# Ipsos

# **Ipsos Public Affairs**

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Interview dates: October 29-November 1, 2009 Interviews: 1,002 adults Margin of error: ±3.1 for all adults

# THE RBC CASH POLL CONDUCTED BY IPSOS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

# **POLITICAL STUDY**

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

	ALL ADULTS									
	10/29-	<u> 10/1-</u>	<u>8/27-</u>	7/30-	<u>7/9-</u>					
	11/1/09	<u>4/09</u>	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09			
Right direction	37	41	40	46	40	52	54			
Wrong track	58	56	54	48	54	42	39			
Not sure	4	3	6	6	6	6	7			
			-	-						
						1 Year Ago				
				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	11/6-	10/2-			
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	13/09	8/08	9/08	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>			
Right direction	45	44	42	32	32	32	21			
Wrong track	48	48	50	59	59	64	73			
Not sure	6	8	8	9	9	5	6			

# CONSUMER STUDY

8. Rate the current state of the economy in your local area using a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 means a very strong economy today and 1 means a very weak economy.

	<u> 10/29-</u>	<u> 10/1-</u>	<u>8/27-</u>	<u>7/30-</u>	<u>7/9-</u>		
	<u>11/1/09</u>	<u>4/09</u>	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
7, very strong economy	4	4	5	4	4	4	5
6	6	5	8	5	3	4	6
5	19	25	20	23	23	20	24
4	28	26	25	24	23	25	25
3	21	21	19	23	20	21	18
2	9	8	7	10	10	10	9
1, very weak economy	12	11	16	10	15	15	12
Not sure	11	<b></b>		<b></b>	1	1	1
Total 6-7	9	8	13	9	8	8	11
Total 1-3	42	41	42	44	45	45	39
Mean	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.8

						1 Year Ago	
				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	<u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>
	<u>4/2-6/09</u>	3/5-9/09	<u>2/5-9/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	<u>8/08</u>	<u>9/08</u>	<u>6/08</u>
7, very strong economy	5	7	3	4	4	4	7
6	9	4	6	5	4	5	7
5	22	20	19	16	18	22	24
4	24	21	19	20	19	22	17
3	17	22	21	22	20	22	21
2	11	10	9	13	14	9	9
1, very weak economy	13	16	24	19	20	15	15
Not sure		11	1	11	1	-	1
Total 6-7 Total 1-3	13 41	11 47	8 54	10 54	9 53	10 46	13 45
Mean	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.7

9. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect the economy in your local area to be much stronger, somewhat stronger, about the same, somewhat weaker, or much weaker than it is now?

	10/29-	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	7/30-	<u>7/9-</u>		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
Much stronger	5	7	7	6	6	7	6
Somewhat stronger	26	29	31	28	25	30	30
About the same	49	47	43	46	43	44	42
Somewhat weaker	13	9	12	11	15	11	13
Much weaker	7	6	6	7	9	7	7
Not sure	<b></b>	1	1	2	2	1	2
Total Stronger	30	36	38	34	31	37	36
Total Weaker	20	16	18	19	24	18	20

					1 Year Ago						
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	<u>1/8-</u> 13/09	<u>12/4-</u> 8/08	11/6- 9/08	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>				
Much stronger	8	7	7	4	6	8	8				
Somewhat stronger	31	23	25	26	23	25	24				
About the same	39	38	35	39	38	40	39				
Somewhat weaker	12	20	22	18	22	15	20				
Much weaker	9	10	10	11	9	9	7				
Not sure	11	2	1	2	2	2	3				
Total Stronger	39	30	32	30	29	34	31				
Total Weaker	21	30	32	29	31	24	27				

10. Rate your current financial situation, using a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 means your personal financial situation is very strong today and 1 means it is very weak.

