

U.S. Public Opinion on Trade

March 2008

Methodology

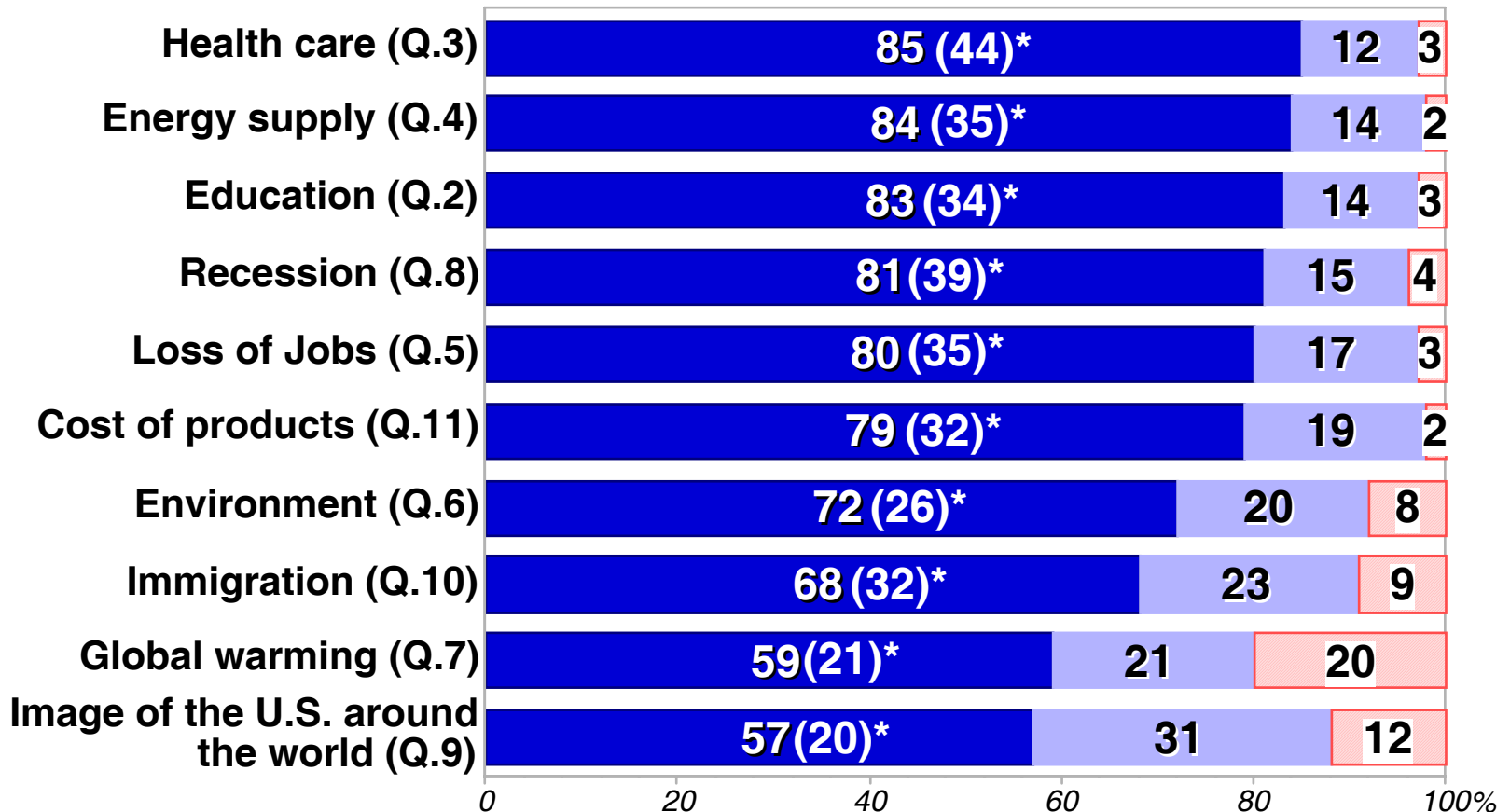
- This research was conducted by Charlton Research Company to better understand U.S. public opinion about trade. Chevron sponsored the study.
- A national online sample of 1,000 interviews were conducted, the margin of error is +/- 3.1% at 95% confidence.

Executive Summary

- Today's top rated issues are all related to well-being and the economy: health care, energy supply, education, recession, job loss and cost of products. This is public opinion context in which trade issues are considered by Americans.
- A large majority of Americans see the most important factor regarding trade as economic impact, just 1-in-4 mention foreign relations as most important.
- A majority of Americans support the growth of free trade agreements, because they see them as good for U.S. consumers. There are few differences between Democrats and Republicans on this issue – a majority from both parties majority support free trade.
- More Americans are concerned about “increases in the cost of products” than “decreases in the number of jobs”.

