



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

August 2007 - 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 U.S.

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 Nancy Wong at 609-919-2426 or nwong@harrisinteractive.com.

Source

This FT/Harris Poll was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 6,398 adults (aged 16-64) within France (1,029), Germany (1,086), Great Britain (1,111), Spain (1,061) and the United States (1,055) and adults (aged 18-64) in Italy (1,056) between 1 and 13 August 2007.

Complete survey methodology

This **FT/Harris Poll** was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 6,398 adults (aged 16-64) within France, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, and the United States and adults (aged 18-64) in Italy between 1 and 13 August 2007. 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 (6,398); France (1,029); Germany (1,086); Great Britain (1,111); Italy (1,056); Spain (1,061) and the United States (1,055).

Weighted bases for the survey are: Total (6,397); France (1,029); Germany (1,086); Great Britain (1,111); Spain (1,062); Italy (1,053); and the United States (1,056).

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
GREATEST THREAT TO GLOBAL STABILITY**

Q1660_1 "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	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
US	28	28	23	45	29	14
China	13	17	23	13	16	16
Iran	12	20	22	12	14	22
Iraq	11	16	17	17	17	14
North Korea	12	7	3	5	8	22
Russia	11	4	2	1	6	2
Saudi Arabia	*	-	*	*	-	1
Israel	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pakistan	*	-	-	-	*	*
Middle East (not specified)	*	*	*	-	-	-
Muslim Countries (not specified)	*	-	*	*	-	-
Afghanistan	*	*	*	*	1	*
UK	*	-	-	-	-	*
Lebanon	-	*	-	*	-	*
Turkey	-	-	-	-	*	-
Syria	-	*	*	-	-	*
No country – religious fundamentalists	-	*	-	-	-	-
No one country - all are a threat	-	-	*	*	-	*
Palestine	-	*	*	*	-	-
Africa (country not specified)	-	-	*	*	-	*
India	-	-	*	-	-	*
Other	*	*	*	*	1	1
None	10	6	8	6	8	8
Not sure	*	*	*	-	*	*

*Less Than 0.5%

“-“ Not Applicable

TABLE 2
TERRORIST ATTACK POSSIBILITY

“Do you expect a major terrorist attack to happen in your country in the next 12 months?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	52	15	16	32	18	30
No	14	35	40	22	52	31
Not sure	33	50	44	47	30	40

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

Three countries where there have been major terrorist attacks in recent years, Great Britain, Spain and the US are the ones most likely to say they expect one in their country in the next 12 months. A majority of Germans, however, do not believe an attack will occur. Half of French adults and a plurality of Italians are not sure.

TABLE 3
RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS IN SCHOOLS

“Do you think religious symbols and dress should be excluded from all schools?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	49	69	22	45	46	14
No	36	24	69	45	47	74
Not sure	14	7	8	9	7	12

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

The French are overwhelmingly in favour of excluding all religious symbols and dress from schools as are just under half of British adults. Those in Spain and Germany are divided on this issue while Italians and Americans are overwhelmingly against excluding religious symbols and dress.

TABLE 4
RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS IN THE WORKPLACE

“Do you think religious symbols and dress should be excluded from the workplace?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	41	65	27	41	44	19
No	44	26	66	49	48	69
Not sure	15	9	7	10	8	12

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

When it comes to the workplace and religious symbols and dress, the French still believe they should be excluded, while the Italians and Americans believe they should not be excluded. The British, Spanish and Germans are more divided with each country leaning slightly towards not excluding these symbols and dress.

TABLE 5
FAITH-BASED SCHOOLS

“Do you support the idea of faith based schools that educate students in accord with the schools’ religious beliefs?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	23	22	28	50	31	61
No	54	69	61	36	53	21
Not sure	23	10	11	13	16	18

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

A strong majority of Americans as well as just half of Spanish adults support the idea of faith based schools, while majorities of British, French, Italians and Germans do not support it.

TABLE 6
MUSLIMS AS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

“Does the presence of Muslims in your country pose a threat to national security or not?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes, the presence of Muslims presents a threat	38	20	30	23	28	21
No, the presence of Muslims does not present a threat	45	68	56	45	58	58
Not Sure	17	11	14	32	14	21

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

Two-thirds of French and majorities of Italians, Germans, and Americans believe Muslims are not a threat to national security. But, in these 4 countries, at least one in five do believe they are a threat. And, only a plurality of Spanish and British adults do not believe the presence of Muslims in their country is a threat to national security, again reflecting the recent terrorist incidents there. While one-third of those in Spain are not sure, almost two in five British believe the presence of Muslims is a threat.

