



Public Opinion Survey of Iranian Americans

Commissioned by:

Public Affairs Alliance of Iranian Americans (PAAIA)

&

Conducted by:

Zogby International

December 2008

Table of Contents

I.	Executive Summary.....	2
II.	Report and Survey Findings.....	3
	Key Findings.....	4
	Characteristics of Respondents.....	10
	Methodology.....	11
	Zogby International.....	11
	PAAIA.....	11
III.	Questionnaire and Results.....	12
IV.	Sample Characteristics.....	24

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In August of 2008, the Public Affairs of Alliance of Iranian Americans (PAAIA) commissioned Zogby International to conduct a national public opinion survey of Iranian Americans to gather accurate and timely information about the demographics and views of the Iranian American community. The purpose of this unprecedented survey is to provide PAAIA with the knowledge required to more effectively represent the Iranian American community, and to further inform and educate the American public at large, as well as U.S. policy makers and opinion makers about Iranian Americans. The survey's margin of error is +/- 5%.

The results of this PAAIA/Zogby survey indicate that nearly all Iranian Americans are either citizens (81%) or permanent residents (15%) of the United States. While their ethnic heritage is important to the vast majority of Iranian Americans in defining their identity, they appear to be well-assimilated into American society, with only one in five indicating that they interact mostly with other Iranian Americans outside of work, and more than half indicating English as the language or one of two languages most often spoken at home.

The survey paints the picture of a diverse and relatively affluent Iranian American community. While two-fifths of Iranian Americans identify themselves as Muslims, almost an equal percentage appear not to practice any particular religion, and the balance are roughly equally divided among Christians, Jews, Bahais and Zoroastrians. Almost one in three Iranian American households have annual incomes of more than \$100K (compared to one in five for the overall U.S. population).

According to the survey results, four of every five Iranian American is registered to vote. Also, a relatively significant margin have in the past engaged in electoral activities other than voting, with about one in three having either met or communicated with public officials, or having donated money to a political candidate or campaign. About one half of Iranian Americans surveyed identified themselves as registered Democrats, in contrast to one in eight as Republicans and one in four as independents.

More than half of Iranian Americans cite domestic U.S. issues, including issues that are not unique to Iranian Americans, as the most important to them. In contrast, one quarter of Iranian Americans cite foreign policy issues involving U.S.-Iran relations and less than one in ten cite the internal affairs of Iran as being of greatest importance to them. On matters impacting Iranian Americans in the U.S., the two most important issues cited were facilitating greater understanding between the peoples of the United States and Iran (85%) and ensuring that the image of Iranian Americans in the U.S. accurately reflects their values and accomplishments (75%).

Nearly half of Iranian Americans surveyed have themselves experienced or personally know another Iranian American who has experienced discrimination because of their ethnicity or country of origin. The most common types of discrimination reported are airport security, social discrimination, employment or business discrimination, racial profiling and discrimination at the hands of immigration officials.

An overwhelming eighty-four percent of all Iranian Americans support the establishment of a U.S. interest section in Iran that would provide consular services and issue U.S. visas. The establishment of such an interest section would serve American citizens, including many Iranian Americans, traveling to Iran and would facilitate the travel of their relatives from Iran to the U.S., but would not amount to the establishment by the United States government of formal diplomatic relations with Iran.

Finally, the survey indicates that almost three-quarters of Iranian Americans believe the promotion of human rights and democracy in Iran is the most important issue relating to U.S.-Iran relations. About the same percentage, however, believe diplomacy is the foreign policy approach towards Iran that would be in the best interest of the United States.

II. REPORT AND SURVEY FINDINGS

PAAIA is a recently established national grassroots organization aspiring to build on the tremendous individual achievements of Iranian Americans across all walks of life in the United States to create a truly representative, nationally recognized voice to further empower Iranian Americans in the public arena, and to ensure that future generations maintain a deep-rooted sense of heritage, pride, and identity as Iranian Americans. To represent the community, however, requires that we move past personal opinions and establish the facts as to who Iranian Americans are, what issues are important to them and what their prevailing views are on those issues. To that end, as one of its very first undertakings, PAAIA commissioned Zogby International to conduct a nationwide public opinion survey of Iranian Americans, the results of which will provide us with the knowledge required to more effectively represent our community and to further inform and educate our fellow Americans, as well as U.S. policy makers and opinion makers, about the Iranian American community.

