Iranians on their Nuclear Program

September 22, 2009

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: August 27-September 10, 2009  Margin of Error: +/- 3.2 %
Sample Size: 1003

Q1-Q11 previously released.

READ STATEMENT: Now on a different topic:

Q12. Regarding Iran’s nuclear program, please tell me which of the following courses of action you prefer for Iran:

    To develop both atomic bombs
    and nuclear power............................................... 38%

    To only develop nuclear power............................ 55

    To have no nuclear programs.............................. 3

    Don’t know ..................................................... 3
    Refused .......................................................... 1

Q13. As you may know, Iran is currently under sanctions for enriching uranium. To what degree would you say these sanctions have had a negative impact on our country’s situation?

    Has had a lot of negative impact.......................... 23%
    Has had some negative impact............................ 37
    Has had only a little negative impact................... 15
    Has had no negative impact............................... 15

    Don’t know ..................................................... 9
    Refused .......................................................... 1
Q14. If Iran continues its current nuclear program, including enriching uranium, how likely do you think it is that the current sanctions against Iran will be increased? Do you think they will:

- Definitely be increased ......................................... 35%
- Probably be increased ............................................35
- Probably not be increased ......................................10
- Definitely not be increased ......................................9
- Don’t know .......................................................... 9
- Refused ............................................................. 2

Q15. Would you favor or oppose an agreement whereby the current sanctions against Iran would be removed and Iran would continue its nuclear energy program, except that it would agree not to enrich uranium? Would you:

- Favor such an agreement ...................................... 31%
- Oppose such an agreement ................................. 55
- Don’t know .......................................................... 10
- Refused ............................................................. 4

[ASK those who say “Oppose such an agreement” or “Refused/Don’t know” on Q15]

Q16. Would you favor or oppose an agreement whereby the current sanctions against Iran would be removed and Iran would continue to its uranium enrichment program, but would agree to grant international inspectors unrestricted access to all Iranian nuclear facilities to make sure that it is not making an atomic bomb? Would you:

- Favor such an agreement ..................................... 34%*
- Oppose such an agreement ................................. 22
- Don’t know .......................................................... 8
- Refused ............................................................. 1

* Percent of total

Q17-Q36 previously released.
DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. How is the economic situation of your family as compared to most other people living in your city/village? Would you say the economic situation of your family is:

- A lot better .............................................................. 1%
- Somewhat better .................................................. 16
- Roughly the same ................................................ 63
- Somewhat worse .................................................. 12
- A lot worse ............................................................. 5
- Don’t know ............................................................. 1
- Refused ................................................................. 1

D2. Do you follow the radio or satellite programs of VOA or BBC?

- Yes ........................................................................ 20%
- No .......................................................................... 80
- Don’t know ............................................................. *
- Refused ................................................................. *

D3. Gender

- Male ....................................................................... 49%
- Female ..................................................................... 51

D4. Age

- 18-24 ...................................................................... 26%
- 25-34 ...................................................................... 27
- 35-44 ...................................................................... 19
- 45-54 ...................................................................... 14
- 60+ ........................................................................ 15

D5. What is the level of your education?

- Illiterate .................................................................. 3%
- Primary .................................................................... 11
- Some middle school / middle school diploma ...... 10
- Some high school / high school student .............. 4
- High school diploma .............................................. 36
- Some tertiary / tertiary student* ............................. 5
- Associate’s degree ............................................... 10

* According to the Iranian educational system this category is equivalent to some college
Bachelor’s degree ..................................................17
Master’s/PhD ..........................................................3

D6. What is your employment status? Are you….

Working full-time (40+ hours) .........................28%
Working part-time (less than 40 hours) ............7
Unemployed, looking for work.........................6
Unemployed, not looking for work...................3
Housewife (not working outside the home).......32
Student/apprentice.............................................14
Retired/disabled .................................................9

D7. What is your household's total average monthly income? Is it....

