



**American Pulse Survey 20 (Feb 09)**

	Adults 18+	Men	Women	HH Income Less Than \$50K	HH Income Greater Than \$50K	18 - 34	35 - 54	55+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
<b>Do you believe Congress read and understood all that was in the 1,100 page stimulus bill before they voted on it?</b>												
Yes	13.2%	13.8%	12.6%	14.0%	12.1%	18.0%	14.3%	7.0%	13.8%	16.0%	11.7%	11.4%
No	66.1%	71.1%	61.4%	61.8%	71.7%	54.1%	65.3%	79.0%	66.6%	63.2%	67.7%	67.9%
I don't know	20.7%	15.2%	26.0%	24.2%	16.1%	27.9%	20.3%	14.0%	19.6%	20.7%	20.6%	20.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Regarding the recently passed stimulus package... (Check all that apply)**

I think the stimulus spending will stop the downward spiral of our economy	18.7%	19.2%	18.3%	20.1%	17.3%	23.8%	17.1%	15.7%	23.1%	18.4%	17.2%	18.1%
I think the stimulus spending will worsen the recession	19.7%	20.7%	18.7%	17.9%	22.0%	19.2%	19.7%	20.0%	18.5%	19.3%	22.6%	16.2%
I think members of Congress used it to promote their own agendas	47.3%	49.4%	45.3%	45.1%	50.8%	37.7%	47.6%	56.5%	43.6%	47.7%	50.0%	45.7%
I think it will do more HARM than GOOD in the long run	31.5%	33.3%	29.8%	27.8%	36.6%	27.2%	31.4%	35.8%	28.3%	29.7%	36.6%	27.9%
I think it will do more GOOD than HARM in the long run	32.5%	30.8%	34.2%	34.9%	29.9%	34.8%	31.8%	31.2%	33.5%	34.2%	29.2%	34.4%

\*The sum of the % totals may be greater than 100% because the respondents can select more than one answer.

**Regarding the stimulus package, how do you plan to use the decreased tax withholdings (less taxes taken from paycheck) being offered to consumers? (Check all that apply)**

Home improvement project / repair	8.1%	8.6%	7.5%	7.2%	9.3%	9.7%	8.3%	6.1%	7.7%	7.5%	9.6%	6.6%
Invest it	7.0%	8.1%	6.0%	5.5%	9.1%	9.4%	6.6%	5.3%	7.8%	6.3%	7.2%	7.4%
Pay down debt (installment loans)	20.3%	21.1%	19.6%	19.7%	21.4%	24.8%	24.7%	10.5%	17.7%	20.8%	23.4%	16.9%
Pay down credit card	24.0%	22.2%	25.7%	22.9%	25.8%	27.8%	26.9%	16.5%	22.6%	25.2%	24.0%	23.9%
Pay down student loans	7.3%	5.9%	8.5%	6.5%	8.3%	15.9%	5.3%	1.1%	5.9%	9.1%	6.9%	6.6%
Pay medical bills	9.6%	8.2%	11.0%	10.4%	8.9%	10.8%	10.7%	7.2%	7.0%	12.9%	8.8%	9.5%
Purchase appliances	3.0%	3.7%	2.4%	3.6%	2.3%	5.4%	2.6%	1.2%	3.1%	4.4%	3.1%	0.9%
Purchase auto	3.0%	2.7%	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	4.4%	3.0%	1.6%	2.1%	2.9%	3.5%	2.9%
Purchase clothing / apparel	6.6%	6.6%	6.6%	7.5%	5.6%	12.1%	5.1%	3.0%	8.3%	7.4%	5.4%	6.0%
Purchase Electronics	3.4%	4.3%	2.4%	3.5%	3.2%	6.9%	2.2%	1.3%	3.4%	4.4%	2.7%	3.3%
Purchase furniture	2.0%	1.7%	2.4%	2.3%	1.7%	3.3%	1.8%	0.9%	2.6%	2.0%	2.0%	1.6%
Purchase gas	10.8%	11.1%	10.6%	12.1%	9.5%	15.4%	10.1%	7.1%	5.9%	14.3%	11.2%	10.5%
Purchase "me" time (salon / spa)	3.6%	3.2%	4.1%	3.8%	3.5%	7.6%	2.6%	0.9%	4.7%	4.9%	2.4%	2.6%
Purchase necessities (i.e. groceries)	19.0%	17.1%	20.8%	19.4%	18.9%	24.6%	19.2%	13.3%	16.6%	21.2%	17.7%	20.5%
Purchase vacation / travel	5.5%	5.3%	5.6%	4.0%	7.4%	7.0%	5.8%	3.5%	5.8%	6.5%	4.5%	5.2%
Save it	25.9%	25.2%	26.6%	23.5%	29.2%	34.3%	25.1%	18.6%	28.3%	25.9%	25.0%	25.2%
Splurge on impulse purchases	2.7%	3.4%	2.0%	3.0%	2.2%	4.7%	2.3%	1.1%	2.9%	3.4%	1.8%	3.1%
Use toward down payment on house	2.8%	3.0%	2.7%	3.5%	2.0%	6.2%	2.0%	0.5%	2.8%	3.0%	2.7%	2.9%
I don't qualify for decreased withholdings	10.9%	11.6%	10.2%	12.1%	9.5%	6.7%	9.6%	16.6%	11.7%	9.2%	10.5%	13.3%
I don't work	21.2%	20.1%	22.2%	27.9%	12.8%	14.9%	15.3%	34.6%	21.9%	20.7%	20.7%	21.4%
Other	7.9%	8.8%	7.0%	7.4%	8.6%	6.8%	9.2%	7.2%	7.0%	7.3%	9.3%	6.6%

