

THOUGHTS ABOUT EFFORTS TO COUNTER TERRORISM

Views of government effectiveness at preventing terrorism:

- A large majority of respondents said the U.S. government has been very effective (33%) or somewhat effective (54%) at preventing terrorism.
- Despite this, 69% endorsed the view that “terrorists will always find a way to carry out major attacks no matter what the U.S. government does.”

Willingness to meet with officials to discuss terrorism:

- Clear majorities of respondents said that would be willing to meet with DHS (57%) or local police (58%) to talk about terrorism.
- Not surprisingly, individuals who said the government had been somewhat effective or very effective at preventing terrorism were more willing to meet with DHS or local police than those who said the government had not.

Reported Likelihood of Calling the Police in Response to Various Actions

| | Very Likely | Somewhat Likely | Not Too Likely | Not at All Likely | Total |
|--|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| A Person | | | | | |
| ...talking about joining a terrorist group | 41.4% | 28.7% | 20.8% | 9.1% | 100% (1545) |
| ...talking about planting explosives in public place | 76.1% | 13.1% | 4.6% | 6.1% | 100% (1543) |
| ...reading material from terrorist group | 20.6% | 28.5% | 35.4% | 15.5% | 100% (1544) |
| ...traveling overseas to join terrorist group | 52.0% | 23.4% | 14.7% | 9.9% | 100% (1547) |
| ...distributing handouts in support of terrorism | 46.2% | 28.4% | 17.4% | 7.9% | 100% (1540) |

“If You See Something Say Something” CAMPAIGN

- More than 56% of respondents said they had not heard anything about the “If You See Something Say Something” campaign, and an additional 20% were not sure whether they had heard anything about it.
- Of those who had heard something about the campaign, most thought it would be very (18%) or somewhat (67%) effective.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increased marketing for the “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign, which is positively perceived by those aware of it, would likely benefit DHS.
- This survey offers support for increased levels of community engagement between DHS, local law enforcement, and local communities, as the results suggest considerable willingness for such engagement exists among the U.S. public.

This research was supported by the Resilient Systems Division of the Science and Technology Directorate of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through Award Number 2010ST108LR0004 made to the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START). The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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