**TABLE 7
INTEGRATING IMMIGRANTS**

“Should the government of your country do more or less to help integrate immigrant populations or is the government doing enough?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Do more	39	42	36	31	50	32
Doing enough	21	34	33	39	30	22
Do less	22	9	24	16	14	23
Not sure	19	15	7	14	6	24

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

Half of Germans and two in five in France and Great Britain believe their governments should be doing more to help integrate immigrant populations. Just over a third of Italians and almost one third of Americans also feel this way. The Spanish, however, are slightly different. While three in ten of them believe the government should do more, even larger numbers believe their government is doing enough to integrate immigrant populations.

**TABLE 8
PREJUDICE TOWARDS MUSLIMS**

“Have Muslims in your country become the subject of unjustified criticism and prejudice or not?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	39	51	49	34	40	47
No	44	30	38	47	43	30
Not sure	17	19	13	19	17	23

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

Half of French and just under half of Americans and Italians believe Muslims in their country have become the subject of prejudice. A plurality of Spaniards, British and Germans do not believe Muslims in their countries have become the subject of unjustified criticism and prejudice.

**TABLE 9
MUSLIMS AND NATIONALISM**

“Do you believe it is possible to be both a Muslim and a/an [Briton, Frenchman, Italian, American, Spaniard, German]?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	59	80	66	72	62	76
No	29	14	26	18	28	13
Not sure	13	6	8	10	9	11

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

Across the board, majorities of adults in all 6 countries believe it is possible to be a Muslim and a Briton, Italian and so forth. But, just over one-quarter of British, Italian and German adults say it isn't.

**TABLE 10
MARRYING A MUSLIM**

“If you were to have a child one day, would you object to them wanting to marry a Muslim?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults who do not have children

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	619	545	630	608	515	562
Yes	25	15	27	17	35	22
No	49	64	45	57	42	49
Not Sure	26	21	28	26	23	29

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

**TABLE 11
MARRYING A MUSLIM**

“Would you object if your child wanted to marry a Muslim?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults who have children

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	492	484	426	453	571	493
Yes	36	19	29	20	39	40
No	41	51	46	50	38	31
Not Sure	23	30	25	30	22	29

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

Those who have children are slightly more likely than those who do not to say they would object to their child marrying a Muslim. Regardless of whether they have a child now or not, Germans are mostly likely to object. Among those who have children, British and US adults are more likely to object.

**TABLE 12
MUSLIMS AND POLITICAL POWER**

“Do you think Muslims have too much, too little or the right amount of political power in your country?”
Base: All EU adults in 5 countries and in the US

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Too little	7	8	4	6	3	8
Too much	46	19	34	23	33	20
The right amount	19	41	26	36	37	23
Not sure	28	32	35	35	27	49

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

While just under half of British adults believe Muslims have too much political power in Great Britain, they are the only country to think this. The other five countries believe Muslims either have the right amount of political power or they are not sure. In fact, almost a half of Americans are not sure about the amount of political power Muslims have.

**TABLE 13
FRIENDS WHO ARE MUSLIM**

“Do you have any friends you are Muslim?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Yes	38	69	32	27	37	28
No	55	28	67	70	61	60
Not Sure	7	3	2	3	2	12

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

France is the only country of these six where a majority of adults has a friend who is Muslim. The next closest country is Great Britain and Germany where just over one-third of adults in both countries have Muslim friends.

TABLE 14
RELIGION

“These days many people have a religious preference and others are not part of any organized religion.
What is your current religious preference?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and US adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany	United States
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1111	1029	1056	1061	1086	1055
Buddhist	*	2	2	1	1	1
Catholic	8	31	41	35	17	21
Christian	28	6	29	17	22	31
Church of Jesus Chris of the Latter Day Saints/Mormons	1	*	-	-	-	1
Eastern Orthodox/Greek Orthodox	*	*	-	-	*	1
Hindu	1	*	*	*	*	-
Jehovah’s Witness	1	*	*	1	1	1
Jewish	1	1	-	*	*	3
Muslim/Islam	1	1	*	-	1	*
Native American	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	*
Protestant	3	1	*	1	7	10
Wicca	2	*	*	1	*	1
Agnostic	5	6	2	8	1	5
Atheist	16	14	5	5	7	3
Other	4	1	1	1	2	4
None	25	29	12	21	36	13
Decline to answer	5	7	7	9	5	6

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding
n/a = not asked

About Harris Interactive

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