



Financial Times/Harris Poll Monthly Opinions of Adults from Five European Countries and the United States

February 2008 - Below are the most recent data from the Financial Times/Harris Poll, a monthly poll of adults from six countries in Europe and the United States. The countries include France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain and the United States.

For more information about the polls and to view the articles by the Financial Times that are based on these data, visit www.ft.com. For inquiries, contact Tracey Mc Nerney at 585-214-7756 or tmcnerney@harrisinteractive.com.

Source

This FT/Harris Poll was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 6,448 adults (aged 16-64) within France (1,076), Germany (1,111), Great Britain (1,087), Spain (1,109) and the United States (1,020) and adults (aged 18-64) in Italy (1,045) between 30 January and 8 February 2008.

Complete survey methodology

This **FT/Harris Poll** was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 6,448 adults (aged 16-64) within France, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, and the United States and adults (aged 18-64) in Italy between 30 January and 8 February 2008. Figures for age, sex, education, region and Internet usage were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

Unweighted bases for the survey are: Total (6,448); France (1,076); Germany (1,111); Great Britain (1,087); Italy (1,045); Spain (1,109) and the United States (1,020).

Weighted bases for the survey are: Total (6,447); France (1,076); Germany (1,111); Great Britain (1,087); Italy (1,045); Spain (1,109) and the United States (1,020).

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult populations within those countries that were surveyed. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

These statements conform to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls and the British Polling Council.

TABLE 1
RELIABILITY OF RUSSIA AS ENERGY SUPPLIER

“We would now like to talk to you about household energy. How reliable or unreliable do you regard Russia as an energy supplier?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and U.S. adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| RELIABLE (NET) | 30 | 29 | 46 | 31 | 41 | 30 |
| Completely reliable | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| More reliable than unreliable | 28 | 28 | 42 | 27 | 37 | 29 |
| UNRELIABLE (NET) | 70 | 71 | 54 | 69 | 59 | 70 |
| More unreliable than unreliable | 54 | 60 | 49 | 60 | 53 | 58 |
| Completely unreliable | 17 | 11 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 12 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Majorities in all six countries believe that Russia is unreliable as an energy supplier, albeit not completely unreliable.

Italy is the most divided on this issue as just over half think Russia is unreliable, while just under half think they are reliable.

TABLE 2
PURCHASING GAS/ELECTRICITY FROM RUSSIA

“How much would you like or dislike buying your household gas and/or electricity from a Russian-owned company?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| LIKE (NET) | 23 | 27 | 34 | 27 | 31 | 29 |
| Completely like | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Like more than dislike | 21 | 24 | 32 | 26 | 27 | 27 |
| DISLIKE (NET) | 77 | 73 | 66 | 73 | 69 | 71 |
| Dislike more than like | 60 | 54 | 55 | 62 | 54 | 53 |
| Completely dislike | 17 | 19 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 18 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

At least two-thirds of adults in all six countries would dislike purchasing their gas and/or electricity from Russia. But again, this is soft as majorities in all six countries would dislike more than like, rather than completely dislike making this purchase from Russia.

TABLE 3
RUSSIAN COMPANIES INVESTING IN COUNTRIES

“How much do you favour or oppose Russian companies in making investments in [the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the U.S.]?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 35 | 39 | 47 | 55 | 43 | 43 |
| Strongly favour | 2 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 6 | 4 |
| Favour more than oppose | 33 | 36 | 43 | 44 | 37 | 39 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 65 | 61 | 53 | 45 | 57 | 57 |
| Oppose more than favour | 51 | 50 | 44 | 38 | 42 | 44 |
| Strongly oppose | 13 | 12 | 8 | 7 | 14 | 13 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

While a majority of adults in Spain favour Russian companies making investments in their country, they stand alone in this regard. Majorities in all the other five countries, including almost two-thirds of adults in Great Britain, oppose Russian companies making investments in their country.

TABLE 4
RUSSIA: FRIEND OR FOE

“Do you regard Russia as more of a friend or more of a foe?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| More as a friend | 40 | 69 | 65 | 67 | 62 | 56 |
| More as a foe | 60 | 31 | 35 | 33 | 38 | 44 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

With the exception of Great Britain, Russia is seen more as a friend rather than a foe by majorities in the other five countries. In Great Britain, three out of five adults see Russia more as a foe.