\*The sum of the % totals may be greater than 100% because the respondents can select more than one answer.

**What one word would you use to describe the stimulus package?**

HOPEFUL	4.2%	3.4%	4.9%	4.5%	3.9%	4.3%	4.2%	4.0%	4.1%	4.8%	3.7%	4.3%
GOOD	3.0%	2.9%	3.1%	4.3%	1.5%	4.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.3%	3.7%	3.3%	2.4%
STUPID	2.7%	2.4%	2.9%	2.5%	3.0%	2.5%	3.1%	2.3%	2.8%	2.4%	3.0%	2.6%
PORK	2.2%	3.0%	1.5%	1.2%	3.6%	0.2%	2.6%	3.8%	2.2%	2.3%	2.0%	2.8%
CONFUSING	2.0%	0.7%	3.3%	2.5%	1.6%	2.8%	2.0%	1.4%	2.1%	3.3%	1.6%	1.1%
HOPE	1.9%	1.7%	2.1%	2.1%	1.7%	1.2%	1.6%	2.9%	1.9%	1.8%	2.2%	1.3%
NEEDED	1.7%	1.9%	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%	1.7%	1.5%	1.7%	1.6%	1.2%	2.8%
GREAT	1.6%	1.9%	1.4%	2.1%	1.1%	2.7%	1.1%	1.2%	0.5%	1.9%	2.3%	1.2%
NECESSARY	1.4%	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%	1.2%	1.1%	1.6%	1.4%	1.9%	0.8%	1.4%	1.6%
BAD	1.4%	1.6%	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	0.9%	1.2%	2.0%	0.8%	2.1%	0.7%	1.7%
HELPFUL	1.3%	0.8%	1.7%	1.4%	1.2%	1.7%	1.2%	1.0%	0.8%	1.8%	1.5%	0.7%
WASTE	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	0.9%	1.5%	0.6%	1.6%	1.2%	2.0%	0.6%	1.2%	1.3%
EXPENSIVE	1.2%	0.7%	1.6%	1.3%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.1%	0.9%	1.4%
WASTEFUL	1.1%	0.8%	1.4%	0.7%	1.6%	0.8%	1.2%	1.2%	0.5%	1.2%	1.3%	1.0%
HUGE	1.1%	1.3%	0.8%	1.3%	0.8%	1.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.4%	1.1%	1.0%	1.8%
HELP	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	1.2%	0.6%	0.9%	1.2%	0.7%	1.1%	0.6%	1.1%	1.3%
JOKE	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	1.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	1.5%	0.8%
CRAP	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%	1.1%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%	0.6%
DUMB	0.9%	1.2%	0.6%	1.1%	0.7%	1.4%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.4%	1.5%	0.5%
WRONG	0.8%	1.0%	0.7%	0.5%	1.3%	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	1.3%	0.6%	0.6%
QUESTIONABLE	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	0.5%
BULLS**T	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	1.0%	1.1%	0.6%	0.7%	1.3%	1.1%	0.6%	0.2%
USELESS	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%	0.2%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.5%	1.1%	0.4%
RIDICULOUS	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	0.2%
SCARY	0.5%	0.2%	0.8%	0.4%	0.6%	0.1%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.6%	0.7%
Other	55.0%	55.3%	54.7%	53.5%	57.7%	51.4%	56.7%	56.5%	53.4%	55.1%	55.7%	55.5%
No Preference	9.2%	11.1%	7.3%	9.9%	6.7%	13.9%	7.4%	6.7%	12.9%	6.8%	7.6%	10.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Given recent government bailouts and stimulus spending, do you think the United States will ever again have a balanced budget?**

