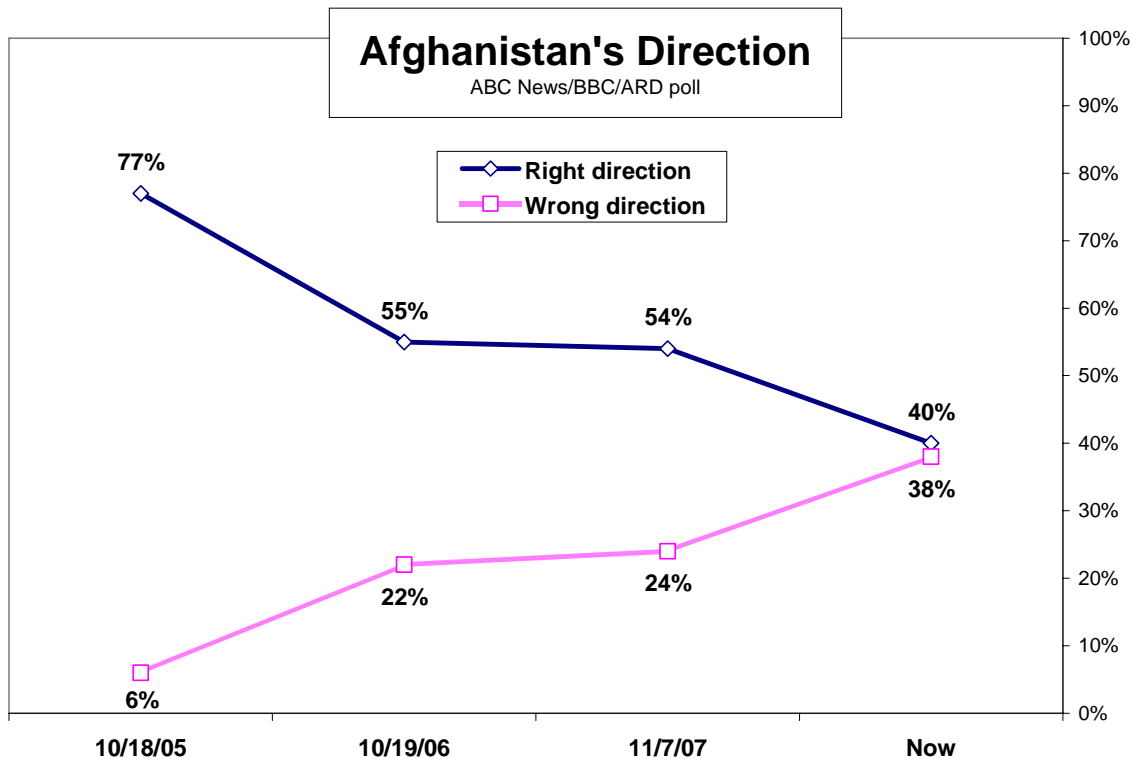


Support for U.S. Efforts Plummetes Amid Afghanistan's Ongoing Strife

The United States, its NATO allies and the government of Hamid Karzai are losing not just ground in Afghanistan – but also the hearts and minds of the Afghan people.

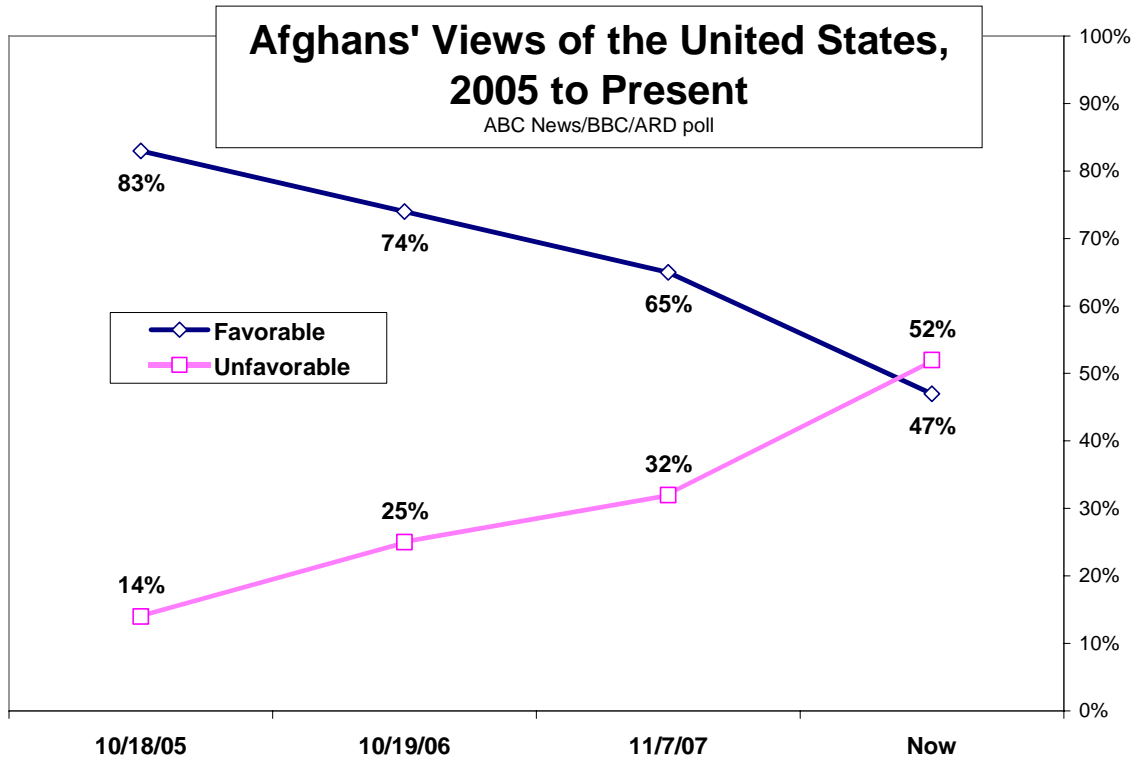
A new national public opinion poll in Afghanistan by ABC News, the BBC and ARD German TV finds that performance ratings and support levels for the Kabul government and its Western allies have plummeted from their peaks, particularly in the past year. Widespread strife, a resurgent Taliban, struggling development, soaring corruption and broad complaints about food, fuel, power and prices all play a role.

The effects are remarkable: With expectations for security and economic development unmet, the number of Afghans who say their country is headed in the right direction has dived from 77 percent in 2005 to 40 percent now – fewer than half for the first time in these polls.



In 2005, moreover, 83 percent of Afghans expressed a favorable opinion of the United States – unheard of in a Muslim nation. Today just 47 percent still hold that view, down

36 points, accelerating with an 18-point drop in U.S. favorability this year alone. For the first time slightly more Afghans now see the United States unfavorably than favorably.

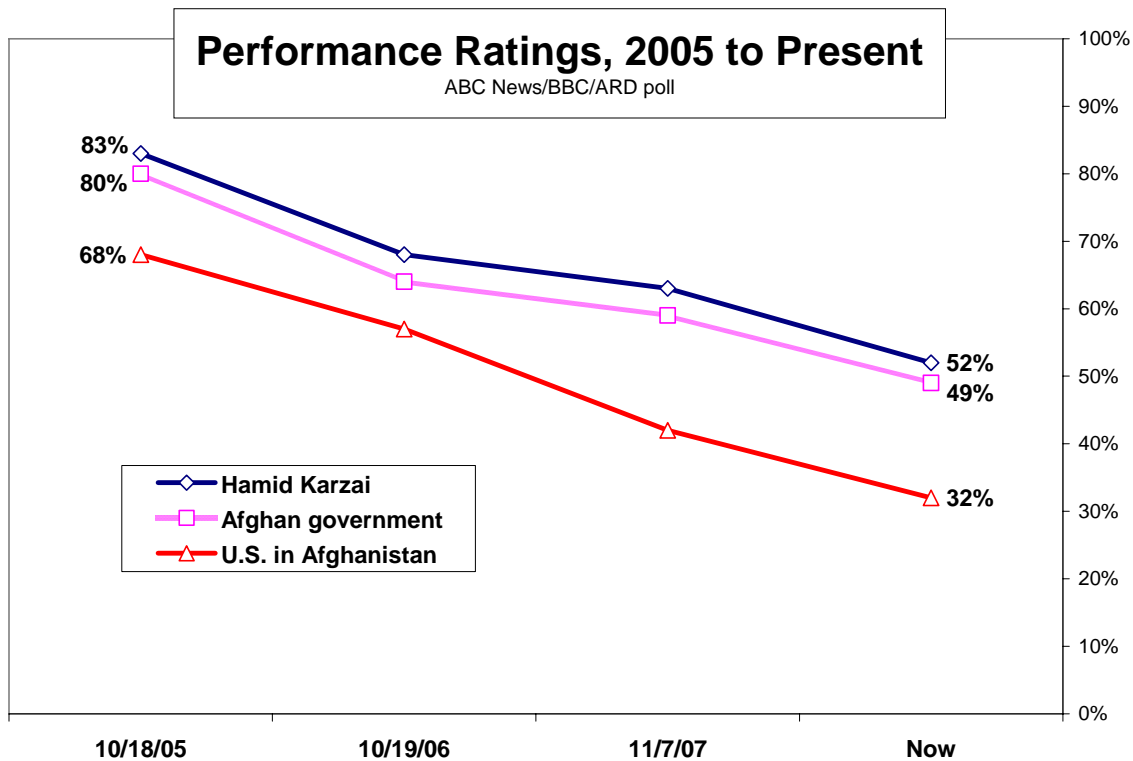


The number who say the United States has performed well in Afghanistan has been more than halved, from 68 percent in 2005 to 32 percent now. Ratings of NATO/ISAF forces are no better. Just 37 percent of Afghans now say most people in their area support Western forces; it was 67 percent in 2006. And 25 percent now say attacks on U.S. or NATO/ISAF forces can be justified, double the level, 13 percent, in 2006.

Nor does the election of Barack Obama hold much promise in the eyes of the Afghan public: While two in 10 think he'll make things better for their country, nearly as many think he'll make things worse. The rest either expect no change, or are waiting to see.

This survey is ABC's fourth in Afghanistan since 2005, part of its ongoing "Where Things Stand" series there and in Iraq. It was conducted in late December and early January via face-to-face interviews with a random national sample of 1,534 Afghan adults in all 34 of the country's provinces, with field work by the Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Opinion Research in Kabul.

The survey comes at a critical time for the conflict in Afghanistan, as the United States begins nearly to double its deployment of troops there, adding as many as 30,000 to the 32,000 already present, and, under the new Obama administration, to rethink its troubled strategy. (Said Vice President Joe Biden: "We've inherited a real mess.")