**TABLE 5
PAYING MORE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

“How much of an increase would you be willing to pay at the most for energy if it were from renewable sources?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults who have some form of responsibility for paying household energy bills

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 884 | 934 | 807 | 848 | 968 | 787 |
| Nothing more | 54 | 42 | 44 | 35 | 50 | 40 |
| 5% more | 18 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 22 | 17 |
| 10% more | 12 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 17 |
| 15% more | 2 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| 20% more | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 30% more | 1 | * | * | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 40% more | 1 | * | * | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Not sure | 10 | 10 | 5 | 17 | 5 | 11 |
| AVERAGE | 3.9% | 4.7% | 5.1% | 5.3% | 4.4% | 6.1% |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

A majority of those who have some responsibility for paying their household energy bills in Great Britain and a half of those in Germany would pay nothing more for energy if most came from renewable sources. Of those who say they would pay something in all countries, the majority would only pay 5%. Pluralities in France, Italy and the U.S. as well as just over one-third of Spaniards say they would pay nothing more for energy if it were from renewable resources.

TABLE 6
LIKELIHOOD OF PAYING MORE EACH MONTH FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

“The European Commission estimates it would cost each household an extra [€150, £110, \$220] on a monthly basis on gas and electricity bills to cut green house emissions and get more renewable energy.

Given the choice, how likely would you be to pay this extra [€150, £110, \$220] per month?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults who have some form of responsibility for paying household energy bills

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 884 | 934 | 807 | 848 | 968 | 787 |
| Completely likely | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Very likely | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Fairly likely | 11 | 10 | 14 | 10 | 9 | 8 |
| Somewhat likely | 13 | 17 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 16 |
| Not at all likely | 72 | 69 | 57 | 62 | 65 | 71 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

When the question is put in terms of actual pounds, euros or dollars, the reaction is even more negative as two-thirds or more of those who have some form of responsibility for paying their energy bills in Germany, France, the U.S. and Great Britain as well as three in five of this group in Spain and a majority of Italians all say they would be not at all likely to pay the European Commission monthly estimates to cut green house emissions and get more renewable energy.

TABLE 7
BUILDING NEW NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

“How much do you favour or oppose building new nuclear power plants in [the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the U.S.]?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 45 | 49 | 58 | 32 | 36 | 52 |
| Strongly favour | 13 | 15 | 29 | 12 | 12 | 20 |
| Favour more than oppose | 32 | 34 | 30 | 20 | 25 | 32 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 55 | 51 | 42 | 68 | 64 | 48 |
| Oppose more than favour | 35 | 31 | 21 | 28 | 29 | 31 |
| Strongly oppose | 20 | 20 | 21 | 40 | 35 | 17 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Attitudes towards building new nuclear power plants are mixed. A majority of Italians and American favour building new plants in their countries while majorities in Spain, Germany and Great Britain are all opposed. French adults are a little more divided as just over half are opposed while just under half are in favour. Spaniards are the most opposed with over two-thirds against the building of new nuclear power plants in their country (and two in five strongly opposing this).

**TABLE 8
INREASING THE NUMBER OF WIND FARMS**

“How much do you favour or oppose a large increase in the number of wind farms in [the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the U.S.]?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 87 | 89 | 91 | 90 | 79 | 92 |
| Strongly favour | 48 | 49 | 64 | 55 | 34 | 61 |
| Favour more than oppose | 39 | 40 | 27 | 35 | 45 | 31 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 13 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 21 | 8 |
| Oppose more than favour | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 14 | 7 |
| Strongly oppose | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

When it comes to wind farms however, adults in all six countries are of one mind. Very strong majorities are in favour of a large increase in the number of wind farms in their countries.

**TABLE 9
HIGHER TAXES ON HIGHER CARBON EMISSION CARS**

“How much do you favour or oppose a higher tax on higher carbon emission cars?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 65 | 67 | 71 | 78 | 57 | 53 |
| Strongly favour | 31 | 31 | 32 | 46 | 20 | 21 |
| Favour more than oppose | 34 | 37 | 39 | 32 | 37 | 32 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 35 | 33 | 29 | 22 | 43 | 47 |
| Oppose more than favour | 23 | 19 | 18 | 14 | 24 | 27 |
| Strongly oppose | 12 | 14 | 11 | 8 | 19 | 20 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Around two-thirds or more of adults in Great Britain, France, Italy and Spain favour a higher tax on higher emission cars. Majorities in Germany and the U.S. also favour this higher tax, but the support is not as strong.

**TABLE 10
LOWER TAXES ON LOWER CARBON EMISSION CARS**

“How much do you favour or oppose a lower tax on lower carbon emission cars?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 86 | 79 | 91 | 90 | 89 | 78 |
| Strongly favour | 39 | 34 | 53 | 55 | 44 | 37 |
| Favour more than oppose | 46 | 44 | 38 | 35 | 45 | 41 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 14 | 21 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 22 |
| Oppose more than favour | 11 | 13 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 14 |
| Strongly oppose | 4 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 8 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

An even stronger proposal for applying taxes to car emissions is put forward with the idea of a lower tax on lower emission cars. Very strong majorities, at least three-quarters in each of the six countries favour this lower tax being levied on lower emission cars.

