meant more taxes, less government services in order to reduce taxes, or services and taxes about as we have them now?*

	More services/ more taxes	Less services/ reduce taxes	Services and taxes as now	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
2011 Sep 8-11	16	56	26	3
1993 Mar 22-24	20	40	35	4

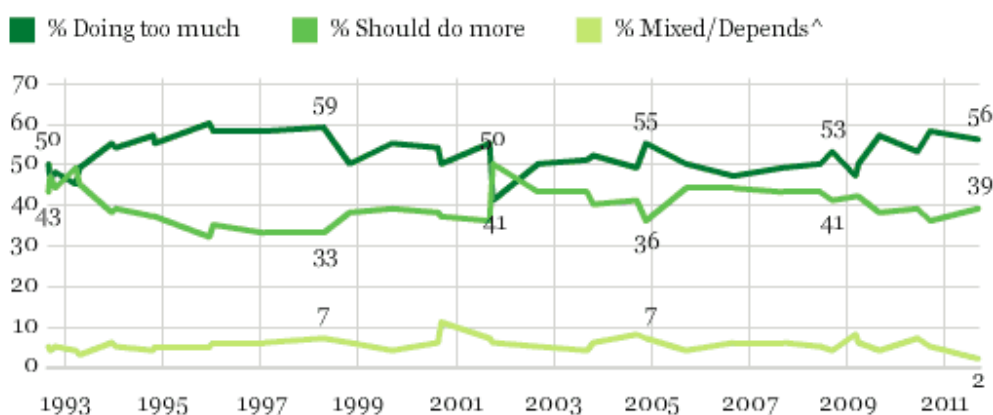
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### Majority Sees Government Trying to Do Too Many Things

A majority of Americans (56%) believe that government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses, while 39% hold the view that government should do more to solve the nation's problems. Responses to this question have been quite fluid over the two decades in which Gallup has asked the question. In October 2001, in the aftermath of 9/11, 50% said government should do more to solve the country's problems -- the highest in Gallup's history of asking the question. Sentiment that government should do more was lowest in the 1995-1998 time frame, when only about a third held this view and about 6 in 10 said government was doing too much.

Republicans and Democrats respond to this question in extremely different ways, with 88% of Republicans saying the government is doing too much, while 66% of Democrats say the government should do more. Independents tilt toward the "too much" view.

*Some people think the government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses. Others think that government should do more to solve our country's problems. Which comes closer to your own view?*



^ Volunteered response

GALLUP

This question produces somewhat different results from those of the 1- to 5-point-scale question on the ideal purpose of government reviewed earlier. One reason may be that this question provides an explicit alternative to the "government doing too much" position -- namely, that the things the government does not do should be left to individuals and businesses.

### Implications

Americans currently give the federal government and their representatives in Congress very negative reviews. Americans are dissatisfied with the way the nation is being governed, have record-low confidence in the legislative branch of government, believe that the government has too much power, and that individuals and businesses should be doing more and government less.

Some of these negative views are related to the dismal ratings of the economy. Americans no doubt find it hard to be positive about their political leadership when they perceive that the fundamentals of the national economy are moving in the wrong direction.

Additionally, some of Americans' negative views of the government are related to their perceptions of the efficiency and effectiveness of what the government is doing. They on average believe that 51 cents of every tax dollar is wasted, which may explain some of the negative views and concerns about too much government power. Americans also give the federal government

the lowest positive rating of any of 25 business and industry sector rated in August, further suggesting that the people don't think the government works well.

Some of the negative views of government are related to politics. The fact that Democrats were more concerned about government power when Bush was president and Republicans are more concerned about it with Obama as president shows that some people will be negative about the government simply because of political partisanship. Additionally, there are clear philosophical and ideological differences in views of the government that create the dynamic tension that exists in any democratic system, with conservatives generally favoring less government and liberals favoring more government.

One finding in the present review is the degree to which Americans are spread out across the spectrum when asked broadly about their views of the ideal role of government. The results show that the majority of Americans recognize that government has a role and purpose in society. The challenge for elected leaders is to determine which roles and purposes are appropriate and which are not.

### **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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

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

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

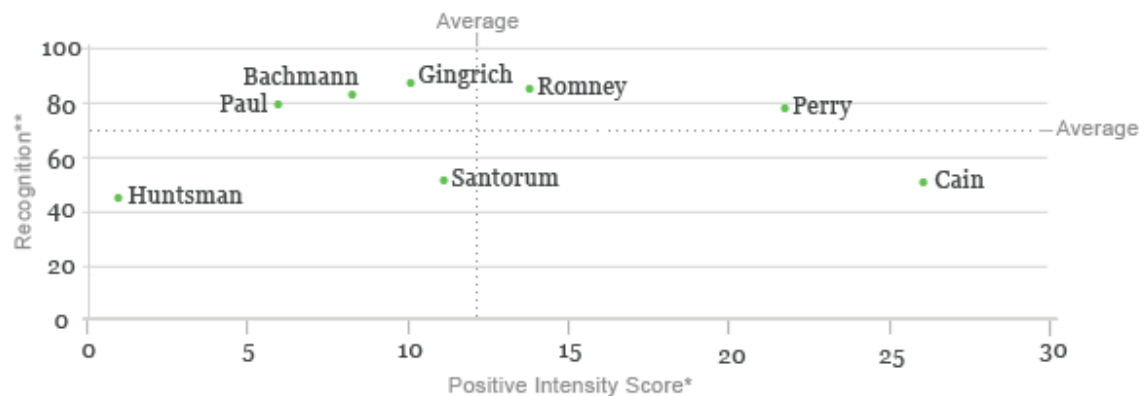
Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149741/Despite-Negativity-Americans-Mixed-Ideal-Role-Gov.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149741/Despite-Negativity-Americans-Mixed-Ideal-Role-Gov.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### **191-43-16. Herman Cain Well Liked, but Not Well Known in GOP Circles**

Cain's 26 Positive Intensity Score is better than those of all his nomination rivals  
September 27, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Herman Cain's image among Republicans familiar with him is more intensely positive than any other Republican presidential candidate's, but his 51% name recognition continues to rank near the bottom of the field. Among the better-known candidates, Rick Perry has the strongest positive image.

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



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

\*\* % who recognize candidate

Sept. 12-25, 2011

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Cain is attracting increased media attention after pulling off an upset in the Florida straw poll on Saturday. Much of the interviewing in the latest data, spanning Sept. 12-25 Gallup Daily tracking, was conducted before that win. However, Cain has consistently ranked near the top of Gallup's positive intensity list this year. His current score of 26 is just below the 28 he registered on two occasions, which is the highest Gallup has measured for any GOP candidate.

#### *Herman Cain's Positive Intensity Scores*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents



Positive Intensity Scores are computed as the percentage of those with a strongly favorable opinion of a candidate minus the percentage with a strongly unfavorable opinion, among those who are familiar with the candidate.

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Whether the Florida result enhances Cain's image among Republicans will become apparent in the coming weeks. But Cain's image does not need as much improvement as does his name recognition. That has been an ongoing issue for the businessman best known as former CEO of the Godfather's Pizza chain.



Cain's name recognition increased from the low 20s in March to 40% in late May/early June, shortly after he announced his official candidacy. Since then, gains in recognition for Cain have been slower, increasing a total of 11 percentage points in the last four months.

#### *Herman Cain's Recognition Scores*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents



Recognition scores are the percentage of respondents who recognize the candidate's name.

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As a result, Cain remains stuck in the second tier of candidates in terms of name recognition along with Jon Huntsman (44%) and Rick Santorum (53%), with the five other official candidates known by at least three-quarters of Republicans.

Cain's recognition remains low on a relative basis even though it has increased during the campaign more than any other candidate's except Michele Bachmann's. Cain started out at a low level of recognition, and his lack of further substantial gains in recent weeks has left him behind most other candidates.

#### *Changes in Recognition, Republican Presidential Candidates*

Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning independents

	Initial	Current	Change (pct. pts.)
Bachmann	52%	83%	+31
Cain	21%	51%	+30
Perry	55%	79%	+24
Huntsman	20%	44%	+24
Santorum	42%	53%	+11
Paul	76%	80%	+4
Romney	81%	84%	+3
Gingrich	85%	85%	0

Initial recognition readings are based on Feb. 28-March 13, 2011, data except for Cain (March 14-27) and Perry (July 4-17).

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The lack of name recognition may be one reason Cain has not fared well in recent Gallup presidential nomination preference polling. Cain has registered 4% or 5% of the vote in Gallup's monthly updates for July, August, and September. By comparison, Mitt Romney has averaged 21% support in those three updates even though his average Positive Intensity Score of 15 since July is nearly half of Cain's 25.

### **Implications**

Cain's win in Florida may not be surprising in that he has always had a relatively small but intense following among Republicans, the kind of group that can propel a candidate to win a straw poll vote. His win may make him the new "flavor of the month" in the GOP nomination contest, which was the case for Bachmann in June after the first major candidate debate and for Perry in August after he officially announced his candidacy.

That status is not necessarily welcome news, though, as increased attention begets increased scrutiny, which can lead to increasingly negative views of the candidate. For example, Bachmann's current Positive Intensity Score of 8 is one-third as large as her score of 24 in late June. And though Perry remains among the most-liked candidates among those familiar with him, his score is beginning to show some signs of decline as his opponents have made his record and past statements a central theme of the campaign in recent weeks.

Even if Cain is able to weather increased scrutiny, he does have to convince voters that he is both electable and capable of being president, given his lack of political experience. However, with Americans expressing a low level of trust in government and the people who hold political office, they may view a lack of political experience as more of a plus than a minus.

*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 Sept. 12-25, 2011, with random samples of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Questions asking about the 10 potential candidates measured in this research were rotated among randomly selected samples of Republicans each night; over the 14-day period, each candidate was rated by approximately 1,400 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents. (Results for Rudy Giuliani and Sarah Palin are not reported here.)

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

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

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized

population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

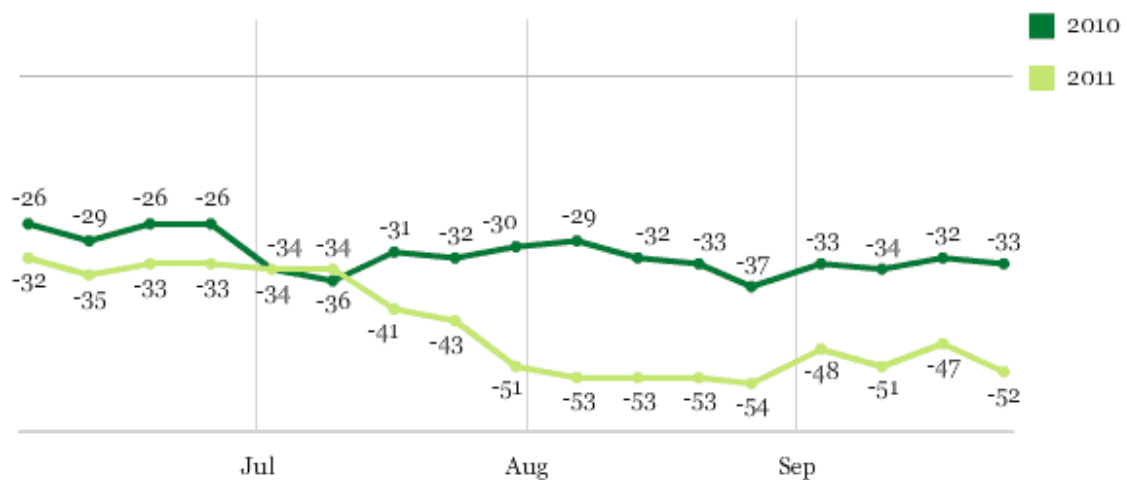
Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149726/Herman-Cain-Liked-Not-Known-GOP-Circles.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149726/Herman-Cain-Liked-Not-Known-GOP-Circles.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

### 191-43-17. Economic Confidence Slid in Past Week, Mirroring U.S. Stocks

Latest skid in confidence reverses slight improvement seen earlier in September  
September 27, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans' confidence in the economy faltered last week -- reversing the slight improvement seen in early September -- and is now nearly as negative as it was throughout August after a steep decline in July. Gallup's Economic Confidence Index for the week ending Sept. 25 is -52, compared with -54 in late August and -34 at the start of July. Confidence continues to run well below year-ago levels.