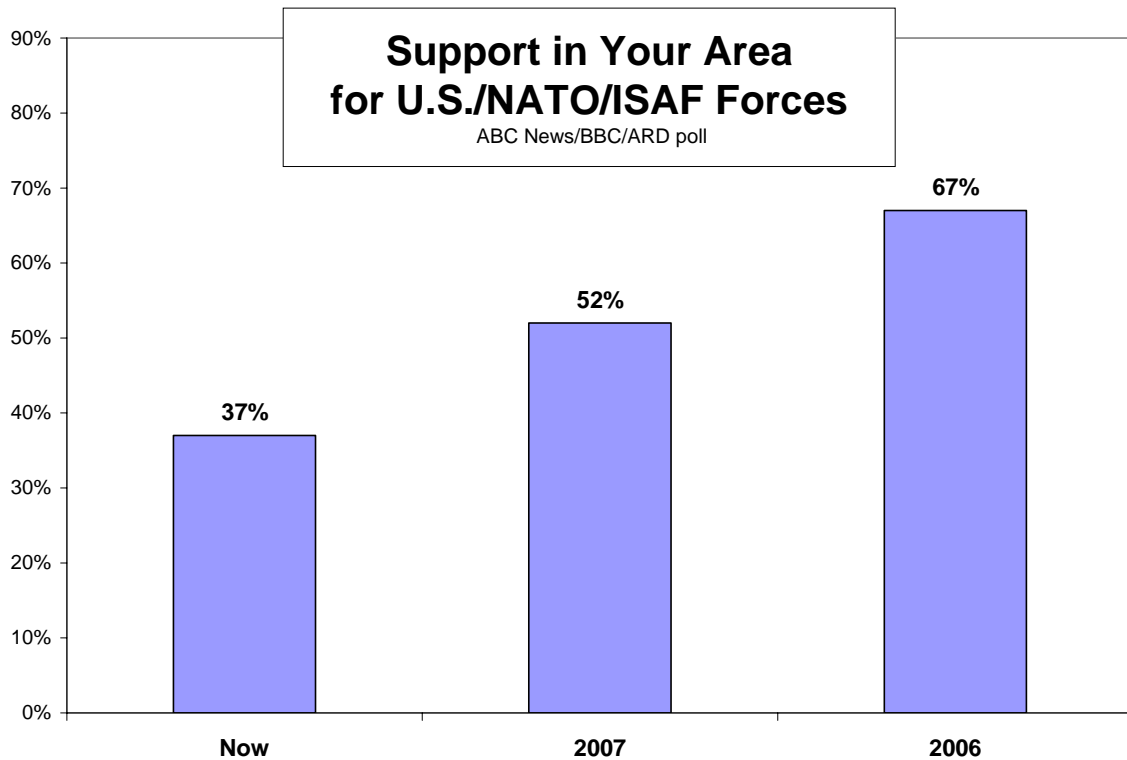
While Afghans likely will welcome a new strategy, they're far cooler on new troops: Contrary to Washington's plans, just 18 percent say the number of U.S. and NATO/ISAF forces in Afghanistan should be increased. Far more, 44 percent, want the opposite – a decrease in the level of these forces. (ISAF stands for International Security Assistance Force, the U.N.-mandated, NATO-led multinational force in Afghanistan.)

SECURITY – The failures to date to hold ground and provide effective security are powerful factors in Afghan public opinion. Far fewer than in past years say Western forces have a strong presence in their area (34 percent, down from 57 percent in 2006), or – crucially – see them as effective in providing security (42 percent, down from 67 percent).

Amid widespread experience of warfare – gun battles, bombings and air strikes among them – the number of Afghans who rate their own security positively has dropped from 72 percent in 2005 to 55 percent today – and it goes far lower in high-conflict provinces. In the country's beleaguered Southwest (Helmand, Kandahar, Nimroz, Uruzgan and Zabul provinces) only 26 percent feel secure from crime and violence; in Helmand alone, just 14 percent feel safe.

Civilian casualties in U.S. or NATO/ISAF air strikes are a key complaint. Seventy-seven percent of Afghans call such strikes unacceptable, saying the risk to civilians outweighs the value of these raids in fighting insurgents. And Western forces take more of the blame for such casualties, a public relations advantage for anti-government forces: Forty-one

percent of Afghans chiefly blame U.S. or NATO/ISAF forces for poor targeting, vs. 28 percent who mainly blame the insurgents for concealing themselves among civilians.

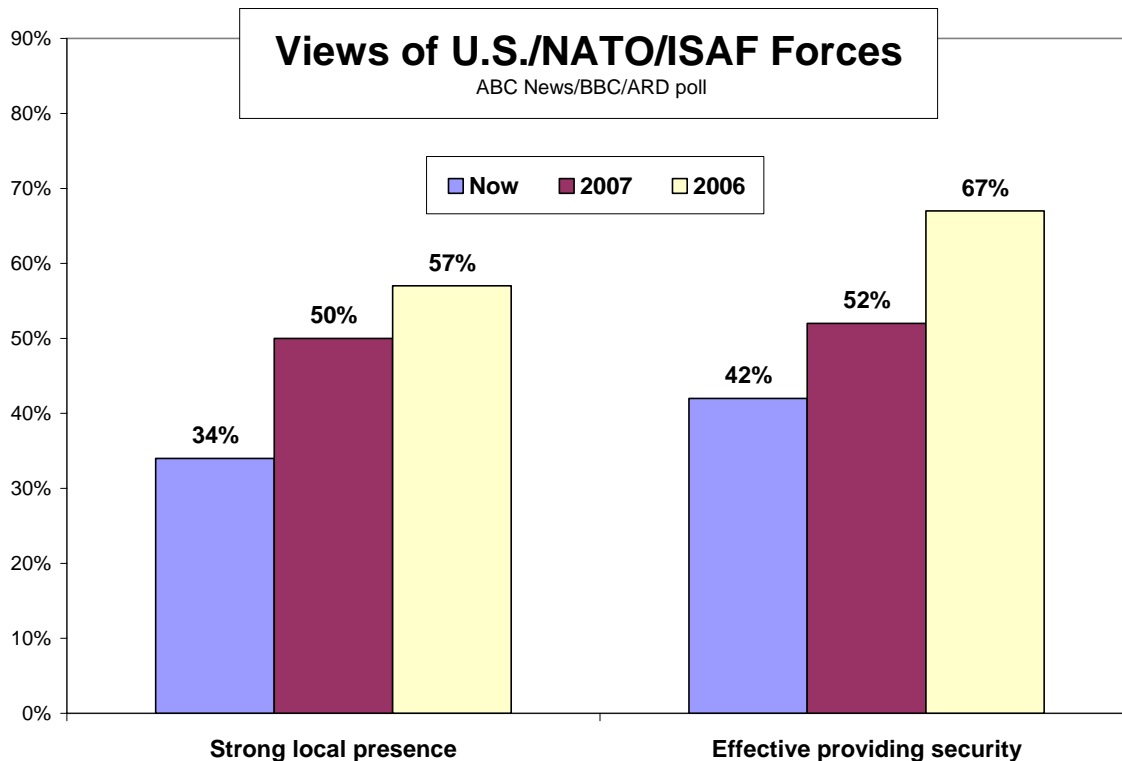


Given that view, more Afghans now blame the country's strife on the United States and its allies than on the Taliban. Thirty-six percent mostly blame U.S., Afghan or NATO forces or the U.S. or Afghan governments for the violence that's occurring, up by 10 points from 2007. Fewer, 27 percent, now mainly blame the Taliban, down by 9 points.

Afghanistan's central and provincial governments have a stronger presence and greater public confidence than Western forces – but they, too, have suffered. In 2005, still celebrating the Taliban's ouster in November 2001, 83 percent of Afghans approved of the work of President Karzai and 80 percent approved of the national government overall. Today those have slid to 52 and 49 percent respectively. (Karzai's expected to run for re-election in August.) And fewer than half rate their provincial government positively.

IMPACT – Crucially, the Kabul government and its Western allies do better where they are seen as having a strong presence and as being effective in providing security, as well as in areas where reported conflict is lower. Where security is weaker or these groups have less presence, their ratings decline sharply.

For example, among people who say the central government, the provincial government or Western forces have a strong local presence, 58, 57 and 46 percent, respectively, approve of their performance. Where the presence of these entities is seen as weak, however, their respective approval ratings drop to just 31, 22 and 25 percent.



Similarly, Afghans who feel secure are 19 points more apt to say the country's headed in the right direction, as well as 13 to 17 points more likely to express confidence in the national and provincial governments, the Afghan police and U.S./NATO forces.

The flip side – the association of conflict with opposition to Western forces – is especially striking. Among people who report bombing or shelling by U.S. or NATO/ISAF forces in their area, support for the presence of U.S. forces drops to 46 percent, vs. 70 percent among those who report no such activity.

There's a similar pattern in support for retribution against U.S. or NATO/ISAF forces. While 25 percent of all Afghans now say violence against such forces can be justified, that jumps to 44 percent among those who report air strikes or shelling in their area. It's a similar 45 percent in the South and East, where the fighting has been most intense.

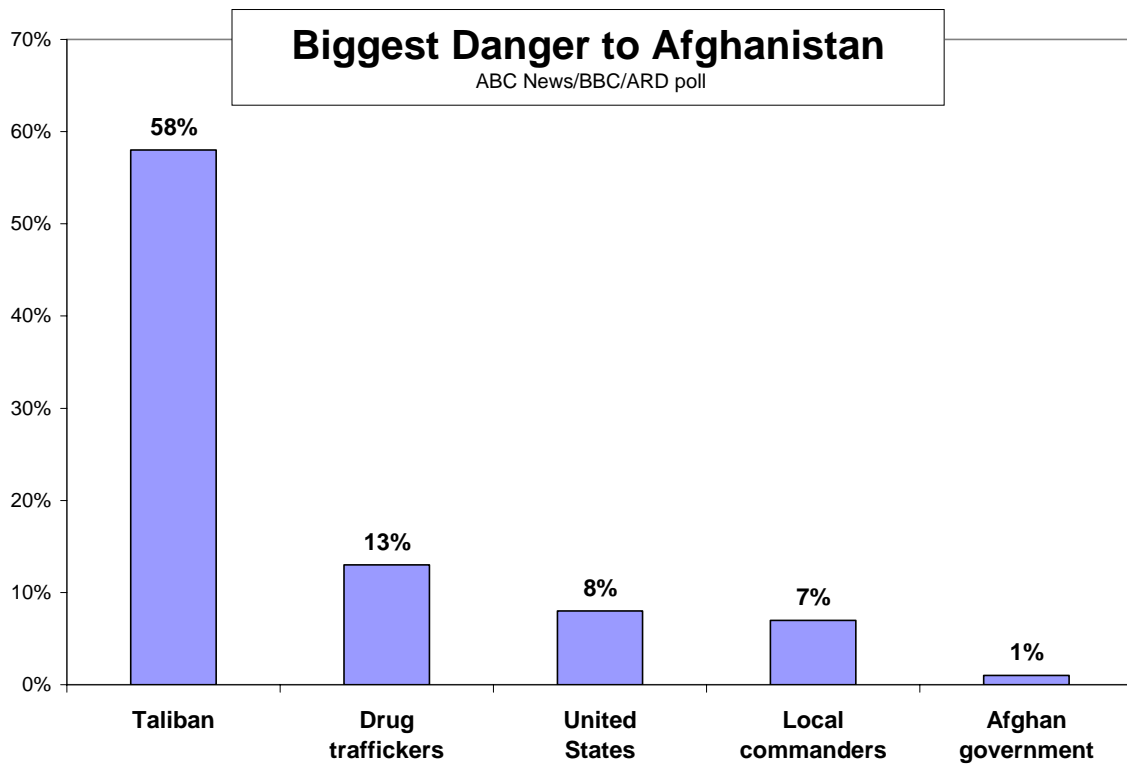
By contrast, support for attacks on Western forces drops to 18 percent where no bombing or shelling has occurred, and to 15 percent in the provinces where conflict has been lowest, roughly the northern half of the country.

VIOLENCE LEVELS – All told, one in six Afghans report coalition bombardment in their area within the past year, but with huge variation; it soars to nearly half in the Southwest and nearly four in 10 in the East.

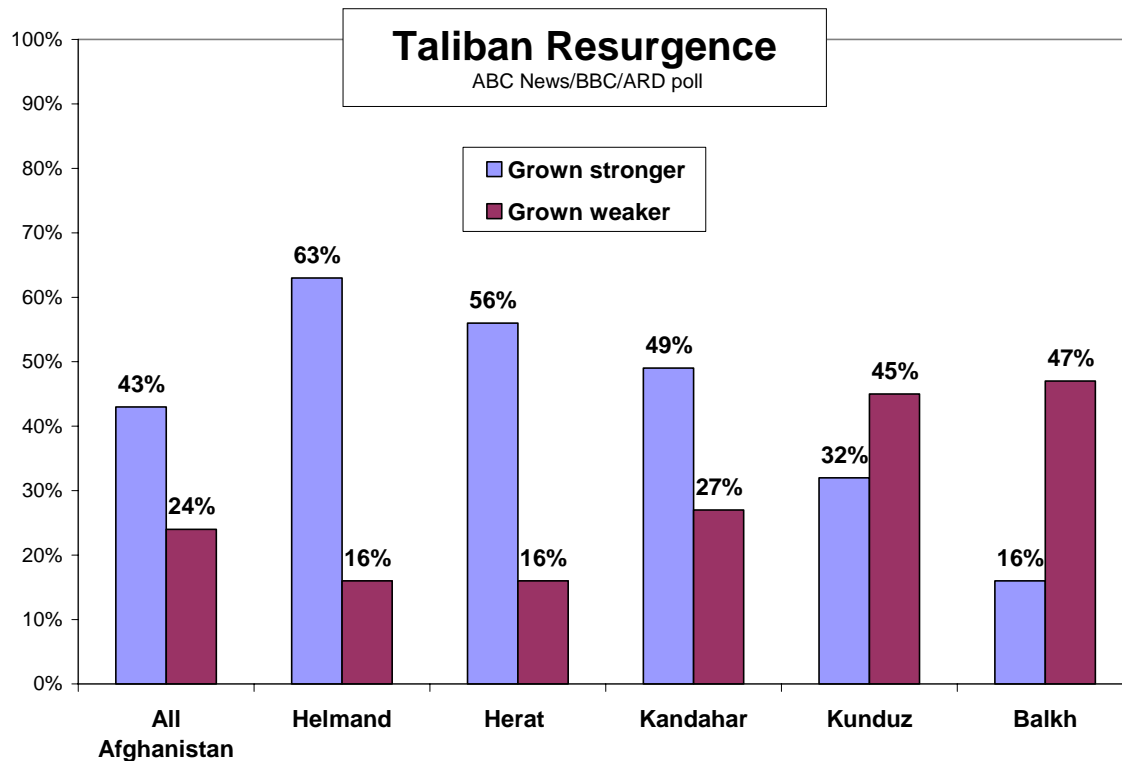
Among other violence, a quarter report car bombs or suicide attacks in their area in the past year; three in 10, kidnappings for ransom. Thirty-eight percent report civilian casualties in the past year, attributed about equally either to U.S./NATO/ISAF or to anti-government forces, and somewhat less so to Afghan government forces.