100,000 Tomans or less .................................. 4%
100,001 to 150,000 Tomans ......................... 2
150,001 to 200,000 Tomans ......................... 8
200,001 to 400,000 Tomans ......................... 38
400,001 to 600,000 Tomans ......................... 26
600,001 to 800,000 Tomans, ......................... 10
800,001 Tomans or greater .............................. 7
Don’t know/Refused .......................................... 6

D8. Would you describe your household as upper class, middle class, working class or poor?

Upper (A/B) ......................................................... 1%
Middle (C1, C2) ................................................ 43
Working (D) ..................................................... 37
Poor (E) .......................................................... 18
Don’t know/Refused .......................................... 1

D9: How many days a week do you access the Internet?

Not at all........................................................... 65%
Every day or almost every day ....................... 6
Three or four days a week ......................... 4
One or two days a week................................. 12
Less than once a week ................................. 13

D10. Is there more than one telephone line connected to your home?

Yes .............................................................. 15%
D11. What is your religion?

- Shia ................................................................. 93%
- Sunni ................................................................. 4
- Other ..................................................................... 2
- Don’t know/Refused ............................................. 2

D12. What is your ethnicity?

- Persian................................................................. 53%
- Turk or Azeri ......................................................... 23
- Kurd ....................................................................... 6
- Arab ...................................................................... 2
- Baluch ................................................................. 1
- Lor ........................................................................ 5
- Gilak or Mazandarani ............................................. 6
- Turkmen ............................................................... *
- Other ..................................................................... 2
- Don’t know/Refused ............................................. 1

D13. Do you live in an urban area or a rural area?

- Urban ..................................................................... 69%
- Rural ....................................................................... 31

D14. Finally, we would like to know, in general, how easy or difficult it was for you to answer these questions. Did you find answering these questions:

- Very easy to do .................................................. 41%
- Somewhat easy to do .......................................... 41
- Somewhat difficult to do ...................................... 15
- Very difficult to do ............................................. 2
- Other (vol.) ........................................................ *
- Don’t know/Refused ........................................... 1
METHODOLOGY

Overview

This study was designed, managed, and analyzed by WorldPublicOpinion.org, a project managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. Staff from this organization have carried previous studies in Iran using face-to-face interviewing and have also conducted focus groups in Iran. This organization is responsible for all of the survey questions and the interpretation of the findings.

The survey was executed by means of computer-assisted-telephone interviewing by a professional research agency outside Iran. All interviewers were native Farsi speakers. Telephone interviewing and an outside agency were chosen for this study so that there would be no political constraints on questions asked or speculation about the influence of Iranian authorities on the data collection process. In the past, when we have examined clearly documented studies of the Iranian public, such as those by Terror-Free-Tomorrow and WorldPublicOpinion.org, we have found that telephone methods and face-to-face methods have produced very similar findings with comparable questions.

Telephone Sample

Interviewing was conducted August 27-September 10, 2009 among a national sample of 1,003 Iranian adults aged 18 and older. The margin of error for a sample of this size is no larger than +/- 3.1 percentage points.

The sample was stratified by Iranian provinces using area codes and telephone exchanges for landline telephones in Iran. Numbers were randomly selected and the last four digits of actual telephone numbers were randomly varied. Academic and commercial research organizations in Iran use very similar telephone methods for surveys. When a residence was reached, an adult was selected randomly using the next birthday technique. An initial attempt and three callbacks were made in an effort to complete an interview. A total of 1,003 interviews were completed; the interview refusal rate was 52 percent.

The household penetration of telephone landlines in Iran is reported to be over 80 percent by Iran’s telecommunication company. WorldPublicOpinion.org conducted an in home survey with a national probability sample of Iranians in January-February, 2008 and found that 84 percent of Iranians reported having a landline telephone in their household.

All thirty Iranian provinces were represented in the completed sample in proportions similar to their actual populations, as were rural and urban areas and females and males. A post-weighting procedure was employed using gender, age, province, and urban-rural residence as factors. Demographic targets were based upon 2005 data from the Statistical Center of Iran. In general, the weighting effect was quite small; however, respondents 55 years and older had to be up-weighted and those 35-44 down-weighted somewhat.