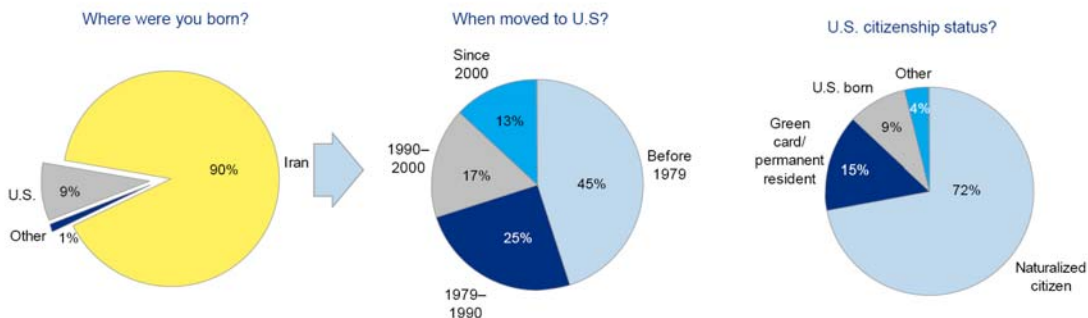
Since the year 2000, only a few other surveys and reports have been conducted in order to define the demographics and attitudes of the Iranian American community. In February 2004, the Iranian Studies Group at MIT released an overview of the socio-economic characteristics of the Iranian American community based on the 2000 U.S. Census, indicating that Iranian Americans are among the most highly educated ethnic groups in the United States, with an average per capita income that was fifty percent higher than that of the nation. Also in 2004, an on-line survey (The 2004 Iranian-American Survey) was sponsored by a number of Iranian American organizations and conducted by Bruce Bahmani and Mike Ghodoosian in Northern California, the results of which indicated that eighty-two percent (82%) of Iranian Americans were U.S. citizens, with sixty-eight percent (68%) voting in national elections and thirty percent (30%) making political contributions. Finally, in August 2007, Dr. Dariush Zahedi at the U.C. Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies conducted a survey of political attitudes and participation of Iranian Americans in California, indicating that thirty-one percent (31%) of California Iranian Americans had attended public meetings and thirty-five percent (35%) had personally contacted public officials.

While following in the footsteps of the foregoing valuable efforts, this PAAIA/Zogby survey is to our knowledge the first ever nationwide scientific telephone survey of Iranian Americans. As such, we are confident that the results of this undertaking will shed much needed light on the demographics and attitudes of Iranian Americans. We are also convinced that the publication of this report will greatly facilitate a better understanding of the Iranian American community by the American public at large as well as U.S. policy makers and opinion makers, and will constitute a significant milestone on the path to fully empowering the Iranian American community in the American political and civic arenas.

Key Findings

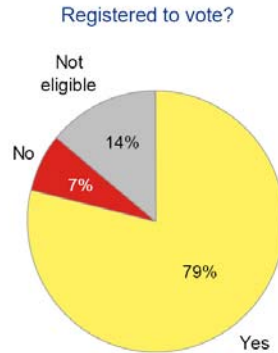
The key findings of PAAIA’s public opinion survey of Iranian Americans are as follows:

- ***Immigration Pattern & Status.*** Nearly all Iranian Americans surveyed (90%) were born in Iran, which is sensible considering that eighty-eight percent (88%) of them are over the age of thirty and forty-five percent (45%) arrived in the United States before 1979. Eighty-one percent (81%) of Iranian Americans surveyed are U.S. citizens, while another fifteen percent (15%) are permanent residents of the U.S., holding green cards.

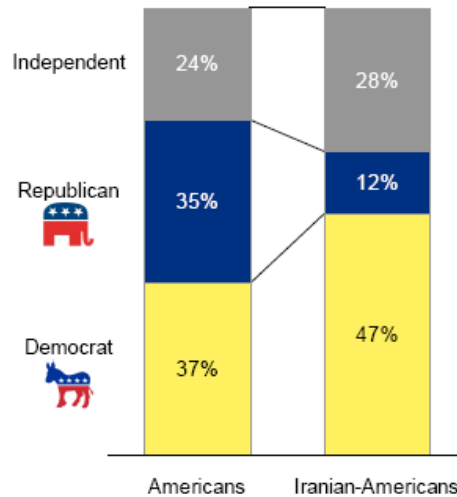


- ***Ethnic Heritage & Degree of Assimilation.*** Nearly all Iranian Americans surveyed (86%) indicated that their ethnic heritage is important in defining their identity. Iranian Americans are divided, however, over how they describe themselves, including—Iranian American (26%), Persian (20%), Persian American (17%), and Iranian (15%). Yet, Iranian Americans appear to be well assimilated into American society, with only twenty-one percent (21%) interacting mostly with other Iranian Americans outside of work, and fifty-eight percent (58%) indicating English as the language or one of two languages most often spoken at home.
- ***Electoral Participation.*** According to the survey results, seventy-nine percent (79%) of Iranian Americans are registered to vote, with fourteen percent (14%) of those who are not registered being ineligible to vote. A relatively significant margin of Iranian Americans surveyed have in the past engaged in electoral participation other than voting: nearly a third have met with city, state or federal officials about an issue

