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Assessing Leaders Worldwide 2009

June 29, 2009

COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY RESULTS:

Key to Graphs:

Global Leaders

President Barack Obama	United States
President Nicolas Sarkozy	France
Prime Minister Gordon Brown	Great Britain
Prime Minister Vladimir Putin	Russia
Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon	United Nations
President Hu Jintao	China
President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad	Iran
Chancellor Angela Merkel	Germany

Regional Leaders

Africa

President Robert Mugabe	Zimbabwe
President Omar al-Bashir	Sudan
President Umaru Yar'adua	Nigeria
President Joseph Kabila	Democratic Republic of Congo
President Mwai Kibaki	Kenya

Americas

President Cristina Kirchner	Argentina
President Lula da Silva	Brazil
President Evo Morales	Bolivia
President Alvaro Uribe	Colombia
President Michelle Bachelet	Chile
President Felipe Calderon	Mexico
President Hugo Chavez	Venezuela

Asia

Prime Minister Taro Aso	Japan
Prime Minister Manmohan Singh	India

President Lee Myung-Bak
President Kim Jong-Il
President Asif Zardari

South Korea
North Korea
Pakistan

Middle East/Eurasia

King Abdullah
Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki
President Hosni Mubarak
President Bashar al-Assad
President Mahmoud Abbas
Secretary General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah
President Ilham Aliyev

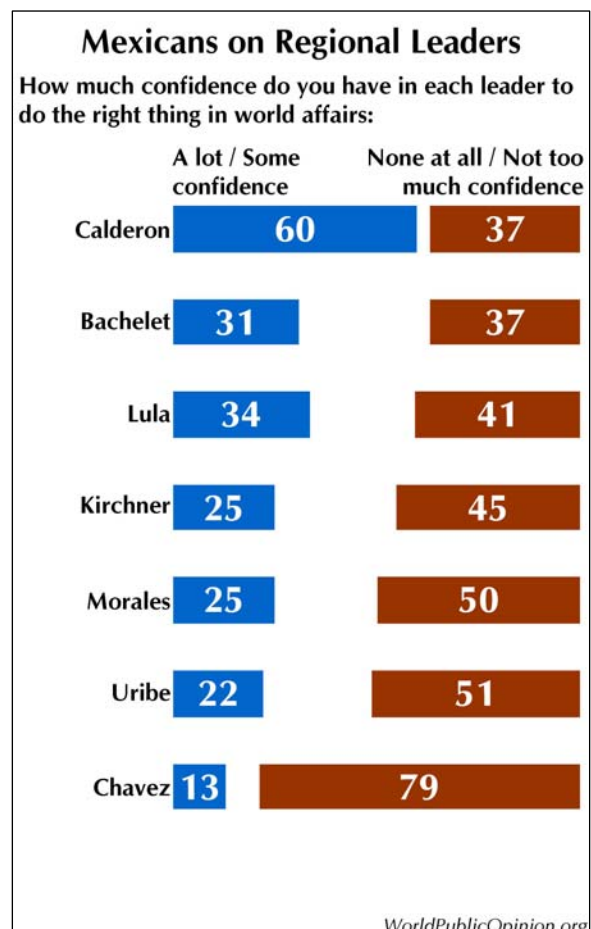
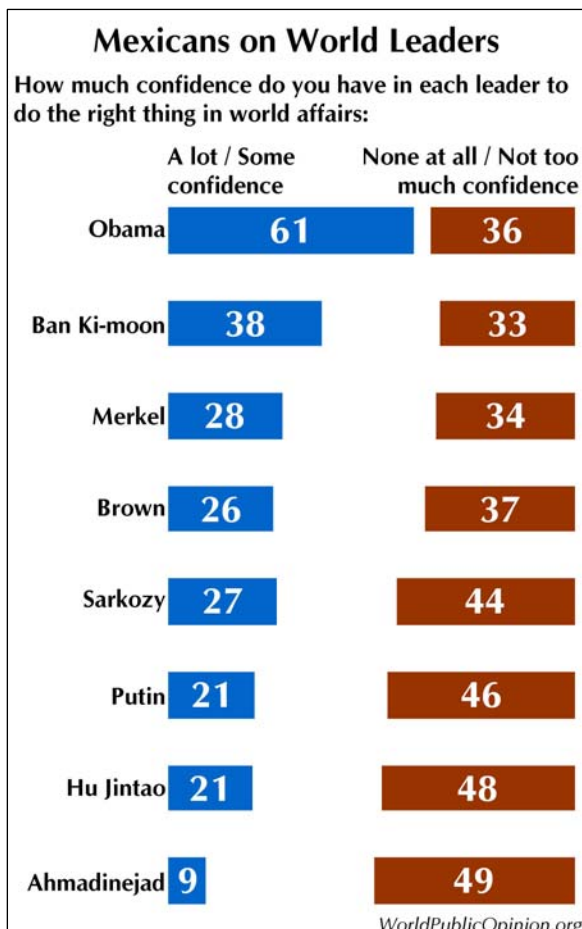
Saudi Arabia
Turkey
Iraq
Egypt
Syria
Palestinian National Authority
Hezbollah
Azerbaijan

AMERICAS:

MEXICO

[Data OPM](#)

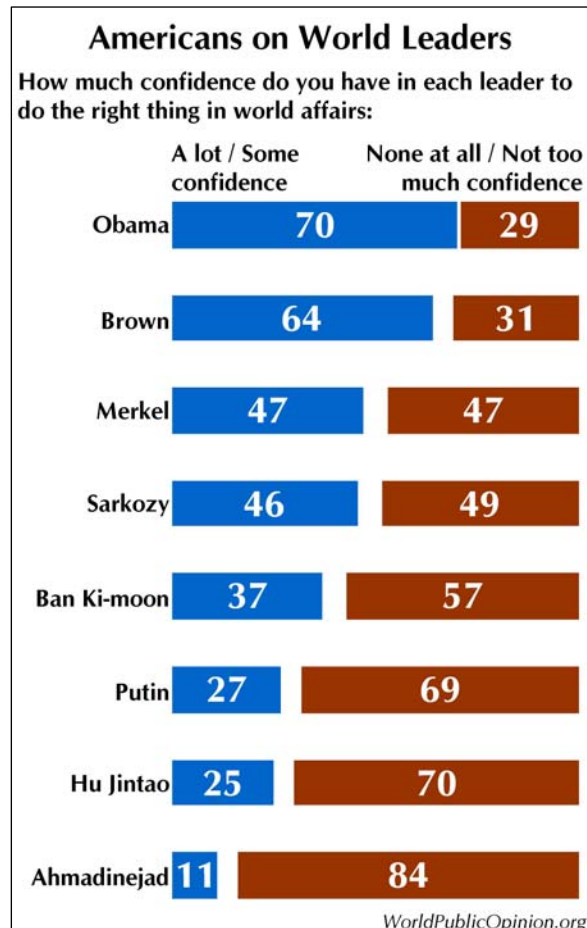
The only world leader in whom a majority of Mexicans (61%) express confidence is Barack Obama—sharply higher than the 16% that had confidence in George W. Bush. A plurality also holds a favorable view of Ban Ki-moon. Mexicans otherwise have little to no confidence in every other global leader. Mexico's opinions of regional leaders are just as negative; the only regional leader they view positively is their own president, Felipe Calderon. Michelle Bachelet is viewed the least negatively by Mexicans and Hugo Chavez the most negatively.



UNITED STATES

[Program on International Policy Attitudes](#) / [Knowledge Networks](#)

A majority of Americans say they have confidence in their own president to do the right thing in international affairs, and continue to have confidence in Prime Minister Gordon Brown. While divided over Merkel and Sarkozy, majorities hold negative views of other global leaders.

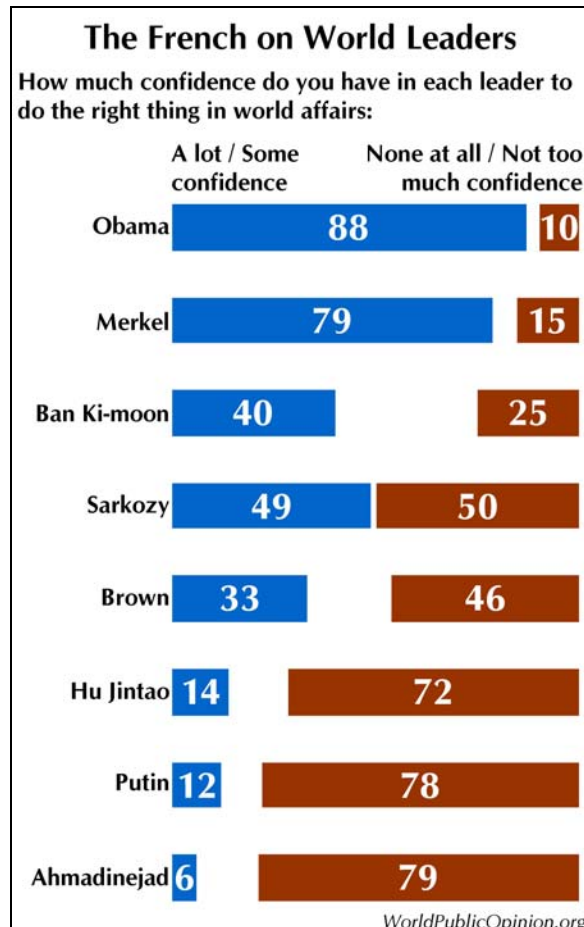


EUROPE:

FRANCE

[Efficiency 3](#)