*Gallup Economic Confidence Index by Week^ -- June-September 2010 and 2011*



^ 2011 data are for weeks ending June 5, 12, 19, and 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; Aug. 7, 14, 21, and 28, and Sept. 4, 11, 18, and 25. Parallel weeks in 2010 ended June 6, 13, 20, and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25; Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; and Sept. 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Gallup Daily tracking

#### GALLUP

Gallup's economic trends are based on nightly interviews with approximately 500 national adults as part of Gallup Daily tracking, for a total of approximately 3,500 interviews each week. Gallup measures economic confidence as an index, using Americans' ratings of current economic conditions on a four-point scale (as excellent, good, only fair, or poor) and their perceptions of the economy's direction as either getting better or getting worse. The index has a theoretical maximum of +100 and a theoretical minimum of -100.

#### Economic Confidence at Least Partially Tied to Dow Jones

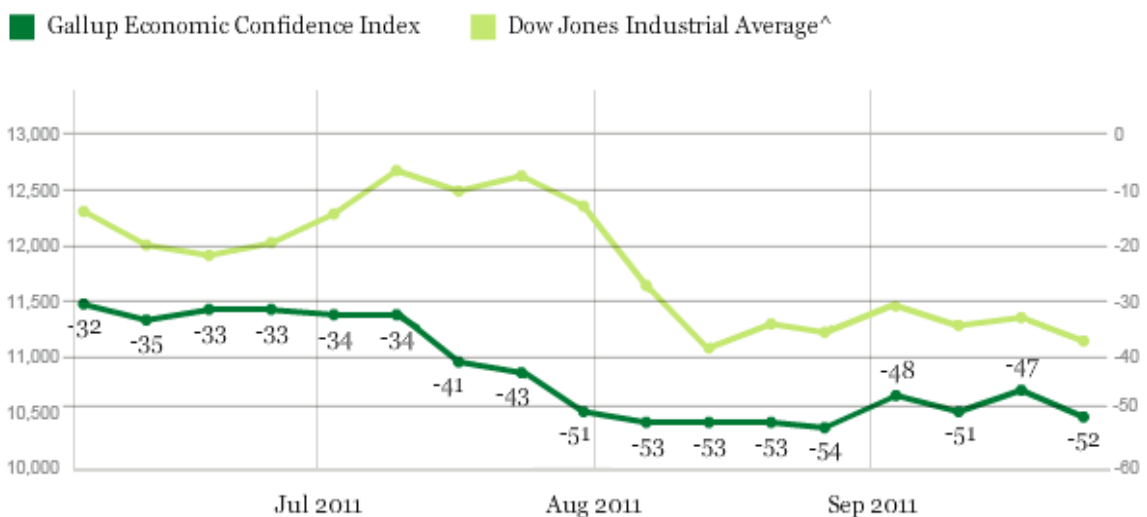
Gallup trends show economic confidence rising and declining each week this month in general accordance with weekly shifts in the Dow Jones industrial average. The Dow Jones daily closing values averaged 183 points lower last week than the week prior. Similarly, economic confidence for the week was down five points to -52.

This pattern is apparent through much of 2011. Gallup trends show that Americans' economic confidence tumbled in July, first after news about Europe's mounting debt crisis and later as congressional debate over the federal debt ceiling intensified. Part of that decline may have resulted more specifically from drops in the U.S. stock market in mid- and late July stemming from Wall Street jitters over both issues.

For example, in the last week of July, the Dow Jones industrial average closed down on five consecutive days, with the average closing values for these (12,356) down 234 points from the prior week's average closing values (12,590). At the same time, Gallup's Economic Confidence Index averaged eight points lower than the prior week, -51 vs. -43.

#### *Gallup Economic Confidence Index vs. U.S. Stock Market*

Weekly averages, June through Sept. 25, 2011



^ Weekly averages of Dow Jones Industrial Average daily closings

#### **GALLUP'**

Americans' confidence in the economy held fairly steady over the first two weeks of August. This happened despite the Dow Jones' losing nearly 900 points in the period after Standard and Poor's downgraded the U.S. credit rating and a weak August jobs report. The drop in the Dow also reflected market fears of a double-dip recession. While it is unclear why confidence held steady during this time, it is possible that Americans' relief over congressional passage of a temporary budget deal may have offset their concerns about the stock market and broader economic problems. Alternatively, confidence may merely have been so low in late July that it could not easily descend much further.

The stock market and economic confidence partly rebounded in late August/early September, but since then, both have been unsteady.

#### **Bottom Line**

Americans' confidence in the economy continues to be extremely fragile after the economic and political drama of the past two months. Thus far in September, confidence has improved ever so slightly, with weeks of improvement followed by weeks of nearly comparable decline.

The September consumer index reports of the Conference Board and Reuters/University of Michigan are due out this week. Because both surveys are weighted toward interviews conducted in the first half of the month, it is likely they will show slight improvements compared with August; however, given the latest downturn in confidence as seen in Gallup's weekly measures, those reports could be a bit rosier than is warranted.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking Sept. 19-25, 2011, with a random sample of 3,501 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149720/Economic-Confidence-Slid-Past-Week-Mirroring-Stocks.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149720/Economic-Confidence-Slid-Past-Week-Mirroring-Stocks.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Business%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA)

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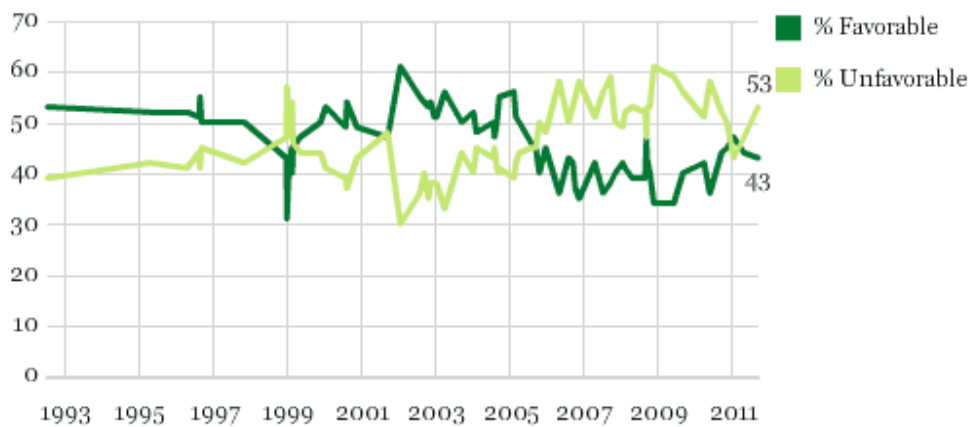
### **191-43-18. Republican, Democratic Party Images Equally Negative**

Approval of Republicans, Democrats in Congress at or near record lows

September 30, 2011

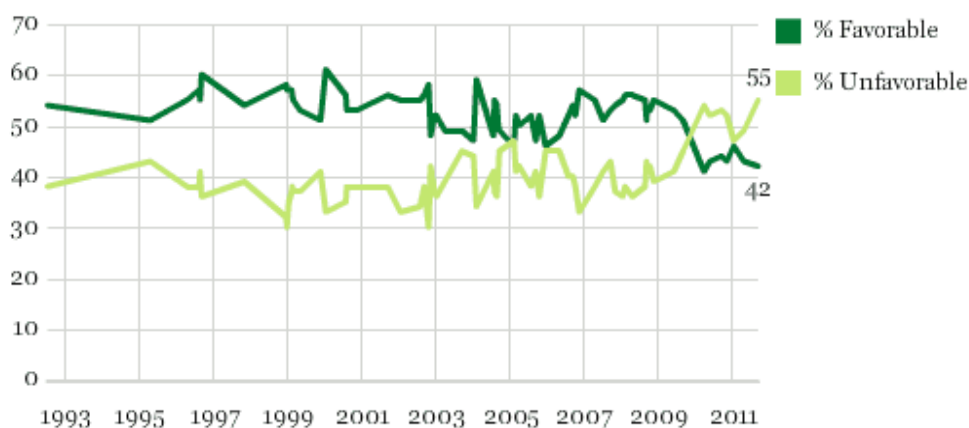
PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans have similar, mostly negative views of the Republican and the Democratic parties. Gallup's Sept. 8-11 update on party favorable ratings shows 53% viewing the Republican Party unfavorably and 43% favorably, and 55% having an unfavorable and 42% a favorable view of the Democratic Party.

### *Favorable/Unfavorable Opinions of the Republican Party*



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### *Favorable/Unfavorable Opinions of the Democratic Party*



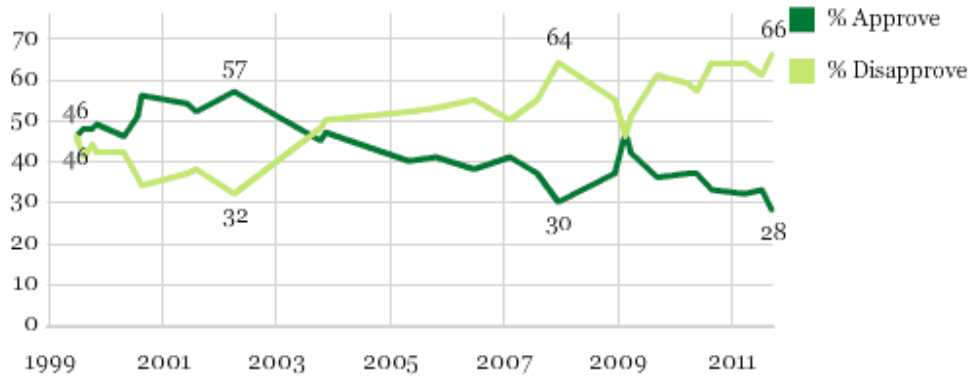
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Americans have generally viewed both parties more negatively than positively over the last two years. That is part of a large trend of mainly negative views of the GOP dating back to late 2005, while negativity toward the Democratic Party has been rare. Gallup first asked party favorables in 1992 and more Americans have viewed the Democratic Party unfavorably than favorably in just eight instances, all but one occurring since March 2010.

The public is even more critical of the parties when asked to evaluate the job the parties in Congress are doing. A Sept. 15-18 *USA Today*/Gallup poll finds 26% of Americans approving and 68% disapproving of the Republicans in Congress, and 28% approving and 66% disapproving of the Democrats in Congress.

The 28% approval rating for the Democrats in Congress is the worst Gallup has measured since the question was first asked in 1999. The prior low was 30% in December 2007.

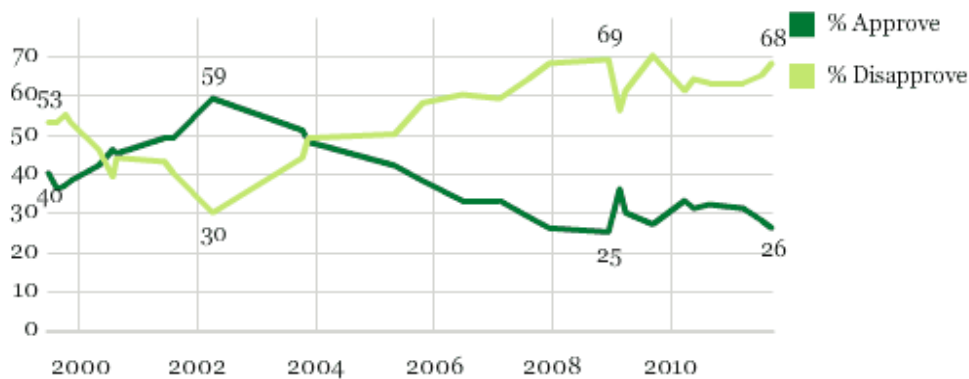
*Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Democrats in Congress are handling their job?*



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Approval of congressional Republicans is also near the historical low -- one percentage point higher than the 25% measured in December 2008. Since 2006, approval of the Republicans in Congress has only been as high as 36%.

*Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Republicans in Congress are handling their job?*



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Americans in recent years have generally been more likely to disapprove than approve of the job both parties in Congress are doing. A few exceptions were recorded in the late 1990s and early 2000s, spanning a time that included a strong economy and a rally in support for government institutions after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

### Implications

Americans currently rate the Republican Party as better than the Democratic Party at keeping the country prosperous, protecting the country from terrorism and international threats, and at being better able to handle the most important problem facing the country.

But that may be the result of the public's widespread dissatisfaction with the way things are going in the United States and the fact that a Democrat occupies the White House, rather than an

endorsement of Republican performance or policies. In a broad sense, Americans do not view the Republican Party any more positively than the Democratic Party.

That helps explain why a majority of Americans favor a third party, and why Americans do not view one-party control of the presidency and Congress as a solution to what ails the federal government.

### **Survey Methods**

Results for this are based on 1,017 telephone interviews conducted Sept. 8-11, 2011, and 1,004 interviews conducted Sept. 15-18, 2011, with random samples of national adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149795/Republican-Democratic-Party-Images-Equally-Negative.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149795/Republican-Democratic-Party-Images-Equally-Negative.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

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### **191-43-19. Americans Give GOP Edge in Handling Nation's Problems**

Majority see need for third party  
September 30, 2011

*This story is part of an ongoing series on Gallup.com on Americans' views on the role and performance of government.*

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans see the Republican Party as better able than the Democratic Party to protect the country from terrorism and military threats, and to keep the country prosperous over the next few years.



*Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of--*

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	No difference/ No opinion
	%	%	%
Protecting the country from international terrorism and military threats	49	38	13
Keeping the country prosperous	48	39	13

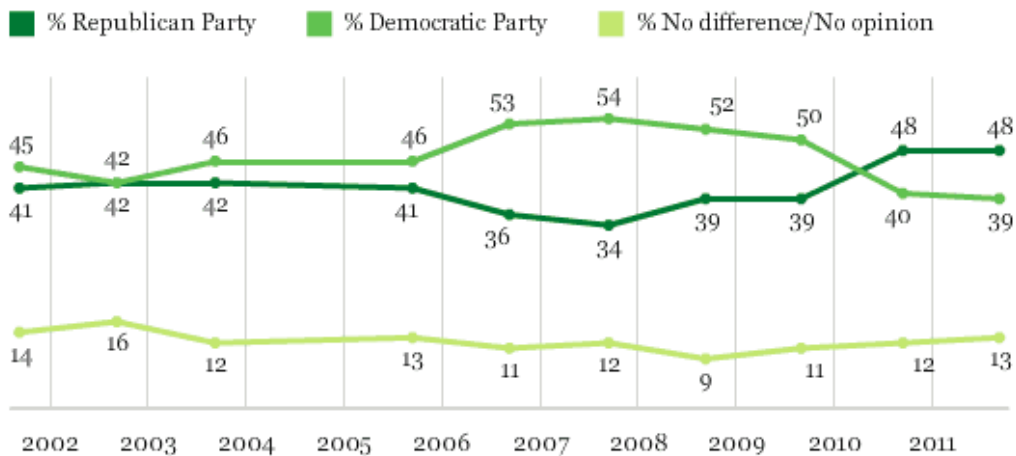
Sept. 8-11, 2011

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These views come as record numbers of Americans are dissatisfied with the way the nation is being governed and express highly negative opinions about a number of other dimensions of the federal government. Next year's elections provide Americans with an opportunity to vent their frustrations in the presidential and the congressional elections. At this point, Republicans, who currently control the House but not the presidency or the Senate, appear to be at least slightly better positioned going into the elections, given Americans' preference for the GOP to handle the nation's domestic and international woes.

Democrats held the advantage over the Republican Party on the "prosperous" dimension from 2003 through 2009, a period that included the majority of George W. Bush's presidency and the first year of Barack Obama's. The advantage switched to the GOP last year and remains so this year, by 48% to 39%.

*Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of keeping the country prosperous?*

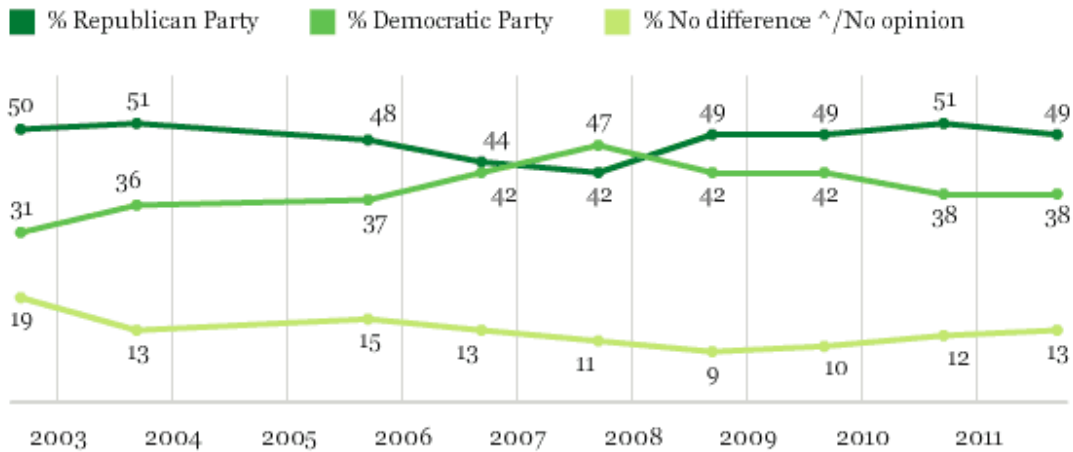


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Americans' current tilt toward the Republican Party as better able to handle terrorist and military threats has generally persisted over the past decade, with the exception of a September 2007 survey in which the Democrats edged out the Republicans.



*Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of protecting the country from international terrorism and military threats?*



^ Volunteered response

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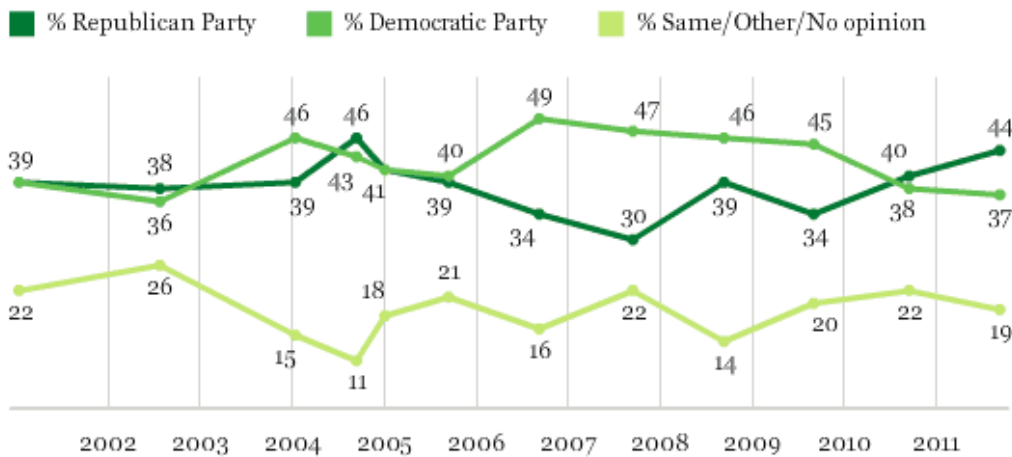
### **Republicans on Top as Better Able to Handle Most Important Problem**

Americans perceive Republicans as better able than Democrats to handle what they name as the nation's most important problem, giving the GOP the clear advantage on this metric for the first time.

Gallup asks Americans each month to name the most important problem facing the country and occasionally poses a follow-up question asking which party they perceive as better able to handle that problem. The responses to this follow-up question have varied over the past decade, depending partly on what the dominant problem was at the time of the survey.

Democrats held the advantage on this measure in early 2004, 2006, and 2007, for example, when the situation in Iraq was at the top of the "most important problem" list. Democrats continued to edge out the GOP in 2008 and 2009, when the economy became the most important problem. The two parties were close in 2010, with the economy dominating as the top problem. Republicans, however, have moved ahead in this year's September survey, in which Americans name jobs/unemployment as the top problem facing the country.

*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?*



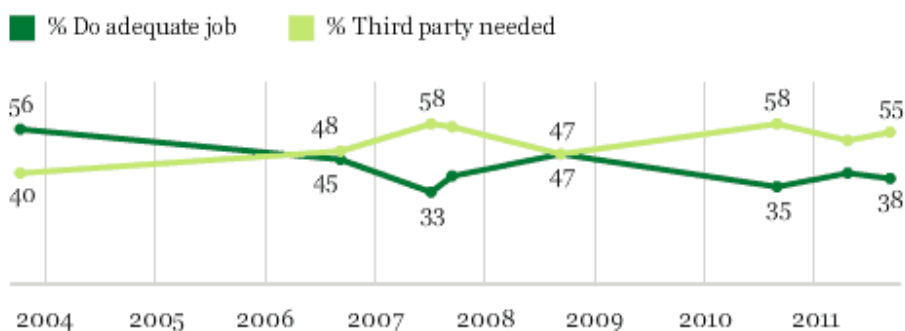
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### Majority Favors Third Party

Americans are highly dissatisfied with the way things are going in the nation and have low economic confidence, creating an environment in which a third-party challenger could find significant backing from American voters. Indeed, 55% of Americans say the two major parties do such an inadequate job of representing the American people that a third party is needed.

Americans' current views regarding a third party are similar to what was measured last year and in 2007. However, in other years over the past decade, interest in a third party has been somewhat lower -- particularly in September 2008, in the middle of a spirited presidential election campaign involving Obama and John McCain, the two major-party candidates.

*In your view, do the Republican and Democratic parties do an adequate job of representing the American people, or do they do such a poor job that a third major party is needed?*



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A slight majority of Democrats say a third party is not needed, while Republicans are evenly split on the issue. Independents, representing 44% of the population in this September poll, are, however, very much in favor of a third party -- with 68% saying it is needed.

### Americans Doubt Single-Party Control Would Be Better

Several bitter partisan disputes have occurred in Washington this year. These have threatened to disrupt or shut down the federal government, and include the wrangling over the debt ceiling in July, which was solved only at the last minute and with a short-term fix. These partisan disputes highlight the difficulties of governing with a Republican-controlled House and a Democratic-controlled Senate and presidency.

Americans apparently do not, however, believe that having the government under the control of just one party would be better. Twenty-eight percent say same-party control would be better, while just as many say it is better to have divided control of government. Americans are most likely to say it doesn't make any difference either way. Although there has been some fluctuation on this measure over the past 10 years, the 2003 "same party" high point of 35% is not materially higher than what is found today.