Yes	17.8%	21.4%	14.3%	17.0%	18.9%	22.1%	16.5%	15.0%	19.9%	15.5%	18.8%	17.7%
No	56.0%	57.0%	55.0%	54.8%	57.6%	48.6%	58.1%	60.6%	54.1%	57.7%	56.2%	54.4%
I don't know	26.3%	21.6%	30.7%	28.3%	23.5%	29.3%	25.4%	24.4%	26.0%	26.8%	25.0%	27.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Who is the government bailing out? (Check all that apply)**

Me	14.1%	15.9%	12.3%	15.2%	12.9%	22.4%	12.1%	8.2%	12.8%	12.7%	14.9%	16.0%
Wall Street	56.3%	58.3%	54.4%	55.1%	58.6%	52.8%	55.5%	60.6%	53.2%	57.1%	57.1%	57.8%
Themselves	52.6%	51.4%	53.7%	54.7%	50.8%	55.0%	51.2%	51.9%	53.9%	54.0%	53.7%	48.2%
People other than me	48.3%	47.0%	49.4%	49.6%	47.2%	41.4%	52.8%	49.5%	50.5%	46.4%	48.3%	48.0%

\*The sum of the % totals may be greater than 100% because the respondents can select more than one answer.

**What are the odds that you feel you will be able to retire?**

0%	28.1%	27.3%	28.9%	33.1%	21.7%	23.8%	35.7%	22.9%	30.0%	27.3%	27.1%	27.9%
25%	20.9%	19.7%	22.1%	21.5%	20.2%	26.6%	23.4%	12.1%	21.0%	23.6%	20.1%	19.0%
50%	19.4%	19.0%	19.7%	17.3%	21.9%	23.4%	22.4%	11.7%	20.9%	20.0%	18.2%	19.4%
75%	8.8%	9.8%	7.8%	7.5%	10.3%	11.4%	8.1%	7.0%	6.8%	8.9%	8.9%	11.3%
100%	22.9%	24.3%	21.5%	20.6%	25.9%	14.8%	10.3%	46.3%	21.4%	20.3%	25.6%	22.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Should the U.S. Government force executives of companies who are receiving bailout funds to take significant pay cuts?**

Yes	79.2%	78.9%	79.6%	77.3%	81.9%	68.7%	81.9%	86.3%	76.2%	80.4%	78.9%	81.9%
No	8.5%	11.5%	5.6%	8.1%	8.9%	10.6%	7.8%	7.2%	11.8%	6.5%	9.6%	6.2%
I don't know	12.3%	9.6%	14.9%	14.7%	9.2%	20.7%	10.3%	6.5%	12.0%	13.1%	11.6%	11.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Should Michael Phelps be forced to give up all his endorsement deals in light of recent allegations of him smoking marijuana?**

