

Iranian Public Opinion on the Nuclear Agreement

Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM) & IranPoll.com

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: August 08 – 18, 2015

Sample Size: 1000

Margin of Error: +/- 3.2 %

Q1- Right now, do you think the economic conditions in Iran, as a whole, are getting better or getting worse?

	Gallup – May 2014	Gallup – Nov. 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Getting better	32%	40%	49.3%	57.4%
Getting worse	46	41	37.1	28.5
Staying the same [vol.]	10	8	9.7	8.7
DK/NA [vol.]	12	11	4.0	5.4

Q2- Now assume that our country could only adopt one of these policies. In your opinion is it better for Iran to:

	July 2014	August 2015
Strive to achieve economic self-sufficiency	53%	47.6%
Strive to increase mutual economic trade with other countries	43	49.7
DK/NA [vol.]	4	2.7

Q3- Do you follow the news programs of BBC Farsi or VOA?

	Sept. 2009	August 2015
Yes	20%	28.0%
No	80	68.9
DK/NA [vol.]	--	3.1

Q: I will now read you the names of some prominent political figures in Iran. Please indicate to what degree you have a favorable or an unfavorable view of each?

Q4- Mohsen Rezayi

	July 2014	August 2015
Very favorable	11%	13.9%
Somewhat favorable	33	33.1
Somewhat unfavorable	13	16.7
Very unfavorable	20	18.9
Don't recognize the name [vol]	19	12.1
DK/NA [vol.]	4	5.3

Q5- Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

	July 2014	August 2015
Very favorable	34%	27.5%
Somewhat favorable	33	33.5
Somewhat unfavorable	14	13.0
Very unfavorable	16	22.8
Don't recognize the name [vol]	1	.2
DK/NA [vol.]	3	3.0

Q6- Saeed Jalili

	July 2014	August 2015
Very favorable	16%	16.6%
Somewhat favorable	28	26.2
Somewhat unfavorable	17	14.4
Very unfavorable	12	14.8
Don't recognize the name [vol]	23	23.1
DK/NA [vol.]	5	4.9

Q7- Mohammad Javad Zarif

	July 2014	August 2015
Very favorable	40%	56.0%
Somewhat favorable	30	33.4
Somewhat unfavorable	8	3.3
Very unfavorable	8	2.1
Don't recognize the name [vol]	11	3.0
DK/NA [vol.]	3	2.2

Q8- Hassan Rouhani

	July 2014	August 2015
Very favorable	51%	61.2%
Somewhat favorable	34	27.9
Somewhat unfavorable	7	4.7
Very unfavorable	6	4.3
Don't recognize the name [vol]	0	.3
DK/NA [vol.]	2	1.6

Q9- As you may know, in February 2016 there will a parliamentary election. Would you prefer most of the Majlis to be composed of the:

	May 2015	August 2015
Supporters of President Rouhani	49.8%	60.1%
Critics of President Rouhani	24.4	21.9
Other/depends/neither [vol]	7.7	6.8
DK/NA [vol.]	18.1	11.2

Q: Now, for the countries that I am going to read to you, please indicate to what degree you have a favorable or an unfavorable view of each?

Q10- China

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	13%	9.4%	14.2%
Somewhat favorable	38	38.9	38.9
Somewhat unfavorable	21	16.7	18.9
Very unfavorable	25	31.0	21.8
DK/NA [vol.]	3	3.9	6.2

Q10.1- Germany

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	13%	13.6%	17.0%
Somewhat favorable	31	34.6	36.4
Somewhat unfavorable	25	21.1	17.0
Very unfavorable	28	27.1	22.6
DK/NA [vol.]	3	3.7	7.0

Q11- France

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	7%	10.1%	13.4%
Somewhat favorable	30	30.9	31.8
Somewhat unfavorable	26	20.4	19.6
Very unfavorable	33	35.0	29.4
DK/NA [vol.]	4	3.6	5.8

Q12- United Kingdom

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	6%	5.6%	7.1%
Somewhat favorable	18	22.6	22.5
Somewhat unfavorable	22	15.9	18.1
Very unfavorable	52	53.0	47.0
DK/NA [vol.]	3	2.9	5.3

Q13- United States

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	9%	7.9%	8.6%
Somewhat favorable	19	20.4	22.6
Somewhat unfavorable	13	16.9	14.3
Very unfavorable	58	53.2	52.3
DK/NA [vol.]	2	1.5	2.2

Q14- Russia

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very favorable	14%	10.3%	13.3%
Somewhat favorable	37	33.0	38.8
Somewhat unfavorable	21	21.1	17.2
Very unfavorable	26	32.2	26.6
DK/NA [vol.]	3	3.4	4.1

Q15- To what degree are you of the opinion that Iran and the United States should strive to mitigate the conflict and the differences between the two countries?

