

# HARPER'S INDEX

- Percentage change in the U.S. unemployment rate since June 2009, when the recession officially ended : +1
- Chance that a heterosexual man who moved in with his partner in 2010 had been unemployed for at least a year : 1 in 4
  - Estimated percentage of all U.S. murders that are committed by women : 10
  - Percentage of executions for murder since 1977 that were of women : 1
- Percentage of U.S. female senior-level executives who say they have had an affair with a male boss : 15
- Estimated percentage change since 2000 in the number of management positions in U.S. companies held by women : 0
- Percentage change in reading scores for public-school fourth graders since No Child Left Behind became law : +1
- Number of delayed-notice search warrants granted by federal judges last year under the Patriot Act : 1,150
  - Number that were related to drug offenses and terrorism, respectively : 844, 6
- Number of times between January and June that Google turned over user information to government investigators : 4,287
- Date a congressional report called the number of government entities to be created by health-care reform “unknowable” : 7/8/10
  - Value of economic-recovery bonds the State of Louisiana has sold since Hurricane Katrina : \$5,900,000,000
  - Percentage of the revenue that has been spent on projects in New Orleans : 1
    - Percentage spent on the Lower Ninth Ward : 0
    - On the state’s oil industry : 29
- Estimated percentage change in the poverty rate in the developing world since 1990 : -40
  - Change if China is not included in this figure : -18
- Estimated value of Chinese household income that goes unreported : \$1,400,000,000,000
  - Portion of China’s GDP this represents : 1/3
- Portion of all pencils, pens, and crayons sold last year that were manufactured in China : 1/3
- Percentage of African Americans in a September survey who said they feel their standard of living is improving : 63
  - Percentage of white Americans who feel this way : 40
- Percentage change in the U.S. suicide rate for every 500 meters above sea level : +17
- Price a British company charges to have a deceased person’s ashes pressed into a package of 30 vinyl records : \$4,704
- Estimated loss to Japan’s economy last year from suicides and depression : \$29,000,000,000
  - Percentage of all food consumed in Cuba that is imported : 80
- Chance that an Indian child younger than five is chronically malnourished : 1 in 2
- Rank of carbonated beverages among the best-selling grocery items in the United States this year : 1
- Rank of baked desserts, pizza, and soda as sources of calories for American children, respectively : 1, 2, 3
  - Number of children born last year on Christmas Day in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania : 3
- Chances that an American believes that Jesus Christ will return to earth by 2050 : 2 in 5
- Percentage change since 2008 in the number of Jewish Americans who identify themselves as Republican : +77
  - Chance that an American believes Ramadan is the Jewish day of atonement : 1 in 10
  - Chance that a U.S. Protestant knows who Martin Luther is : 1 in 2
- Percentage of Americans who believe that Stephen King wrote *Moby-Dick* : 4
- Number of U.S. states in which it is legal to own a tiger without a license : 9
  - Portion of the world’s reindeer herds that are currently in decline : 4/5
- Number of poisonous dead mice the USDA airdropped into Guam this year to eradicate an invasive snake species : 316
  - Milligrams of acetaminophen inserted into each mouse : 80
- Number of episodes of *Happy Days* that aired after the one in which the Fonz jumped a shark : 164

Figures cited are the latest available as of October 2010. Sources are listed on page 74.  
“Harper’s Index” is a registered trademark.