*Do you think is it better for the country -- [ROTATED: to have a president who comes from the same political party that controls Congress, does it make no difference either way, or do you think it is better to have a president from one political party and Congress controlled by another]?*

	Same party	No difference	Different parties	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
Sep 8-11, 2011 ^	28	39	29	5
Aug 27-30, 2010	27	40	27	5
May 24-25, 2010	27	39	30	4
Sep 8-11, 2008 ^	34	34	25	7
Sep 14-16, 2007	26	38	29	6
Sep 7-10, 2006 ^	28	36	32	3
Jun 23-25, 2006	26	38	31	5
Sep 12-15, 2005 ^	29	33	36	2
Sep 13-15, 2004 ^	33	37	26	4
Sep 8-10, 2003 ^	35	37	26	2
Sep 5-8, 2002 ^	34	33	30	3

^ Asked of a half sample

GALLUP

### Bottom Line

Gallup's special series on Americans' views of government underscores the high level of dissatisfaction many Americans have with the federal government and their representatives in Congress. That in turn leads to the question of what can be done to solve these problems.

Given a choice, Americans at this juncture appear slightly more inclined to believe that the Republican Party is better situated than the Democratic Party to handle the problems facing the nation. That could be because a Democrat is in the White House at a time when Americans are dissatisfied with the state of the nation and the government. Americans also express interest in a third party to challenge the two major parties, although this level of interest is not unusually high. Additionally, there doesn't appear to be strong sentiment that the current divided control in Washington is the major problem with government.

## 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

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

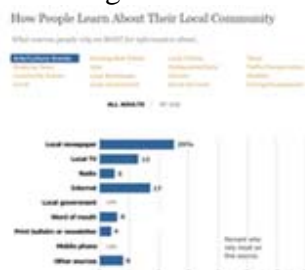
In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149783/Americans-Give-GOP-Edge-Handling-Nation-Problems.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149783/Americans-Give-GOP-Edge-Handling-Nation-Problems.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

## 191-43-20. How People Learn About Their Local Community

September 26, 2011

While local TV news remains the most popular source for local information in America, adults rely on it primarily for just three subjects -- weather, breaking news and to a lesser extent traffic. And for all their problems, newspapers (both print and on the web) are the source Americans turn to most for a wider range of information than any other source. These are some of the findings of a new study produced by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism and the Pew Internet & American Life Project in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.







### See an interactive graphic

The survey, which looks in a new and detailed way at how people learn about community by breaking down local information into 16 key topic areas, also finds that the internet already has a strong hold in the local community. Web-only outlets are now primary source of information on key subjects like education, local business and restaurants. And

greater disruption seems to lie ahead. For the 79% of Americans who are online, in addition to Americans ages 18-39, the internet ranks as a top source of information for most of the local subjects studied in the survey.

Read the [full report](#) for a detailed breakdown of the top sources of information for 16 different local topics. You'll also find information on what the most popular local topics are, the use of mobile devices, the impact of social media and differences among demographic groups when it comes to what interests them and where they find their information. [Use our interactive graphic](#) to browse the survey results for each news and information topic.

### Which Sources Top the List for 16 Different Local Topics?

<b>Newspapers</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top source for news on community events, crime, taxes, local government, arts and culture, social services, zoning and development</li><li>• Ties with internet as top source for news on housing, schools, and jobs</li><li>• Ties with TV as top source for local political news</li></ul>
<b>Television</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top source for weather and breaking news</li><li>• Ties with radio as top source for traffic news</li><li>• Ties with newspaper as top source for local political news</li></ul>
<b>Internet</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top source for information about restaurants and other local businesses</li><li>• Ties with newspaper as top source for news about housing, schools and jobs</li></ul>
<b>Radio</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ties with TV as top source for traffic news</li></ul>

Source: Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism and Internet & American Life Project in partnership with the Knight Foundation, January 12-25, 2011 Local Information Survey. N=2,251 adults age 18 and older. Conducted in English and Spanish and included 750 cell phone interviews.

Source:<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2105/local-news-television-internet-radio-newspapers?src=prc-newsletter>

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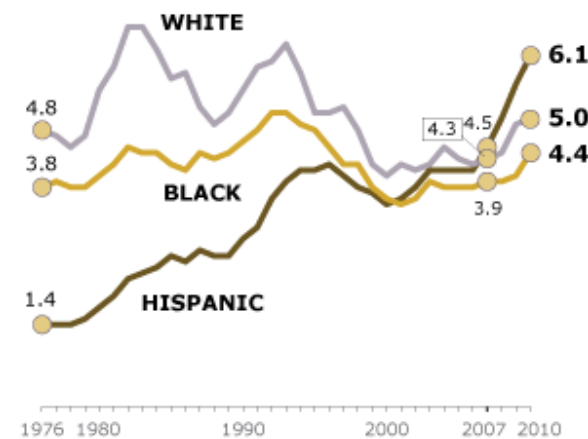
### 191-43-21. The Toll of the Great Recession

9.28.2011

Childhood Poverty Among Hispanics Sets Record, Leads Nation

#### Number of Children in Poverty 1976 - 2010

IN MILLIONS



PEW HISPANIC CENTER

The spread of poverty across the United States that began at the onset of the Great Recession of 2007-2009 and accelerated last year hit one fast-growing demographic group especially hard: Latino children.

More Latino children are living in poverty—6.1 million in 2010—than children of any other racial or ethnic group. This marks the first time in U.S. history that the single largest group of poor children is not white. In 2010, 37.3% of poor children were Latino, 30.5% were white and 26.6% were black.

This negative milestone for Hispanics is a product of their growing numbers, high birth rates and declining economic fortunes. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hispanics today make up a record 16.3% of the total U.S. population. But they comprise an even larger share—23.1%—of the nation's children, a disparity driven mainly by high birth rates among Hispanic immigrants.

Of the 6.1 million Latino children living in poverty, more than two-thirds (4.1 million) are the children of immigrant parents. The other 2 million are the children of parents born in the U.S. Among the 4.1 million impoverished Latino children of immigrants, the vast majority (86.2%) were born in the U.S.

The Great Recession, which began in 2007 and officially ended in 2009, had a large impact on the Latino community. At its beginning, the unemployment rate among Latino workers increased rapidly, especially among immigrant workers. Today, the unemployment rate among Latinos, at 11.1%, is higher than the national unemployment rate of 9.1%. Household wealth among Latinos declined more sharply than either black or white households between 2005 and 2009. And according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, food insecurity among Latino households increased sharply at the start of the Great Recession. In 2008, nearly a third (32.1%) of Latino households with children faced food insecurity, up from 23.8% in 2007.

Prior to the Great Recession, more white children lived in poverty than Hispanic children. However, since 2007, that pattern has reversed. Between 2007 and 2010, an additional 1.6 million Hispanic children lived in poverty, an increase of 36.3%. By contrast, even though the

number of white and black children living in poverty also grew, their numbers grew more slowly—up 17.6% and 11.7% respectively.

Source: <http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=147&src=prc-headline>

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**191-43-22. No Consensus About Whether Nation Is Divided Into 'Haves' and 'Have-Nots'**

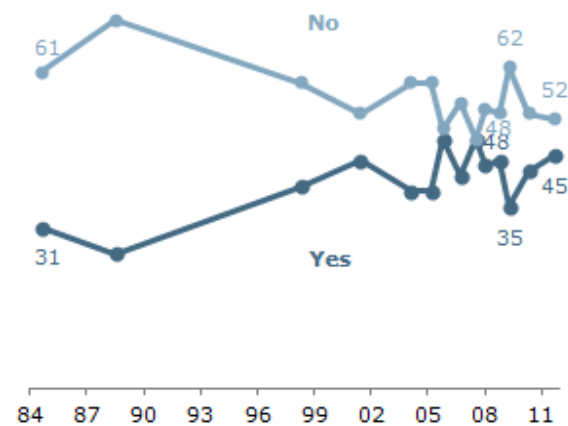
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September 29, 2011

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### Public Divided in Perceptions of Economic Divisions

*Is American society divided into two groups, the 'haves' and the 'have-nots'?*



PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.

Despite an extended economic downturn, the public's impression of whether the nation is economically divided remains relatively stable. While 45% say American society is divided between "haves" and "have-nots," 52% say it is incorrect to think of the country this way. This is comparable to the balance of opinion a year ago.

The percentage of Americans who see society as divided between haves and have-nots declined shortly after Barack Obama took office, but has rebounded since. In April 2009, just 35% said the nation was divided economically, down from 44% in October 2008. The number saying the nation is economically divided increased to 42% a year later and has changed little since then (45% currently).



## Most Democrats Now See a Nation Divided

<i>America is divided into 'haves' and 'have-nots'</i>	<b>Oct 2008</b>	<b>Apr 2009</b>	<b>Apr 2010</b>	<b>Sept 2011</b>	<b>09-11 Change</b>
	%	%	%	%	
Total	44	35	42	45	+10
Republican	27	24	32	27	+3
Democrat	58	47	51	59	+12
Independent	43	32	43	47	+15

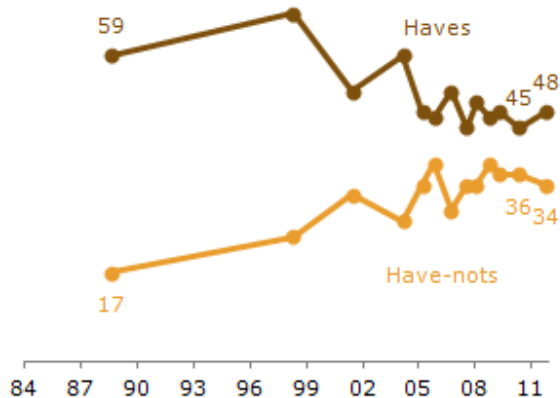
PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.

Since 2009, the percentage of independents saying the country is divided between haves and have-nots has risen 15 points, from 32% to 47%. There has been a comparable increase in the proportion of Democrats expressing this view (from 47% to 59%). Just 27% of Republicans see the nation as economically divided, which is largely unchanged from two years ago (24%).

While consistent with views over much of the past decade, the balance of opinion about economic division in the country stands in contrast to where it was a quarter century ago. In Gallup polls in the mid-1980s, far wider majorities rejected the idea that

## More See Themselves as 'Haves' than as 'Have-Nots'

*If you had to choose, which of these groups are you in?*



PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.

the country was divided into haves and have-nots.

The latest survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and The Washington Post, conducted Sept. 22-25 among 1,000 adults, finds that 48% say that, if forced to choose, they are among the haves, while 34% say they are among the have-nots. This balance of opinion has changed little over the past six years. Over the longer term, however, the number seeing themselves in the have-nots has risen substantially. In 1988, half as many described themselves this way (17%) as is the case today (34%).



By two-to-one (29% vs. 15%), more Americans think the Obama administration does more

### Nearly Half Say Republicans Do More to Help the 'Haves'

	Obama admin.	Reps in Congress
<i>Is doing more to help the ...</i>	%	%
'Haves'	15	47
'Have-nots'	29	7
Treating both the same	45	32
Neither/DK	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.

to help the \_\_\_\_\_ have-nots than to help the haves, with a plurality (45%) saying it treats both groups about equally.

Public impressions of congressional Republicans are quite different: 47% say they are mostly helping the haves, while just 7% say they are mostly helping the have-nots; 32% say Republicans are treating both groups the same. Current assessments of the Republicans in Congress are similar to 2004 opinions of which group George W. Bush's administration was

### Partisan Views of Who Does More for the 'Haves' or 'Have-Nots'

Obama administration is doing more to help the...	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
'Haves'	15	16	10	15
'Have-nots'	29	39	31	26
Treating both the same	45	31	55	46
Neither/DK	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100

Republicans in Congress are doing more to help the...				
'Haves'	47	20	72	46
'Have-nots'	7	8	9	6
Treating both the same	32	60	10	34
Neither/DK	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100
N	1000	244	302	377

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.

doing more to help (47% the haves, 4% the \_\_\_\_\_ have-nots, 42% both about the same).

Interestingly, partisan differences are relatively modest in views of which groups the Obama administration is doing more to help. More Republicans, Democrats and independents say the administration is doing more to help the have-nots than the haves. By contrast, 72% of Democrats say the GOP mostly helps the haves, compared with 46% of independents and just 20% of Republicans.