Yes, someone in his position should be a positive role model for children	25.3%	24.1%	26.6%	25.2%	25.5%	20.5%	26.1%	29.3%	24.5%	25.4%	25.7%	26.3%
No, he's young and made a mistake	62.2%	65.2%	59.4%	61.7%	63.0%	64.2%	62.2%	60.3%	65.0%	60.9%	62.2%	61.9%
I don't know	12.4%	10.7%	14.1%	13.1%	11.4%	15.3%	11.7%	10.5%	10.5%	13.6%	12.1%	11.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Should there be a limitation on how many embryos are placed in an In Vitro Fertilization procedure?**

Yes	68.1%	59.9%	75.8%	66.4%	70.4%	56.2%	68.7%	79.1%	63.7%	67.9%	70.3%	68.5%
No	13.5%	18.4%	8.9%	14.3%	12.6%	21.6%	12.0%	7.4%	18.5%	12.8%	12.2%	12.8%
I don't know	18.4%	21.8%	15.2%	19.3%	17.0%	22.2%	19.3%	13.5%	17.8%	19.3%	17.5%	18.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**How often do you laugh?**

I laugh regularly	67.1%	63.5%	70.5%	64.8%	70.2%	69.1%	64.9%	67.9%	63.5%	65.6%	69.1%	69.6%
I laugh occasionally	27.8%	29.7%	26.0%	29.1%	26.0%	24.4%	29.8%	28.7%	31.6%	28.0%	27.1%	25.5%
I can't remember the last time I laughed	5.1%	6.8%	3.5%	6.1%	3.8%	6.6%	5.3%	3.4%	4.9%	6.4%	3.8%	4.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Which of the following do you use to make you laugh? (Check all that apply)**

Blogging	7.5%	7.8%	7.2%	7.3%	7.9%	13.0%	6.8%	2.9%	7.3%	6.7%	7.9%	7.9%
Internet	48.6%	49.1%	48.2%	48.8%	49.3%	59.2%	44.3%	43.4%	45.5%	48.4%	50.2%	50.1%
Instant Messaging	19.2%	17.2%	21.0%	19.5%	19.2%	30.8%	17.4%	9.7%	19.0%	22.0%	19.1%	15.8%
Magazines	24.7%	23.0%	26.3%	24.2%	25.7%	27.9%	20.7%	26.4%	22.8%	23.4%	26.0%	26.8%
Newspaper	24.9%	26.9%	22.9%	22.9%	27.5%	18.3%	21.2%	36.0%	23.7%	26.5%	25.0%	24.3%
Radio	28.9%	31.9%	26.1%	27.3%	31.5%	32.6%	27.1%	27.5%	20.8%	33.8%	29.1%	30.1%
Talking to friends (face to face)	79.9%	72.2%	87.3%	78.3%	83.2%	72.0%	83.1%	84.0%	76.3%	82.8%	79.4%	80.4%
Text Messaging	22.0%	19.4%	24.5%	23.1%	21.1%	41.1%	19.4%	6.4%	19.9%	23.1%	23.3%	20.9%
TV	69.1%	67.9%	70.2%	69.1%	70.1%	65.5%	69.9%	71.5%	66.6%	72.7%	69.6%	65.2%
Video Gaming	12.4%	14.2%	10.7%	14.9%	9.6%	23.9%	10.2%	3.7%	9.1%	15.4%	11.9%	13.0%
Video on Cell Phone	5.1%	6.8%	3.5%	6.4%	3.4%	11.0%	3.1%	1.6%	3.6%	7.7%	5.4%	2.1%

\*The sum of the % totals may be greater than 100% because the respondents can select more than one answer.

**Disclaimer of Warranties:**

BIGresearch makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning: data gathered or obtained by BIGresearch from any source; the present or future methodology employed in producing BIGresearch statistics; or the BIGresearch data and estimates represent only the opinion of BIGresearch and reliance thereon and use thereof shall be at the user's own risk.