	July 2014	August 2015
A lot	38%	46.9%
Somewhat	31	32.2
Not much	15	10.5
Not at all	14	9.6
DK/NA [vol.]	2	.8

Q16- Which position is closer to yours:

- Islamic and Western religious and social traditions are incompatible with each other and conflict between the two is inevitable; or
- Most people in the West and the Islamic world have similar needs and wants, so it is possible to find common ground?
- DK/NA [vol.]

	February 2008	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Conflict is inevitable	12%	30%	35.0%	30.1%
Common ground possible	64	58	54.5	58.9
DK/NA [vol.]	24	13	10.5	11.0

Q17- As you may know, ISIS has brought under its control large sections of Iraq's territory. Iran and the United States have both declared that they will support the legitimate government of Iraq in order to preserve Iraq's territorial integrity and counter ISIS. To what degree would you approve or disprove Iran and the United States collaborating with one another to help the legitimate government of Iraq and counter ISIS?

	July 2014	August 2015
Strongly approve	20%	24.4%
Somewhat approve	28	34.9
Somewhat disapprove	19	11.8
Strongly disapprove	27	25.7
DK/NA [vol.]	6	3.2

Q18- In your opinion, how important is it for our country to develop its nuclear program? Is it:

	RAND December 2009¹	UTCPOR October 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Very important	87%	84%	83.3%	84.6%
Somewhat important	5	7	11.2	8.6
Not very important	1	3	2.3	2.8
Not important at all	2	2	1.8	1.8
DK/NA/Other	5	4	1.4	2.2

Q19- In general, to what degree do you trust or distrust the P5+1 countries? Do you:

	July 2014	May 2015	August 2015
Trust them very much	6%	6.3%	8.4%
Trust them somewhat	28	33.1	40.6
Distrust them somewhat	32	27.6	26.2
Distrust them very much	30	29.8	20.1
DK/NA [vol.]	4	3.2	4.7

Q20- As you may know Iran and the P5+1 countries recently reached an agreement in regard to Iran's nuclear program. In general and based on what you know about the agreement, to what degree do you approve or disapprove of this agreement? Do you: strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove?

	August 2015
Strongly approve	42.7%
Somewhat approve	32.8
Somewhat disapprove	13.9
Strongly disapprove	6.7
DK/NA [vol.]	3.9

Q21- Thinking about Iran's representatives who negotiated with the P5+1 countries, how well or badly do you think they performed? Do you think they performed: Very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

	August 2015
Very well	42.0%
Somewhat well	40.4
Somewhat badly	7.3
Very Badly	6.9
DK/NA [vol.]	3.4

¹ In 2009, RAND asked: "Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, neither favor nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the Islamic Republic of Iran developing nuclear energy for civilian use?"

Q22- How would you say the outcome of the negotiations has affected your opinion of President Rouhani? Would you say it has made your opinion of him much better, somewhat better, somewhat worse, much worse, or would you say it has not been affected either way?

	August 2015
Much better	35.0%
Somewhat better	39.8
Somewhat worse	11.3
Much worse	2.7
No effect	9.4
DK/NA [vol.]	1.8

Q: I would like to know your understanding of the nuclear agreement that was reached between Iran and the P5+1 countries:

Q23- Is it your impression that, according to the agreement, the sanctions will start to be lifted before, at the same time, or after Iran takes most of the steps it has agreed to take?

	August 2015
Before Iran's steps	32.6%
At the same time as Iran's steps	44.0
After Iran's steps	15.7
DK/NA [vol.]	7.7

Q24- Is it your impression that according to the agreement:

	May 2015	August 2015
all U.S. sanctions on Iran are to be lifted eventually	62.2%	59.0%
some U.S. sanctions on Iran are to be lifted, but many U.S. sanctions are not covered by the agreement and will continue	23.7	29.5
no U.S. sanctions are to be lifted	9.0	5.0
DK/NA [vol.]	5.1	6.5

Q25- Is it your impression that according to the agreement Iran has or has not agreed to place some restraints on its nuclear research?