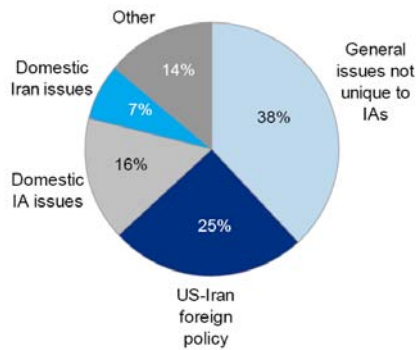
(30%), written a letter or made a call to a public official (31%), or donated money to a political candidate or campaign (29%).



- Political Party Affiliation.*** A significant forty-seven percent (47%) of Iranian Americans surveyed identified themselves as Democrats, with twelve percent (12%) identifying themselves as Republicans and twenty-eight percent (28%) as independents.

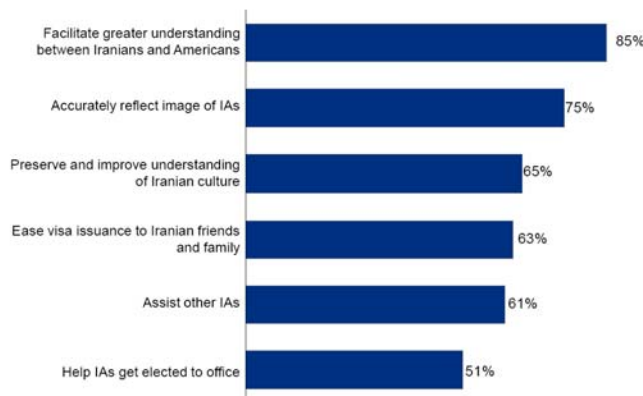


- Issues of Importance.*** Fifty-four percent (54%) of Iranian Americans cite domestic U.S. issues as the most important to them, with thirty-eight percent (38%) emphasizing issues that affect their life, family, and community and are not unique to Iranian Americans and the other sixteen percent (16%) emphasizing domestic issues involving Iranian Americans. In contrast, twenty-five percent (25%) cite foreign policy issues involving U.S.-Iran relations as the most important, and only seven percent (7%) consider internal affairs of Iran as the most important to them.



- Importance of Issues Impacting Iranian Americans in the U.S.¹***. An overwhelming eighty-five percent (85%) of Iranian Americans believe it is important to facilitate greater understanding between the peoples of the United States and Iran. Also a significant number of Iranian Americans (75%) believe it is important to ensure that the image of Iranian Americans in the U.S. accurately reflects their values and accomplishment. A relatively smaller fifty-one percent (51%) believe it is important to help elect Iranian Americans to public office and increase the political influence of Iranian Americans in the U.S.

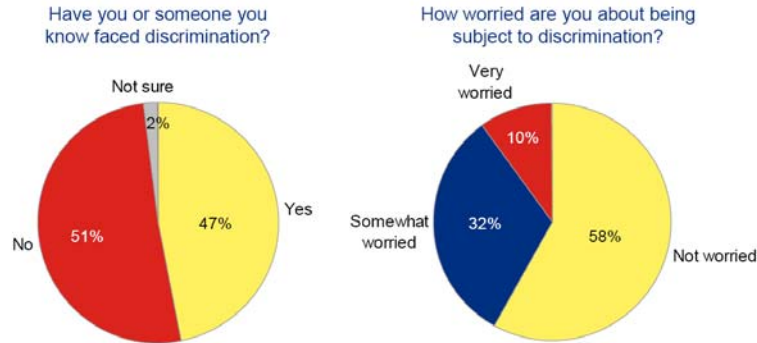
Which IA Issues Are Important to You?