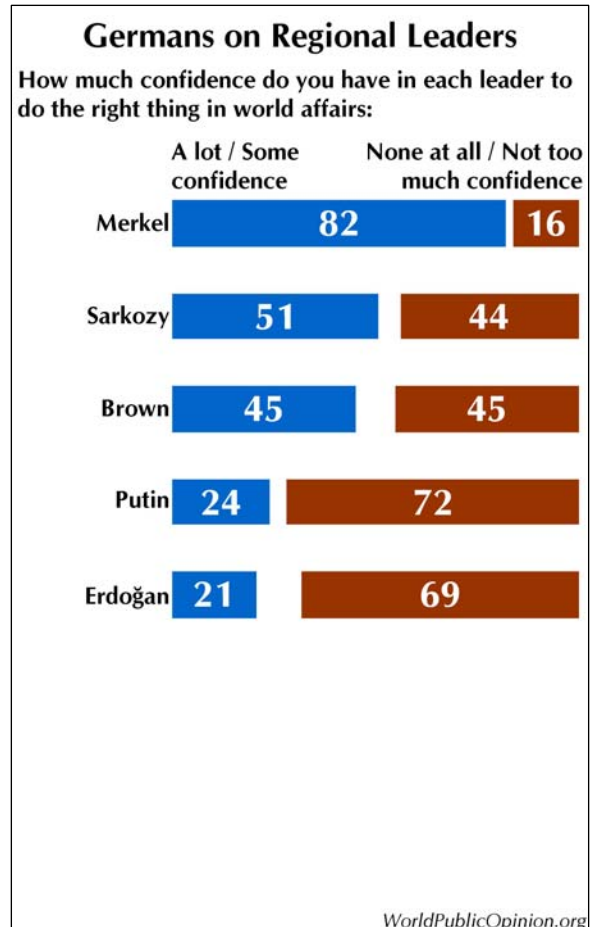
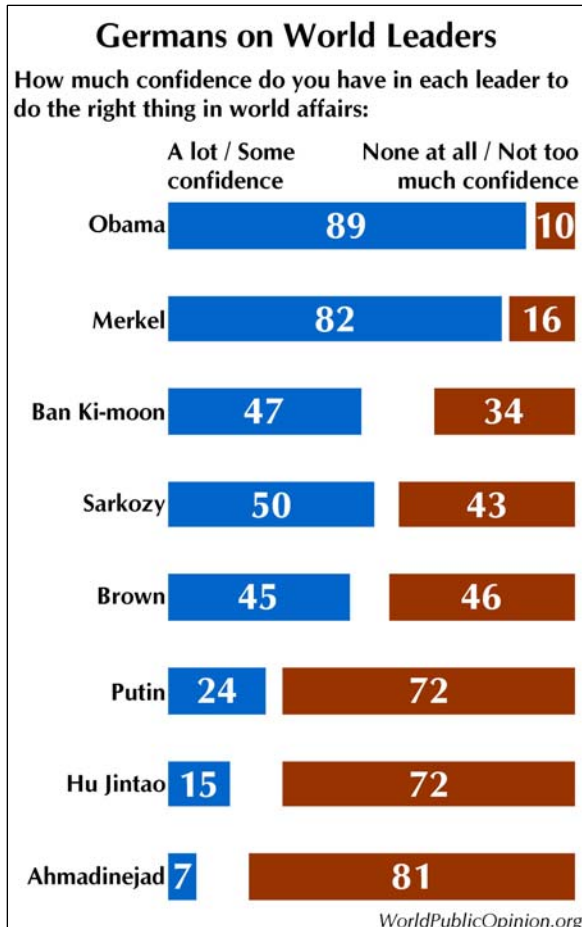
A large majority of French express confidence in Barack Obama, in contrast to previous overwhelmingly negative views of former President George W. Bush. The French continue to say they have confidence in Angela Merkel and Ban Ki-moon, as well as lacking confidence in other world leaders. They are also divided on their own leader, Nicholas Sarkozy.



GERMANY

[Ri*Questa GmbH](#)

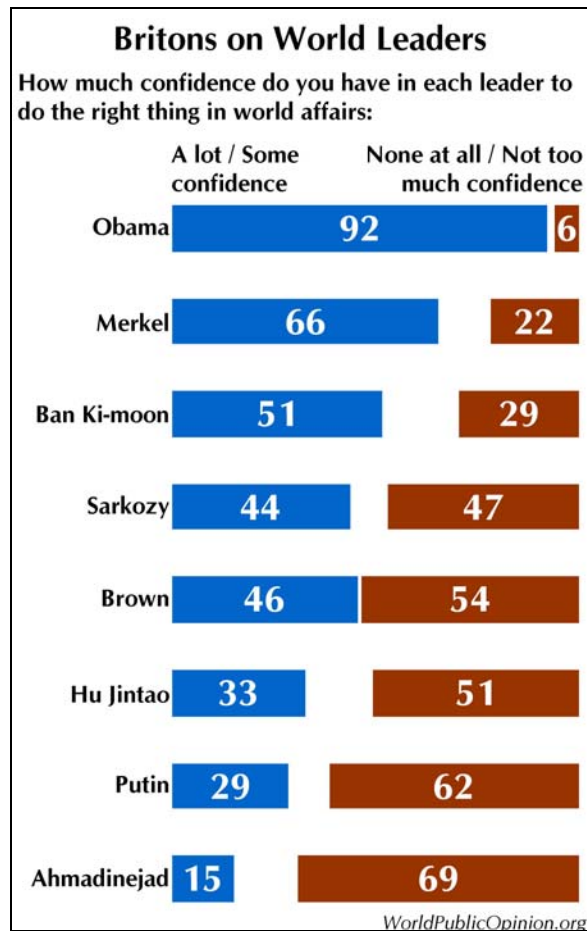
Germans demonstrate a lot of confidence in President Barack Obama to do the right thing in world affairs, as well as in their own Angela Merkel. While they are divided over whether they have confidence in neighboring leader Gordon Brown, Germans have somewhat positive views of Ban Ki-Moon and and Nicholas Sarkozy and somewhat negative views of other world leaders.



GREAT BRITAIN

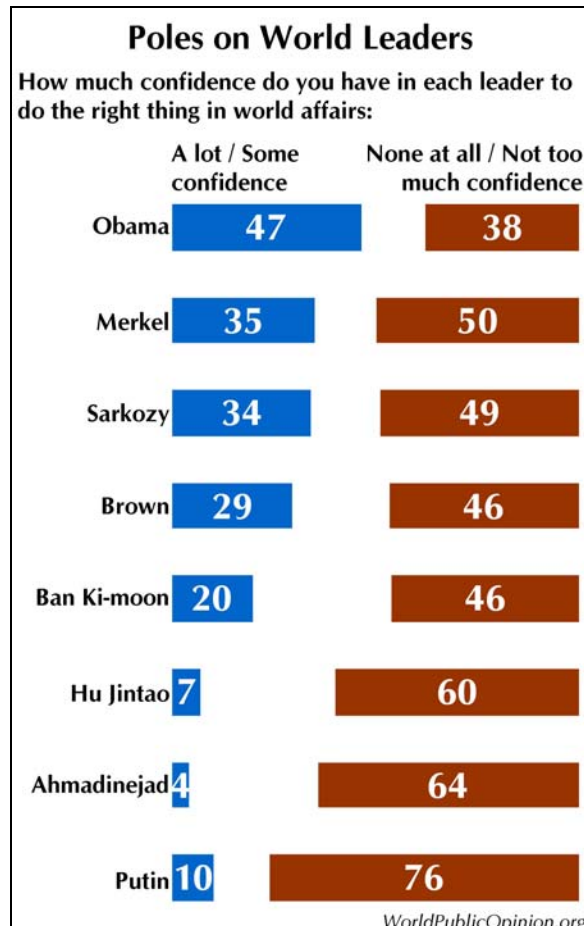
[Facts International](#)

A very large majority of Britons have confidence in Barack Obama and a large majority has confidence in Angela Merkel. A more modest majority endorses Ban Ki-moon. The British hold a slightly negative view of their own Prime Minister, and negative views of the other world leaders as well.



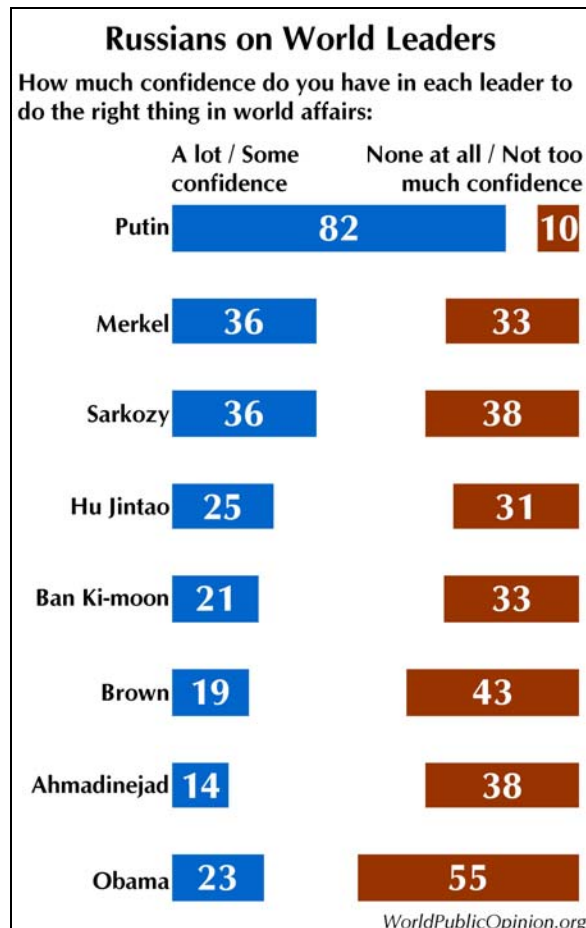
POLAND
[CBOS](#)

While a plurality in Poland says they have confidence in Barack Obama, majorities of Poles lack confidence in every other global leader. An overwhelming majority does not have confidence in Vladimir Putin.