Given these and their many other challenges, the number of Afghans who expect their lives to improve in the year ahead has dropped from a peak of 67 percent in 2005 to 51 percent today. And just under half, 47 percent, expect a better life for their children, hardly a ringing endorsement of the country's prospects.

TALIBAN – The resurgence of the Taliban is a key element of the public's alarm: Fifty-eight percent of Afghans see the Taliban as the biggest danger to the country, measured against local warlords, drug traffickers or the U.S. or Afghan governments. And 43 percent say the Taliban have grown stronger in the past year, well more than the 24 percent who think the movement has weakened.



Notably more in the South – 55 percent – say the Taliban have grown stronger. And in Helmand province, the heart of the opium trade that's said to finance the group, 63 percent say the Taliban have gained strength. In the more peaceful North, the opposite: Slightly more there say the Taliban have weakened.



The Taliban are far from achieving popular support – across a range of measures the group still is shunned by large majorities of Afghans. But 22 percent say it has at least some support in their area, and this soars to 57 percent in the Southwest overall, including 64 percent in its home base, Kandahar. That’s up sharply from 44 percent in the Southwest last year, and up from 41 percent in Kandahar.

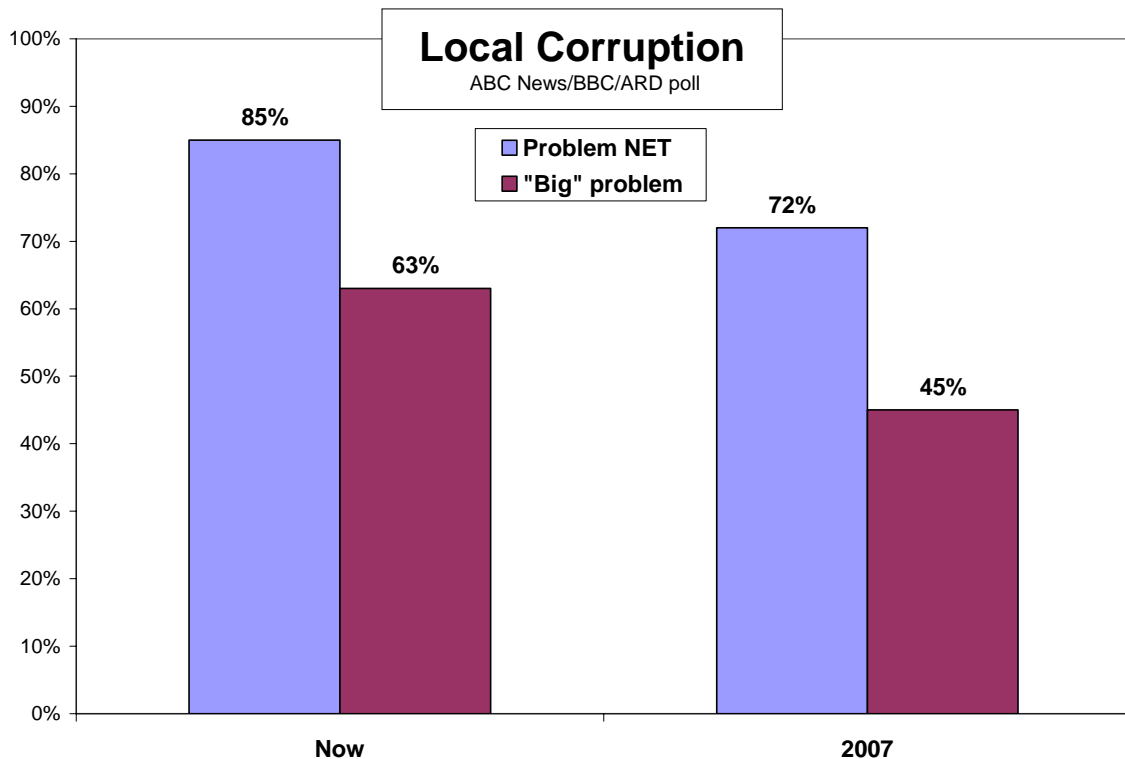
There’s also evidence the Taliban have made some progress rebranding themselves. Twenty-four percent of Afghans say it’s their impression the Taliban “have changed and become more moderate” – far from a majority, but one in four. And that view spikes in some provinces – most notably, to 58 percent in Wardak and 53 percent in Nangarhar, bordering Kabul to the west and east, respectively. People who see the Taliban as more moderate are 20 points more likely to favor negotiating with the movement, and less supportive of the U.S. and NATO/ISAF presence in Afghanistan.

Another result indicates a possible change in tactics. Twenty-six percent of Afghans report bombings by the Taliban in their area; that’s down from 43 percent in 2006. Thirty-two percent report murders by the Taliban – down by 10 points from 2006 (though level with 2007).

Reports of Taliban engagements with government or foreign troops is down by 12 points (with enormous regional variability); arson attacks on school or government buildings, down by 18 points from the 2006 peak. Some of this, however, could relate to lessened activity in the midst of winter; the 2006 and 2007 polls were conducted in late fall, while this poll was conducted in late December and early January.

In any case there's been a significant drop in the number of Afghans who call the U.S.-led invasion and overthrow of the Taliban a good thing for their country – 69 percent, still a substantial majority but well below the 88 percent who said so in 2006. And while 63 percent still support the presence of the U.S. military in Afghanistan, that's down from 78 percent in 2006, with “strong” support for the U.S. presence down from 30 percent then to just 12 percent now. It's similar now for NATO/ISAF forces.

CONDITIONS – Afghanistan's problems range far beyond security in general and the Taliban in particular. For one, official corruption has swelled; 85 percent of Afghans call it a problem and 63 percent call it a big problem – the latter up from 45 percent last year. And half say corruption has increased in the past year, more than twice as many as say it's subsided.

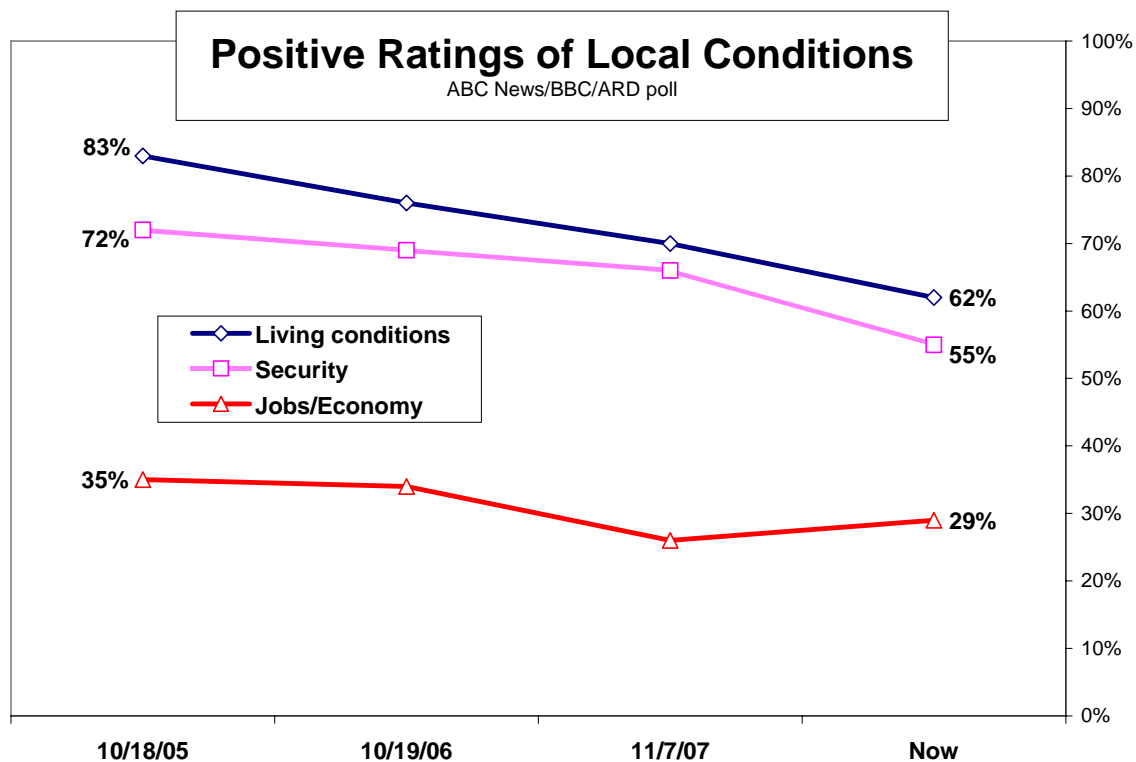


It takes a toll: Ratings for the Afghan government and Karzai personally run anywhere from 9 to 15 points lower among people who call corruption a major problem, compared with those who call it a less serious concern.

The cost of corruption may be a particular burden in a country so poor, its population strikingly ill-educated, with extraordinarily difficult living conditions. Fifty-five percent have no electricity whatsoever in their homes; just one in 20 has power all day. More than half report incomes less than the equivalent of \$100 a month; 93 percent, under \$300. Fifty-nine percent have no formal education. Forty-eight percent cannot read.

The affordability of food is worsening: Sixty-three percent of Afghans say they cannot afford to buy all or even “some but not all” of the food they need, up 9 points from late 2007. And while 63 percent report adequate availability of food (regardless of affordability), that’s down from 82 percent in 2006.

Fuel prices, likewise, are a major problem; 68 percent say they can’t afford the fuel they need for cooking or heat, a serious issue in the cold Afghan winter.



Other ratings of local conditions tell a mixed story – some better, others worse – but some of the most basic measures have weakened. While 62 percent of Afghans rate their overall living conditions positively, that’s declined steadily from 83 percent in 2005. Just 29 percent say there’s a good supply of jobs or economic opportunities in their area. And the number who characterize their economic opportunities as “very bad” has doubled since 2006 – from 17 percent then to 33 percent now, one in three Afghans.

Electricity supply is steadily the single biggest complaint, along with economic opportunity and prices. Another poorly rated area is support for agriculture, such as the availability of seed, fertilizer and farm equipment, a central concern in a country that’s three-quarters rural, with food prices so problematic.