- Discrimination Issues Facing Iranian Americans.*** Nearly half of Iranian Americans surveyed (47%) have themselves experienced or personally know another Iranian American who has experienced discrimination because of their ethnicity or country of origin. Of those who have experienced discrimination or personally know an Iranian American who has, the most common types reported are airport security (58%), social discrimination (58%), employment or business discrimination (48%), racial profiling (47%) and discrimination at the hands of immigration officials (42%). Forty-eight percent (48%) of those who have experienced discrimination or personally know an Iranian American who has describe the level of discrimination as very serious or serious. Nine percent (9%) of Iranian Americans surveyed are very worried about

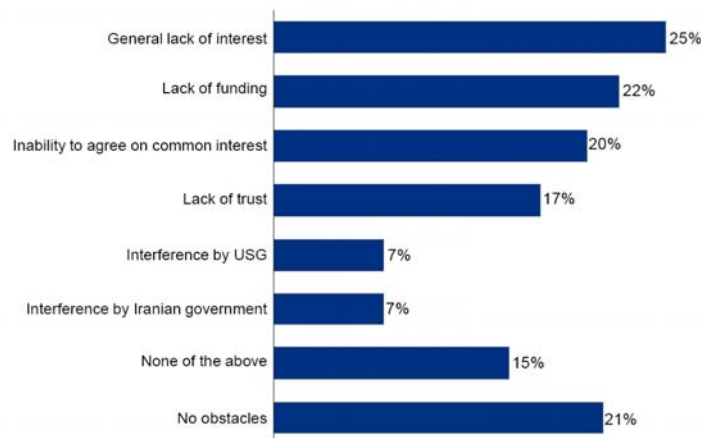
¹ The results presented in this section are in response to a series of six questions asking the respondent to indicate how important each of these issues impacting Iranian Americans in the United States are to them, and as such add up to more than 100%.

being the subject of discrimination, while another thirty-two percent (32%) are somewhat worried. The majority of Iranian Americans (58%) are not worried about facing discrimination because of their ethnicity or national origin.



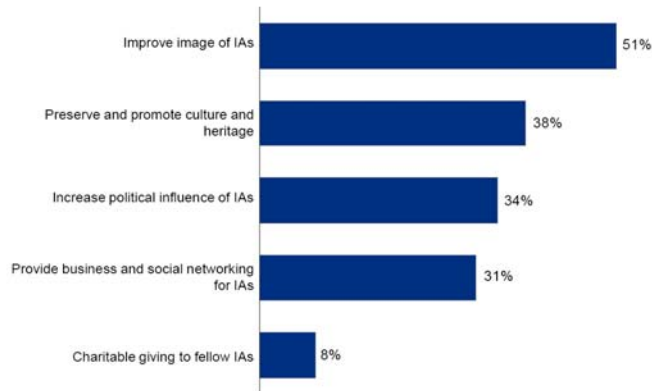
- Iranian American Civic Organizations*². Asked to name the two greatest obstacles in organizing a community or civic group of Iranian Americans, a lack of interest (25%), a lack of funding (22%) and an inability to agree on common interests (20%) are the three most frequently cited. In contrast, one in five (21%) believe there are no obstacles to organizing an Iranian American civic organization. When asked to name the two most important goals of such an organization, improving the image of Iranian Americans is cited by more than half (51%) of all Iranian Americans surveyed. Approximately half of all Iranian Americans say they would be willing to become a member of such a group (47%), or donate time or volunteer (48%). Thirty-nine percent (39%) would be willing to donate money.

Key Obstacles to Organizing the Community?

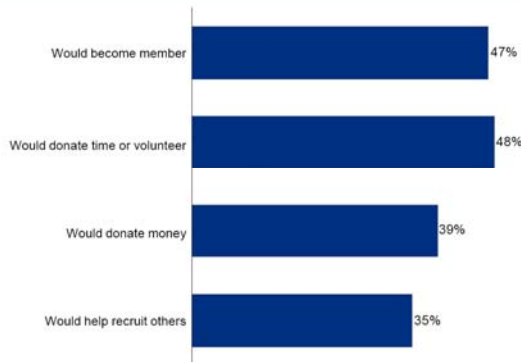


² The results presented in this section are in response to a question asking about what the respondent believes are the *two* greatest obstacles and the *two* most important goals for an Iranian American civic organization, and as such in each case add up to more than 100%.

What Should be The Main Goals of an IA Civic Organization?

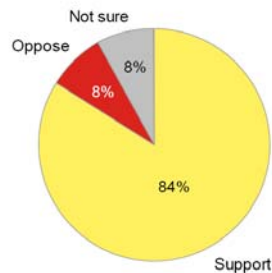


How Involved Would You be in an IA Organization?