RUSSIA
[Levada Center](#)

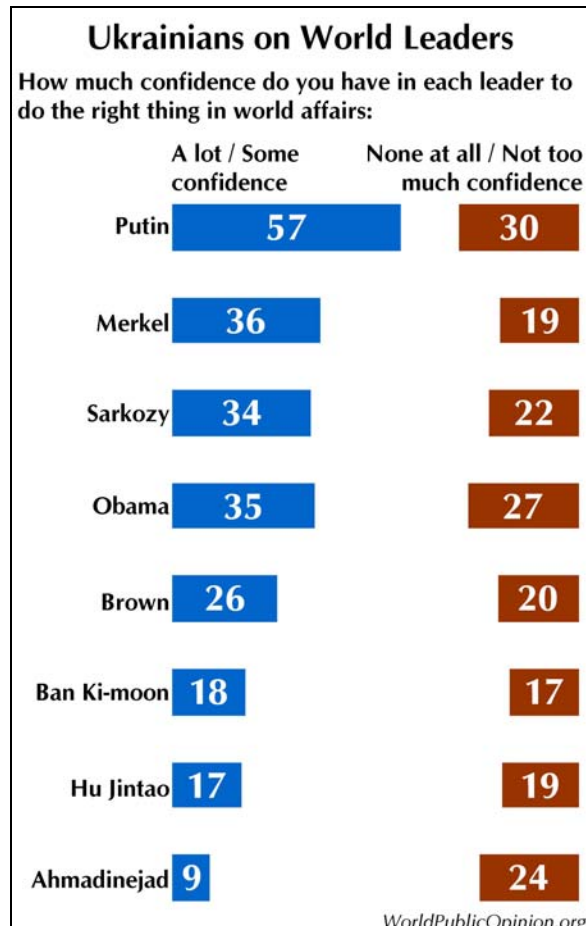
Russians express overwhelming confidence in their own Vladimir Putin, while giving the lowest ratings to Barack Obama with a majority expressing a lack of confidence. Confidence in Nicholas Sarkozy has increased, though Russians are still divided on both the French leader and neighbor Angela Merkel.



UKRAINE

[Kiev International Institute of Sociology](#)

A majority of Ukrainians have confidence in Vladimir Putin, and pluralities hold slightly positive views of their European neighbors and Barack Obama. Ukrainians are divided on other leaders, with the exception of their negative views of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

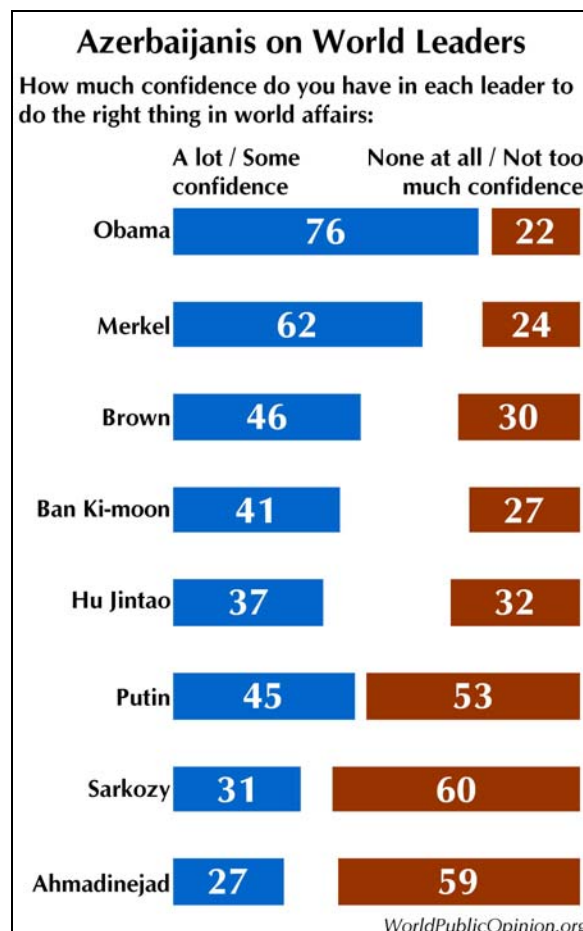


MIDDLE EAST/EURASIA:

AZERBAIJAN

International Center for Social Research

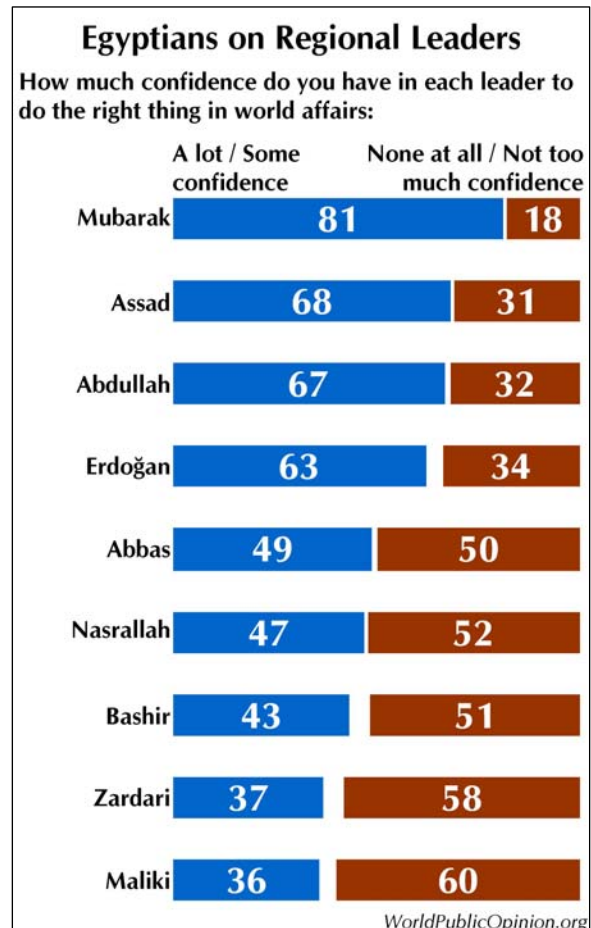
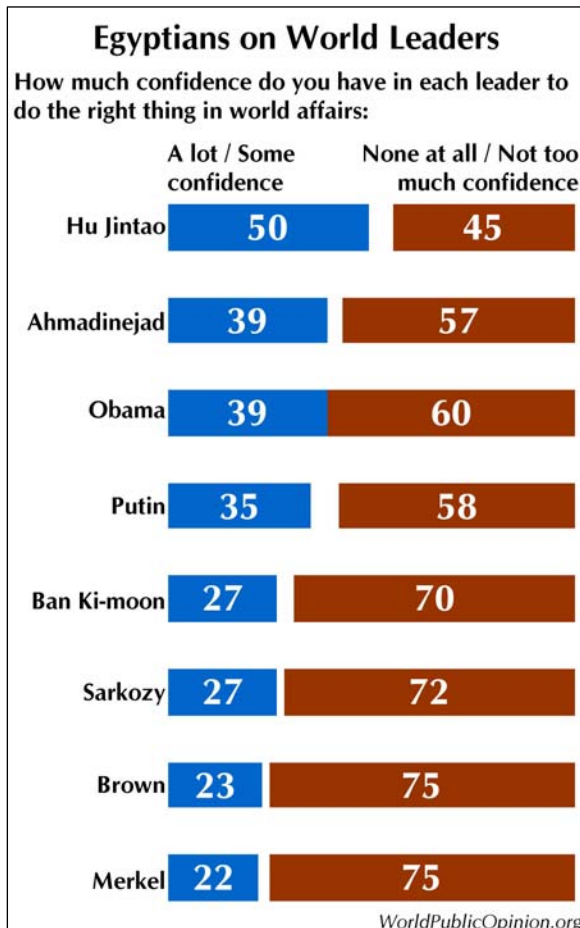
A large majority of Azerbaijanis express confidence in President Barack Obama, in sharp contrast to their levels of confidence in George W. Bush (76% vs. 42%). Views of Vladimir Putin continue to be negative. A majority expresses confidence in Angela Merkel of Germany, as well as leaning toward confidence in Gordon Brown, Ban Ki-moon, and Hu Jintao. Majorities in Azerbaijan say they have little or no confidence in every other global leader. Views of Gordon Brown, Ban Ki-moon, and Hu Jintao remain relatively unchanged from 2008 to 2009.