	August 2015
Iran has agreed	32.7%
Iran has <i>not</i> agreed	56.4
DK/NA [vol.]	10.9

Q26- Is it your impression that under the agreement the IAEA:

	August 2015
Can inspect military sites whenever it thinks it is necessary	6.7%
Could perform limited inspections on military sites under specific conditions	24.0
Cannot inspect military sites under any conditions	60.6
DK/NA [vol.]	8.7

Q27- Is it your impression that the United States has or has not agreed to refrain from imposing new sanctions on Iran to replace the ones it is required to remove under the agreement.

	August 2015
Yes, the United States has agreed	59.7%
No, the United States has not agreed	27.0
DK/NA [vol.]	13.3

Q28- All in all when you think about the agreement do you see it as mostly a victory for Iran, mostly a loss for Iran, or as beneficial for both Iran and the P5+1?

	August 2015
Mostly a win for Iran	36.6%
Mostly a loss for Iran	17.7
Beneficial for both Iran and the P5+1	43.0
DK/NA [vol.]	2.7

Q29- In the nuclear agreement would you say Iran made:

	August 2015
Many important concessions to the P5+1	11.9%
Some important concessions to the P5+1	27.8
A few important concessions to the P5+1	27.1
No important concessions to the P5+1	22.0
DK/NA [vol.]	11.2

Q30- How about the P5+1? In the nuclear agreement would you say the P5+1 made:

	August 2015
Many important concessions to Iran	22.6%
Some important concessions to Iran	42.2
A few important concessions to Iran	22.5
No important concessions to Iran	4.3
DK/NA [vol.]	8.4

Q31- If the Majlis arrives at the conclusion that the deal between our country and P5+1 countries is at odds with our country's national interests, should the Majlis be able to prevent such an agreement from taking place or not?

	May 2015	August 2015
Yes, it should be able to prevent it	81.2%	76.5%
No, it should not be able to prevent it	14.4	16.4
DK/NA [vol.]	4.5	7.1

Q32- As you may know, our country has many problems and differences with the United States, including with respect to the nuclear issue. Now that Iran has provided concessions on the nuclear issue in return for the lifting of sanctions, do you think this is:

- More likely to make the United States more accommodating in other areas of contention,
- More likely to make the United States rely on pressures and sanctions to extract concessions from Iran in other areas as well,
- Or is it your opinion that Iran's concession on the nuclear issue will not have much of an effect on other issues between the two countries?

	July 2014	May 2015²	August 2015
More likely to lead to more accommodation	20%	17.7%	30.0%
More likely to lead the United States to seek more concessions	58	51.2	26.9
Iran's concession on the nuclear issue is not going to affect Iran- U.S.relations	13	21.5	31.9
DK/NA [vol.]	10	9.5	11.2

Q33- Now I would like to ask you a question in regards to how other countries view Iran as a result of the achieved nuclear agreement. Do you think other countries now and as a result of the achieved nuclear agreement, view Iran with: much more respect, somewhat more respect, with somewhat less respect, much less respect or do you think the nuclear agreement has not affected how other countries view Iran.

	August 2015
Much more respect	35.7%
Somewhat more respect	40.9
Somewhat less respect	10.2
Much less respect	6.7
Has not affected how other countries view Iran.	2.7
DK/NA [vol.]	3.8

Q34- As result of the nuclear agreement do you expect Iran's relations with European countries will or will not improve? [If improve ask: a lot, some, or a little?]

	August 2015
Will improve a lot	40.9%
Will improve some	38.5
Will improve a little	15.4
Will NOT improve	2.4
DK/NA [vol.]	2.8

² In July 2014 and May 2015 it was asked: "As you may know, our country has many problems and differences with the United States, including with respect to the nuclear issue. In your opinion, if Iran were to provide concessions on the nuclear issue in return for the lifting of sanctions, is that..."

Q35- What about Iran’s relations with the United States? As result of the nuclear agreement do you expect Iran’s relations with the United States will or will not improve? [If improve ask: a lot, some, or a little?]