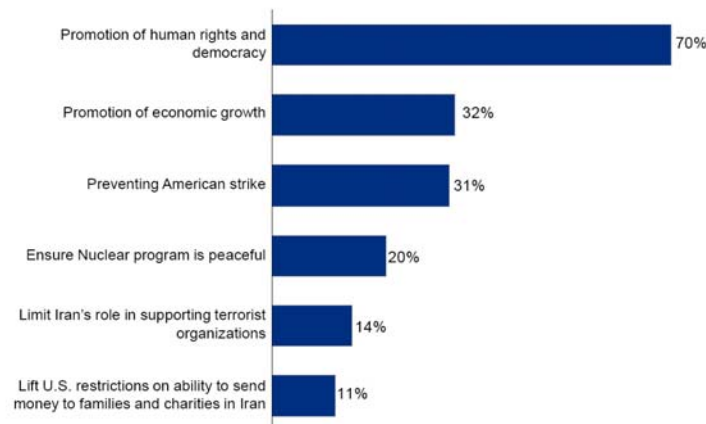
- Establishment of U.S. Interest Section in Iran.*** An overwhelming eighty-four percent (84%) of all Iranian Americans surveyed support the establishment of a U.S. interest section in Iran that would provide consular services and issue U.S. visas, but would not constitute the resumption of diplomatic relations. In relation to the foregoing, sixty-eight percent (68%) of Iranian Americans have traveled to Iran at least once since moving to the U.S., while fifty-nine percent (59%) have immediate family residing in Iran. Moreover, sixty-three percent (63%) of Iranian Americans believe it is important to make visa issuance to friends and family from Iran less difficult or burdensome.

Establish U.S. interest section?



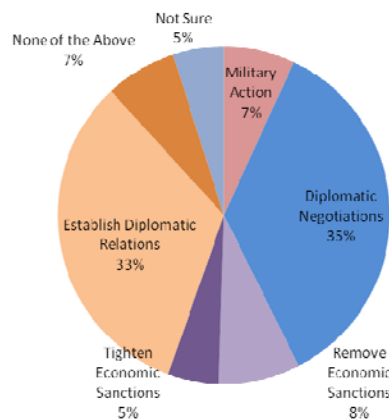
- Issues Relating to U.S.-Iran Relations*³. When asked to name the two most important from a list of six issues relating to U.S.-Iran relations, seventy percent (70%) of Iranian Americans surveyed cite the promotion of human rights and democracy in Iran as the most important. Other issues relating to U.S.-Iran relations that are important to Iranian Americans are the promotion of economic growth in Iran (32%) and preventing an American military strike (31%).

Which Are the Two Most Important Issues in U.S.-Iran Relations?



- U.S. Policy towards Iran*. From a list of five possible foreign policy approaches that the United States can adopt towards Iran, more than two-thirds of Iranian Americans (69%) believe diplomacy - either through diplomatic negotiations (36%) or establishing diplomatic relations (33%) - would be in the best interest of the United States. In contrast, eight percent (8%) favor the removal of economic sanctions and seven percent (7%) believe military action against Iran would best serve U.S. interests.

Which Action Would be in the Best Interest of the U.S.?

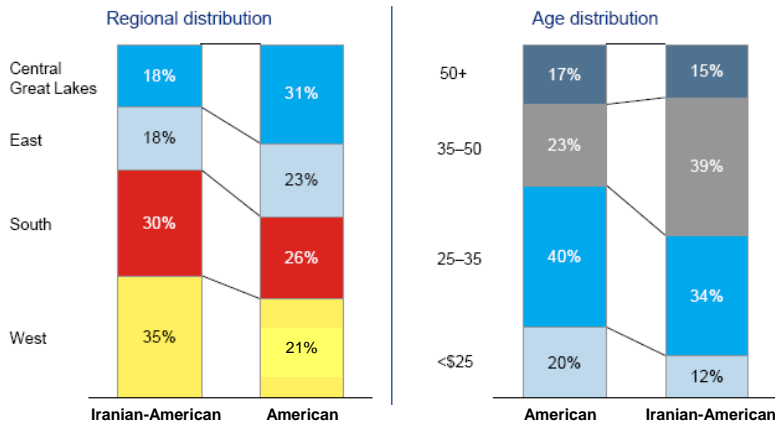


³ The results presented in this section are in response to a question asking about what the respondent believes are the *two* most important issues relating to U.S.-Iran relations, and as such add up to more than 100%.

Characteristics of Respondents

Relatively significant portions of the respondents were from the Western (35%) and Southern (30%) regions of the United States. In contrast, eighteen percent (18%) were from each of the Eastern and Central/Great Lakes regions of the country. Of the respondents, twelve percent (12%) were between the ages of 18 and 29, thirty-four percent (34%) were between the ages of 30 and 49, thirty-nine percent (39%) were between the ages of 50 and 64, and fifteen percent (15%) were sixty-five or older. Sixty-four percent (64%) of the respondents were married, twenty percent (20%) were single and seventeen percent (17%) were divorced or widowed.