EGYPT

Attitude Market Research

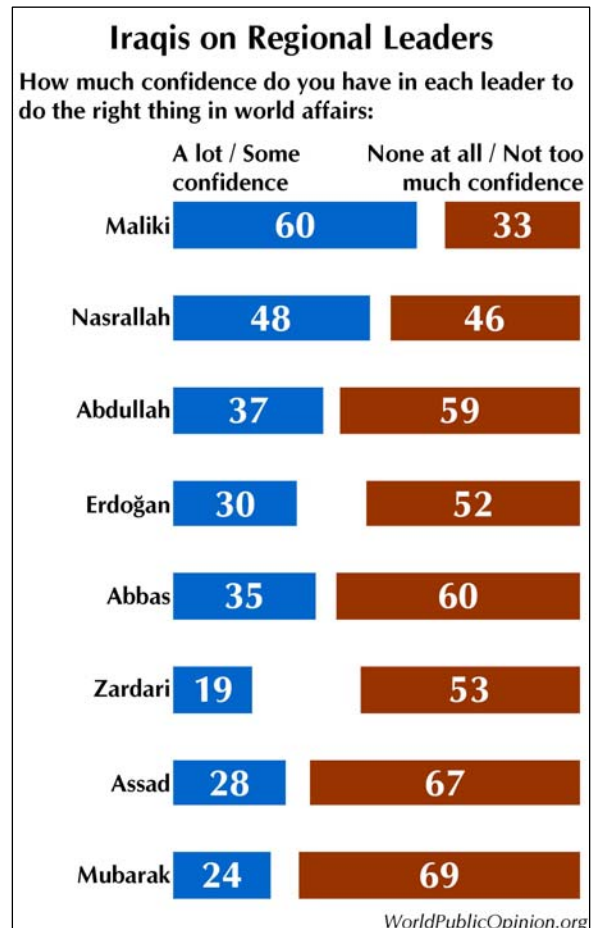
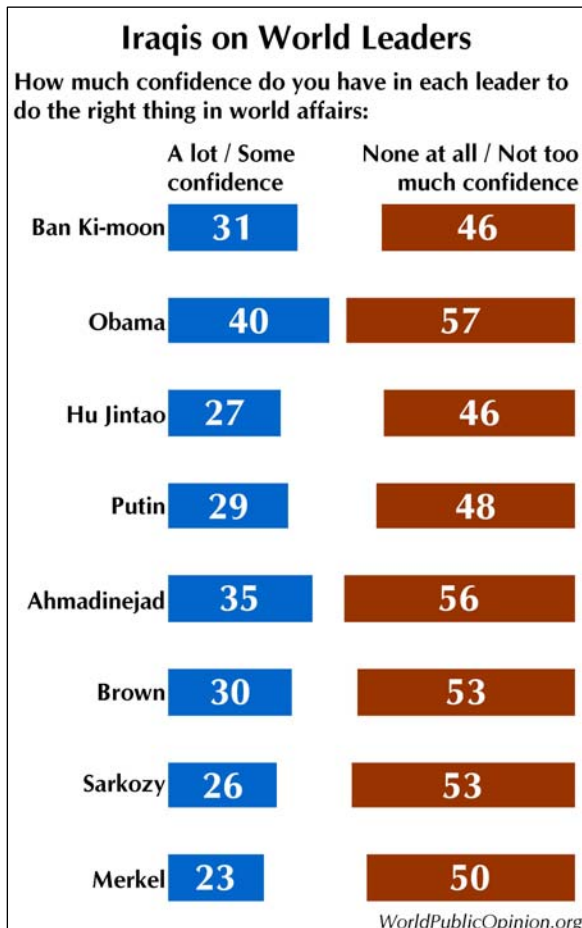
Egyptians lack confidence in all global leaders polled about, with the exception of President Hu Jintao, who they lean toward viewing positively. Barack Obama is viewed predominantly negatively, but far better than was George W. Bush, and ranks third among global leaders. Majorities of Egyptians have very high confidence in their own leader, and robust majorities endorse many of the leaders of their neighboring majority-Muslim countries. However, they are divided on Mahmoud Abbas and Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah, and have the least confidence in Iraq's leadership.



IRAQ

[Asharq Research Center](#)

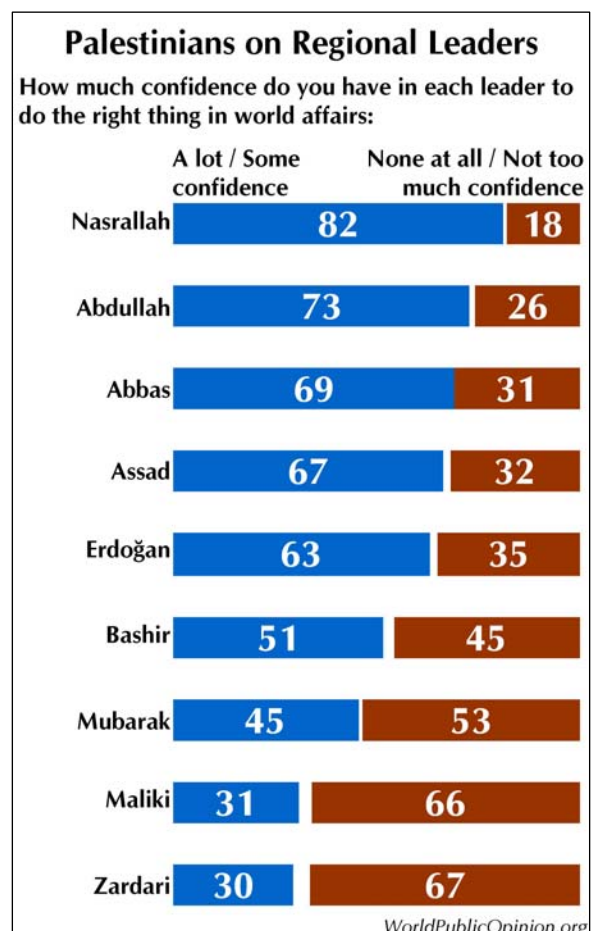
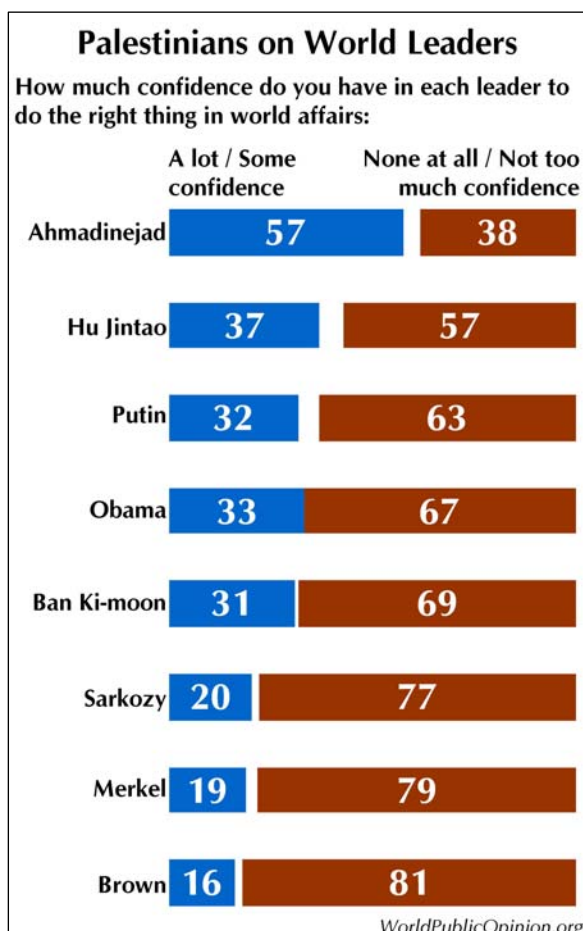
Iraqis lack confidence in all global leaders, although Barack Obama has the largest positive ratings, followed by Hu Jintao. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of former rival Iran is viewed the most negatively. Iraqis also have negative views of most leaders in the region. Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah is viewed the least negatively among regional leaders (apart from their own leader, Nouri al-Maliki), while Egypt's Hosni Mubarak receives the most negative ratings.



PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

[Palestinian Center for Public Opinion](#)

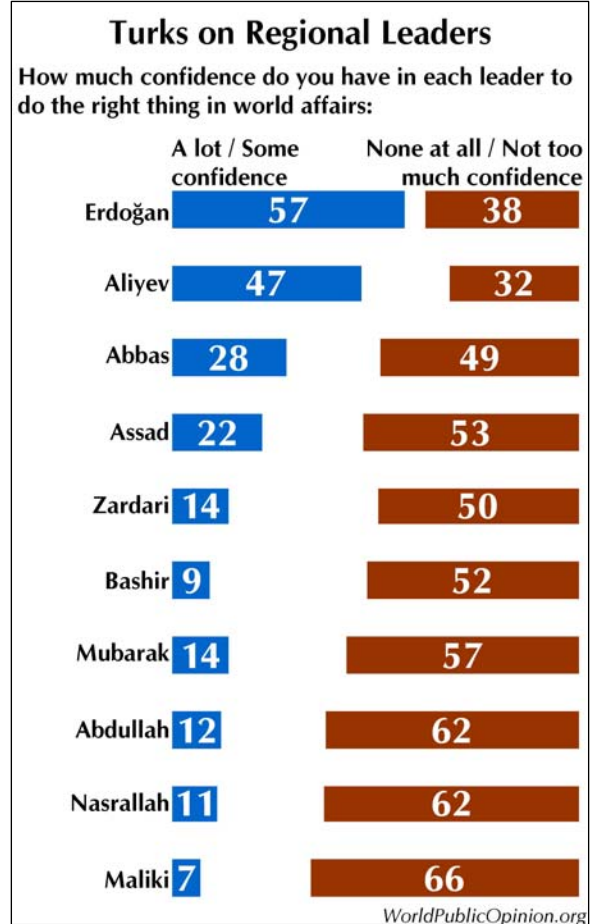
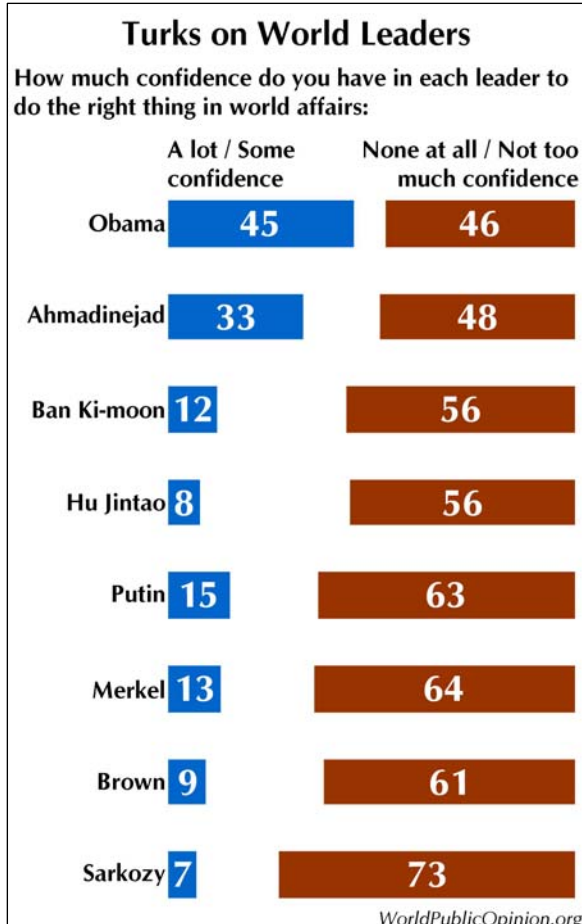
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the one world leader who Palestinians express confidence in. All others receive poor grades from large majorities of Palestinians, though these have moderated from last year. In sharp contrast Palestinians' views of most regional leaders are positive, especially Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah, Abdullah, Assad and their own Abbas. Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is viewed much more positively than in the past. Maliki of Iraq and Zardari of Pakistan get poor ratings.