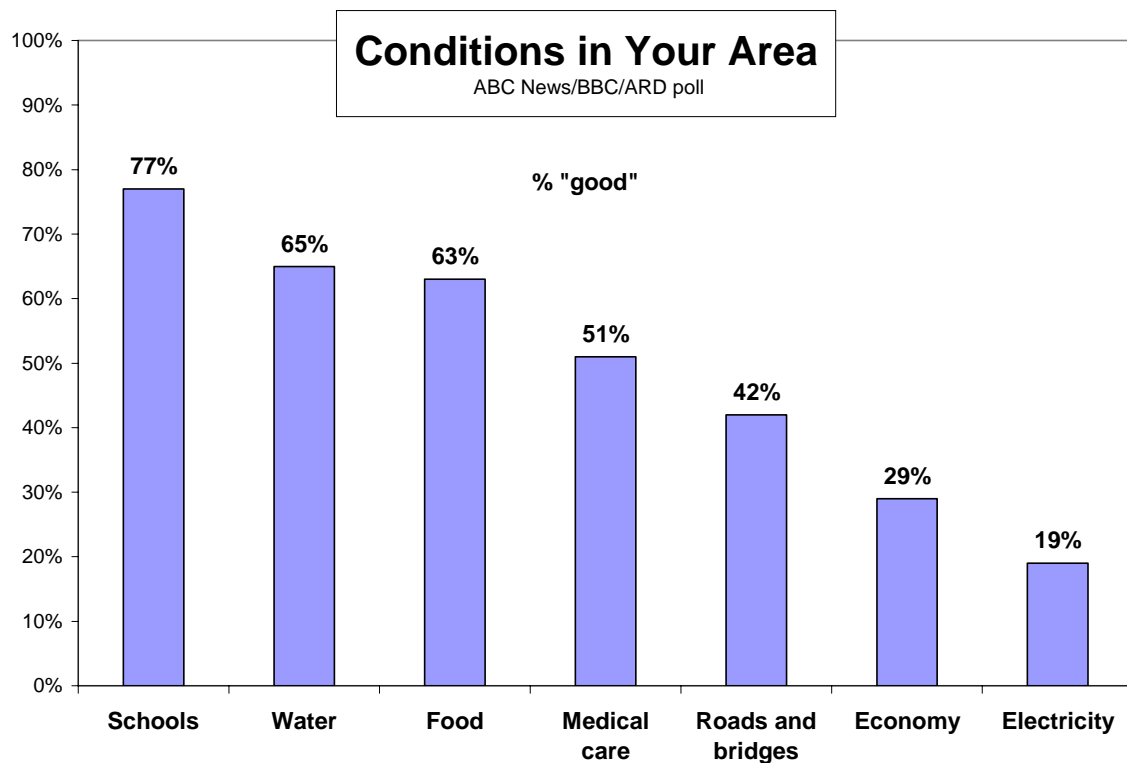
In other areas, barely over half rate their access to medical care positively. Just under half positively rate their protection from the Taliban and other armed groups. While 61 percent say they can move about safely, that’s down 10 points from 2007, and leaves four

in 10 without such freedom of movement. And beyond food and fuel, in terms of prices overall, 58 percent report difficulty being able to afford things they want and need.

As noted, two chief forces are at play in deteriorating public sentiment in Afghanistan – security and development alike. Of these, security is a stronger factor in views of the United States and its NATO/ISAF allies. But development is about as strong as security in views of Karzai and the Afghan government. That suggests that for public sentiment to stabilize, both problems need to be addressed.

PROGRESS and AID – There has been significant progress in some areas. Seventy-two percent of Afghans say schools have been rebuilt or reopened in their area in the past five years (up 7 points from 2007); 53 percent, mosques; 47 percent, roads (up 12 points); 45 percent, health clinics (up 8 points); and 44 percent, police stations.

That work is reflected in some related attitudes: While fewer than half, 42 percent, say they have good roads, bridges and other infrastructure in their area, that's up sharply from 24 percent in 2005. Seventy-seven percent rate their local schools positively; 65 percent say they have clean water, up 12 points compared with 2007 and a new high. And 73 percent support the presence of foreign aid organizations in Afghanistan.



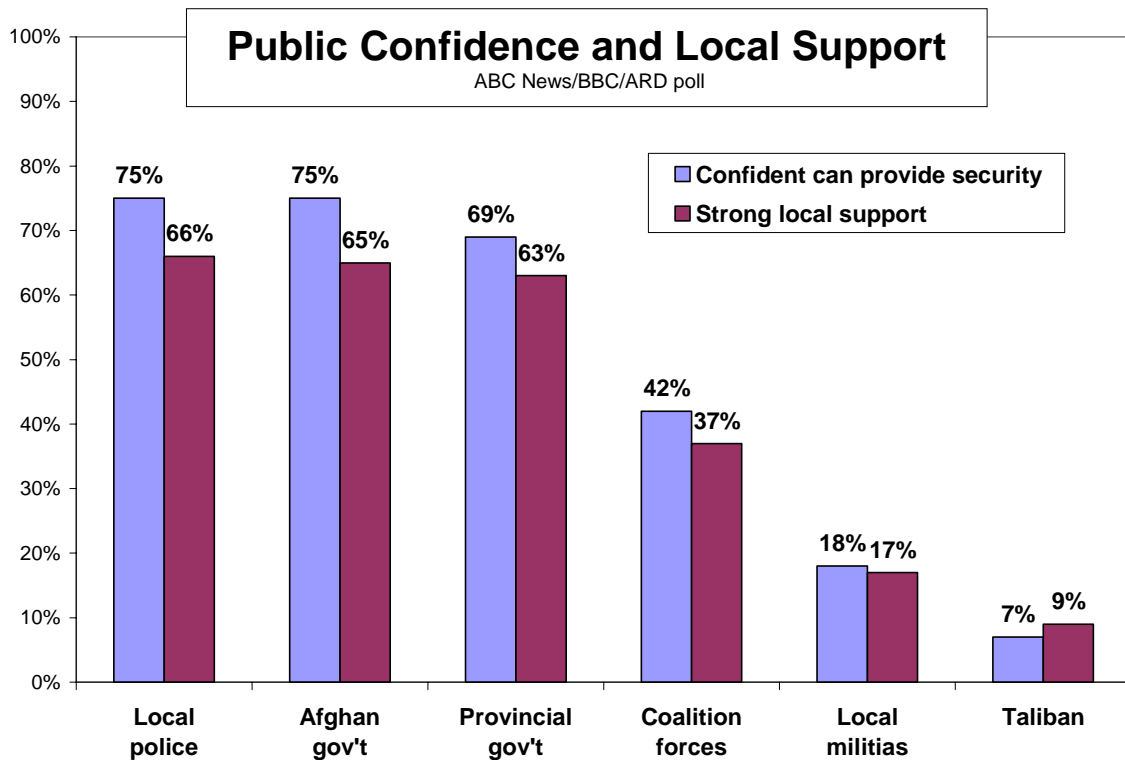
Nonetheless, given the continued challenges, fewer, 51 percent, say foreign aid groups are making progress in providing a better life for Afghans. And fewer still, 30 percent of Afghans, say foreign development aid has benefited them personally. There's also

concern about its future: Nearly three-quarters are worried about the impact of the global financial crisis on aid to their country.

WAYS FORWARD – As noted, even with their approval ratings down, Afghanistan’s own institutions have substantially greater public confidence than Western efforts. Fifty-nine percent think the Afghan government is making progress in providing a better life for Afghans, 75 percent express confidence in its ability to provide security and stability, as many express confidence in their local police, and nearly as many in their provincial government.

Anywhere from 63 to 66 percent report support for these entities among people in their area. And even though support for the central government has declined from 81 percent in 2007 to 65 percent now, these levels remain far higher than support for other players – U.S. or NATO/ISAF forces (as reported above, 37 percent); local commanders, 17 percent; foreign jihadis, 14 percent; the Taliban, 9 percent; and drug traffickers, 7 percent.

In another measure, 57 percent of Afghans rate the performance of the police positively, and ditto for the Afghan Army – not overwhelmingly positive measures, but the best out there. (Again as noted, just 32 rate the performance of the United States positively; 33 percent, NATO/ISAF forces.) Given Afghan institutions’ support, it could prove more popular to put their imprint – rather than a Western face – on anti-insurgent efforts.

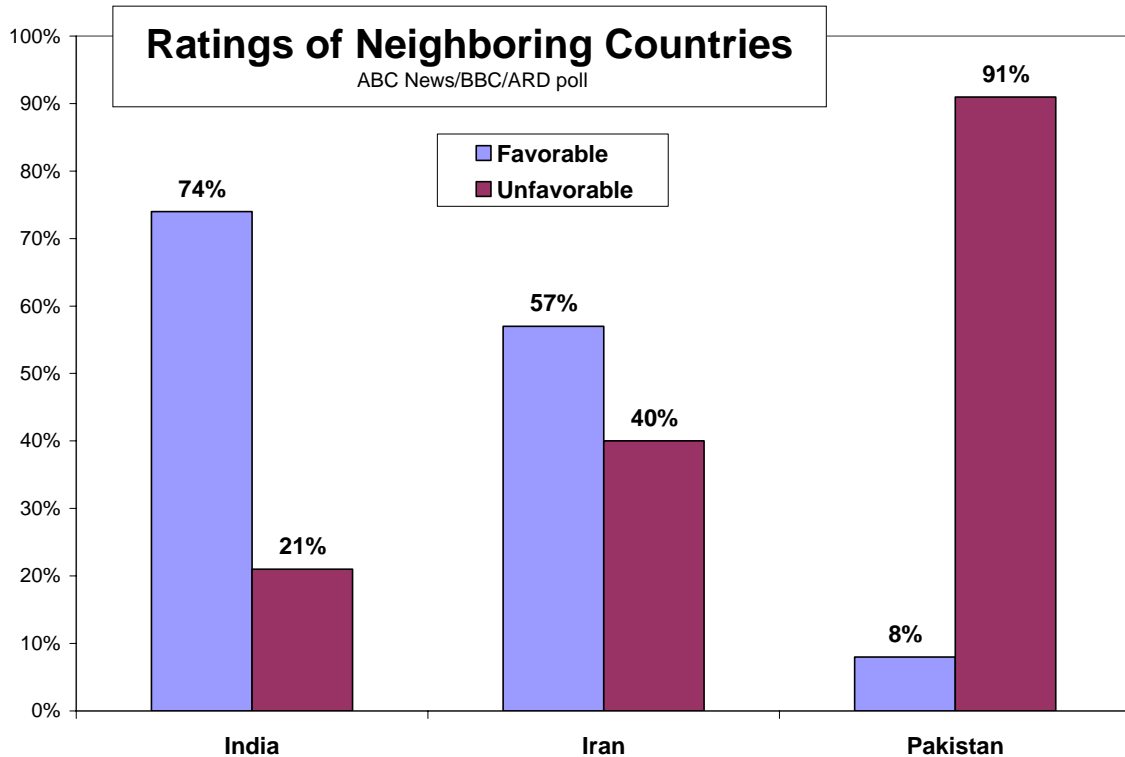


Another result, supporting this direction, backs up the notion of a national identity in Afghanistan, which some observers have questioned. Asked if they think of themselves more as Afghans, or more as members of their ethnic group (Pashtun and Tajik are the largest), most by far – 72 percent – say they’re Afghans first.

Negotiations are another way forward – one with public support, but with preconditions. All told, 64 percent of Afghans say the government should negotiate a settlement with the Taliban in which they’re allowed to hold political offices if they agree to stop fighting. But among those who support negotiations, most by far, seven in 10, say talks should occur only if the Taliban stop fighting first.

As for the likely outcome, expectations are fractured – but in a telling result, few Afghans, 33 percent, think the government, with foreign support, will defeat the Taliban outright. Another 33 percent expect a negotiated settlement; 19 percent, continued fighting. Just 8 percent foresee an outright Taliban victory.

NEIGHBORS and OTHERS – All this comes against the backdrop of marked discomfort with neighboring Pakistan. Reflecting long-tense relations, a near-unanimous 91 percent of Afghans have an unfavorable opinion of Pakistan (up 11 points from last year), 86 percent say Pakistan is playing a negative role in Afghanistan and 67 percent think Pakistan is allowing the Taliban to operate within its borders.