## Haves and Have-Nots: Long-Term Views

### Blacks More Likely to Say Nation Is Divided between 'Haves' and 'Have-Nots'

Percent saying nation is divided into 'haves' and 'have-nots'

	1988	2001	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	26	44	48	44	35	42	45
Republican	19	34	33	27	24	32	27
Democrat	32	52	63	58	47	51	59
Independent	26	44	46	43	32	43	47
Dem-Rep gap	+13	+18	+30	+31	+23	+19	+32
\$75,000+*	18	40	43	31	27	35	36
\$30-\$74,999	28	44	53	44	34	40	47
<\$30,000	30	53	52	56	48	52	53
Low-High gap	+12	+13	+9	+25	+21	+17	+17
White**	24	41	44	39	29	37	40
Black**	49	66	65	75	60	66	73
Blk-Wht gap	+25	+25	+21	+36	+31	+29	+33
Men	23	44	46	41	33	42	45
Women	28	44	51	46	36	43	45
Gender gap	+5	0	+5	+5	+3	+1	0

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept 22-25, 2011.  
 1988 data from Gallup. \*Household income categories in 1988 and 2001 are adjusted for inflation to roughly reflect current dollar values. \*\* Hispanic figures not shown either because too few interviews were available or because some surveys did not include Spanish language interviewing.

There long have been wide racial differences in views of whether the nation is economically divided. In the current survey, 73% of African Americans say the nation is divided between haves and have-nots, compared with 40% of whites.

When Gallup first asked this question in 1988, blacks were almost twice as likely as whites to express this view (49% vs. 24%). There also have been persistent partisan and income

### Where People See Themselves

	1988	2001	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
'Haves'	59	52	45	47	48	45	48
'Have-nots'	17	32	34	38	36	36	34
<b>Republicans</b>							
'Haves'	63	63	50	59	55	52	66
'Have-nots'	15	22	27	26	28	28	23
<b>Democrats</b>							
'Haves'	56	51	44	43	47	46	41
'Have-nots'	21	36	39	47	42	39	42
<b>Independents</b>							
'Haves'	60	48	45	44	47	41	47
'Have-nots'	15	35	32	38	36	41	32
<b>R-D Gap</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+16</b>	<b>+8</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+25</b>
<b>\$75,000+ *</b>							
'Haves'	82	82	66	72	72	63	75
'Have-nots'	7	6	19	16	17	19	12
<b>\$30-\$74,999</b>							
'Haves'	61	57	40	46	51	45	46
'Have-nots'	16	27	36	37	32	37	36
<b>&lt; \$30,000</b>							
'Haves'	46	31	33	26	30	31	36
'Have-nots'	28	56	47	64	58	52	51
<b>Hi-Lo Gap</b>	<b>+36</b>	<b>+51</b>	<b>+33</b>	<b>+46</b>	<b>+42</b>	<b>+32</b>	<b>+39</b>

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST Sept. 22-25, 2011.  
1988 data from Gallup. \*Household income categories in 1988 and 2001 are adjusted for inflation to roughly reflect current dollar values.

differences in these opinions.

In 1988, far more Americans saw themselves as haves than have-nots (59% vs. 17%), but the balance of opinion has narrowed. In recent years, nearly half have placed themselves in the haves while slightly more than a third see themselves as have-nots.

While partisan differences in these self-assessments have fluctuated, income differences have been fairly consistent over time. In the current survey, 75% of those with family incomes of \$75,000 or more say they are haves, compared with 46% of those with incomes of \$30,000 to \$75,000 and 36% of those with incomes of less than \$30,000.

Source: <http://people-press.org/2011/09/29/no-consensus-about-whether-nation-is-divided-into-haves-and-have-nots/?src=prc-headline>

### 191-43-23. Half Say President, Congress Doing Worse Than Predecessors

Two-thirds say they are doing a poor job overall  
September 29, 2011

PRINCETON, NJ -- Americans are more than twice as likely to say President Obama and the current Congress are doing a poor job (67%) as a good job (30%) of dealing with the most important problems facing the United States.

*In your view, how good a job are President Obama and the current Congress doing in dealing with the United States' most important problems -- [ROTATED: very good, good, poor, (or) very poor]?*

	<b>Very good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Very poor</b>
Sep 15-18, 2011	4%	26%	40%	27%

USA Today/Gallup

#### GALLUP®

These results are based on a Sept. 15-18 *USA Today*/Gallup poll. They fit in with the broader theme of relatively low presidential approval ratings, historically low congressional approval ratings, and low levels of trust in government.

That sentiment is not universally shared, though, as Democrats are inclined to think the president and Congress are doing a good job. Republicans overwhelmingly say they are not. This would suggest Americans' ratings are driven more by their views of the president (a Democrat) than of Congress (with Republicans controlling the House of Representatives, and Democrats, the Senate).

*Ratings of Job President Obama and Congress Are Doing in Dealing  
With the United States' Most Important Problems, by Political Party*

	<b>Very good/Good</b>	<b>Poor/Very poor</b>
Democrats	57%	40%
Independents	21%	78%
Republicans	10%	89%

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 15-18, 2011

#### GALLUP®

Asked to compare the performance of the current president and Congress to past presidents and Congresses, a slim majority, 52%, say the current president and Congress are doing a worse job than their predecessors. Most of the rest, 33%, say they are doing about the same, with 13% saying better.

Republicans overwhelmingly say the current government is doing a worse job than those before it, and 59% of independents agree. Democrats are divided in their views, with roughly equal proportions saying the current president and Congress are doing better or doing worse, and a plurality saying they are doing about the same.

*Compared with how presidents and Congress have dealt with the nation's problems in the past, do you think President Obama and the current Congress are doing -- [ROTATED: a better job, about the same, (or are they doing) a worse job]?*

	Better	About the same	Worse
All Americans	13%	33%	52%
Democrats	28%	39%	20%
Independents	8%	32%	59%
Republicans	3%	25%	71%

USA Today/Gallup, Sept. 15-18, 2011

#### GALLUP

Americans' views now are similar to what they were in July, before the government reached an agreement on raising the federal debt ceiling, when the question was first asked. That poll found 49% saying the president and Congress were doing a worse job than prior presidents and Congresses of solving the nation's problems. Further, 39% in that poll said the job the president and Congress were doing was the "worst in their lifetimes."

#### Implications

Americans are clearly frustrated with the performance of the legislative and executive branches of government, and half say their performance is historically bad. That level of frustration is sure to put incumbents seeking re-election in 2012 at risk, with the distinct possibility of a shake-up in the composition of the nation's leadership if these attitudes persist through next fall.

#### Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted Sept. 15-18, 2011, with a random sample of 1,004 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

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

Source:[http://www.gallup.com/poll/149765/Half-Say-President-Congress-Doing-Worse-Predecessors.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149765/Half-Say-President-Congress-Doing-Worse-Predecessors.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

#### **191-43-24. Americans Again Call for Compromise in Washington**

Tea Party supporters least in favor of compromise

September 26, 2011

*This story is part of an ongoing series on Gallup.com on Americans' views on the role and performance of government.*

PRINCETON, NJ -- A majority of Americans say it's more important that political leaders in Washington compromise in order to get things done, rather than stick to their beliefs, even as Congress heads for a government shutdown for the second time in less than two months because of partisan disagreements.

*Next, we have a question about the best approach for political leaders to follow in Washington. Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means it is more important for political leaders to compromise in order to get things done, and 5 means it is more important for political leaders to stick to their beliefs even if little gets done? You may use any number from 1 to 5.*

	2010 Nov 4-7	2011 Jan 7-9	2011 Sep 8-11
	%	%	%
5/ More important to stick to beliefs	14	17	15
4	13	11	13
3	24	23	21
2	16	12	20
1/ More important to compromise	31	35	31
No opinion	1	2	1
Mean	2.6	2.6	2.6

#### **GALLUP®**

Gallup has asked this question three times over the past 10 months, and each time, Americans have tilted toward the "compromise" end of the spectrum. The most recent survey, conducted Sept. 8-11, marks the first time a majority of Americans have placed themselves on the "compromise" end -- a "1" or "2" on the 1-to-5 scale. A little more than a quarter (28% in the Sept. 8-11 survey) gave a "4" or a "5" -- the "more important to stick to beliefs" end of the scale.

#### **Conservatives Divided Over Need to Compromise, but Liberals, Moderates Demand It**

There are sharp political and ideological differences in these beliefs. Conservatives and Republicans are closely split over whether leaders should stick to their beliefs or compromise. However, the preponderance of moderates, liberals, independents, and Democrats favor

compromise. But even among the more conservative segments of the population, roughly a third are at the "compromise" end of the spectrum.

Tea Party supporters stand out as the sole group that shows a clear preference for sticking to beliefs rather than compromising, 45% vs. 31%, although less than a majority of even this group chooses one of the two options at the "compromise" end of the scale.

*Next, we have a question about the best approach for political leaders to follow in Washington. Where would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means it is more important for political leaders to compromise in order to get things done, and 5 means it is more important for political leaders to stick to their beliefs even if little gets done? You may use any number from 1 to 5.*

	More important to stick to beliefs (responses 4,5)	Neutral (response 3)	More important to compromise (responses 1, 2)
	%	%	%
National adults	28	21	51
Republicans	37	27	36
Independents	27	20	52
Democrats	20	17	62
Conservatives	40	23	36
Moderates	19	20	62
Liberals	18	17	63
Tea Party supporters	45	23	31
Tea Party opponents	16	16	69
Neither support nor oppose Tea Party	24	23	52

Sept. 8-11, 2011

#### GALLUP

Previous research from November and January showed that a slight majority of the small segment of Americans who are "very" conservative (11% of all Americans in the November/January samples) responded with a 4 or a 5 -- the only political group showing majority support for the "stick to beliefs" approach.

#### Implications

Americans faced the prospect of a government default on its loan obligations in the partisan wrangling that occurred prior to the Aug. 2 deadline for raising the debt ceiling. The default was averted at the last moment by an agreement creating a legislative supercommittee that has until late November to arrive at ways of cutting \$1.2 trillion from the federal budget. The public's faith in government and satisfaction with the way things are going in the country were low even before the debt ceiling episode, and Gallup in its annual September Governance poll found some of the most negative readings on the public's faith in government in Gallup's history.



Now, Americans face the possibility of another government crisis if Democrats and Republicans in Washington cannot agree on a disaster funding bill this week. Republicans want the bill to include spending cuts, while Democrats are balking at that idea. The Democratically controlled Senate rejected a House bill on Friday and is scheduled to put forth its own bill shortly. The deadline for an agreement is this Friday.

Even if an agreement is reached this week, the continuation of brinkmanship government and constant partisan bickering will do nothing to increase Americans' faith in their government, and probably will hurt it. Democratic Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia, when asked about the current disputes over the weekend, said: "Yes. It is embarrassing. Can we once again inflict on the country and the American people the spectacle of a near-government shutdown? I sure as heck hope not." It appears that many Americans would agree with Warner's assessment.

### **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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

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

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149699/Americans-Again-Call-for-Compromise-Washington.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149699/Americans-Again-Call-for-Compromise-Washington.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Politics%20-%20USA)

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### ***191-43-25. 59% Support End of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'; 51% Back Benefits for Same-Sex Military Partners***

Conservatives Strongly Oppose Both

September 27, 2011

UTICA, NY--Small majorities of likely voters support the new military policy allowing gays to openly serve (59%) and agree that the military should also grant equal benefits to same-sex partners of service members (51%).

These results are from an IBOPE Zogby interactive poll of likely voters conducted from Sept. 23-26.

Opposition to both ideas is strong among conservative demographic groups, such as Republicans, Tea Party supporters and Born-again Christians. Majorities of all age groups support the lifting of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that prohibited gays from openly serving,



but on the question of allowing equal benefits to same-sex partners, 51% of voters 65 and older disagree.