TURKEY

[ARI Foundation](#) / [Infakto Research Workshop](#)

Turkish views of all leaders are exceptionally negative with none receiving a positive rating other than their own president and Azerbaijan's Aliyev. Despite Barack Obama's well-received speech in Istanbul, Turks are divided on Barack Obama. But this is a vast improvement over George W. Bush and actually places Obama at the top of the list of world leaders.

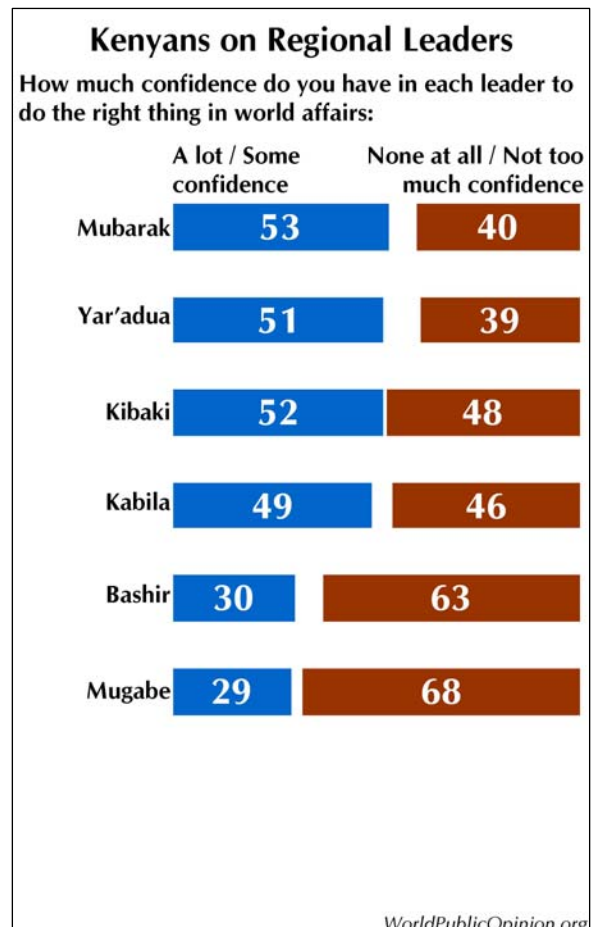
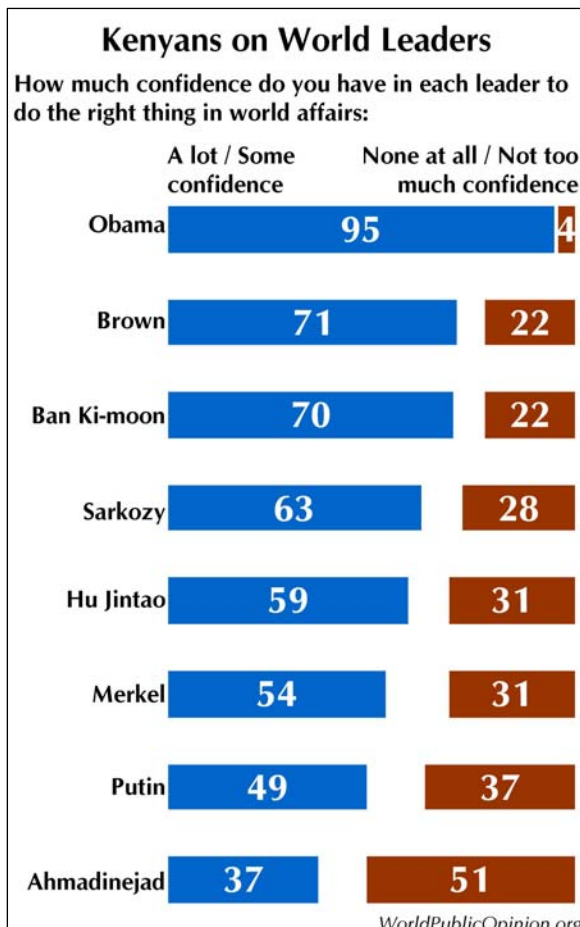


AFRICA:

KENYA

[Research Path Associates Limited](#)

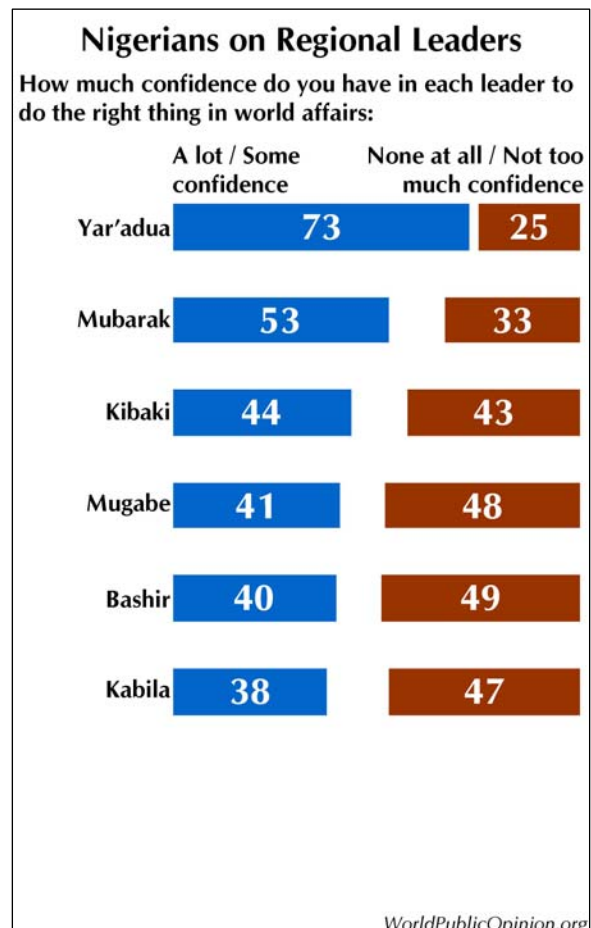
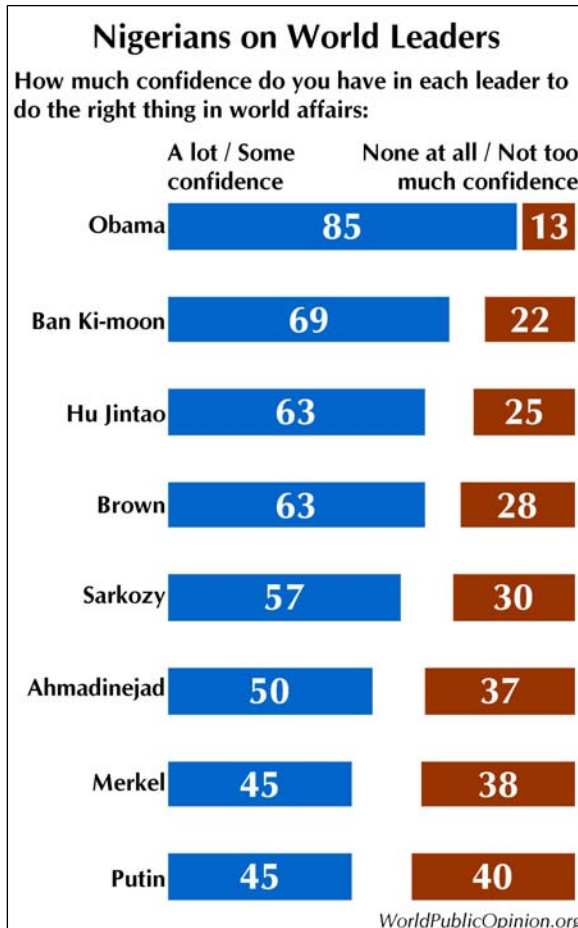
Kenyans nearly unanimously say they have confidence in Barack Obama, while large majorities also express confidence in Gordon Brown, Nicholas Sarkozy, and Ban Ki-Moon. The only global leader Kenyans do not express confidence in is Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Kenyans express modest levels of confidence in most regional leaders, but large majorities give poor grades to Bashir and Mugabe.



NIGERIA

Market Trends Research International

Nigerians express at least some confidence in every global leader. They have very high confidence in President Barack Obama followed by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Regional leaders get more mixed ratings. Their own Umaru Yar'Adua and Egypt's Hosni Mubarak get majority positive ratings, but pluralities give negative ratings to Mugabe, Bashir and Kabila.