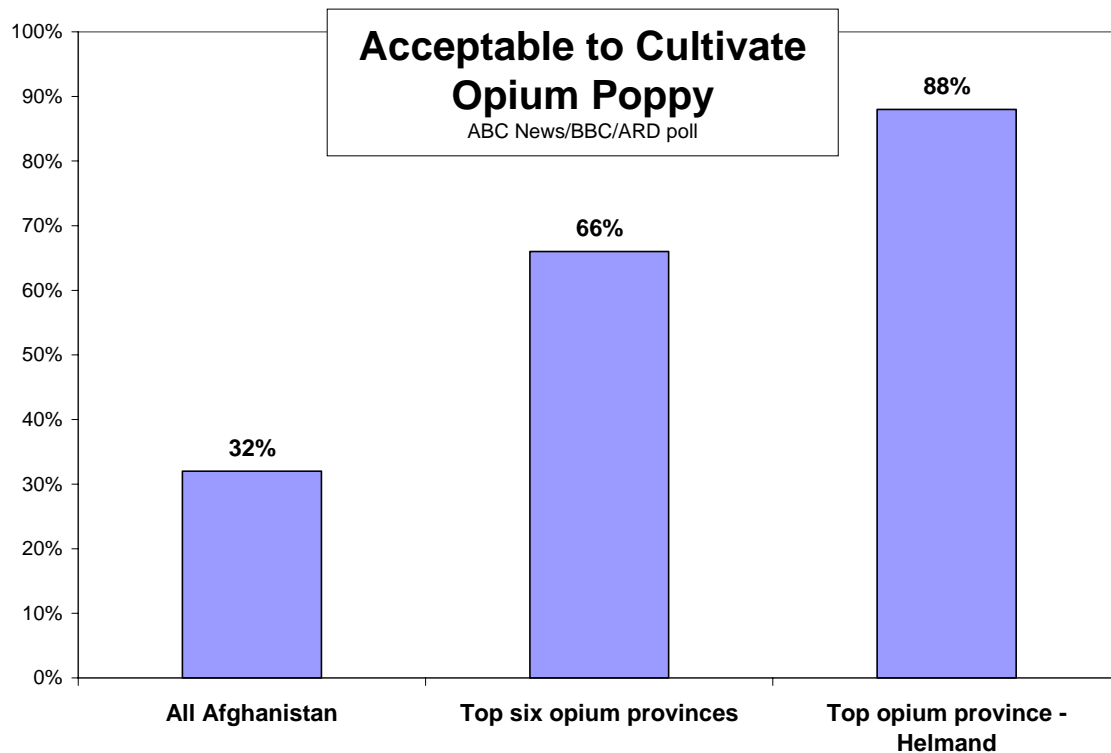


In sharp contrast, India's tensions with Pakistan make it broadly appealing in Afghanistan: Seventy-four percent of Afghans see India favorably. Fewer but a majority, 57 percent, also have a favorable view of Iran, Afghanistan's neighbor to the west.

Among Western countries, Germany's favorability is high, at 61 percent; its NATO/ISAF troops in Afghanistan have been in the North, away from the heaviest fighting. Favorable views of Great Britain are much lower, 39 percent; of the United States, as noted, they've dropped steadily to 47 percent, from a high of 83 percent in 2005.

OPIUM – Another problem, for Afghanistan and the world alike, is its production of opium poppy – and this poll finds continued support for such cultivation in the provinces where it occurs. (The United Nations estimates that Afghanistan produces 93 percent of the world's opium poppy, despite a 6 percent drop in production in 2008.)

In the country as a whole, 63 percent of Afghans call raising opium poppy “unacceptable in all cases.” But in the six top-producing provinces that dives to 31 percent – and in Helmand, source of two-thirds of Afghanistan's opium poppy, to just 12 percent. Instead 66 percent in the top-producing provinces (Helmand, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Nimroz and Zabul in the Southwest, and Farah in the West), call it acceptable to cultivate the crop. That peaks at 88 percent in Helmand.



Most who say it's acceptable say that's the case only if there's no other way to earn a living, suggesting openness to alternatives. But the high prices for opium poppy may make alternatives a hard sell. Another challenge: Even nationally, few Afghans, just 13 percent, support spraying pesticides as a way to eradicate the crop.

WOMEN – In another area, this poll finds continued broad support for women’s rights, which were denied under the Taliban. Ninety-two percent support girls’ schools and 91 percent favor women voting – near-unanimous majorities. Fewer but still most support women working outside the home, 77 percent; or holding government office, 69 percent.

Support for women working or holding office is about 20 points lower among Pashtuns, who predominate in the South and East, than among less-conservative Tajiks. It’s lower among men (especially rural men) than among women. And it’s far lower in the South than in the rest of Afghanistan.

But tensions in the South extend even to this issue – in this case, between men and women. Just 41 percent of men there say women should be able to hold jobs outside the home; among women that jumps to 66 percent. And just 36 percent of men in the South favor women holding political office. Among women themselves, it’s 60 percent.

REGIONS and POLICY – A striking factor across all these results is the wide range of concerns and priorities in regions and individual provinces of Afghanistan. While overall national trends are telling in terms of the broad course of public views, the differences by locale suggest policymakers will need flexible approaches.

In the country’s Northeast, for example, the economy outstrips security as the main complaint by more than a 2-1 margin; in the South, it’s security by 3-1. Clean water’s an issue in the Northwest, far less so in the East. Medical care’s much better-rated in the North than in the southern provinces. Eighty-five percent in Kabul have electricity – but in neighboring Wardak, just 13 percent. And the affordability of food is a particular problem in far-flung places such as Logar, Herat, and Balkh; far less so in some other, equally scattered, provinces.

Whatever the differences, the two main themes stand out: Security and the promise of redevelopment in creating economic opportunity. When Afghans are asked the single biggest problem facing their country overall, these two – security and the economy – run about evenly, and far outstrip all others.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/BBC/ARD poll is based on in-person interviews with a random national sample of 1,534 Afghan adults from Dec. 30, 2008 to Jan. 12, 2009. The results have a 2.5-point error margin. Field work by the Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Opinion Research in Kabul, a subsidiary of D3 Systems Inc. of Vienna, Va.

[Click here](#) for details on the survey methodology, [here](#) for charts on the results, [here](#) for photos from the field and [here](#) a summary of all polls in ABC’s ongoing “Where Things Stand” series in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

Media contact: Cathie Levine, (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow. *= less than 0.5 percent

1. Generally speaking, do you think things in Afghanistan today are going in the right direction, or do you think they are going in the wrong direction?

	Right	Wrong	Mixed (vol.)	No opinion
1/12/09	40	38	14	9
11/7/07	54	24	15	7
10/19/06*	55	22	17	5
10/18/05*	77	6	11	6
3/13/04*	64	11	8	16

*10/06, ABC News/BBC World Service; 10/05, ABC News; 3/04, Charney Research.

2. (IF RIGHT DIRECTION) Why do you say that? (Up to two answers accepted.)

	---- First ---			--- Second ---			--- Total ----		
	2009*	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007
Security NET**	44	45	36	24	31	31	66	76	65
Reconstruction/Rebuilding	22	21	25	21	19	18	43	40	42
Government NET	14	14	15	14	16	15	29	29	28
Education NET	10	9	9	14	10	10	24	19	19
Economy	2	4	5	4	6	4	5	9	10
Foreign assistance	3	3	3	3	3	2	5	6	5
Travel possible/Free movement	2	1	4	2	1	6	4	2	10
Return of Taliban/Opposition to government/Jihad	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
Demolishing poppy cultivation	1	1	1	2	3	1	2	3	2
Women can work/Women's freedom	1	1	2	2	1	3	3	2	5
Other	0	1	1	0	3	1	0	4	2
No opinion	*	1	*	15	9	11	15	9	11

*Pre-2009 polls for The Asia Foundation by ACSOR, 7/2/08 and 6/22/07.

**For 2009 first and second mention totals, security NET includes good security (38 percent), peace/end of war (14), eradicating Taliban (2), disarmament (5), police/army doing good job or greater presence (8); government NET includes good government (12), democracy/elections (8), freedom/free speech (7), established constitutional law (2) and decreasing corruption (1); education NET includes education is improved (15) and girls schools (9).

3. (IF WRONG DIRECTION) Why do you say that? (Up to two answers accepted.)

	---- First ---			--- Second ---			--- Total ----		
	2009*	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007
Security NET**	47	43	42	24	28	24	70	69	67
Weak government/Corruption NET	25	24	27	18	22	24	42	47	51
Economy NET	15	17	12	21	25	16	36	42	28
Foreign influence NET	6	8	9	3	6	8	8	12	13
Reconstruction problems NET	3	6	5	4	7	8	6	11	14
Lack of unity/Ethnic problems	2	*	1	3	*	1	5	1	2
Operation of U.S. military/ Afghan Army/Afghan police	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2
Drug trade/cultivation of poppy	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	1
Education/schools/literacy	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	5
Other	*	1	2	*	1	2	1	1	3
No opinion	1	*	*	23	8	11	23	8	11

*Pre-2009 polls for The Asia Foundation by ACSOR, 7/2/08 and 6/22/07.

**For 2009 first and second mention totals, security NET includes security/warlords/attacks/violence (52 percent), Taliban (8), crime (6) and terrorism (3); weak government/corruption NET includes corruption (26) and weak government/lack of political stability (16); economy NET includes economy/poverty/jobs (25) and high prices (10); foreign influence NET includes western influence/dangers to Islam (8) and neighboring countries (1); reconstruction problems NET includes rebuilding/development problems (2), electricity (1), water (*), health care/clinics/hospitals (1), roads (1) and lack of shelter (1).

4. In your view, what is the biggest problem facing Afghanistan as a whole? And after that, what is the next biggest problem?

	---- First ---			--- Second ---			--- Total ----		
	2009*	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007
Security NET**	38	35	45	19	17	24	55	52	70
Economy NET	34	35	24	37	43	29	70	78	53
Weak government/Corruption NET	9	8	10	12	9	11	21	17	20
Reconstruction problems NET	7	9	9	7	9	14	13	16	20
Foreign influence NET	2	3	*	2	3	*	6	7	*
Education/Schools/Literacy	4	4	5	2	5	6	6	9	11
Drug trade/Cultivation of poppy	2	2	1	3	3	1	4	5	2
Discord/Lack of unity	1	*	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
Other	*	*	*	1	*	*	1	1	*
No opinion	3	1	2	16	3	8	19	4	10

*Pre-2009 polls for The Asia Foundation by ACSOR, 7/2/08 and 6/22/07.

**For 2009 first and second mention totals, security NET includes security/warlords/attacks/violence (33 percent), Taliban (11), terrorism (7) and crime (4); economy NET includes economy/poverty/jobs (48) and high prices/joblessness (22); weak government NET includes corruption (16) and weak central authority (5); reconstruction problems NET includes rebuilding (2), electricity (5), roads (2), health care/clinics/hospitals (2), water (2) and lack of shelter (1); foreign influence net includes western influences/dangers to Islam (5) and neighboring countries (1).

5. I would like to ask you about today's conditions in the village/neighborhood where you live. How would you rate the following using very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No op.
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
a. Your living conditions overall	62	10	52	38	27	11	*
b. Security from crime and violence	55	15	40	42	29	13	3
c. Availability of jobs/ Economic opportunities	29	4	25	70	37	33	1
d. Roads, bridges and other infrastructure	42	9	34	57	33	24	*
e. The availability of clean water	65	23	42	35	20	15	*
f. The supply of electricity	19	5	14	77	17	60	4
g. The availability of food	63	9	54	35	25	10	2
h. The availability of medical care	51	7	43	49	33	16	*
i. The local schools	77	28	49	22	15	7	1
j. The rights of women	59	15	44	37	23	14	4
k. Your freedom of movement - the ability to go where you wish safely	61	24	36	39	29	10	1

l. Security from the Taliban and other armed groups	48	19	30	49	27	22	2
m. Your ability to afford the price of things you want and need	41	4	37	58	38	20	1
n. Support for agriculture, including the availability of seed, fertilizer and farming equipment*	36	6	31	53	30	23	11

* Based on those with agriculture in area (82 percent)

Trend:

a. Your living conditions overall

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	62	10	52	38	27	11	*
11/7/07	70	11	59	28	23	5	1
10/19/06	76	11	65	24	21	3	0
10/18/05	83	15	68	16	13	3	1

b. Security from crime and violence

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	55	15	40	42	29	13	3
11/7/07	66	16	50	33	24	8	1
10/19/06	69	20	49	30	25	6	0
10/18/05	72	28	45	24	19	5	3

c. Availability of jobs/Economic opportunities

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	29	4	25	70	37	33	1
11/7/07	26	3	23	73	45	28	1
10/19/06	34	5	28	66	49	17	0
10/18/05	35	5	30	60	41	19	6

d. Roads, bridges and other infrastructure

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	42	9	34	57	33	24	*
11/7/07	31	4	27	69	36	33	1
10/19/06	31	6	24	69	39	30	0
10/18/05	24	2	21	75	39	37	1

e. The availability of clean water

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	65	23	42	35	20	15	*
11/7/07	53	17	37	46	28	18	1
10/19/06	54	14	40	46	31	15	0
10/18/05	59	18	40	41	31	10	0

f. The supply of electricity

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	19	5	14	77	17	60	4

11/7/07	14	4	10	84	23	61	2
10/19/06	21	4	17	78	28	50	0
10/18/05	17	4	14	82	29	52	1

g. The availability of food

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	63	9	54	35	25	10	2
11/7/07	65	11	54	33	27	6	1
10/19/06	82	17	64	18	14	4	0
10/18/05	78	22	56	20	17	3	2

h. The availability of medical care

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	51	7	43	49	33	16	*
11/7/07	46	6	40	53	35	18	1
10/19/06	49	9	40	51	39	12	0
10/18/05	44	12	33	55	44	11	1

i. The local schools

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	77	28	49	22	15	7	1
11/7/07	70	21	49	29	15	14	1
10/19/06	73	18	55	27	23	4	0
10/18/05	80	25	55	19	13	6	0

j. The rights of women

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	59	15	44	37	23	14	4
11/7/07	60	17	43	38	23	14	3
10/19/06	71	21	50	28	22	6	0

k. Your freedom of movement - the ability to go where you wish safely

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Very	
1/12/09	61	24	36	39	29	10	1
11/7/07	71	27	44	28	18	10	2

l-n. No trend.

