

ECONOMIC PANORAMA

Americans Continue to Provide a Bleak Economic Forecast

Only 12 per cent of respondents rate current conditions as good, and three-in-ten expect the economy to decline.

[NEW YORK – Sept. 6, 2011] – Many Americans are disappointed with the current state of the national economy, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,007 American adults, 86 per cent of respondents rate the economic conditions in the United States as “bad” or “very bad.”

Two-in-five Americans (40%) rate their own personal finances as “very good” or “good”, while a majority (57%) describe them as “poor” or “very poor.”

Only 19 per cent of respondents expect the U.S. economy to improve over the next six months, while 44 per cent think it will remain the same, and 31 per cent forecast a decline.

Practically half of Americans have worried occasionally or frequently about themselves or somebody in their household becoming unemployed (48%) and about the value of their investments (47%). Other sources for concern are the safety of savings (45%), being able to pay the mortgage or rent (42%), and their employer running into serious financial trouble (30%).

A large proportion of respondents expect the price of groceries (75%) and gasoline (67%) to increase in the next six months. Fewer Americans think they will have to cope with pricier cars (45%), televisions (28%) and real estate (21%).

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KEY FINDINGS

- **86% rate the current economic conditions in the U.S. as “very good” or “good”**
- **48% have worried “occasionally” or “frequently” about unemployment affecting their household**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From August 30 to August 31, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,007 randomly selected American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

CONTACT:

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About Angus Reid Public Opinion

Angus Reid Public Opinion is a public affairs practice headed by Dr. Angus Reid: an industry visionary who has spent more than four decades asking questions to figure out what people feel, how they think and who they will vote for. A team of talented and experienced practitioners with a unique and profound understanding of global issues conduct high quality research throughout the world on a daily basis for corporations, governments, academic researchers, and non-profit organizations.

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**For more information, please contact
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Economic Panorama

How would you rate the economic conditions in the United States today?

		Region			
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Very good / Good	12%	12%	12%	12%	11%
Bad / Very bad	86%	87%	86%	83%	88%
Not sure	2%	0%	2%	4%	1%

Economic Panorama

How would you rate your own personal finances today?

		Region			
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Very good / Good	40%	44%	43%	38%	37%
Poor / Very poor	57%	53%	54%	59%	61%
Not sure	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%

Economic Panorama

Over the next six months, do you think the U.S. economy will improve, remain the same, or decline?

		Region			
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Improve	19%	16%	19%	22%	16%
Remain the same	44%	50%	40%	40%	47%
Decline	31%	29%	34%	31%	30%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	7%	7%

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Economic Panorama

In the past couple of months, how often have you worried about each of the following?

	Never worried	Worried once or twice	Worried occasionally	Worried frequently
The safety of your savings	33%	21%	22%	23%
The value of your investments	35%	18%	22%	25%
Your employer running into serious financial trouble	50%	19%	17%	13%
Being able to pay your mortgage or rent	42%	16%	19%	23%
You or somebody else in your household becoming unemployed	35%	17%	20%	28%

Economic Panorama

Thinking about the next six months, do you expect the price of each of the following items to go up, stay about the same, or go down?

	Prices will go up	Prices will stay the same	Prices will go down	Not sure
Gasoline	67%	18%	9%	5%
Real estate	21%	33%	36%	10%
A new car	45%	33%	10%	12%
A new TV	28%	38%	24%	10%
A week's worth of groceries	75%	19%	3%	3%

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