	<u> 10/29-</u>	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	<u>7/30-</u>	7/9-		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	<u>5/1-5/09</u>
7, very strong	9	9	9	8	9	9	10
6	11	13	12	13	11	9	15
5	28	29	24	25	25	23	25
4	18	21	15	20	20	23	16
3	15	11	16	13	14	15	13
2	5	5	7	10	7	6	8
1, very weak	13	11	15	8	13	12	11
Not sure	1	2	22	1	2	2	2
Total 6-7	20	22	21	22	19	19	25
Total 1-3	33	27	37	32	34	34	32
Mean	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2

						1 Year Ago	
	4/0.0/00	0/5 0/00	0/5 0/00	<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	<u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>
	<u>4/2-6/09</u>	3/5-9/09	<u>2/5-9/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	<u>8/08</u>	<u>9/08</u>	<u>6/08</u>
7, very strong	8	10	7	8	9	9	11
6	15	11	11	12	12	12	14
5	26	24	24	24	23	26	26
4	19	19	17	17	18	19	19
3	12	14	14	14	13	15	11
2	6	8	8	7	8	6	6
1, very weak	11	12	17	16	15	13	12
Not sure	11	2	2	2	2	2	11
Total 6-7	23	21	18	20	22	21	25
Total 1-3	30	35	39	37	36	33	29
Mean	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.3

11. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect your personal financial situation to be much stronger, somewhat stronger, about the same, somewhat weaker, or much weaker than it is now?

	10/29-	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	7/30-	7/9-		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
Much stronger	9	8	9	10	9	9	8
Somewhat stronger	24	24	23	19	21	24	24
About the same	54	56	55	55	54	52	53
Somewhat weaker	9	8	8	8	11	9	10
Much weaker	3	4	4	7	4	4	3
Not sure	1	11	1	1	2	1	2
Total Stronger Total Weaker	33 12	32 12	32 12	29 15	30 15	33 14	32 13

					1 Year Ago							
	4/0.0/00	0/5 0/00	0/5 0/00	<u>1/8-</u>	12/4-	<u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>					
	<u>4/2-6/09</u>	<u>3/5-9/09</u>	<u>2/5-9/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	<u>8/08</u>	<u>9/08</u>	6/08					
Much stronger	10	9	7	7	6	12	9					
Somewhat stronger	24	22	25	23	25	23	26					
About the same	52	49	51	51	55	49	50					
Somewhat weaker	8	12	12	10	8	10	11					
Much weaker	5	5	4	7	4	5	3					
Not sure	1	2	0	2	2	11	2					
Total Stronger	34	31	33	30	32	35	35					
Total Weaker	13	18	16	17	12	15	14					

# Now I'd like you to think about how your personal financial situation has changed in the <u>past</u> six months.

12. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less comfortable making a major purchase, like a home or car?

	10/29-	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	7/30-	<u>7/9-</u>		
	11/1/09	<u>4/09</u>	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
More comfortable	19	22	19	18	16	16	17
Less comfortable	69	63	66	65	65	66	67
No change (VOL)	11	14	13	16	18	15	14
Not sure	1	2	2	1	1	3	1

						1 Year Ago	
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	<u>1/8-</u> 13/09	<u>12/4-</u> 8/08	<u>11/6-</u> <u>9/08</u>	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>
More comfortable	19	12	14	13	12	15	17
Less comfortable	68	74	70	71	72	71	69
No change (VOL)	12	13	15	15	15	13	12
Not sure	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

13. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less comfortable making other household purchases?

	<u>10/29-</u> 11/1/09	<u>10/1-</u> 4/09	<u>8/27-</u> 31/09	<u>7/30-</u> 8/3/09	<u>7/9-</u> 13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
More comfortable	26	29	26	25	19	22	25
Less comfortable	63	55	59	60	63	61	59
No change (VOL)	11	15	14	15	17	16	16
Not sure		1	1	1		1	1

				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	<u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	13/09	8/08	9/08	6/08
More comfortable	20	16	18	18	16	17	20
Less comfortable	64	69	67	67	66	66	67
No change (VOL)	15	15	14	15	16	16	12
Not sure	1		1		1	1	

14. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less confident about job security for yourself, your family and other people you know personally?