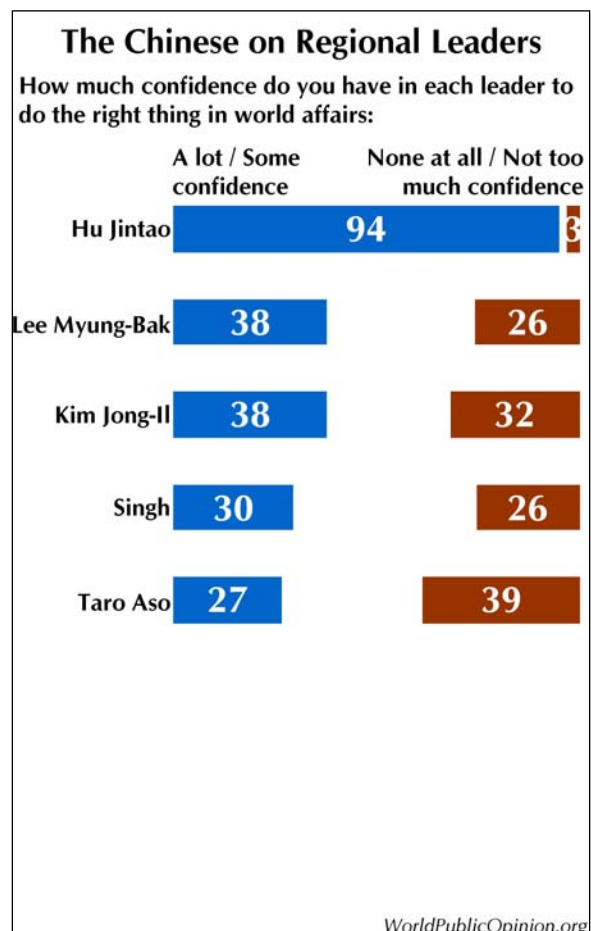
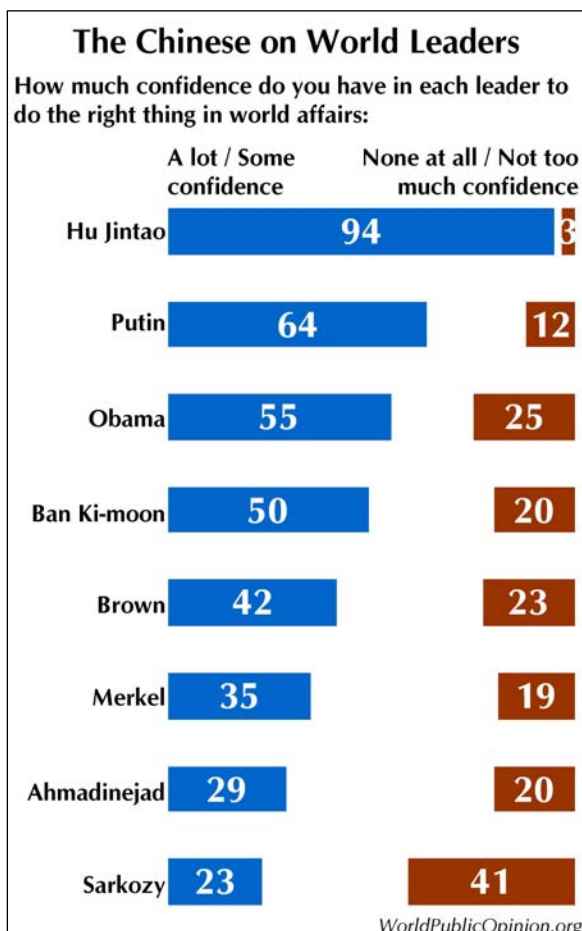


ASIA/PACIFIC:

CHINA

[Fudan Media and Public Opinion Research Center \(FMORC\), Fudan University](#)

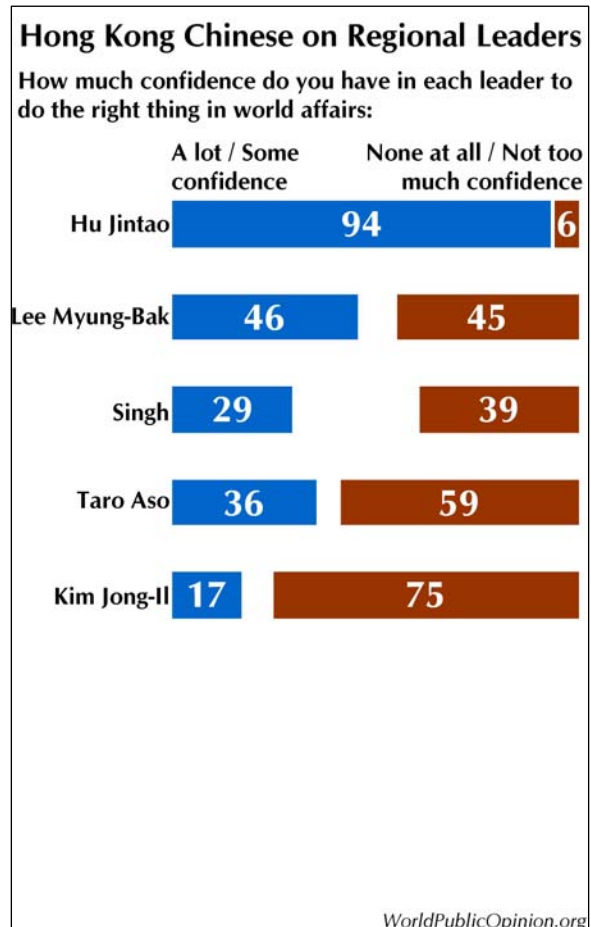
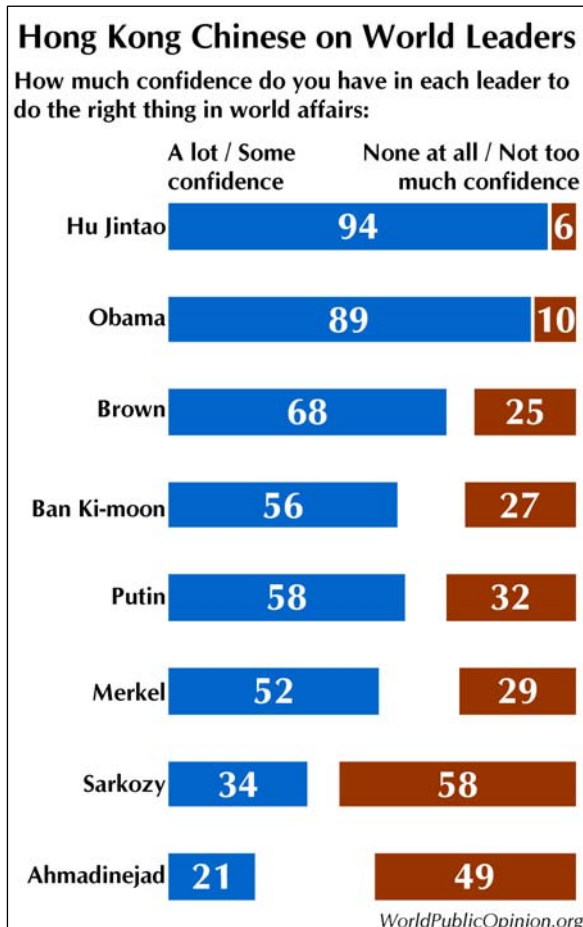
Chinese express overwhelming confidence in their own Hu Jintao, and substantial majorities endorse Putin and Obama. Ban Ki-Moon and other Western leaders get plurality positive ratings. The big exception is Nicholas Sarkozy whose confidence ratings have dropped 19 points (42 to 23%)—perhaps due to his criticism of China's handling of Tibet. Among regional leaders the Chinese lean positively toward the leaders of North and South Korea, as well as India, though Chinese views of Manmohan Singh have become much more negative. China's view of Japan's Taro Aso leans negative.



HONG KONG

[Hong Kong University Public Opinion Programme](#)