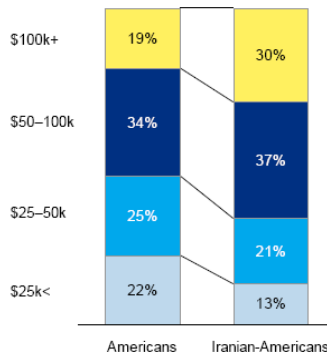
Comparative Demographics: IAs vs. Americans



Of the respondents, forty-two percent (42%) identified themselves as Muslims, nine percent (9%) as Christians, six percent (6%) as Jews, five percent (5%) as Zoroastrians, seven percent (7%) as Bahais, and a significant thirty-one percent (31%) as other, presumably meaning that they do not practice any particular religion.

Thirty percent (30%) of the respondents have households with annual incomes of more than \$100K, thirty-seven percent (37%) have annual household incomes of between \$50-100K, twenty-one percent (21%) make between \$25-50K per year, and thirteen percent (13%) make less than \$25K each year.

Comparative Incomes: IAs vs. Americans



Methodology

This PAAIA/Zogby International national public opinion telephone survey was conducted between July 30 and August 12, 2008. The survey is based on successful interviews conducted in English with a representative sample of 401 Iranian American respondents with approximately 48 questions asked. The respondents were randomly drawn from purchased Iranian surname lists of approximately 30,000 people. All of the respondents were above the age of 18, fifty-six percent (56%) of whom were male and forty-four percent (44%) were female.

Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. Up to ten calls are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of the methodologies that are approved by the American Association for Public Opinion Research,⁴ and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.⁵ *The margin of error for the results of this survey is +/- 5.0 percentage points.* Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Zogby International is a pre-eminent polling firm that has been tracking public opinion throughout the world since 1984, and has a particular expertise in polling ethnic communities in the United States. For more information about Zogby International, you can visit its website at www.zogby.com.

Public Affairs Alliance of Iranian Americans (PAAIA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian, independent organization that represents the domestic interests of the Iranian American community before U.S. policymakers, opinion makers and the American public at large. PAAIA seeks to achieve its mission by focusing on three major areas of activities: Community Building, Image Building, and Influence Building. For more information about PAAIA, you can visit its website at www.paaia.org.

For more information about or questions regarding this survey and its content, please contact PAAIA at survey@paaia.org or at 202-828-8370. For more information about and questions regarding the methodology for conducting this survey, please contact Stephanie DeVries at Zogby International at steph@zogby.com or 315-624-0200, x-273.

This Report and the findings of the survey are the exclusive copyrighted property of PAAIA. No duplication, in whole or in part, is permitted without the prior written authorization of PAAIA. Unauthorized duplication is a violation of law.

⁴ See COOP4 (p.38) in *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys*. The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

⁵ *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

III. QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESULTS

1. *Are you registered to vote in the United States?*

Yes	79
No	21
Not Sure	1

2. *(ONLY ASKED OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED) Why not?*

I am not interested/don't care about politics	7
I do not believe my vote matters	4
I do not know how to register to vote	2
I do not have time to register to vote	15
I am not eligible to vote	66
Not Sure	6

3. *How likely are you to vote in the elections this November?*

Very Likely	66
Somewhat Likely	11
Not Likely	21
Not Sure	2

4. *(ASKED OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT LIKELY) Why not?*

I am not interested/don't care about politics	15
I do not believe my vote matters	2
I do not like any of the candidates	15
Not Sure	68

5. Which of the following best describes your voting history in the U.S.?

I have voted in nearly every election (local, state and national) for which I was eligible	22
I have voted in most elections for which I was eligible	17
I have only voted in Presidential elections	14
I have only voted a few times	10
I have only voted once	5
I have never voted	33
Not sure	--

6. Regarding your participation in political and civic life, have you ever done any of the following in the U.S.?

Met with city or state officials about an issue	17
Met with Federal officials about an issue (for example, your congressperson)	13
Volunteered for a political candidate or campaign	13
Wrote a letter or made a call to a public official	31
Donated money to a political candidate or campaign	29
Joined an interest group	14
Joined a civic or professional organization	22
Not Sure	43

7. How important is your ethnic heritage in defining your identity – very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Very Important	56
Somewhat Important	30
Not Very Important	13
Not Sure	1

8. When you describe yourself to other Americans, which of the following terms, if any, are you most likely to use?

Iranian	15
Iranian-American	26
Persian	20
Persian-American	17
American	11
By my religion (e.g., Muslim, Jewish, etc . . .)	3
It depends on the situation	5
None of the above	4
Not sure	1