	<u>10/29-</u> 11/1/09	<u>10/1-</u> <u>4/09</u>	<u>8/27-</u> 31/09	<u>7/30-</u> 8/3/09	<u>7/9-</u> 13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
More confident	26	31	28	24	21	20	23
Less confident	66	58	60	61	64	67	61
No change (VOL)	8	9	10	13	13	10	14
Not sure		1	2	2	2	2	11

						1 Year Ago	
		-//		<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	<u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>
	4/2-6/09	<u>3/5-9/09</u>	<u>2/5-9/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	<u>8/08</u>	<u>9/08</u>	<u>6/08</u>
More confident	19	18	18	18	17	21	23
Less confident	70	71	71	68	65	63	62
No change (VOL)	10	10	9	12	16	14	14
Not sure	1	1	2	2	2	2	1

15. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less confident of your ability to invest in the future, including your ability to save money for your retirement or your children's education?

	<u> 10/29-</u>	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	7/30-	<u>7/9-</u>		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
More confident	31	33	31	28	22	25	28
Less confident	59	54	57	58	64	61	59
No change (VOL)	8	10	10	12	12	12	11
Not sure	3	3	2	2	2	2	2

						1 Year Ago	
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	<u>1/8-</u> 13/09	<u>12/4-</u> <u>8/08</u>	<u>11/6-</u> <u>9/08</u>	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>
More confident	24	20	21	19	21	23	23
Less confident	62	67	66	66	62	62	64
No change (VOL)	13	11	11	12	15	13	10
Not sure	1	2	2	3	2	2	3

16a. Thinking of the <u>last</u> 6 months, have you, someone in your family or someone else you know personally lost their job as a result of economic conditions?

	<u> 10/29-</u>	<u> 10/1-</u>	8/27-	<u>7/30-</u>	<u>7/9-</u>		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
Yes	66	67	63	64	65	65	65
No	34	33	36	36	34	34	35
Not sure			1				

						1 Year			
						Ago			
				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	11/6-	10/2-		
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	13/09	8/08	9/08	6/08		
Yes	63	64	62	53	50	48	43		
No	37	36	37	47	50	51	56		
Not sure					-	1	-		

16b. Now look ahead at the <u>next</u> six months. How likely is it that you, someone in your family or someone else you know personally will lose their job in the next six months as a result of economic conditions?

	10/29-	<u>10/1-</u>	<u>8/27-</u>	7/30-	7/9-		
	11/1/09	4/09	31/09	8/3/09	13/09	6/4-8/09	5/1-5/09
Extremely likely	9	11	12	12	11	15	11
Very likely	20	18	24	22	20	21	21
Somewhat likely	41	36	35	36	40	35	36
Not very likely	21	25	19	18	17	18	19
Not at all likely	8	9	7	9	9	9	10
Not sure	1	11	3	2	4	2	3
Total Likely	29	29	36	34	31	35	32
Total Not Likely	29	34	26	27	26	27	29

					1 Year				
					Ago				
				<u>1/8-</u>	12/4-	11/6-	10/2-		
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	13/09	8/08	9/08	6/08		
Extremely likely	13	14	15	11	11	9	11		
Very likely	24	25	27	22	21	18	18		
Somewhat likely	36	37	33	33	35	34	35		
Not very likely	16	15	18	21	19	24	21		
Not at all likely	9	7	5	10	10	12	14		
Not sure	2	2	2	3	3	3	2		
Total Likely	37	39	42	33	32	27	28		
Total Not Likely	25	22	23	32	30	35	35		

17. Thinking about the next 30 days, do you think it will be a good time or a bad time to invest in the stock market?

	<u> 10/29-</u>	<u> 10/1-</u>	<u>8/27-</u>	7/30-	<u>7/9-</u>		
	<u>11/1/09</u>	<u>4/09</u>	<u>31/09</u>	8/3/09	<u>13/09</u>	<u>6/4-8/09</u>	<u>5/1-5/09</u>
Good time	34	33	34	36	25	31	32
Bad time	61	59	58	57	68	63	63
Not sure	5	8	8	7	7	7	5

				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	<b>Ago</b> <u>11/6-</u>	<u>10/2-</u>
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	<u>2/5-9/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	8/08	9/08	6/08
Good time	34	26	26	24	31	32	32
Bad time	61	70	70	71	65	62	64
Not sure	5	4	4	5	4	6	4

18. Thinking of the next 30 days, do you think it will be a good time to buy real estate, such as a house, vacation property or investment property?