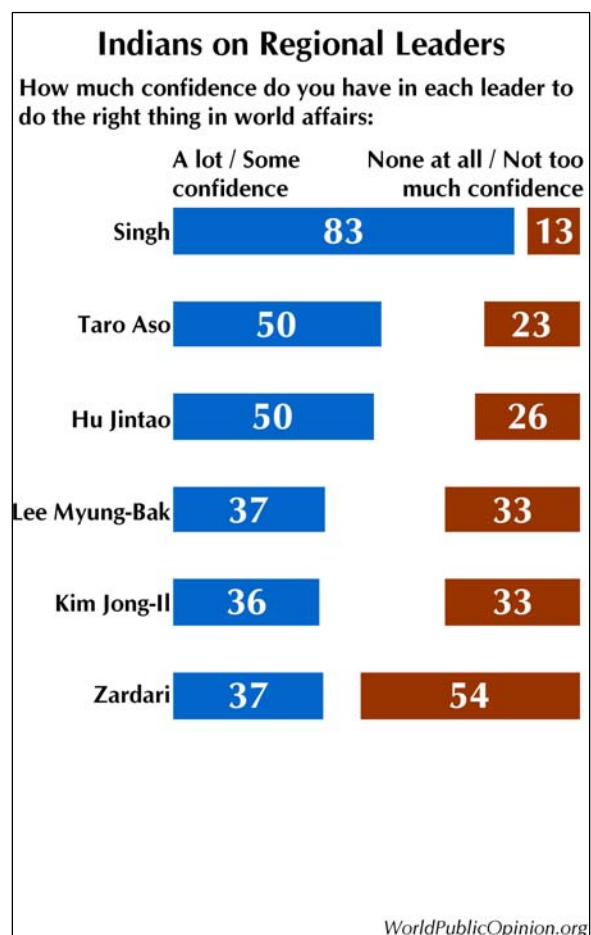
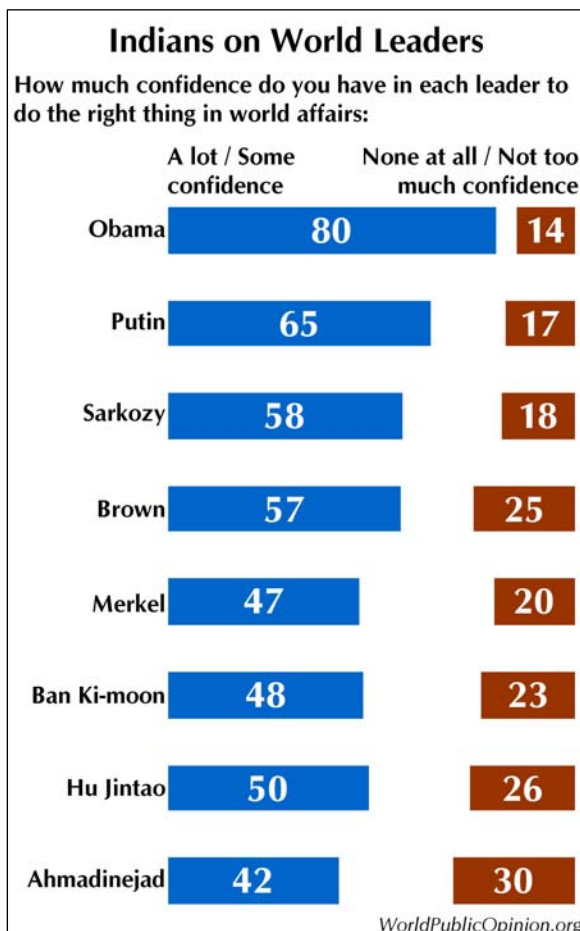
A nearly unanimous majority of Chinese in Hong Kong express confidence in President Hu Jintao, followed by a large majority that also have confidence in Barack Obama and Gordon Brown. As with people in mainland China, Sarkozy gets poor ratings, along with Japan's Taro Aso and especially Kim Jong-Il.



INDIA

[Centre for Voting Opinion & Trends in Election Research \(CVoter\)](#)

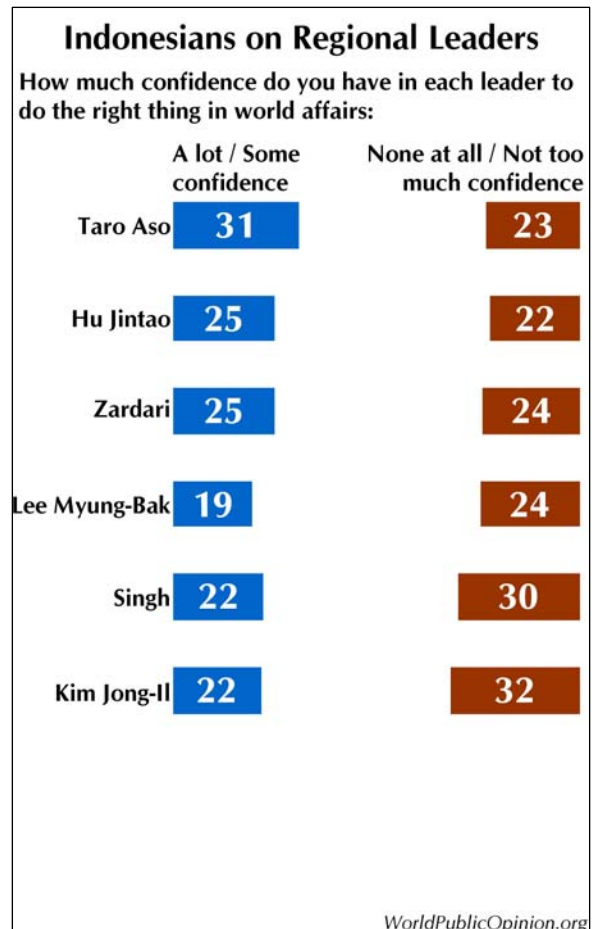
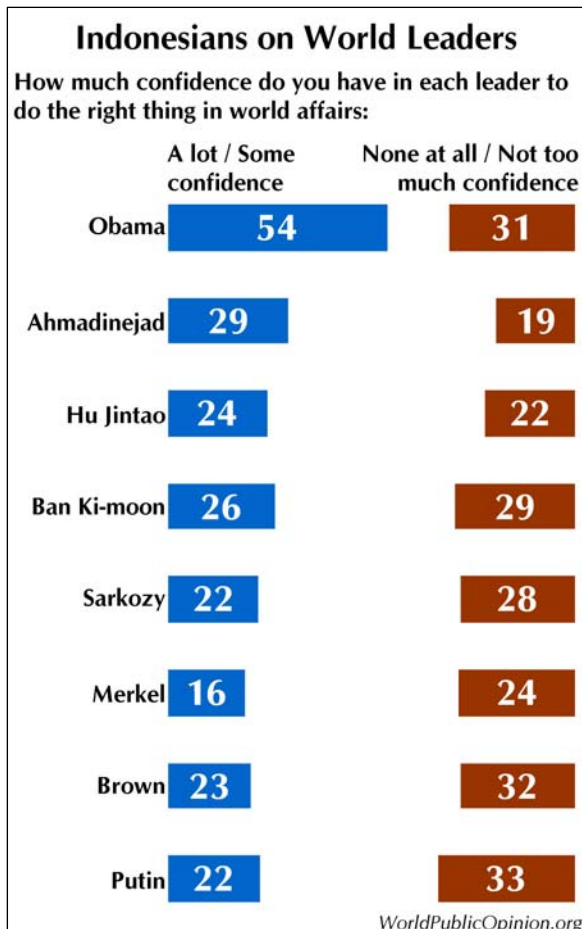
A very large majority of Indians express confidence in Barack Obama as a world leader, while a large majority also says they have confidence in Russian president Vladimir Putin. Indian confidence in Gordon Brown of Great Britain has greatly increased from divided levels in 2008 to solid majority (37% to 57%). Indians are one of the few countries outside the Muslim world to express positive views of Ahmadinejad. Hu Jintao does fairly well, with positive views expressed by two-to-one. While President Zardari of neighboring Pakistan gets majority negative views, it is surprising that 37 percent do express confidence given recent tensions over the Mumbai terrorist attacks and other issues.



INDONESIA

[Synovate](#)

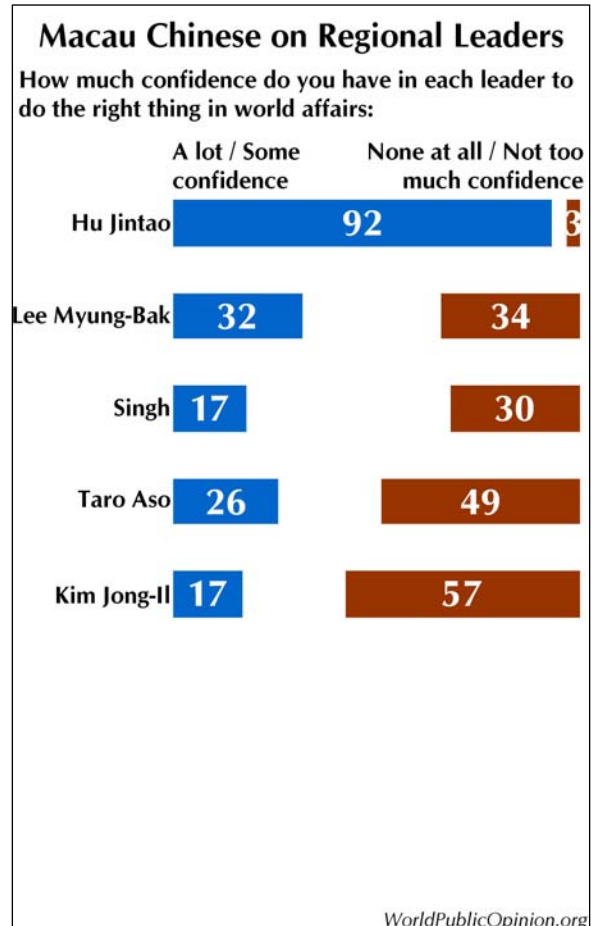
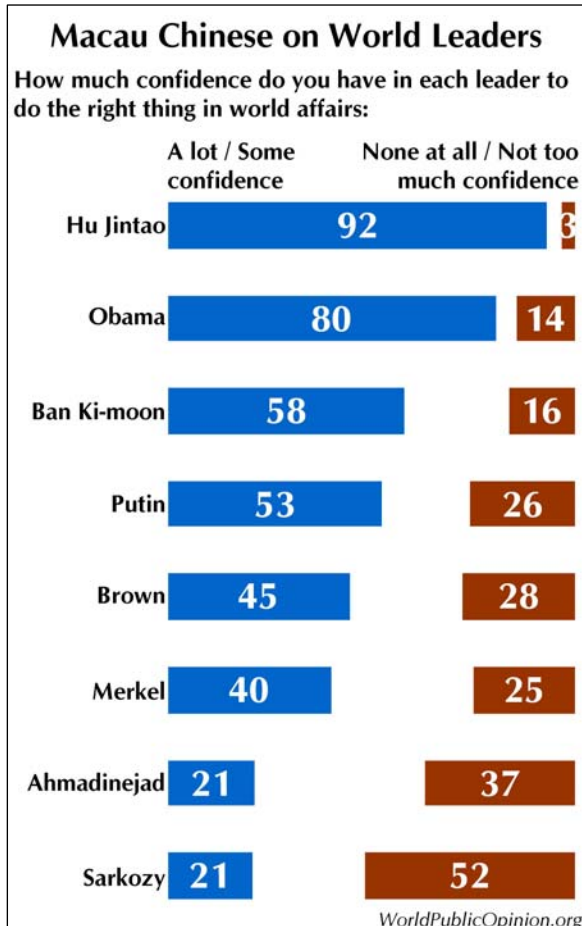
The only leader in whom a majority of Indonesians express confidence is Barack Obama. Overall Indonesians are remarkably reluctant to express views on any leaders and in most cases there is not a strong dominant tendency. After Obama, Japan's Taro Aso gets the most positive ratings, while Putin gets the most negative ratings. As compared to last year Indonesian confidence in Mahmoud Ahmadinejad fell by 11 points (40% to 29%).