9. Outside of work, do you mostly interact with Iranian Americans or non-Iranian Americans?

Iranian-Americans	21
Non-Iranian-Americans	31
Both Equally	45
Neither	2
Not Sure	<1

10. Which of the following issues is most important to you?

Domestic issues involving Iranian-Americans (e.g., civil rights/discrimination, etc . . .)	16
Foreign policy issues involving U.S.-Iran relations	25
Internal Affairs of Iran (Iranian government, Iranian society, etc . . .)	7
Issues that affect my life, family and community and are not unique to Iranian-Americans	38
None of the above	7
Not sure	7

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not at all important” and 5 being “very important,” how important is each of the following issues affecting Iranian-Americans to you:

11. Preservation of Iranian culture (language, customs, etc. . .) in the U.S. and improving understanding of that culture among Americans

(1) Not at all important	7
(2)	7
(3)	20
(4)	18
(5) Very Important	47
Not Sure	2

12. Making visa issuance to friends and family from Iran less difficult or burdensome

(1) Not at all important	14
(2)	5
(3)	15
(4)	12
(5) Very Important	51
Not Sure	5

13. Assisting new immigrants or other Iranian Americans

(1) Not at all important	11
(2)	7
(3)	19
(4)	23
(5) Very Important	38
Not Sure	3

14. Helping Iranian-Americans get elected to political office and increasing political influence of Iranian Americans in the U.S.

(1) Not at all important	25
(2)	8
(3)	14
(4)	17
(5) Very Important	34
Not Sure	3

15. Ensuring that the image of Iranian-Americans in the U.S. accurately reflects our values and accomplishments

(1) Not at all important	7
(2)	3
(3)	11
(4)	20
(5) Very Important	55
Not Sure	4

16. Facilitating greater understanding between the peoples of the United States and Iran

(1) Not at all important	6
(2)	2
(3)	6
(4)	13
(5) Very Important	72
Not Sure	1

17. *Of the following issues relating to U.S.-Iran relations, which two are most important to you?*

Promotion of human rights and democracy in Iran	70
Promotion of economic growth in Iran	32
Ensuring Iran's nuclear program is for peaceful purposes	20
Lifting U.S. restrictions on ability of individuals to send money to families and charities in Iran	11
Limiting Iran's role in supporting terrorist organizations	14
Preventing an American military strike against Iran	31
None of the above	3
Not Sure	2

18. *Would you support or oppose the establishment of a U.S. interest section in Tehran that would provide consular services and issue U.S. visas, but would not constitute the resumption of diplomatic relations with Iran*

Support	84
Oppose	8
Not Sure	8

19. *Have you or another Iranian-American you know personally experienced discrimination in the past because of your or their ethnicity or country of origin?*

Yes	47
No	51
Not Sure	2

20. (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION)
In which of the following ways have you or another Iranian-American you know experienced discrimination?

Employment/Business discrimination	48
Social discrimination	58
By Immigration officials	42
By Federal law enforcement or Local Law enforcement	25
By airlines or airport security	58
By Racial profiling	47
None of the above	6
Not Sure	2

21. (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION))
On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is 'not serious' and 5 is 'very serious' how would you rate the seriousness of the discrimination you or the person you know faced?

(1) Not serious	10
(2)	12
(3)	28
(4)	18
(5) Very serious	30
Not Sure	3

22. On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is 'no discrimination' and 5 is 'great discrimination' how much discrimination do you believe Iranian-Americans living in the United States today face?

(1) Not serious	25
(2)	23
(3)	28
(4)	10
(5) Very serious	7
Not Sure	7

23. *How worried are you about being the subject of discrimination because of your ethnicity or national origin?*

Very worried	9
Somewhat worried	32
Not worried	58
Not Sure	1

24. *Regarding your participation in political and civic life, how would you rate your participation in the local Iranian-American community (i.e., in cultural or civic activities)—very active, somewhat active, not very active or not at all active?*

Very active	5
Somewhat active	25
Not very active	23
Not at all active	35
There is no local Iranian-American community where I live	12
Not Sure	<1

25. *In your opinion, what are the two greatest obstacles in organizing a community or civic group of Iranian-Americans?*

A general lack of interest by Iranian Americans	25
A lack of funding or difficulty in fundraising	22
Inability to agree on common interests	20
Skepticism and lack of trust among Iranian Americans	17
Potential interference by the American Government	7
Potential interference by the Iranian Government	7
None of the above	15
There are no obstacles to organizing an Iranian-American group	21
Not Sure	12