	<u>10/29-</u>	<u>10/1-</u>	<u>8/27-</u>	<u>7/30-</u>	<u>7/9-</u>		
	<u>11/1/09</u>	<u>4/09</u>	<u>31/09</u>	<u>8/3/09</u>	<u>13/09</u>	<u>6/4-8/09</u>	<u>5/1-5/09</u>
Yes	43	47	48	50	51	47	50
No	<i>5</i> 5	50	50	48	47	52	47
Not sure	1	3	2	2	2	1	2

					1 Year Ago		
				<u>1/8-</u>	<u>12/4-</u>	11/6-	10/2-
	4/2-6/09	3/5-9/09	2/5-9/09	13/09	8/08	9/08	6/08
Yes	51	43	42	40	38	38	39
No	47	55	56	57	60	59	59
Not sure	2	2	2	2	3	3	2

# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

NOTE: Results for demographic questions represent all adults unless otherwise indicated.

- D1a. In what year were you born?
- D1b. Have you already had a birthday this year?

#### (IF RESPONDENT REFUSES Q.D1a OR Q.D1b, Q.D1c ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

D1c. Are you:

18-34	31	30
35-54	38	38
55-64	15	13
65+	16	18
(DK/NS)		

D2. Are you employed:

TOTAL EMPLOYED	56	57
Full time	46	46
Part time	10	11
Not employed	20	21
Retired	22	22
(DK/NS)	2	1

D3. What is the last year of school you completed?

```
Grade school or some high school
                                                              8
                                                                   7
Completed high school
                                                              41
                                                                  42
Some community college or university, did not finish
                                                              15
                                                                  14
Completed technical school or a community college
                                                                  10
                                                              9
Completed a university or Bachelor's degree
                                                              15
                                                                  16
Completed a post-graduate degree such as a Master's or Ph.D. 12
                                                                 11
(DK/NS)
```

D4. Are you currently married?

D5. Including yourself and any children, how many people are currently living in your household?

```
1
         16
             16
2
         31
             31
         22
             18
3
4
         16
             17
5
         9
              9
6+
         6
              7
(DK/NS)
```

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#### (Q.D6a-c ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY MORE THAN ONE PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD IN Q.D5.)

D6a. How many children under 6 years are currently living in your household?

D6b. How many children ages 6 to 12 are currently living in your household?

D6c. How many children ages 13 to 17 are currently living in your household?

ANY CHILDREN (NET)	43	38	
Under 6	25	22	
6-12	21	17	
13-17	15	13	
NO CHILDREN	56	60	
(DK/NS)	1	2	
Summary			
Any children 12 or younger	35	31	
Any children 6 to 17	31	25	

D10. Are you of Hispanic ethnicity?

#### (Q.D11 ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO DO NOT SAY THEY ARE HISPANIC IN Q.D12a.)

D11. Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

# (RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

White	68	69
Hispanic	13	13
Black	11	11
Asian	3	2
American Indian	1	3
(NOT READ) Other	2	2
(DK/NS)	2	2

D12. Could you please tell me your household income from all sources in 2007?

11	12
14	14
16	18
7	7
13	13
13	10
15	15
11	11
	14 16 7 13 13

#### **REGION:**

Northeast	19	19
Midwest	22	22
South	37	37
West	23	23

#### **METROPOLITAN STATUS:**

 2.5 million or more
 40
 39

 500,000 to 2.5 million
 22
 24

 Under 500,000
 22
 22

 Rural
 16
 16

**GENDER:** 

Male 49 49 Female 51 51

Do you currently own stocks, bonds or mutual funds?

Yes 47 52 No 52 47 DK/NS 1 2