MACAU

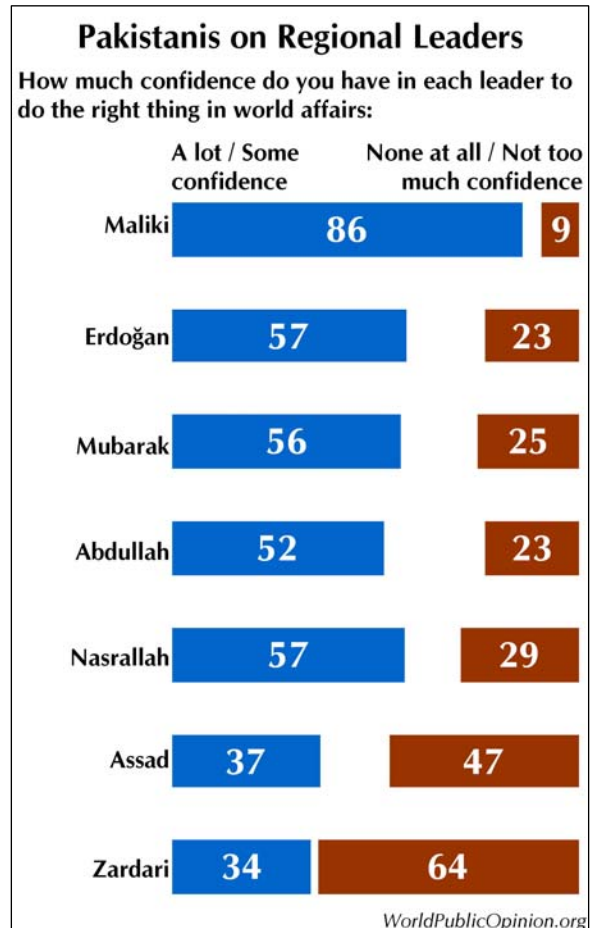
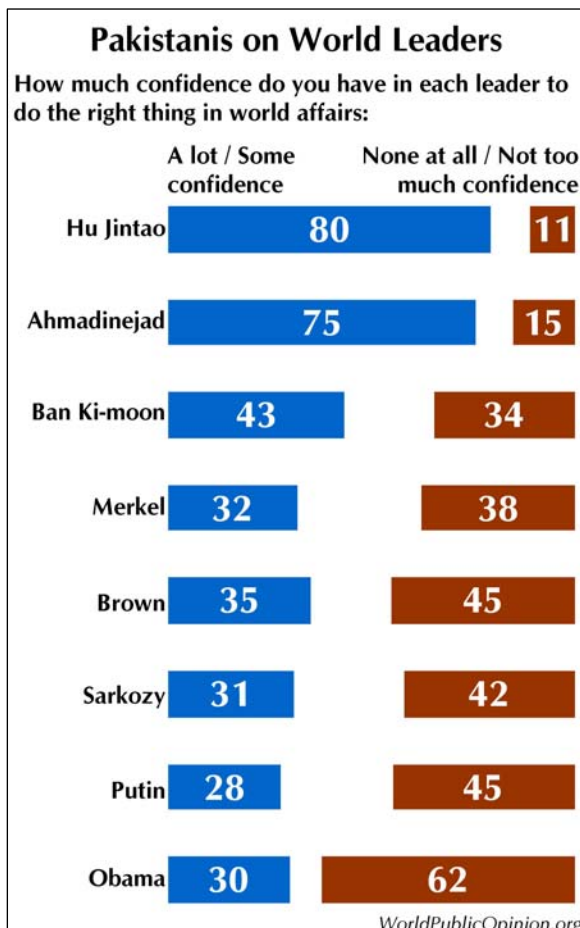
[University of Macau](http://www.unm.edu)

Like their other Chinese compatriots, an overwhelming majority in Macau has faith in Hu Jintao. Barack Obama also gets very high ratings. Sarkozy and Ahmadinejad get poor ratings as do Taro Aso and Kim Jong-Il.



PAKISTAN
SEDCO

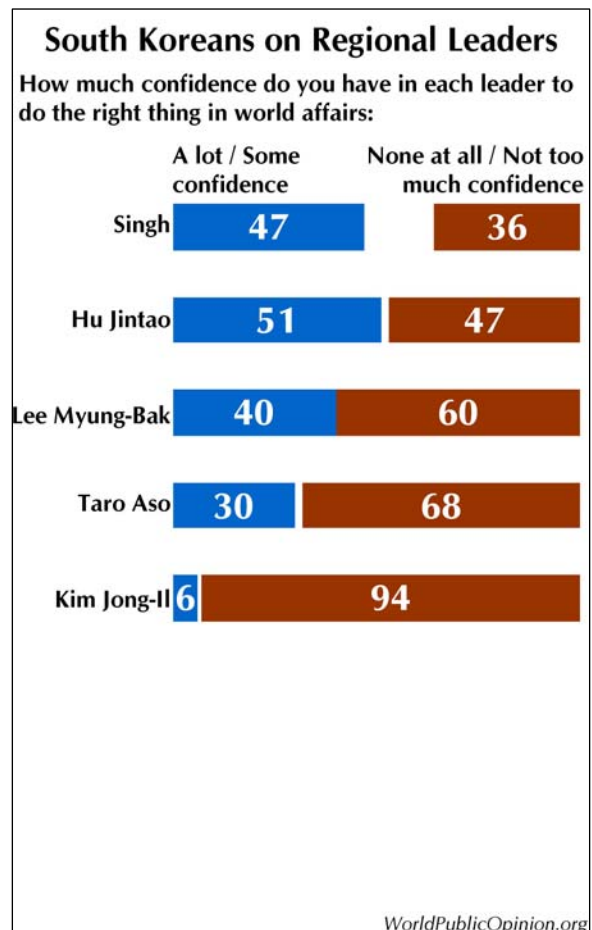
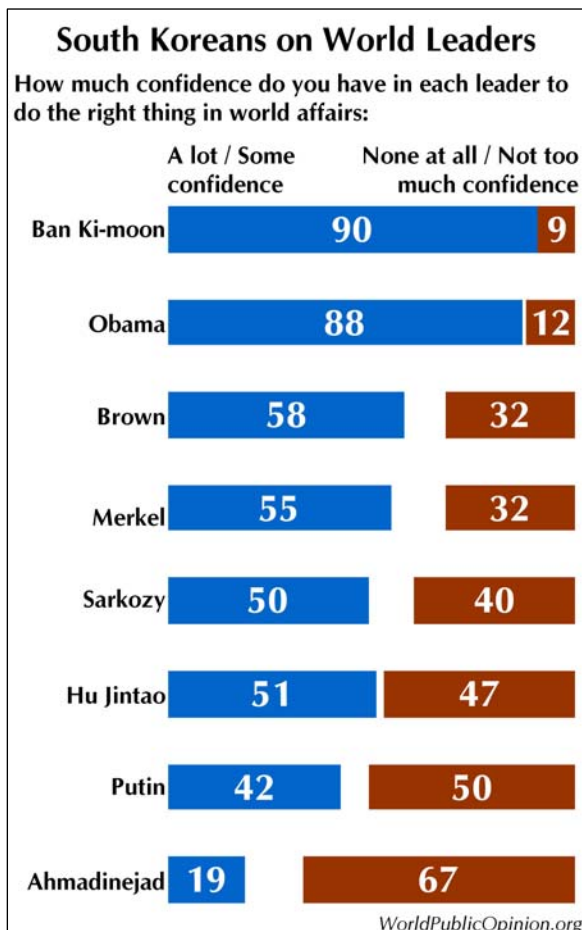
Large majorities in Pakistan express confidence in Hu Jintao as well as Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, while Barack Obama is viewed the most negatively. Pakistanis lean toward positive views of Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, but lack confidence in all other world leaders. In the region, Pakistanis are quite positive. A very large majority of Pakistanis have confidence in Nouri al-Maliki, and majorities have favorable views of all other regional leaders with the exceptions of Bashar al-Assad and by a large margin their own President Zardari.



SOUTH KOREA

[East Asia Institute](#)

Very large majorities of South Koreans express confidence in UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, as well as Barack Obama. Gordon Brown and Angela Merkel receive votes of confidence from majorities of South Koreans. Regionally, views are roughly divided on Hu Jintao, quite negative for Taro Aso, and overwhelmingly negative for Kim Jong-il.



TAIWAN

[TVBS](#)

A very large majority of Taiwanese express confidence in Barack Obama and a solid majority have a positive view of Hu Jintao, like all the other populations of greater China. Merkel, Brown and Taro Aso get moderately positive ratings, while Kim Jong-Il gets very negative ratings.