6. What is your expectation for things overall in your life a year from now? Will they be much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse?

	-----Better-----			Same	-----Worse-----			No opinion
	NET	Much	Somewhat		NET	Somewhat	Much	
1/12/09	51	14	37	28	12	10	3	8
11/7/07	50	14	36	26	9	7	2	15
10/19/06	54	11	43	23	9	7	2	14
10/18/05	67	23	44	13	1	0	1	19

7. Do you think your children will have a better life than you, worse, or about the same?

	Better	Worse	Same	No opinion
1/12/09	47	14	21	18
11/7/07	51	11	21	17

8. How much progress do you think [ITEM] making in providing a better life for Afghans in the future - a great deal of progress, some, a little or none at all?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	- Grt deal/Some-			- A little/None -			No op.
	NET	Great	Some	NET	Little	None	
a. the Afghanistan government is	59	21	38	38	27	11	2
b. foreign nations are	47	17	31	47	29	18	5
c. foreign aid organizations are	51	21	30	44	29	15	4

9. How would you rate the work of:

1/12/09 - Summary table

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No op.
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
a. The present government	49	10	38	49	30	18	3
b. Hamid Karzai as president	52	16	36	47	29	18	1
c. The provincial government here	46	10	35	53	36	17	1
d. The police in this area	57	15	42	42	32	11	1
e. Afghan Army forces	57	18	39	34	26	8	9
f. The U.S. in Afghanistan	32	5	27	63	36	27	5
g. NATO/ISAF forces	33	6	27	62	36	26	5
h. Foreign aid organizations	45	12	33	51	32	19	4

Trend:

a. The present government

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
1/12/09	49	10	38	49	30	18	3
11/7/07	59	15	44	39	29	11	1
10/19/06	64	15	48	36	27	9	0
10/18/05	80	27	53	20	14	5	1

b. Hamid Karzai as president of Afghanistan

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
1/12/09	52	16	36	47	29	18	1
11/7/07	63	26	37	36	28	8	1
10/19/06	68	21	46	32	25	7	0
10/18/05	83	45	38	16	14	2	1

c. The provincial government here

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
1/12/09	46	10	35	53	36	17	1
11/7/07	51	10	41	45	32	13	3
10/19/06	52	10	42	47	36	11	1

d-e. No trend.

f. The United States in Afghanistan

	---Excellent/Good---			---Fair/Poor---			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	
1/12/09	32	5	27	63	36	27	5
11/7/07	42	8	35	52	32	21	5
10/19/06	57	12	45	42	27	15	1
10/18/05	68	20	48	30	22	8	3

g-h. No trend.

10. Who would you rather have ruling Afghanistan today: the current government, or the Taliban?

	Current government	Taliban	Other (vol.)	No opinion
1/12/09	82	4	10	4
11/7/07	84	4	6	6
10/19/06	88	3	4	5
10/18/05	91	1	2	6

11. Which of the following do you think poses the biggest danger in our country: drug traffickers, local commanders, the United States, the Taliban, the current Afghan government, or something else? (Up to two answers accepted.)

1/12/09 - Summary table

	First	Second	Total
Taliban	58	11	68
Drug traffickers	13	21	33
Local commanders	7	10	17
United States	8	15	22
Current Afghan government	1	4	5
Suicide attacks	4	4	7
Neighboring countries	1	*	1
Criminals	1	1	2
Corruption in the government	2	4	6
Al-Qaeda	*	1	1
Poppy cultivation	1	2	2
High prices/Lack of jobs	*	*	1
Foreign forces bombardment	*	*	1
Lack of security	1	*	1
Drought	*	*	*
Illiteracy	*	0	*
Something else	0	*	*
No opinion	3	25	28

Trend (first mention only):

	Taliban	Drug traffickers	Local commanders	US	Current Afghan government	Something else	No op.
1/12/09	58	13	7	8	1	10	3
11/7/07	52	23	9	10	1	2	2
10/19/06	57	20	9	8	3	0	0
10/18/05	41	28	22	4	2	2	2

12. Since 2002, has foreign aid coming into the country brought any benefit to you personally, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	30	67	3

13. Have any of the following been built, rebuilt, or reopened in the past five years in your area:

1/12/09 - Summary table

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Schools	72	27	1
b. Health clinics	45	54	1
c. Government offices	31	65	4
d. Mosques	53	44	3
e. Police stations	44	51	4
f. Roads	47	52	1

Trend:

a. Schools

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	72	27	1
11/7/07	65	33	2

b. Health clinics

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	45	54	1
11/7/07	37	60	2

c. Government offices

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	31	65	4
11/7/07	28	67	6

d. Mosques

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	53	44	3
11/7/07	48	48	4

e. Police stations

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	44	51	4
11/7/07	40	55	5

f. Roads

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	47	52	1
11/7/07	35	61	3

14. As you may know there is an economic crisis affecting many countries in the world. Are you worried that this economic situation will lead other countries to reduce their efforts to provide reconstruction and economic development in Afghanistan - is that very worried, somewhat worried, not so worried, or not worried at all?

---- Worried ---- ---- Not worried ---- No

	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	opinion
1/12/09	73	38	35	22	13	8	5

15. How much of a problem is the issue of corruption among government officials or the police in this area - is that a big problem, a moderate problem, a small problem or not a problem?

	----Big/Moderate----			-----Small/No problem-----			No
	NET	Big	Moderate	NET	Small	Not a problem	opinion
1/12/09	85	63	21	11	8	3	4
11/7/07	72	45	27	22	10	11	6
10/19/06	78	55	23	20	11	9	2

16. Is it your opinion that corruption among government officials or the police has increased over the last year or so, decreased, or has it remained about the same?

	Increased	Decreased	Same	No opinion
1/12/09	50	22	21	7

17. From today's perspective, do you think it was very good, mostly good, mostly bad or very bad that U.S. military forces came into our country to bring down the Taliban government in 2001?

	----- Good -----			----- Bad -----			No
	NET	Very	Mostly	NET	Mostly	Very	opinion
1/12/09	69	27	42	24	12	12	7
11/7/07	76	35	40	20	10	10	4
10/19/06	88	45	43	11	7	4	1
10/18/05	87	48	39	9	6	3	4

18. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the presence of the following groups in Afghanistan today?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strgly	Smwhat	NET	Smwhat	Strgly	op.
a. U.S. military forces	63	12	51	36	21	15	2
b. NATO/ISAF military forces	59	13	46	40	24	16	2
c. Jihadi fighters from other countries	11	2	9	86	27	60	3
d. Fighters from the Taliban	8	2	6	90	20	70	2
e. Foreign aid organizations	73	30	43	25	14	10	2

Trend:

a. U.S. military forces

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
1/12/09	63	12	51	36	21	15	2
11/7/07	71	20	51	27	15	12	2
10/19/06	78	30	48	21	15	6	1

b. NATO/ISAF military forces

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
1/12/09	59	13	46	40	24	16	2
11/7/07	67	25	42	30	17	13	2
10/19/06	78	30	48	21	15	6	1

c. Jihadi fighters from other countries

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
1/12/09	11	2	9	86	27	60	3
11/7/07	14	1	13	83	27	56	3
10/19/06	11	1	10	88	27	61	1

d. Fighters from the Taliban

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
1/12/09	8	2	6	90	20	70	2
11/7/07	5	1	4	92	19	73	3
10/19/06	5	1	3	94	14	81	1

e. No trend.

19. Who do you blame the most for the violence that is occurring in the country?

	1/12/09	11/7/07
Taliban	27	36
Al Qaeda/Foreign jihadis	22	22
U.S./American forces	12	9
Bush/U.S. government/America	6	7
Local commanders/Warlords	6	6
Drug traffickers	4	6
Afghan government/Karzai	12	5
Afghan forces	3	2
NATO/ISAF forces	3	3
Neighboring countries	3	2
Criminals	*	0
Jobless people	*	0
Other	0	*
No opinion	1	2

20. Over the past 12 months, would you say the Taliban in Afghanistan have grown stronger, grown weaker, or remained about the same?

	Stronger	Weaker	Same	No opinion
1/12/09	43	24	25	8
11/7/07	42	24	26	8

21. Do you think the government in Kabul should negotiate a settlement with Afghan Taliban in which they are allowed to hold political offices if they agree to stop fighting, or do you think the government in Kabul should continue to fight the Taliban and not enter into these negotiations?

	Negotiate with Taliban	Continue fighting/ Do not negotiate	No opinion
1/12/09	64	25	11
11/7/07	60	32	8

22. (IF NEGOTIATE) Do you think the government should negotiate only if the Taliban first stop fighting, or negotiate even as fighting continues?

	Only if Taliban stops fighting	Even as fighting continues	No opinion
1/12/09	71	29	1

21/22 NET

	----- Negotiate -----				
	NET	Only if Taliban stops fighting	Even as fighting continues	Continue fighting/ Do not negotiate	No opin.
1/12/09	64	45	18	25	11

23. What do you think is most likely: The Afghan government with foreign assistance will defeat the Taliban; the Taliban will defeat the Afghan government; both sides will negotiate a settlement; or the fighting will go on with no winner and no settlement?

	Afghan govt will win	Taliban will win	Both sides will negotiate	Fighting will go on	No opinion
1/12/09	33	8	33	19	7

24. Is it your impression that the Taliban have changed and become more moderate, or do you think they remain the same as they were when they ruled Afghanistan before?

	More moderate	Same	No opinion
1/12/09	24	64	12

25. At present there are attacks against U.S. and other military forces in some parts of Afghanistan. Under current circumstances, do you think attacks against U.S. or NATO/ISAF military forces in Afghanistan can be justified or cannot be justified?

	Justified	Cannot be justified	No opinion
1/12/09	25	64	11
11/7/07*	17	74	8
10/19/06	13	78	9
10/18/05	30	60	10

*2007 and prior: Wording "and other" and "or NATO/ISAF" omitted

26. Do you think the number of U.S. and NATO/ISAF forces in Afghanistan should be increased, decreased or kept at the current level?

	Increased	Decreased	Kept at current level	No opinion
1/12/09	18	44	29	9

27. When do you think such forces should withdraw from Afghanistan?

	Leave now	Within 6-12 mos.	1-2 Years	Only after security restored	Remain permanently	No opinion
1/12/09	21	16	14	42	3	4
11/7/07*	14	13	18	42	7	6
10/19/06	13	10	13	55	5	3

10/18/05 8 6 12 65 4 5
 *2007 and prior: "U.S. military forces"

28. I'm going to mention some groups. For each, please say how much of a presence it has in this area: A very strong presence, a fairly strong presence, a fairly weak presence or no significant presence at all.