*The U.S. military has officially ended the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, meaning gays may serve openly. Do you support or oppose this new policy regarding gays serving in the military?*

<b>Response</b>	
<b>Support</b>	9%
<b>Oppose</b>	6%
<b>Not sure</b>	%

*Now that the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy has been lifted, do you agree or disagree that the military should also grant equal benefits to same-sex partners of service members?*

<b>Response</b>	
<b>Agree</b>	1%
<b>Disagree</b>	1%
<b>Not sure</b>	%

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.

Please visit [www.ibopezogby.com](http://www.ibopezogby.com) for more information on IBOPE Zogby International.

#### **About IBOPE Group**

IBOPE Group is a Brazilian multinational company specializing in media, market and opinion research with offices in the United States and 14 Latin American countries. Since its founding 68 years ago, it has been providing a wide range of information and studies on media, public opinion, voting patterns, consumption habits, branding and market behavior.

Source: <http://www.zogby.com/news/2011/09/27/ibope-zogby-poll-59-support-end-dont-ask-dont-tell-51-back-benefits-same-sex-military-partners/>

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**191-43-26. Most Americans Back Obama's Plan to Tax High Income Earners**

(09/30/11) -

However, only one-in-five respondents think the national unemployment rate will drop in the next 12 months.

U.S. President Barack Obama's proposal to establish a new tax for high income earners is supported by two thirds of Americans, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The online survey of a representative national sample of 1,020 American adults also shows that only one-in-five respondents expect to see the country's unemployment rate drop over the next 12 months.

**Tax Proposal**

President Obama has proposed establishing a minimum tax on Americans who earn an annual income of at least 1 million dollars. Some people think this is a good idea, because the new tax would prevent high income earners from benefitting from lower tax rates on investment earnings than the rates middle income taxpayers pay on their wages. Other people think this is a bad idea, because it is detrimental to have a new tax for high income earners because they create new jobs in America.

Across the country, 66 per cent of respondents support Obama's plan, while 23 per cent oppose it. The highest level of support comes from people in the Northeast and Midwest (71% each). Democrats overwhelmingly back the President's proposal (87%), along with two thirds of Independents (68%). Republicans are divided, and almost half (48%) oppose the plan. It is important to note that a majority of respondents in the highest income bracket (64%) also support the proposal.

**Unemployment Rate**

Only 20 per cent of Americans expect the country's unemployment rate—currently at 9.1 per cent—to drop in the next 12 months, while one third (33%) expect it to remain the same and a slightly higher proportion (37%) believes it will climb even higher. Respondents in the South (43%) and Republicans (47%) are particularly pessimistic in their assessment.

**Analysis**

Obama's controversial proposal to create a new tax on high income earners is definitely backed by Democrats. Also, a sizeable proportion of Independents agree with the president's view, a fact that could play a key role in the months leading up to the 2012 election. While Republicans are not thrilled with the plan, they are not completely against it. In fact, two-in-five Republicans favor the new tax, a level of support that is seldom espoused by this group for ideas proposed by the current head of state.

**Methodology:** From September 21 to September 22, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,020 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source:<http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/44061/most-americans-back-obamas-plan-to-tax-high-income-earners/>

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**191-43-27. Low Ratings Continue for Obama and Congress in the United States**

(09/26/11) -

Despite several public appearances in the past few weeks, the American President is only supported by two-in-five respondents.

U.S. President Barack Obama maintains a particularly low approval rating just 14 months before he seeks a new term in office, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,020 American adults, 40 per cent of respondents (unchanged since August) approve of Obama's performance as president, while 53 per cent (=) disapprove.

Obama does not reach the 50 per cent mark on approval in any of the country's four main regions, getting his best numbers in the Northeast (43%). The level of strong approval for the U.S. President trails the level of strong disapproval by a 3-to-1 margin (11% to 34%).

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress is also stagnant, at 12 per cent (=). Almost four-in-five respondents (78%, -3) are currently dissatisfied with its performance.

The level of strong approval for federal lawmakers in the U.S. remains at two per cent, while practically half of Americans (47%, -5) strongly disapprove of its actions.

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

#### Analysis

The recent discussions about job creation have not had an immediate effect on Obama's approval numbers, which are still the lowest of his administration. The American President appears to be connecting better in the Northwest, but is not near the 50 per cent mark in any region.

Congress faces an even tougher problem, being endorsed by just one-in-ten respondents in the West, and even fewer in the Midwest.

Methodology: From September 20 to September 21, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,020 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

Source: <http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/44057/low-ratings-continue-for-obama-and-congress-in-the-united-states/>

### ***191-43-28. American Parents Stress Importance of Their Role in Teaching Kids about Money Management, But Most Aren't Having Regular Discussions***

*Parents Believe Their Children Should Learn Money Management at an Earlier Age Than They Were Taught as Kids*

Monday, October 03, 2011

**New York, NY** – Nine in ten (89%) parents of children aged 5 to 17, with household income between \$15K and \$75K, believe that they are a very important resource when it comes to teaching children about basic money management, but most are not having regularly, weekly discussions with their children on the subject, according to a new Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of BMO Harris Bank. This is particularly troubling considering nine in ten (90%) agree (51% strongly/39% somewhat) that they are concerned about the younger generation's ability to manage money, and two in three (67%) agree (30% strongly/37% somewhat) that they're concerned with their child's ability to manage money.

Despite most (89%) believing that parents are a very important resource for children when it comes to the topic of money management – placing them higher than schools (57%), banks

(43%) and various other resources – just one in three (36%) say they speak with their kids on a weekly basis about basic money management skills. Moreover, two in ten (16%) say they only talk about this subject once or twice a year, while one in ten (12%) never broach the subject with their kids at all. However, most (83%) agree (33% strongly/50% somewhat) that they would like to talk with their child/children more about basic money management.

A national survey, the study also explored in greater detail the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Arizona, Florida, Minnesota, Kansas and Missouri. The data revealed that those in Wisconsin were much more likely (45%) than the national average (36%) to talk about basic money management on a weekly basis, while those in Illinois (28%) were least likely to do so. Those living in Arizona (17%) were most likely to have never had a discussion about basic money management with their children, compared to the average (12%).

Focusing specifically on financial topics, the most frequently-discussed areas include saving money and shopping choices, with 39% of parents saying they talk about these things on a weekly basis, followed closely by allowance (36%) and budgeting (27%). But fewer are talking about things like saving for college (12%), summer jobs (10%), credit card debt (8%), investing (7%) or understanding bank statements (6%).

With such a large gap between perceived importance and action, American parents say there are a number of challenges facing parents today in terms of teaching their children about basic money management. Four in ten (37%) say it's difficult to find information for children, while a similar proportion (34%) says it's difficult to talk about it with children – with those in Kansas (47%) being most likely to say so, in Arizona being least likely (23%). One quarter (23%) say that it's difficult to find the time to have these discussions with their children, with those in Indiana being twice as likely (30%) as those in Minnesota (15%) to cite this as a barrier.

Moreover, one in three (34%) agree that they're not sure how to teach their child/children about basic money management, and a similar proportion (36%) agrees that it is difficult to find the time to teach their child/children about basic money management.

Most parents believe that a discussion about basic money management should start at a relatively young age – at an age younger than they were when their parents taught them. The average age American parents believe children should start participating in these discussions is 10 years old, compared to an average age of 12 years old when they first had the discussion with their parents.

In fact, one in three (35%) believe that the discussion should start no later than the age 8, with 5% even suggesting it can start when the child is less than 5 years old. Among those who have discussed money management with their children, the average parent began discussing these issues with their children at the age of 9, with four in ten (37%) saying they started at age 8 or younger. Contrast this with parents' experience when they were young, as only 8% say they began having these discussions by the age of 8.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted September 7th to 17th, 2011. The survey is based on a national sample of 2,714 Americans with children between the ages of 5 and 17 living at home and with household income between \$15,000 and \$75,000. Respondents were from Ipsos' US online panel and interviewed online. The results are based on a sample where quota sampling and weighting are employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the intended population according to Census data. Quota samples with weighting from the Ipsos online panel provide results that are intended to approximate a probability sample. Results from the survey are reported at the national and state levels. At the national level, a survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a

100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/- 3 percentage points 19 times out of 20 of what the results would have been had the entire adult population of Americans with children between the ages of 5 and 17 living at home been polled. Results at the state level are considered accurate to within +/- 6 – 7 percentage points 19 times out of 20, depending on the state. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

### About Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective, survey-based research practice made up of seasoned professionals. We conduct strategic research initiatives for a diverse number of American and international organizations, based not only on public opinion research, but elite stakeholder, corporate, and media opinion research.

Ipsos has media partnerships with the most prestigious news organizations around the world. In the U.S., UK and internationally, Ipsos Public Affairs is the media polling supplier to Reuters News, the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals, and the Hispanic polling partner of Telemundo Communications Group, a division of NBC Universal providing Spanish-language content to U.S. Hispanics and audiences around the world.

Ipsos Public Affairs is a member of the Ipsos Group, a leading global survey-based market research company. We provide boutique-style customer service and work closely with our clients, while also undertaking global research.

Source: <http://www.ipsos-na.com/news-polls/pressrelease.aspx?id=5348>

### 191-43-29. Americans Express Historic Negativity Toward U.S. Government

Several long-term Gallup trends at or near historical lows

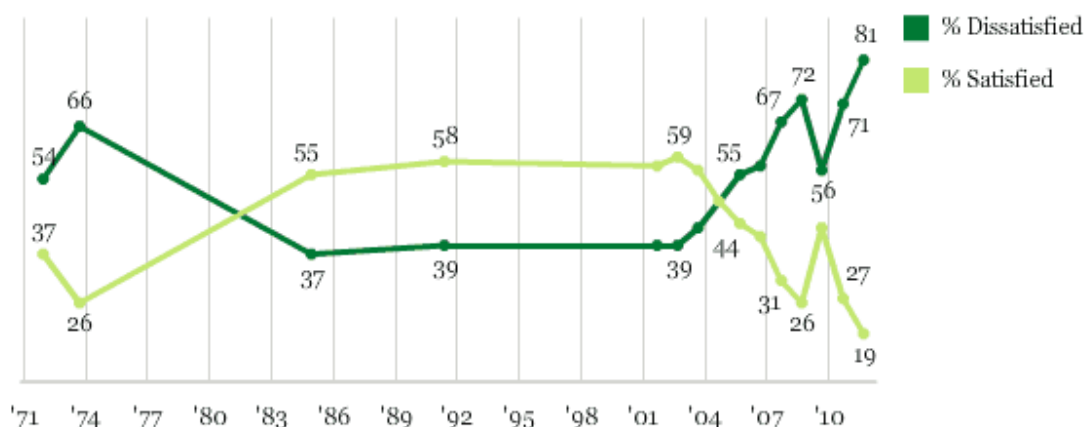
September 26, 2011

*This story is the first in a weeklong series on Gallup.com on Americans' views on the role and performance of government.*

PRINCETON, NJ -- A record-high 81% of Americans are dissatisfied with the way the country is being governed, adding to negativity that has been building over the past 10 years.

#### Reaction to How the Nation Is Being Governed

On the whole, would you say you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the nation is being governed?



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Majorities of Democrats (65%) and Republicans (92%) are dissatisfied with the nation's governance. This perhaps reflects the shared political power arrangement in the nation's capital,

with Democrats controlling the White House and U.S. Senate, and Republicans controlling the House of Representatives. Partisans on both sides can thus find fault with government without necessarily blaming their own party.

The findings are from Gallup's annual Governance survey, updated Sept. 8-11, 2011. The same poll shows record or near-record criticism of Congress, elected officials, government handling of domestic problems, the scope of government power, and government waste of tax dollars.

