

**Obama Performs Moderately Well Only on Race Relations,
Poorly on Health Care, the Environment, Reform of the
Banking Sector, and Dealing with Islamism;
Bipartisan Support for Bank Subsidies Perceived as
Somewhat of a Moral Hazard**

**BDO Dunwoody Weekly CEO/Business Leader Poll
By COMPAS in *Canadian Business*
For Publication December 28, 2009**



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1.0. Overview

U.S. President Obama is seen by the COMPAS business panel as performing poorly on health care, the environment, reform of the banking sector, and dealing with Islamism while moderately well only on race relations. Bipartisan subsidies for the banking sector are seen by half the panel as a moral hazard apt to increase the sector's risk taking.

These are the key findings from the Internet survey of CEOs and business leaders on the COMPAS panel. The weekly business survey is undertaken for *Canadian Business* magazine under sponsorship of BDO Dunwoody LLP.

2.0. Obama Performs Moderately Well Only on Race Relations, U.S. Bank Subsidies a Moral Hazard

Detailed findings appear in the following tables.

Table 2a: (Q1) Now that you've had a chance to see President Obama in action for many months, would you please score his performance on a 100 point, report card-type scale in respect of dealing effectively with RANDOMIZE

	Mean
Race relations at home	64
Healthcare policy	57
Islamist radicalism abroad	54
Reform of the financial services sector	53
The environment	50



Obama's Performance
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Table 2b: (Q2) With respect to predicting stability of the U.S. banking sector, which of the following opinions is closest to your own? ROTATE

	Mean
The U.S. government's financial support for major financial institutions makes another banking implosion more and more likely as a result of the phenomenon of "moral hazard," whereby the major financial institutions will take ever bigger risks in the belief that government will save them if they get into trouble	50
Regulatory reform has made repeat of the 2009 banking implosion less and less likely in the future	36
Don't know or no opinion	14

The following verbatims provide a nuanced sense of panel opinion:

The regulatory framework for banking has yet to be reformed, so not sure how you can ask a question that asks whether we believe regulatory reform will lessen the chance of future bank failures. That may yet be the case but we can't know yet.

In my experience, the central issue of all domestic US policy revolves at some level around race. The very presence of Barack Obama in the White House helps the US confront this issue, at all levels.

In order to have really effective change we have to break up large corporations that have a strangle hold on the economy get rid of government lobbyists and so decisions are based on what is good for the country and people and not on who to please to get support for votes. We need to go back to smaller is better where large banks and corporations cannot break the economy or hold a country to ransom.

Inversement proportionnel les gens avec une equit e plus grande peuvent se permettent un risque plus grand et donc



des taux ouverts qui vont augmenter mais sans mettre à risque les propriétaires bien capitalisés.

Stimulus funds should have been mainly spent on emergency programs for developing massive, powerful new energy and healthcare alternatives, exportable to India and China, instead of weak condition bank bailouts and a faltering automotive sector.

3.0 Methodology

The COMPAS web-survey of CEOs and leaders of small, medium, and large corporations was conducted December 16-18, 2009. Respondents constitute an essentially hand-picked panel with a higher numerical representation of small and medium-sized firms.

Because of the small population of CEOs and business leaders from which the sample was drawn, the study can be considered more accurate than comparably sized general public studies. In studies of the general public, surveys of n=117 are deemed accurate to within approximate 9.1 percentage points 19 times out of 20. The principal investigator on this study is Conrad Winn, Ph.D.

