

# TIME MAGAZINE/ABT SRBI – October 26- 27, 2009 Survey

FINAL DATA-October 28, 2009

BASE= 1,003 Adults Except Where Noted

1. TO BEGIN WITH, HOW WOULD YOU RATE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTRY TODAY?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
EXCELLENT	1%
GOOD	4%
ONLY FAIR	39%
POOR	55%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	1%

2. A YEAR FROM NOW, DO YOU EXPECT THAT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WILL BE BETTER THAN THEY ARE NOW, WORSE THAN THEY ARE NOW, OR BE ABOUT THE SAME?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
BETTER	43%
WORSE	13%
SAME	42%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	2%

3. JUST THINKING ABOUT YOUR OWN PERSONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, DO YOU FEEL THAT OVER THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS THINGS HAVE GOTTEN BETTER, WORSE, OR STAYED ABOUT THE SAME?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
BETTER	13%
WORSE	36%
SAME	51%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	*

3A. HOW MUCH WERE YOU PERSONALLY HURT BY THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN IN THE PAST YEAR?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
GREAT DEAL	23%
SOME	44%
NOT MUCH	22%
NOT AT ALL	10%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	1%

\* = less than 1%

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4. HOW CLOSELY ARE YOU FOLLOWING THE NEWS ABOUT THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ON WALL STREET AND THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
VERY CLOSELY	33%
SOMEWHAT CLOSELY	45%
NOT TOO CLOSELY	16%
NOT AT ALL	5%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	*

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

A) PRESIDENT OBAMA

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
EXCELLENT	11%
GOOD	31%
ONLY FAIR	29%
POOR	26%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	3%

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

B) DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
EXCELLENT	3%
GOOD	19%
ONLY FAIR	42%
POOR	31%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	5%

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

C) REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
EXCELLENT	1%
GOOD	12%
ONLY FAIR	46%
POOR	36%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	5%

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5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

D) MAJOR BANKS AND OTHER WALL STREET FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

EXCELLENT	1%
GOOD	6%
ONLY FAIR	38%
POOR	50%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	5%

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

E) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGULATORS

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

EXCELLENT	1%
GOOD	13%
ONLY FAIR	43%
POOR	35%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	8%

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

F) THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

EXCELLENT	2%
GOOD	18%
ONLY FAIR	42%
POOR	23%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	15%

5. HOW GOOD A JOB WOULD YOU SAY THE FOLLOWING ARE DOING IN TAKING STEPS TO AVOID ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE FUTURE LIKE THE ONE WE'VE JUST HAD IN THE PAST YEAR? WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, A GOOD JOB, ONLY FAIR, OR POOR JOB?

G) THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

EXCELLENT	3%
GOOD	28%
ONLY FAIR	47%
POOR	15%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	7%

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6. AS YOU MAY KNOW, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVESTED BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO RESCUE THE MAJOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. LOOKING BACK, DO YOU THINK THIS WAS THE RIGHT THING OR THE WRONG THING FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO DO?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
WRONG THING	55%
RIGHT THING	37%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	7%

7. DO YOU THINK THAT WALL STREET HAS HAD TOO MUCH INFLUENCE OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY POLICIES, ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF INFLUENCE, OR TOO LITTLE INFLUENCE?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
TOO MUCH	58%
ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT	21%
TOO LITTLE	13%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	8%

8. NOW THAT MANY BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARE RECOVERING WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S HELP, HOW MUCH HAS THIS RECOVERY HELPED PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
A GREAT DEAL	3%
SOME	19%
NOT MUCH	31%
NOT AT ALL	45%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	1%

9. DO YOU THINK THAT GOVERNMENT POLICIES SINCE THE FINANCIAL CRISIS HAVE FAVORED WALL STREET FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OVER THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF, OR DID THE GOVERNMENT JUST DO WHAT WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID A BIGGER CRISIS?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
POLICIES FAVORED WALL STREET	32%
GOVERNMENT DID WHAT WAS NECESSARY	60%
DEPENDS	2%
NO ANSWER/DON'T KNOW	6%

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10. DO YOU THINK THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE ENOUGH TO HELP PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF DURING THIS ECONOMIC DOWNTURN, TOO MUCH, OR DOES THE GOVERNMENT NEED TO DO MORE TO HELP PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
GOVERNMENT HAS DONE ENOUGH	22%
TOO MUCH	10%
GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO DO MORE	62%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	6%

11. AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT FINANCIAL CRISIS, DO YOU THINK THAT THE LARGE WALL STREET FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS LEARNED FROM THEIR MISTAKES AND WILL CHANGE THE WAY THEY DO BUSINESS, OR, DO YOU THINK THAT THINGS WILL RETURN TO BUSINESS AS USUAL NOW THAT WALL STREET HAS STARTED TO RECOVER?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
WILL CHANGE THE WAY THEY DO BUSINESS	18%
RETURN TO BUSINESS AS USUAL	75%
DEPENDS/MIXED	3%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	4%

12. HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES COULD SUFFER ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AS A RESULT OF WALL STREET FIRMS TAKING TOO MUCH RISK?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
VERY CONCERNED	44%
SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	41%
NOT VERY CONCERNED	9%
NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	5%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	1%

13. DO YOU THINK THERE SHOULD BE MORE GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF WALL STREET THAN WE'VE HAD IN THE PAST, LESS REGULATION, OR ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT OF REGULATION AS NOW?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
MORE GOVERNMENT REGULATION	59%
LESS	13%
SAME AMOUNT	23%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	5%

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14. DO YOU THINK THAT EXECUTIVES AT THE LARGE WALL STREET FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TODAY ARE...?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
PAID FAIRLY	10%
PAID SOMEWHAT HIGHER	22%
COMPLETELY OUT OF LINE	63%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	5%

15. LAST WEEK THE GOVERNMENT ORDERED PAY CUTS AND CHANGES IN THE WAY BONUSES ARE PAID TO TOP EXECUTIVES AT THE SEVEN FINANCIAL COMPANIES THAT RECEIVED THE MOST GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE. DO YOU FAVOR OR OPPOSE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PUTTING LIMITS ON SALARIES AND OTHER COMPENSATION PAID TO THESE EXECUTIVES? DO YOU FEEL THAT WAY STRONGLY OR SOMEWHAT?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
FAVOR STRONGLY	53%
FAVOR SOMEWHAT	18%
OPPOSE SOMEWHAT	11%
OPPOSE STRONGLY	14%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	4%

16. SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT LIMITS PAY AND BONUSES AT THESE WALL STREET FIRMS IT WILL HURT THEIR ABILITY TO RETAIN AND ATTRACT THE MOST TALENTED EMPLOYEES THAT THESE COMPANIES NEED TO RECOVER AND PAY BACK BILLIONS OF DOLLARS THEY OWE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. OTHERS DISAGREE AND SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO CHANGE THE WAY WALL STREET OPERATES. ALL IN ALL, SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT FORCE PAY CUTS AND OTHER CHANGES IN COMPENSATION FOR THE TOP EXECUTIVES OF THESE INSTITUTIONS OR NOT?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
YES, SHOULD FORCE PAY CUTS	67%
NO, SHOULD NOT	26%
DEPENDS/OTHER	3%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	4%

17. SEVERAL BANKS RESCUED BY THE GOVERNMENT WHICH HAVE NOW PAID BACK THE GOVERNMENT'S RESCUE LOANS ARE PAYING RECORD BONUSES TO EMPLOYEES. SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT ALLOW THESE BANKS TO PAY THESE RECORD BONUSES, OR SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT STRICTLY LIMIT PAY AND BONUSES AT ALL BANKS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT RESCUED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY'VE PAID BACK THE GOVERNMENT?

	ALL RESPONDENTS =====
GOVERNMENT SHOULD STRICTLY LIMIT	62%
GOVERNMENT SHOULD ALLOW	31%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	7%

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18. SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT REDUCE THESE EXECUTIVE BONUSES BY PUTTING SPECIAL HIGHER TAXES ON THEM, OR NOT?

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

PUT HIGHER TAX ON THEM	49%
NOT PUT HIGHER TAX	45%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	7%

19. THE GOVERNMENT PAID BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO RESCUE FINANCIAL COMPANIES THAT THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED WERE TOO BIG TO FAIL – THAT IS, IF THEY FAILED, THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL SYSTEM MIGHT COLLAPSE. SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT HAVE THE POWER TO BREAK UP BANKS AND FINANCIAL COMPANIES THAT IT BELIEVES ARE TOO BIG TO FAIL, OR SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT NOT INTERFERE WITH PRIVATELY OWNED BUSINESSES?

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

NO, SHOULD NOT INTERFERE	57%
YES, SHOULD HAVE THE POWER	36%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	8%

20. IF THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALLOWED THESE BANKS TO FAIL, DO YOU THINK YOU PERSONALLY WOULD HAVE SUFFERED FROM THESE BANK FAILURES, OR NOT?

ALL  
RESPONDENTS  
=====

WOULD HAVE SUFFERED	54%
WOULD NOT HAVE SUFFERED	40%
NO ANSWER/DON' T KNOW	7%

\* = less than 1%

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