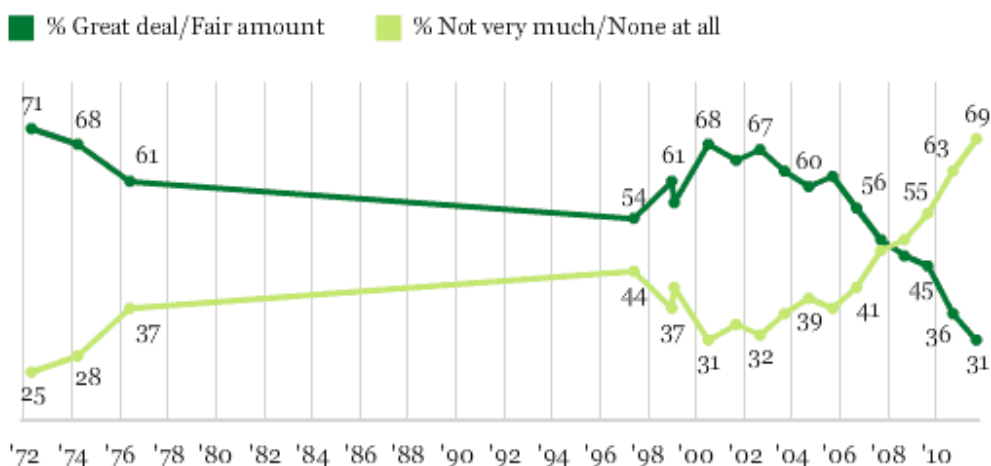
#### Key Findings:

- 82% of Americans disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job.
- 69% say they have little or no confidence in the legislative branch of government, an all-time high and up from 63% in 2010.
- 57% have little or no confidence in the federal government to solve domestic problems, exceeding the previous high of 53% recorded in 2010 and well exceeding the 43% who have little or no confidence in the government to solve international problems.
- 53% have little or no confidence in the men and women who seek or hold elected office.
- Americans believe, on average, that the federal government wastes 51 cents of every tax dollar, similar to a year ago, but up significantly from 46 cents a decade ago and from an average 43 cents three decades ago.
- 49% of Americans believe the federal government has become so large and powerful that it poses an immediate threat to the rights and freedoms of ordinary citizens. In 2003, less than a third (30%) believed this.

#### Congress' Ratings Have Plunged in Recent Years

Confidence in Congress hit a new low this month, with 31% of Americans saying they have a great deal or fair amount of confidence in the legislative branch, lower than the percentage confident in the executive (47%) or judicial (63%) branch. Confidence in the legislative branch is slightly higher among Republicans than among Democrats, 41% vs. 32%.

*Trust and Confidence in the Legislative Branch of the Federal Government,  
Consisting of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives*



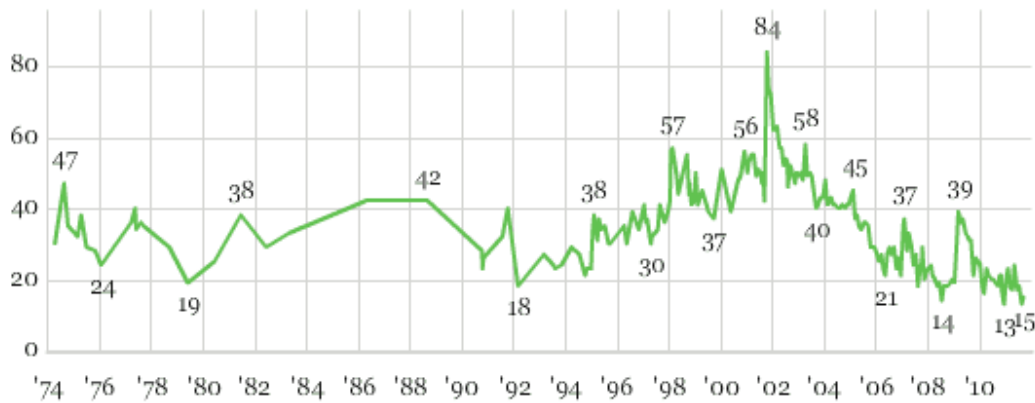
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Apart from a brief rally in public approval of Congress after the 9/11 attacks, Congress' job approval rating has followed a similar path, declining sharply since about 2000. The 15% of

Americans approving of Congress in the September poll is just two percentage points above the all-time low reached twice in the past year.

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

■ % Approve



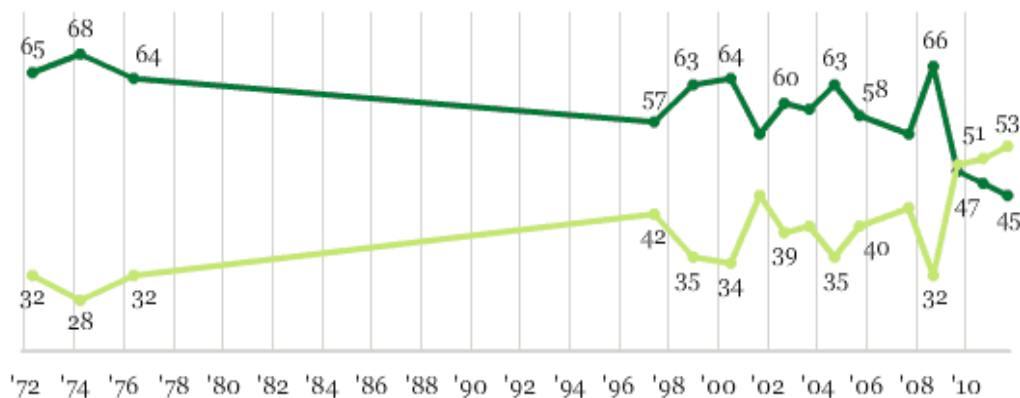
GALLUP

### Public Officials Held in Low Esteem

Americans' confidence in the people who run for or serve in office is also at a new low; however, the decline has been more recent, dropping from 66% in 2008 to 49% in 2009 and 45% today. For most of the history of this trend, Americans had much more positive views of those seeking or holding public office, but that changed in 2009, and the balance of opinion has since remained more negative than positive.

*Trust and Confidence in the "Men and Women in Political Life in This Country Who Either Hold or Are Running for Public Office"*

■ % Great deal/Fair amount    ■ % Not very much/None at all



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### Americans Particularly Critical of Domestic Policy

At 43%, fewer Americans today than at any time in the past four decades say they have a great deal or fair amount of trust in the federal government to handle domestic problems. That is significantly lower than the 58% average level of confidence Gallup has found on this since



1972, including a 77% reading shortly after the 9/11 attacks. Gallup did not ask the question between 1976 and 1997, however, and thus may have missed low points during the recessions that occurred in the early 1980s or at the time of the House banking scandal in the early '90s.

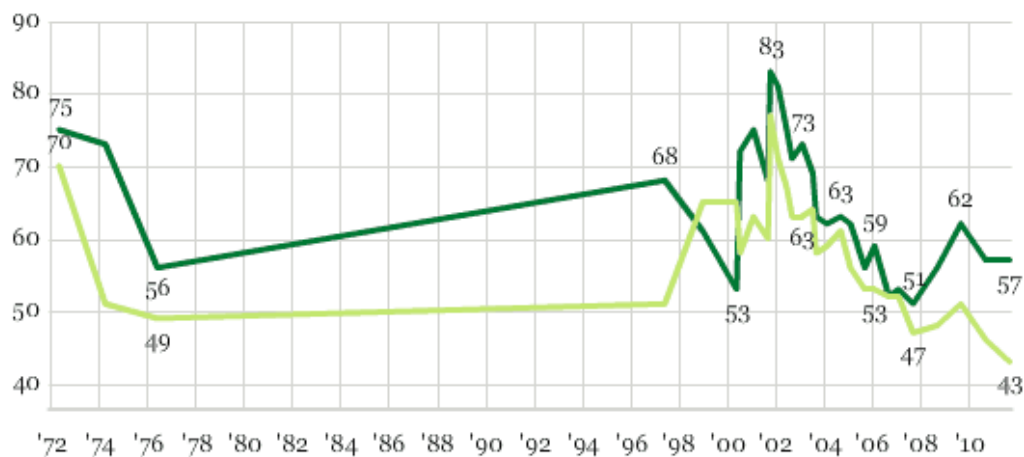
By contrast, faith in Washington to handle international problems (57%) is currently better than the 51% all-time low recorded in 2007, during the Iraq war, and not far off from the 65% average seen since 1972.

*Trust and Confidence in the Federal Government When it Comes to Handling ...*

% Great deal/Fair amount

■ International problems

■ Domestic problems



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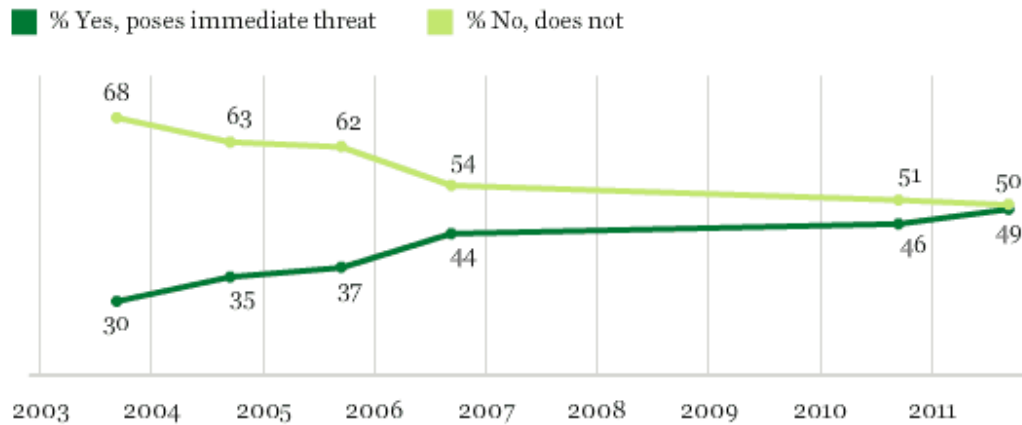
Along with Americans' record-low confidence in the federal government on domestic policy, Gallup finds record skepticism about government waste. As previously reported, Americans, on average, think the federal government in Washington wastes 51 cents of every tax dollar, the highest estimated proportion of waste Gallup has found on this measure in trends dating to 1979.

**Nearly Half Now Say Government Poses Immediate Threat**

Americans' sense that the federal government poses an immediate threat to individuals' rights and freedoms is also at a new high, 49%, since Gallup began asking the question using this wording in 2003. This view is much more pronounced among Republicans (61%) and independents (57%) than among Democrats (28%), although when George W. Bush was president, Democrats and independents were more likely than Republicans to view government as a threat.



*Do you think the federal government poses an immediate threat to the rights and freedoms of ordinary citizens, or not?*



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### Bottom Line

Americans' various ratings of political leadership in Washington add up to a profoundly negative review of government -- something that would seem unhealthy for the country to endure for an extended period. Nevertheless, with another budget showdown looking inevitable and a contentious presidential election year getting underway, it appears the ratings reviewed here could get worse before they improve.

### 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

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

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

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149678/Americans-Express-Historic-Negativity-Toward-Government.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_c](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149678/Americans-Express-Historic-Negativity-Toward-Government.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_c)

## MULTI-COUNTRY SURVEYS

### **191-43-30, Germans Rate Their Lives Worse Than Americans, Britons**

Fewer than half in Germany are "thriving," while a majority are "struggling"

September 27, 2011

BERLIN -- Germans rate their lives worse on average than do adults living in the U.K. and the U.S., according to the inaugural findings from the Germany Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. Less than half, 41.1%, of Germans rate their current lives and expectations for their lives in five years high enough to be classified as "thriving," compared with 52% of Britons and 52.9% of Americans who say the same. Relatively few Germans are "suffering," but a majority are "struggling."