26. What would you expect to be the two main goals of an Iranian-American community or civic organization?

Improve the image of the Iranian-American community	51
Educate Iranian-Americans about the U.S. political process and increase the political influence of the Iranian-American community	34
Charitable giving to benefit fellow Iranian-Americans	8
Preserve and promote the culture and heritage of the Iranian-American community	38
Provide Business and social networking opportunities to Iranian-Americans	31
Not Sure	9

27. How involved would you be in an Iranian-American community or civic group if one were created?

I would become a member	47
I would donate money	39
I would donate time or volunteer	48
I would be willing to help recruit others to join	35
Not Sure	29

In 2002, President Bush stated that there existed an axis of evil composed of three countries—Iraq, Iran and North Korea. Since that time, the U.S. has invaded Iraq and engaged in diplomatic negotiations with North Korea.

28. Which of the following U.S. actions relating to Iran will be in the best interests of the United States?

Military Action	7
Diplomatic Negotiations	36
Remove economic sanctions	8
Tighten economic sanctions	5
Establish diplomatic relations	33
None of the Above	7
Not Sure	5

29. *Where were you born?*

The United States	9
Iran	90
Other	2
Not Sure	--

30. *When did your family move to the United States*

Since 2000	12
1990-2000	17
1979-1990	25
Before 1979	45
Not Sure	1

31. *What language do you speak at home most often?*

English	30
Farsi/Persian	36
Other	6
Both English and another language	28
Not Sure	--

32. *On scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being 'not at all fluent' and 5 being 'very fluent,' how would you rate your fluency in Farsi or Persian?*

(1) Not at all fluent	5
(2)	3
(3)	7
(4)	12
(5) Very fluent	73
Not Sure	<1

33. *How often do you travel to Iran?*

Once a year or more	7
Once every 2-3 years	29
I rarely travel to Iran	32
I've never been back to Iran	28
I've never been to Iran	4
Not Sure	<1

34. *Do any of the following family members still live in Iran for at least a significant portion of each year?*

Immediate Family	59
Grandparents	21
Cousins/Aunts/Uncles	74
Close Friends or other relative	62
I have no family living in Iran	9
Not Sure	1

35. *How closely do you follow news from Iran—very closely, somewhat closely, not very closely or not at all closely?*

Very closely	41
Somewhat closely	37
Not very closely	16
Not at all closely	6
Not Sure	1

36. *What was the main reason why you or your family moved to the U.S.?*

Educational reasons	56
Political reasons	19
Economic or financial reasons	5
Family reunification	8
Other	12
Not Sure	1

37. Which of the following best describes your ethnicity?

Persian	83
Kurdish	4
Azeri	4
Lor	1
Armenian	2
Assyrian	--
Other	7
Not sure	--

38. Which of the following best describes the status of your U.S. Citizenship?

Born U.S. Citizen	9
Naturalized Citizen	72
Green card holder/Permanent resident	15
Asylum Status/Asylum Seeker/Petitioner	2
Work/student visa holder (Business)	1
Visiting visa holder (Tourist, Transit, Exchange)	--
Other	1
Not Sure	--

IV. RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Sample Characteristics	Frequency	Valid Percent*
Sample Size	401	100
East	70	18
South	120	30
Central/Great Lakes	72	18
West	139	35
Did not answer region	--	--
Democrat	179	47
Republican	47	12
Independent	108	28
18-29	47	12
30-49	135	34
50-64	152	39
65+	59	15
18-24	33	8
25-34	27	7
35-54	196	50
55-69	103	26
70+	34	9
Did not respond age	8	--
Muslim	162	42
Christian	33	9
Zoroastrian	21	5
Baha'i	26	7
Jewish	24	6
Other	123	31
Did not respond religion	12	--
Married	250	64
Single	77	20
D/W/S	67	17
Did not respond marital status	7	--

* Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100.

Sample Characteristics (continued)	Frequency	Valid Percent*
Sample size	401	100
1 person household	61	16
2 people household	110	28
3 people household	77	20
4 people household	100	26
5 people household	28	7
6 or more people household	15	4
Not sure	10	--
< \$25,000	44	13
\$25-35K	29	9
\$35-50K	41	12
\$50-75K	73	22
\$75-100K	50	15
\$100K+	99	30
Did not respond Income	65	--
Male	225	56
Female	176	44
Did not respond Gender	--	--
Progressive	50	15
Liberal	132	40
Moderate	90	27
Conservative	46	14
Very Conservative	11	3
Libertarian	5	2
Did not respond ideology	67	--

* Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100.