Most Important Issue

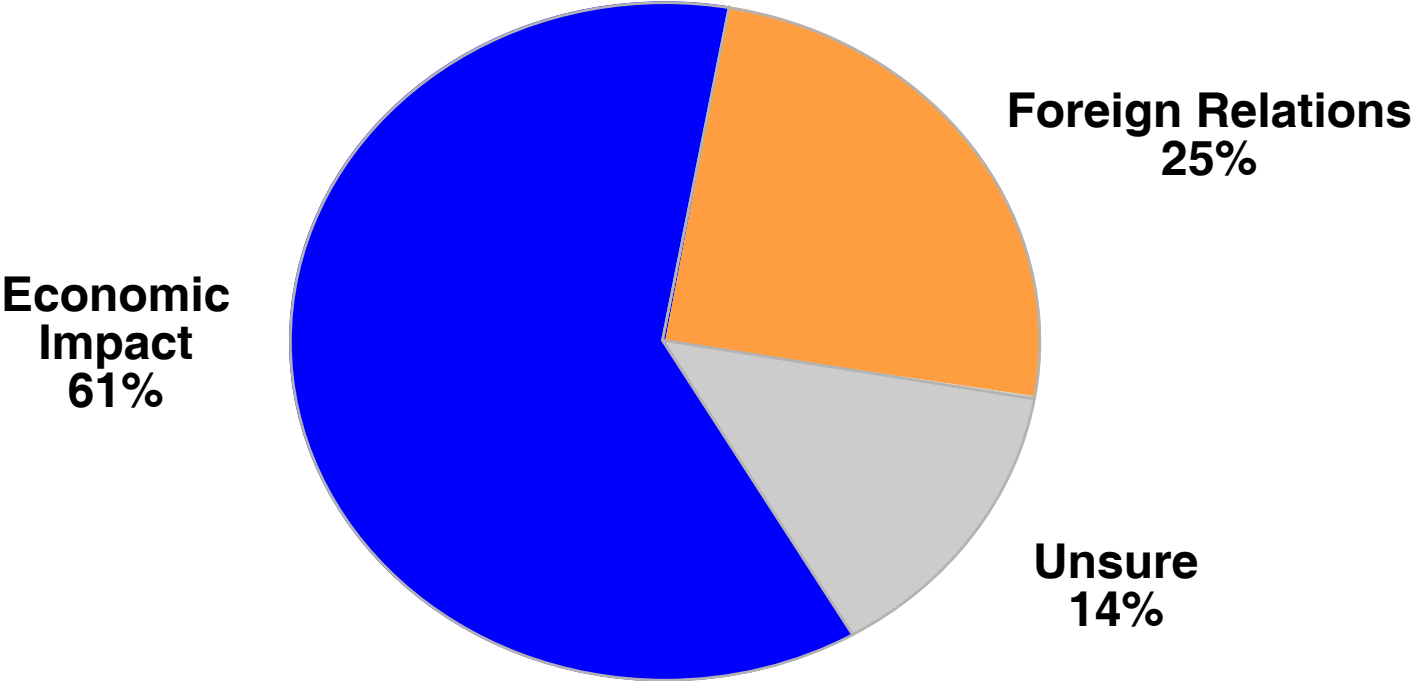
Please rate the importance of various issues facing our country.



*Indicates % *most* important

Majority Say Economic Impact More Important Factor

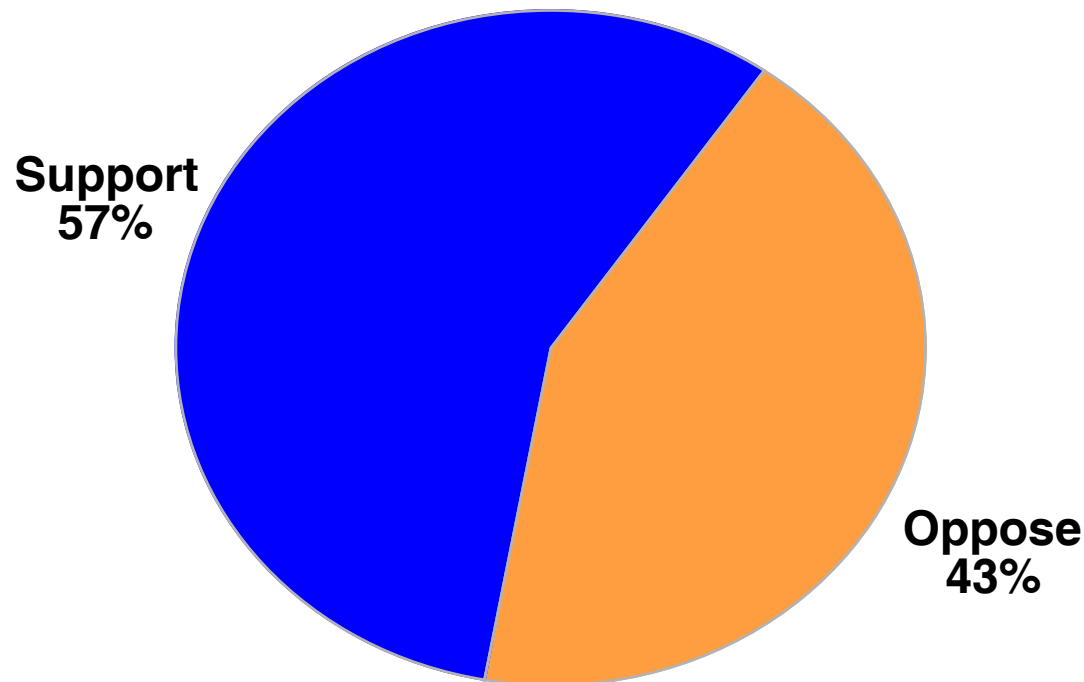
Which should be the most important factor in our trade policies with other countries, the economic impact or our foreign relations with the country?



Majority Support of Free Trade Agreements

The US imports products from countries and exports products to countries. For some of those countries, there are fees added to the cost of the products that enter the US and fees charged by those countries when we export products to them. For other countries there are agreements in place where neither the other country nor the US adds those fees. These agreements are known as Free Trade Agreements.

Which of the following statements comes closer to your view on this issue:



Some People Say: they **support** the growth of free trade agreements by the US because the products cost less, so overall it is good for the US consumer.

Other People Say: they **oppose** the growth of free trade agreements because they increase demand for imported products and they believe it costs jobs for US workers.

Majority Say "Increases in Costs of Products" Bigger Issue than Job Decreases

Which of the following is a bigger issue where you live right now?