#### *Percentage of Germans, Britons, and Americans Thriving, Struggling, and Suffering*

Among adults aged 18 and older

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Life Evaluation Index score
Germany	41.1%	53.1%	5.8%	35.3
United Kingdom	52.0%	44.1%	3.9%	48.0
United States	52.9%	43.5%	3.6%	49.4

March-July 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

#### **GALLUP**

Gallup classifies respondents' wellbeing as thriving, struggling, or suffering according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10 based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale. People are considered thriving if they rate their current lives a 7 or higher and expectations for their lives in five years an 8 or higher. People who rate their current or future lives a "4" or lower are classified as suffering. All others are considered struggling.

This Life Evaluation Index is a key component of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, which provides a comprehensive monthly measure of Germans' physical, emotional, and financial health. The overall Life Evaluation Index score is calculated by subtracting the percentage of suffering Germans from the percentage of thriving Germans. Germany's Life Evaluation Index score of 35.3 is significantly lower than in the U.K. (48) and the U.S. (49.4).

#### **Older Germans' Life Ratings Trail U.S. and U.K. Ratings the Most**

Middle-aged and older Germans rate their lives far worse than their younger counterparts and their peers in the U.S. and the U.K. While the percentage considered thriving decreases with age in all three countries, it does so much more sharply in Germany. More than half of Germans aged 18 to 29 (62.5%) and those aged 30 to 44 (51.3%) are thriving, similar to the rates in the U.S. and U.K. At the same time, 34.8% of Germans aged 45 to 64 and 24.7% of Germans 65 and older are thriving, compared with percentages higher than 40% in the U.K. and U.S.

*Percentage of Germans, Britons, and Americans Thriving, by Age*

Among adults aged 18 and older

	Germany	United Kingdom	United States
18 to 29	62.5%	62.8%	63.4%
30 to 44	51.3%	54.4%	57.9%
45 to 64	34.8%	49.7%	48.9%
65 and older	24.7%	42.0%	41.8%

March-July 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

**High-Income Germans More Likely to Be Thriving**

High-income Germans are significantly more likely to be thriving than their low-income counterparts. Less than 20% of Germans at the lowest monthly household income level -- 950 euros or less per month -- are thriving, compared with 69.5% of Germans in the highest household income category.

*Percentage of Germans Thriving, Struggling, and Suffering, by Income Group*

Among German adults aged 18 and older

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering
0 to 950 euros	18.9%	57.6%	23.5%
951 to 1,850 euros	21.7%	66.0%	12.3%
1,851 to 2,750 euros	31.6%	63.7%	4.7%
2,751 to 5,450 euros	54.4%	44.5%	1.2%
5,451 or more euros	69.5%	29.4%	1.1%

March 7-July 29, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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**Life Evaluation Ratings Lower in Eastern Germany**

More than two decades after reunification, life appears to remain distinctly different for Germans living in the East than it is for those living in the West. In the Western part of the country, 44.2% of Germans are thriving, compared with 28.2% living in Eastern Germany -- a 16 percentage point difference.

*Percentage of Germans Thriving, Struggling, and Suffering, by Region*

Among German adults aged 18 and older

	<b>Thriving</b>	<b>Struggling</b>	<b>Suffering</b>
Eastern Germany	28.2%	61.0%	10.8%
Western Germany	44.2%	51.2%	4.7%

March 7-July 29, 2011

Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

**GALLUP®**

Differing economic conditions are likely a major contributing factor in these regional differences. Unemployment in Eastern Germany is significantly higher than what it is in the Western half of the country. Average incomes in the East also continue to trail incomes in the West. Given the close relationship between income and life evaluation in Germany, Easterners' comparatively worse financial situation -- tied closely with their higher unemployment -- is likely a key contributor to their lower life ratings.

**Implications**

The German Bundestag in late 2010 put in place a special parliamentary Enquete Commission on "Growth, Wealth and Quality of Life," and tasked it with developing ways to measure societal wellbeing as a complement to more traditional measures like GDP. The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, initiated in Germany in March of this year, is currently doing this.

The Well-Being Index will provide a comprehensive measure of Germans' wellbeing, and with 1,000 surveys per month, can reveal meaningful demographic, socio-economic, and regional differences among the country's residents. Gallup's comparable wellbeing ratings in the U.S. and U.K. provide helpful benchmarks for interpreting the wellbeing results from Germany. For example, Germans' low Life Evaluation Index score compared with the U.K. and U.S. scores -- nations with somewhat similar GDP per capita -- reveals that Germans are dissatisfied with certain aspects of their lives beyond how much money they have. This finding also underscores previous Gallup global research, which has found that many factors -- in addition to income -- including health, education, and governance relate to quality of life. This type of behavioral economic data is vital to helping government and business leaders predict and shape outcomes to improve the lives and economic situations of all Germans.

[View](#) all Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index questions and methodology.

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

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

**Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey March 7-July 29, 2011, with a random sample of 4,811 adults, aged 18 and older, living in Germany, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 1.67$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, education, region, adults in the household, and cell phone status. Demographic weighting targets are based on the most recently published data from the German Statistics Office. 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/149588/Germans-Rate-Lives-Worse-Americans-Britons.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149588/Germans-Rate-Lives-Worse-Americans-Britons.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Americas%20-%20Northern%20America%20-%20USA%20-%20Wellbeing)

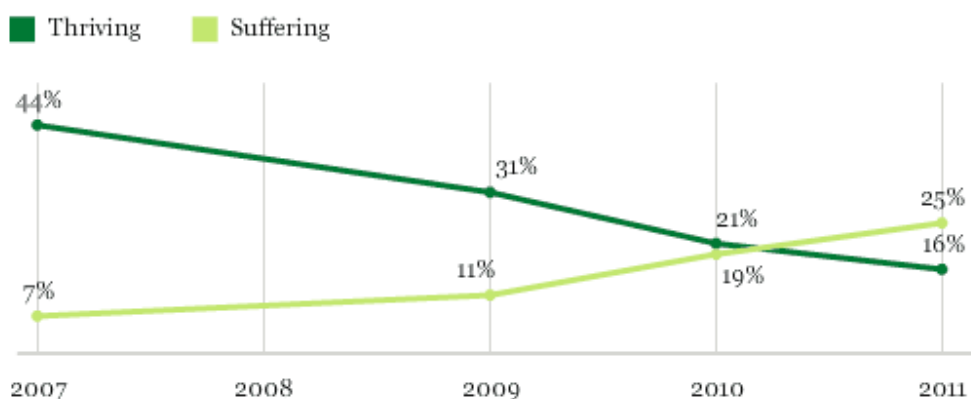
### **191-43-31. In Greece, "Suffering" Up Sharply to 25%**

Greeks expect their lives in five years to be worse than they are today

September 25, 2011

BRUSSELS -- The percentage of Greeks who rate their lives so poorly that they are considered "suffering" has more than tripled to 25% in 2011, from 7% in 2007. Greeks are more likely to be suffering than "thriving," a reality uncommon in the developed world.

*Percentages "Thriving" and "Suffering" in Greece*



"Thriving" means respondents' current life evaluation is 7 or higher and future life evaluation is 8 or higher. "Suffering" means respondents' current and future life evaluations are 4 or lower.

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Gallup classifies respondents' wellbeing as "thriving," "struggling," or "suffering," according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10 based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale. Greeks' current level of wellbeing is low compared with levels in other developed countries, where thriving is typically much higher than suffering. The results from Greece are based on surveys conducted in the country in April and May immediately preceding the start of major riots and protests against the government's austerity measures.

Greeks' current life evaluation -- with 16% thriving, 62% struggling, and 25% suffering -- is also low compared with ratings in other European countries surveyed so far in 2011. More Greeks are now classified as suffering than those living in several other European nations, including those in other countries hard hit by the financial and economic crisis such as Ireland

and Italy. Suffering is higher only in Hungary (28%), Romania (28%), and Bulgaria (45%), and thriving is significantly lower only in Bulgaria.

*Percentages "Thriving," "Struggling," and "Suffering" in Europe*

	<b>% Thriving</b>	<b>% Struggling</b>	<b>% Suffering</b>
Denmark	74	24	2
Finland	64	34	3
Netherlands	66	33	1
United Kingdom	52	44	4
France	46	50	4
Germany	42	52	6
Czech Republic	34	53	13
Slovakia	27	61	12
Italy	23	71	6
Poland	23	60	17
Romania	18	54	28
Greece	16	60	25
Hungary	15	57	28
Bulgaria	5	50	45

2011

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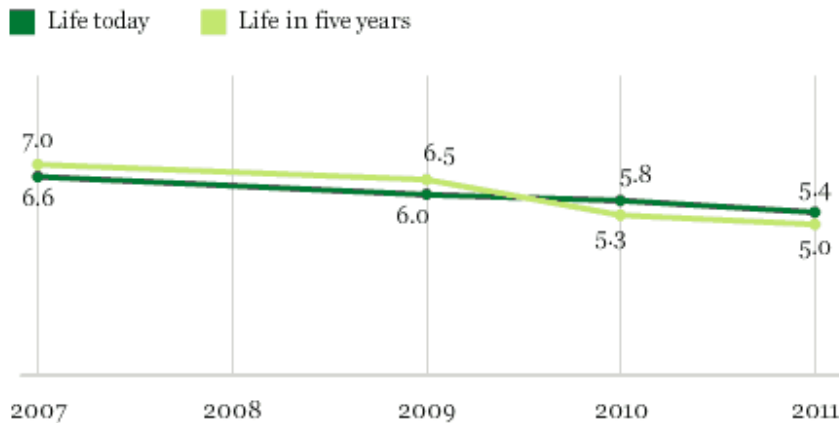
Greeks' depressed wellbeing reflects the effect of three years of economic unease on the country's population. The Greek government over this period has passed a series of ever-expanding austerity measures to manage its debt crisis. The severe budget cuts, tax increases, and the loss of public-sector jobs and government services have shaken Greek society and fueled continuous public protests.

**Greeks Expect Things to Be Worse in Five Years**

Unlike respondents in most European countries, and other countries around the world, Greeks are more likely to expect their lives in five years to be worse than their current lives. Greeks' current and future life ratings have declined each year since 2007. In their average predicted life evaluation, Greeks' ratings are not only among the lowest ratings in Europe, but also among the lowest in the world based on the data available so far from 2011.

### *Greeks' Outlook Relatively Grim for Their Current and Future Lives*

10 represents the best possible life; 0 the worst possible life



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#### **Implications**

Although Greeks felt the effect of the economic crisis in 2009 and rated their present and future lives worse than in 2007, a majority of Greeks still believed that their situation would improve in the next five years. By 2010, however, as the extent of the financial and economic crisis became clearer and the effects of restructuring more widely felt, Greeks' expectations for improvement in the near future had faded. Greeks are even more pessimistic in 2011, so much so that their wellbeing is lower than the wellbeing of residents living in most countries in Europe and is now on par with the wellbeing of residents living in far less-developed nations.

Gallup has also found more sharply negative life evaluations in other countries where revolts took place, suggesting that these evaluations are a sign that should not be ignored. Greek leaders must work to restore public optimism and confidence to avoid even more serious problems.

*Editor's note: This article includes revisions to reflect weighting. In most cases, the data shifted one to three percentage points from what was originally reported.*

#### **Survey Methods**

The 2011 results from Greece are based on face-to-face interviews with 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted April 14-May 3, 2011. Results from other countries and years are based on face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,000 adults per country, aged 15 and older, conducted throughout 2011 as part of Gallup's ongoing global research. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranged from a low of  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points to a high of  $\pm 4$  percentage points. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Source: [http://www.gallup.com/poll/149675/Greece-Suffering-Sharply.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=syndication&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_term=Wellbeing](http://www.gallup.com/poll/149675/Greece-Suffering-Sharply.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=syndication&utm_content=morelink&utm_term=Wellbeing)

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