1/12/09 - Summary table

	-----Strong-----			----Weak/None----			No opin.
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
a. The central govt led by Hamid Karzai	67	26	41	32	27	5	1
b. The provincial government	69	25	44	31	27	4	*
c. The local police	73	29	44	25	21	4	1
d. Local commanders and their militias	23	7	16	74	36	39	3
e. The Taliban	14	3	10	83	21	63	3
f. Drug traffickers	13	3	11	81	28	54	5
g. United States or NATO or ISAF forces	34	6	29	63	39	24	2
h. Foreign jihadis	14	2	12	79	22	57	8
i. Foreign aid organizations	41	9	32	56	36	20	3

Trend:

a. The central government led by Hamid Karzai

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	67	26	41	32	27	5	1
11/7/07	74	31	43	24	18	6	1
10/19/06	70	23	47	30	25	4	0

b. The provincial government

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	69	25	44	31	27	4	*
11/7/07	70	26	43	29	24	5	1
10/19/06	72	21	51	28	27	1	0

c. The local police

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	73	29	44	25	21	4	1
11/7/07	67	28	39	32	26	6	1
10/19/06	78	30	48	22	20	2	0

d. Local commanders and their militias

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	23	7	16	74	36	39	3
11/7/07	27	5	22	70	40	31	3
10/19/06	28	4	24	71	41	30	2

e. The Taliban

	----- Strong -----	--- Weak/None ---	No
--	--------------------	-------------------	----

	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opinion
1/12/09	14	3	10	83	21	63	3
11/7/07	10	3	7	86	15	71	4
10/19/06	7	2	6	91	17	74	2

f. Drug traffickers

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opinion
1/12/09	13	3	11	81	28	54	5
11/7/07	11	2	9	83	21	62	6
10/19/06	12	3	9	83	29	55	5

g. United States or NATO or ISAF forces

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opinion
1/12/09	34	6	29	63	39	24	2
11/7/07	50	11	39	47	26	22	3
10/19/06	57	14	44	40	22	17	3

h. Foreign jihadis

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opinion
1/12/09	14	2	12	79	22	57	8
11/7/07	13	3	11	79	22	56	8

i. No trend.

29. Now, for each group I mention, please tell me how confident are you in its ability to provide security and stability in your area - very confident, somewhat confident, not so confident or not confident at all?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	--- Confident ---			---- Not confident ----			No
	NET	Very	Smwhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	op.
a. The central government led by Hamid Karzai	75	28	47	25	19	6	1
b. The provincial government	69	24	45	30	24	6	1
c. The local police	75	28	47	24	17	7	1
d. Local commanders and their militias	18	5	13	79	27	52	3
e. The Taliban	7	2	5	90	10	79	3
f. United States or NATO or ISAF forces	42	6	35	55	27	29	3
g. Foreign jihadis	13	1	11	84	17	67	3

Trend:

a. The central government led by Hamid Karzai

	----- Confident -----			---- Not confident ----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	75	28	47	25	19	6	1
11/7/07	82	35	47	17	12	5	1
10/19/06	80	32	47	20	16	4	0

b. The provincial government

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	69	24	45	30	24	6	1
11/7/07	75	28	46	25	18	7	1
10/19/06	75	24	52	25	21	3	0

c. The local police

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	75	28	47	24	17	7	1
11/7/07	67	25	42	33	24	9	1
10/19/06	79	29	50	21	17	4	0

d. Local commanders and their militias

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	18	5	13	79	27	52	3
11/7/07	26	5	21	72	31	41	2
10/19/06	19	3	17	80	32	47	1

e. The Taliban

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	7	2	5	90	10	79	3
11/7/07	8	1	7	89	12	77	3
10/19/06	6	2	4	93	9	84	2

f. United States or NATO or ISAF forces

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	42	6	35	55	27	29	3
11/7/07	52	11	40	46	23	22	3
10/19/06	67	18	49	31	17	14	3

g. Foreign jihadis

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
1/12/09	13	1	11	84	17	67	3
11/7/07	12	2	10	84	21	63	4

30. For each of these groups, what would you say is its level of support among the people in this area - very strong support, fairly strong support, fairly weak support or no significant support at all?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	-----Strong-----			----Weak/None----			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opin.
a. The central govt led by Hamid Karzai	65	27	38	34	26	8	1
b. The provincial government	63	22	42	36	26	9	1
c. The local police	66	23	43	32	23	8	2
d. Local commanders and their militias	17	4	13	78	29	49	5
e. The Taliban	9	3	6	85	13	72	6
f. Drug traffickers	7	1	6	85	17	68	8
g. United States or							

NATO or ISAF forces	37	5	32	58	32	26	5
h. Foreign jihadis	14	2	12	78	18	61	8

Trend:

a. The central government led by Hamid Karzai

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	65	27	38	34	26	8	1
11/7/07	81	35	45	18	14	5	1
10/19/06	78	28	50	21	19	2	1

b. The provincial government

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	63	22	42	36	26	9	1
11/7/07	72	27	45	27	20	6	1
10/19/06	74	22	51	26	22	3	1

c. The local police

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	66	23	43	32	23	8	2
11/7/07	64	24	40	35	25	10	1
10/19/06	74	26	49	25	21	3	1

d. Local commanders and their militias

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	17	4	13	78	29	49	5
11/7/07	24	4	20	73	34	39	3
10/19/06	20	4	16	79	36	43	1

e. The Taliban

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	9	3	6	85	13	72	6
11/7/07	8	2	5	88	13	75	4
10/19/06	6	2	4	92	13	79	2

f. Drug traffickers

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	7	1	6	85	17	68	8
11/7/07	7	2	6	87	15	71	6
10/19/06	7	1	6	90	19	70	3

g. United States or NATO or ISAF forces

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	
1/12/09	37	5	32	58	32	26	5
11/7/07	52	11	42	44	22	22	3
10/19/06	67	18	49	32	18	13	1

h. Foreign jihadis

	----- Strong -----			--- Weak/None ---			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Weak	None	opinion
1/12/09	14	2	12	78	18	61	8
11/7/07	15	3	12	78	20	58	7

31. Are you aware of any of the following activities by the Taliban in this area?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. The delivery of night letters	21	74	5
b. Bombings	26	69	4
c. Killing individuals	32	64	4
d. Burning schools/government buildings	27	69	4
e. Fighting government or foreign troops	33	63	5
f. People giving food/money to Taliban	17	75	8

Trend:

a. The delivery of night letters

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	21	74	5
11/7/07	26	71	3
10/19/06	24	74	2

b. Bombings

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	26	69	4
11/7/07	33	65	2
10/19/06	43	55	2

c. Killing individuals

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	32	64	4
11/7/07	34	63	2
10/19/06	42	56	2

d. Burning schools/government buildings

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	27	69	4
11/7/07	33	64	2
10/19/06	45	53	2

e. Fighting government or foreign troops

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	33	63	5
11/7/07	42	54	3
10/19/06	45	53	2

f. People giving food/money to Taliban

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	17	75	8
11/7/07	14	80	6
10/19/06	17	80	3

32. For each item I read, please tell me if it has or has not occurred in this area? (IF HAS OCCURRED) Has it happened in the past year, or longer ago than that?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	--- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opin.
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
a. Car bombs, suicide attacks	39	26	13	59	2
b. Snipers, crossfire	35	19	16	62	3
c. Kidnappings for ransom	45	31	14	52	3
d. Bombing or shelling by U.S., NATO or ISAF forces	27	16	11	65	8
e. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by U.S., NATO or ISAF forces	34	21	13	62	4
f. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by the Afghan army or police	24	13	11	70	6
g. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by the Taliban, Al Qaeda or foreign jihadis	42	24	19	53	5

Trend:

a. Car bombs, suicide attacks

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
1/12/09	39	26	13	59	2
11/7/07	37	27	10	61	3

b. Snipers, crossfire

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
1/12/09	35	19	16	62	3
11/7/07	33	20	13	64	3

c. Kidnappings for ransom

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
1/12/09	45	31	14	52	3
11/7/07	37	25	12	60	3

d. Bombing or shelling by U.S., NATO or ISAF forces

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
1/12/09	27	16	11	65	8
11/7/07	29	17	12	67	4

e. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by U.S., NATO or ISAF forces

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		
1/12/09	34	21	13	62	4
11/7/07	34	24	10	63	4

f. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by the Afghan army or police

	---- Has occurred nearby ---			Has not	No opinion
	NET	Within 1 year	Longer		

1/12/09	24	13	11	70	6
11/7/07	23	16	7	73	4

g. Civilians killed or seriously hurt by the Taliban, Al Qaeda or foreign jihadis

	NET	---- Has occurred nearby --- Within 1 year	Longer	Has not	No opinion
1/12/09	42	24	19	53	5
11/7/07	40	27	13	54	5

33. Do you think the use of air strikes by the U.S. and NATO/ISAF forces is acceptable because it helps defeat the Taliban and other anti-government fighters, or unacceptable because it endangers too many innocent civilians?

	Acceptable	Unacceptable	No opinion
1/12/09	16	77	8

34. When civilians are harmed in U.S. and NATO/ISAF air strikes, who do you mainly blame: U.S. and NATO/ISAF forces for mistaken targeting, anti-government forces for being among civilians, or both sides equally?

	U.S and NATO/ISAF forces	Anti-government forces	Both	No opinion
1/12/09	41	28	27	4

35. Do you think the government of Pakistan is allowing the Taliban to operate within its borders, or trying to stop the Taliban from operating there?

	Allowing Taliban to operate	Trying to stop from operating	No opinion
1/12/09	67	24	9
11/7/07	69	19	11

36. What is your opinion of the cultivation of poppies for opium? Do you see this as acceptable in all cases, only acceptable if there is no other way to earn a living, or unacceptable in all cases?

	Acceptable in all cases	Only acceptable if no other way to earn living	Unacceptable in all cases	No opinion
1/12/09	4	28	63	4
11/7/07	8	28	62	3
10/19/06	5	35	58	2
10/18/05	5	21	73	1

37. Do you think the government should allow opium poppies to be grown, or take measures to kill off opium poppy fields? (IF KILL OFF) Do you support or oppose doing this by spraying plant-killing chemicals from airplanes?

	Allow poppies to grow	- Take measures to kill off poppies -				
	NET	Support spraying	Oppose spraying	Unsure of spraying	No opinion	
1/12/09	5	91	13	48	30	4
11/7/07	11	84	13	45	26	5

38. Now I'm going to ask what you think about some people and groups. Is your opinion of [INSERT] very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
a. The Taliban	7	3	4	91	12	79	2
b. Osama Bin Laden	6	2	4	92	10	82	3
c. The United States	47	7	40	52	25	27	1
d. Pakistan	8	1	7	91	26	65	1
e. Great Britain	39	6	32	54	26	28	7
f. Iran	57	19	38	40	22	19	3
g. Germany	61	17	43	31	17	14	8
h. India	74	27	47	21	13	8	5

Trend:

a. The Taliban

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/12/09	7	3	4	91	12	79	2
11/7/07	13	3	10	84	15	69	4
10/19/06	10	2	8	89	13	76	1
10/18/05	8	3	6	89	15	74	2
3/13/04	13	NA	NA	75	NA	NA	

b. Osama Bin Laden

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/12/09	6	2	4	92	10	82	3
11/7/07	9	2	7	87	11	76	4
10/19/06	5	2	4	90	7	84	4
10/18/05	5	2	3	90	6	85	5

c. The United States

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/12/09	47	7	40	52	25	27	1
11/7/07	65	17	48	32	11	21	3
10/19/06	74	23	51	25	11	14	1
10/18/05	83	24	59	14	8	6	3
3/13/04	65	NA	NA	24	NA	NA	

d. Pakistan

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/12/09	8	1	7	91	26	65	1
11/7/07	19	2	17	80	16	63	1

e. Great Britain

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/12/09	39	6	32	54	26	28	7
11/7/07	49	10	39	45	18	27	6

f. Iran

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	

1/12/09	57	19	38	40	22	19	3
11/7/07	52	14	38	45	20	25	3

g. Germany

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
1/12/09	61	17	43	31	17	14	8
11/7/07	70	22	48	24	11	13	6

h. No trend.

