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## **Public Perceptions toward the Current Economy: A Report to the U.S. Congress**

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**Public Perceptions toward the Current Economy:  
A Report to the U.S. Congress**

Due date: February 9, 2020  
(Sunday, 11:59:59pm to Blackboard)

You are a researcher assistant for a non-profit polling organization called **WePoll**. In September 2019, your research team conducted a poll on Americans' current *perceptions toward the economy*. The original questionnaire is on page 2.

Through the random digit dialing system (RDD), your research team randomly contacted 7,347 potential respondents, all adults living in America at the time of the poll. From these potential respondents, 6,878 eventually responded to your poll.

After collecting the data, your team put together Figures 1 and 2 (page 3-4). Note that after some calculation, you know that the **margin of sampling error** for this sample is plus or minus 1.6 percentage points.

Your report should be about 5 pages (double-spaced, with a title page). It will be presented to the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress. The politicians will use the report to develop a new social welfare policy for the next five years.

Your report should include the following elements:

1. An introduction to explain the social significance of the issue;
2. The research procedure (how sample was selected, the sample size, response rates, the format of the questionnaire, etc.);
3. Presenting findings in Figures 1 and 2;
4. For each figure, detect the general pattern of American's perception. Discuss the trend you see in the figures. While you need to explain the numbers as clearly as possible, you should focus on the patterns instead of tiny details;
5. Explain the numbers in the figures in a language as easy to understand (Congress members may not have knowledge of social research);
6. Implication: explain to the Congress how the poll's findings can help to develop new social welfare policies for Americans. What would be your organization's policy recommendation?

## The Questionnaire

1. How would you describe your household's income level?
  - Upper income
  - Middle income
  - Lower income
  
2. Thinking about the nation's economy, how would you rate economic conditions in this country today?
  - Excellent
  - Good
  - Only fair
  - Poor
  
3. How often, if ever, do you worry about paying your bills?
  - Every day
  - Almost every day
  - Sometimes
  - Rarely
  - Never
  
4. How often, if ever, do you worry about the cost of health care for you and your family?
  - Every day
  - Almost every day
  - Sometimes
  - Rarely
  - Never
  
5. Do you think the country's current economic conditions are helping or hurting the following groups?

	<b>Hurting a lot</b>	<b>Hurting a little</b>	<b>Neither hurting or helping</b>	<b>Helping a little</b>	<b>Helping a lot</b>
People who are wealthy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The middle class	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People who are poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You and your family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Figure 1**

<To be Attached>

**Figure 2.**

<to be Attached>