	August 2015
Will improve a lot	17.5%
Will improve some	39.1
Will improve a little	18.2
Will NOT improve	21.2
DK/NA [vol.]	4.0

Q36- Now that Iran and the P5+1 have reached an agreement, how likely do you think it is that the US will lift sanctions in accordance to the requirements of the agreement? Is it:

	May 2015	August 2015
Very likely	13.0%	20.0%
Somewhat likely	47.0	45.8
Not very likely	25.9	23.7
Not likely at all	11.3	6.2
DK/NA [vol.]	2.9	4.3

Q37- What about the UN Security Council? How likely do you think it is that the UN Security Council will remove sanctions as the agreement requires? Is it:

	May 2015	August 2015
Very likely	24.9%	34.2%
Somewhat likely	58.4	55.3
Not very likely	8.9	3.8
Not likely at all	3.7	2.4
DK/NA [vol.]	4.2	4.3

Q38: As you may know according to the agreement other countries would be permitted to cooperate with Iran on building new nuclear reactors and supplying Iran with nuclear fuel. In your opinion, is it more likely that the United States will accept other countries cooperating with Iran in this way or that the United States will try to impede such cooperation? [Follow on: Is that somewhat likely or very likely]

	May 2015³	August 2015
Very likely will accept	6.8%	12.3%
Somewhat likely will accept	20.7	36.3
Somewhat likely will impede	36.3	29.7
Very likely will impede	32.1	16.8
DK/NA [vol.]	4.1	4.9

³ In May 2015 it was asked: “If Iran and the P5+1 do reach a deal, and based on that agreement other countries would be permitted to cooperate with Iran on building new nuclear reactors and supplying Iran with nuclear fuel, in your opinion, is it more likely that the US will accept other countries cooperating with Iran in this way or that the US will try to impede such cooperation?”

Q: Now that the P5+1 and Iran have reached an agreement, I would like to know how long you think it will take before you see certain changes in the country.

Q39- Iranians gaining better access to foreign-made medicines and medical equipment

	May 2015⁴	August 2015
In about six months	28.4%	30.4%
In about a year	32.6	36.5
In about two years	11.7	18.1
More than two years	18.6	7.7
Never [vol.]	2.0	2.8
Not related to / affected by deal[vol.]	0.2	2.0
DK/NA [vol.]	6.4	2.5

Q40- A lot more foreign companies making investments in Iran

	May 2015	August 2015
In about six months	32.1%	35.7%
In about a year	30.0	36.5
In about two years	12.9	11.0
More than two years	16.7	7.3
Never [vol.]	0.9	3.5
Not related to / affected by deal[vol.]	0.2	3.2
DK/NA [vol.]	7.2	2.8

Q41- The unemployment rate going down significantly

	May 2015	August 2015
In about six months	21.6%	27.5%
In about a year	30.5	35.8
In about two years	16.1	12.0
More than two years	23.7	14.0
Never [vol.]	3.4	6.4
Not related to / affected by deal[vol.]	0.7	2.4
DK/NA [vol.]	4.1	1.9

Q42- How about seeing: A tangible improvement in people's standard of living

	May 2015	August 2015
In about six months	26.0%	26.2%
In about a year	29.1	36.3
In about two years	14.8	14.4
More than two years	22.2	15.1
Never [vol.]	3.0	4.0
Not related to / affected by deal[vol.]	0.3	1.4
DK/NA [vol.]	4.7	2.6

⁴ In May 2015 it was asked: "Assuming that the P5+1 and Iran do come to such a deal, I would like to know how long you think it will take before you see certain changes as a result of the deal..."

Demographics:

Now I would like to ask some question about yourself:

D1- Sex:

	August 2015
Female	53.3%
Male	46.7

D2- Age:

	August 2015
Under 30 years	30.8%
30-45 years	42.9
Over 45 years	25.1
Not reported	1.2

D3- Level of Education:

	August 2015
Illiterate	3.8%
Some schooling	18.7
High school diploma	33.1
College student/Some college	12.6
Bachelor's degree and above	31.7
Not reported	.1

D4- Ethnicity:

	August 2015
Persian	54.1%
Non-Persian	45.8
Not reported	.1

D5- Household Economic Status

	August 2015
Lower	33.6%
Middle	54.6
Upper	10.0
Not reported	1.8

D6) Do you use the internet on a daily basis?

	August 2015
Yes	32.1%
No	67.0
DK/NA [vol.]	.9