39. Overall, please say if you think each of these countries is playing a positive, neutral, or negative role in Afghanistan now?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	Positive	Neutral	Negative	No opinion
a. Russia	14	44	33	8
b. Iraq	12	68	11	9
c. Pakistan	5	6	86	3
d. India	41	42	10	6
e. The United States	44	17	36	3
f. The United Kingdom	24	28	38	11
g. Germany	36	33	19	11

40. As you may know a new leader of the United States named Barack Obama takes office soon. Do you think the election of Obama as president of the United States will make things better for Afghanistan, make things worse, or will not make much difference?

	Better	Worse	No difference	No opinion
1/12/09	21	16	35	27

41. (IF OBAMA WILL MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR AFGHANISTAN) Why do you think Obama will make things better - what are the main reasons? (Up to two answers accepted.)

1/12/09 - Summary table

	First	Second	Total
Increase U.S. troops	11	7	18
Increase U.S. development aid	12	6	19
Improve international cooperation	1	2	3
Negotiate with Taliban	2	1	3
Improve efforts vs. opium	*	*	*
Rebuild alliances with Muslim world	2	1	3
Close Guantanamo jail	1	2	3
He has a good opinion about Afghanistan	30	14	43
Demolish Taliban and terrorism	10	6	16
Reduce foreign forces in Afghanistan	2	1	3
He is a good person	19	5	24
Change U.S. politics concerning Afghanistan	5	4	9
No opinion	3	50	51

42. Now I'd like to ask you some questions about women in Afghanistan. Please tell me if each of the following is something you support strongly, support somewhat, oppose somewhat or oppose strongly?

1/12/09 - Summary table

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No op. *
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
a. Women voting	91	67	24	9	4	4	*
b. Women holding jobs outside the home	77	46	30	23	14	9	*
c. Women holding government office	69	38	31	30	18	12	1
d. Girls education	92	68	24	8	5	2	1
e. Women wearing the burka	77	49	28	22	14	8	1

Trend:

a. Women voting

	-----Support-----			-----Oppose-----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/12/09	91	67	24	9	4	4	*
11/7/07	86	59	27	13	8	5	1
10/18/05	89	66	23	10	6	5	0

b. Women holding jobs outside the home

	-----Support-----			-----Oppose-----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/12/09	77	46	30	23	14	9	*
11/7/07	68	38	29	32	20	11	1
10/18/05	74	42	31	26	15	11	0

c. Women holding government office

	-----Support-----			-----Oppose-----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/12/09	69	38	31	30	18	12	1
11/7/07	60	31	29	39	26	14	1
10/18/05	65	38	27	34	18	16	1

d. Girls education

	-----Support-----			-----Oppose-----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/12/09	92	68	24	8	5	2	1
11/7/07	89	60	29	11	7	4	*
10/18/05	93	72	20	7	5	2	0

e. Women wearing the burka

	-----Support-----			-----Oppose-----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/12/09	77	49	28	22	14	8	1
11/7/07	77	49	28	22	14	7	1

43. For statistical purposes only, we need to know your average monthly household income. Will you please tell me which of the following categories best represents your average total family monthly income? (in Afغانis)

	<2K	2-3K	3-5K	5-10K	10-15K	15-20K	20-25K	25K+	No op.
1/12/09	13	17	24	27	12	4	2	1	2
11/7/07	9	26	26	25	8	3	1	*	2

Compare to: U.S. dollars - not inflation-adjusted

	Up to \$40	\$40- 60	\$60- 100	\$101- 201	\$201- 301	\$302- 402	\$402- 502	\$502+	No opinion
1/12/09	13	17	24	27	12	4	2	1	2
11/7/07	9	26	26	25	8	3	1	*	2

44. Do you have electric power here in your household? (IF YES) From your own generator, from a shared generator, or from the power lines?

	----- Yes, have electricity -----						
	NET	Own generator	Shared generator	Power lines	Both	No	No opinion
1/12/09	45	13	17	13	2	55	*
11/7/07	40	13	7	17	3	58	2
10/19/06	59	25	9	19	6	41	0

45. (IF THEY GET ELECTRICITY FROM THE POWER LINES) Roughly how many hours a day (out of 24) do you have electricity from the power lines?

	1-6	7-12	13-23	All day	No opinion
1/12/09	59	21	7	11	2
11/7/07	46	18	14	19	2
10/19/06	39	28	21	11	0
10/18/05	38	40	4	12	6

46. Thinking about the price of food these days - would you say that you can afford to buy all the food you need, you can afford to buy some food but not all you need, you can afford to buy very little food, or that you cannot afford to buy any food at all and rely entirely on what you can raise yourself or receive from food assistance?

	--- All/Some ---			--- Very little/None ---			No opinion
	NET	All	Some	NET	Very little	None	
1/12/09	37	8	29	63	46	16	1
11/7/07	46	10	36	54	42	12	1

47. Now thinking about the price of fuel for cooking or generators - would you say that you can afford all the fuel you need, you can afford some fuel but not for everything you need, you can afford very little fuel, or you cannot afford any fuel at all and rely entirely on what you can gather yourselves or donated fuel assistance?

	--- All/Some ---			--- Very little/None ---			No opinion
	NET	All	Some	NET	Very little	None	
1/12/09	31	4	26	68	45	24	1
11/7/07	33	6	27	65	44	21	1

48. Do you or does anyone in your household living at this address own a:

a. TV	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	38	62	*
11/7/07	36	64	*
10/19/06	45	54	0
10/18/05	43	57	0

b. Satellite dish

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	8	91	1
11/7/07	7	93	*
10/19/06	10	90	0
10/18/05	9	90	2

c. Telephone (land line)

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	1	99	1
11/7/07	4	96	*
10/19/06	1	98	0
10/18/05	1	98	1

d. Mobile phone

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	55	45	*
11/7/07	43	57	*
10/19/06	38	61	0
10/18/05	31	69	0

e. Radio

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	86	14	*
11/7/07	91	9	*
10/19/06	92	8	0
10/18/05	95	5	0

f. Refrigerator

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	11	88	1
11/7/07	12	87	*
10/19/06	16	84	0
10/18/05	11	88	0

g. Bicycle

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	50	49	1
11/7/07	60	39	*
10/19/06	57	43	0
10/18/05	63	37	0

h. Motorbike

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	25	74	1
11/7/07	27	73	*
10/19/06	27	72	0
10/18/05	26	74	0

i. Work animal

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	49	50	1
11/7/07	42	57	*
10/19/06	43	56	0
10/18/05	47	53	0

j. Car

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/12/09	12	88	1
11/7/07	13	87	*
10/19/06	13	87	0
10/18/05	12	88	0

49. How would you rate Afghanistan's economy now: excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	opinion
1/12/09	33	5	28	64	26	39	3
11/7/07	39	6	32	59	34	25	3
10/19/06	31	4	27	67	35	32	2
10/18/05	41	8	33	57	38	19	3

50. How would you describe your household's financial situation: excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	----Excellent/Good----			----Fair/Poor----			No
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Fair	Poor	opinion
1/12/09	32	2	30	67	42	25	1
11/7/07	38	6	32	61	44	17	1
10/19/06	37	4	33	62	45	17	0
10/18/05	34	5	30	64	50	14	2

51. Demographics:

Sex:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Men	51	50	50	50	50
Women	49	50	50	50	50

Age:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
17-24	30	30	29	29	24
25-34	26	28	26	25	25
35-49	29	31	30	32	29
50+	15	12	15	14	22

Marital status:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Married	74	73	72	74	83
Unmarried (NET)	25	27	27	26	17
Widowed	3	5	5	4	NA
Divorced	*	*	0	0	NA
Never married	22	22	22	22	NA
No opinion	*	*	0	0	0

Education:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
None	59	55	47	49	43
Primary (incomplete)	9	11	11	13	8
Primary (complete)	9	10	14	9	11
Junior high school	10	10	10	11	10
Senior high school	11	11	14	14	20
University/Academy	2	2	3	4	7
No opinion	*	0	0	0	1

Employment status:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Employed	39	43	43	43	48
Unemployed	6	7	7	7	5
Housewife (women)	44	43	39	36	38
Retired	1	1	2	2	1
Student	8	6	10	11	8
Other	*	*	0	0	0
No opinion	1	*	0	1	0

Occupation:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Farmer (own land/tenant farmer)	25	29	20	24	24
Farm laborer(other's land)	12	9	7	7	4
Laborer, domestic, or unskilled worker	7	7	8	9	2
Informal sales/Business	6	9	7	8	20
Skilled worker/Artisan	20	18	23	20	7
Office worker/Clerical worker	3	4	5	3	8
Professional or technical	5	4	3	8	18
Small business owner	8	6	8	4	5
Executive or managerial	8	5	14	8	1
Military/Police	3	4	5	5	5
Other	2	5	0	4	5
No opinion	2	1	0	0	0

Religion:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Muslim (NET)	98	100	99	100	99
Sunni Muslim	86	93	87	85	92
Shia Muslim	12	7	12	15	7
Ismaeli	2	0	1	0	0
Hindu	0	*	0	0	0
Buddhist	*	0	0	*	0
None/Atheist	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
No opinion	*	*	0	0	0

Ethnicity:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Pashtun	40	38	42	40	46
Tajik	37	38	37	37	39
Hazara	11	6	12	13	6
Uzbek	7	6	5	6	6
Turkmen	2	2	3	1	1
Noristani	1	4	0	0	0
Baloch	1	3	0	0	0
Kirghiz	0	0	0	0	0
Aimak	*	0	0	0	0
Arab	2	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	1	3	3
No opinion	*	2	*	*	0

Identification: Do you think of yourself as an Afghan first, or a (RESPONDENT'S ETHNIC GROUP) first?

	1/12/09
Afghan first	72
Own ethnicity first (NET)	26
Pashtun	10
Tajik	10

Hazara	2
Uzbek	2
Turkmen	*
Noristani	*
Baloch	*
Aimak	*
Kirghiz	*
Arab	1
Other (vol.)	1
No opinion	2

Languages (can read):

	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Dari	40	39	48	46	51
Pashto	29	34	37	38	43
English	7	7	10	8	13
Arabic	2	3	5	3	2
Urdu	2	2	5	2	7
Uzbeki	2	2	2	3	4
Russian	0	*	1	1	1
Turki	*	*	0	1	0
Hindi	*	*	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
None	48	46	41	42	35
No opinion	6	1	1	2	8

Language (of interview):

	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05
Dari	70	66	71	68
Pashto	30	32	29	32

Region:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05
Central/Kabul	19	20	21	21
Eastern	10	11	10	10
South Central	15	13	13	13
South Western	9	11	10	10
Western	11	11	12	10
Northern	29	27	29	29
Central/Hazarjat	7	7	6	8

Locale:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05
Villages	76	76	78	78
Towns	3	1	1	1
City	8	10	8	8
Metros (Kabul)	12	13	13	13

Province:	1/12/09	11/7/07	10/19/06	10/18/05	3/13/04
Kabul	14	15	15	15	18
Balkh	5	5	6	6	5
Herat	7	6	6	6	7
Kandahar	5	6	6	6	6
Nangarhar	6	6	6	6	5
Badakhshan	4	4	4	4	1
Faryab	4	4	4	4	3
Ghazni	5	4	4	4	6
Helmand	4	4	4	4	6
Kunduz	4	4	4	4	3
Takhar	4	4	4	4	4

Badghis	2	2	2	2	2
Baghlan	4	2	2	2	5
Bamiyan	2	2	2	2	2
Daykundi	2	2	2	2	NA
Farah	2	2	2	2	3
Ghor	3	2	2	2	0
Jawzjan	2	2	2	2	2
Kapisa	2	2	2	2	1
Khost	2	2	2	2	1
Kunar	2	2	2	2	1
Laghman	2	2	2	2	2
Logar	1	2	2	2	1
Nimroz	1	2	2	0	0
Paktia	2	2	2	2	3
Paktika	2	2	2	2	1
Panjshir	1	2	2	2	NA
Parwan	3	2	2	2	3
Samangan	2	2	2	2	2
Sari Pul	2	2	2	2	4
Wardak	2	2	2	2	1
Nuristan	1	2	0	0	1
Uruzgan	1	2	0	2	0
Zabul	1	2	0	0	1

END