**TABLE 11
GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES FOR BIO-FUELS**

“How much do you favour or oppose a financial subsidy by the government of [the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the U.S.] for bio-fuels?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 77 | 84 | 90 | 85 | 65 | 71 |
| Strongly favour | 23 | 39 | 54 | 38 | 23 | 22 |
| Favour more than oppose | 55 | 45 | 36 | 47 | 42 | 49 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 23 | 16 | 10 | 15 | 35 | 29 |
| Oppose more than favour | 16 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 21 | 21 |
| Strongly oppose | 7 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 8 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

When it comes to government subsidies being given by the governments of the six countries for bio-fuels, people are supportive. Majorities in all six countries favour such a government subsidy, with the support being strongest in Italy, Spain and France.

**TABLE 12
GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES FOR NUCLEAR POWER**

“How much do you favour or oppose a financial subsidy by the government of [the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the U.S.] for the development of nuclear power?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| FAVOUR (NET) | 42 | 48 | 62 | 36 | 34 | 46 |
| Strongly favour | 10 | 11 | 30 | 13 | 7 | 12 |
| Favour more than oppose | 33 | 37 | 32 | 23 | 27 | 35 |
| OPPOSE (NET) | 58 | 52 | 38 | 64 | 66 | 54 |
| Oppose more than favour | 38 | 33 | 20 | 35 | 32 | 37 |
| Strongly oppose | 20 | 19 | 17 | 30 | 34 | 17 |

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Financial subsidies for nuclear power is not met with as much support. A majority of Italians favour such a subsidy, while majorities in the other five countries are opposed. Opposition is strongest in Germany, Spain and Great Britain. Whilst more are opposed than in favour, U.S. and French adults are more divided on this issue.

**TABLE 13
US PRESIDENT**

“Of the following candidates for president of the United States, who would you most like to see elected president?” (EU Countries) / “If the election for President of the United States were held today, for whom would you be most likely to vote?” (United states)

Base: All EU adults in five countries and in the U.S.

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| Hillary Clinton | 28 | 30 | 28 | 32 | 34 | 21 |
| Barack Obama | 23 | 40 | 45 | 35 | 36 | 22 |
| John McCain | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 14 |
| Rudy Giuliani | 4 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| John Edwards | 1 | * | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Mike Huckabee | * | * | * | * | 1 | 8 |
| Mitt Romney | * | * | * | * | * | 6 |
| Bill Richardson | * | * | * | * | * | 1 |
| Joseph Biden | * | - | * | * | * | * |
| Fred Thompson | * | - | * | * | * | 2 |
| Not sure | 40 | 27 | 17 | 27 | 25 | 19 |

Note: * indicates less than 0.5% and “-“ indicates no response

Regardless of country, the race for U.S. President is a two person race – Barack Obama versus Hillary Clinton. In the U.S., the two are evenly divided, representing the current state of the Democratic nomination; John McCain is in third, Great Britain is the only one of the European countries where Hillary Clinton has an edge. While the other four countries all have Obama ahead of Clinton as the candidate they would most like to see elected president, it is much closer in Spain and Germany, whereas France and Italy have Obama ahead by much more.

TABLE 14
GREATEST THREATS TO GLOBAL STABILITY

“Which one, if any, of the following countries do you think is the greatest threat to global stability?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and in the U.S.

| | Great Britain | France | Italy | Spain | Germany | United States |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Unweighted base | 1087 | 1076 | 1045 | 1109 | 1111 | 1020 |
| US | 33 | 26 | 21 | 41 | 31 | 15 |
| China | 16 | 25 | 25 | 14 | 25 | 21 |
| Iran | 16 | 21 | 25 | 19 | 13 | 22 |
| North Korea | 11 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 18 |
| Iraq | 8 | 12 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 12 |
| Russia | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Israel | * | * | * | 1 | * | * |
| Pakistan | * | * | - | - | 1 | - |
| Afghanistan | - | * | * | - | - | * |
| Muslim countries, not specified | - | * | * | * | - | - |
| India | - | * | * | - | * | - |
| Saudi Arabia | * | - | - | - | * | * |
| Middle East, country not specified | - | - | * | - | * | * |
| France | - | - | - | * | * | - |
| UK | * | - | - | - | - | * |
| Palestine | - | - | * | - | * | - |
| No country, religious fundamentalists | - | * | - | - | - | - |
| Africa, country not specified | - | - | - | - | * | - |
| No country, terrorist organisations | - | - | - | - | - | * |
| No one country, all are a threat | - | - | - | - | * | * |
| Other | * | - | 1 | 1 | * | * |
| None | 11 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 7 |
| Not sure/Not stated/Refused | * | * | * | - | - | 1 |

Note: * indicates less than 0.5% and “-“ indicates no response

About Harris Interactive

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