



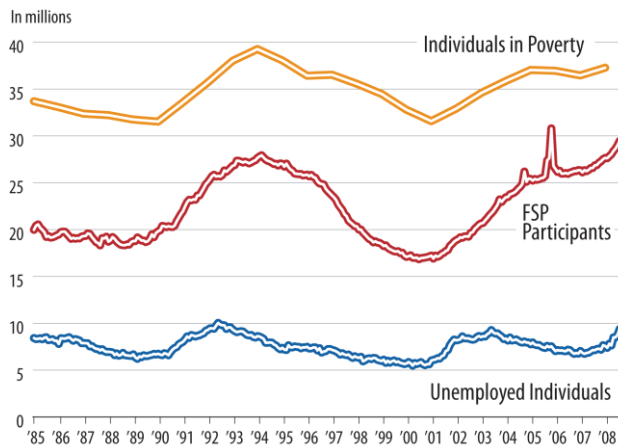
Monitoring Poverty and Hardship: What Can We Access Easily and Quickly?

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For the OECD Roundtable
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Rapid Indicators

- **Country Specific Administrative Data: Try Food Stamps in USA**—administrative data showing monthly enrollment by county (state, nation)! An excellent indicator of need and predictor of poverty in the short run
- **Cross-nationally Comparable Polling?** - go to Gallup.com and try to get daily polling for all OECD countries (daily only in the US—it is conducted quarterly in Japan and Germany, and once per year in all other countries).

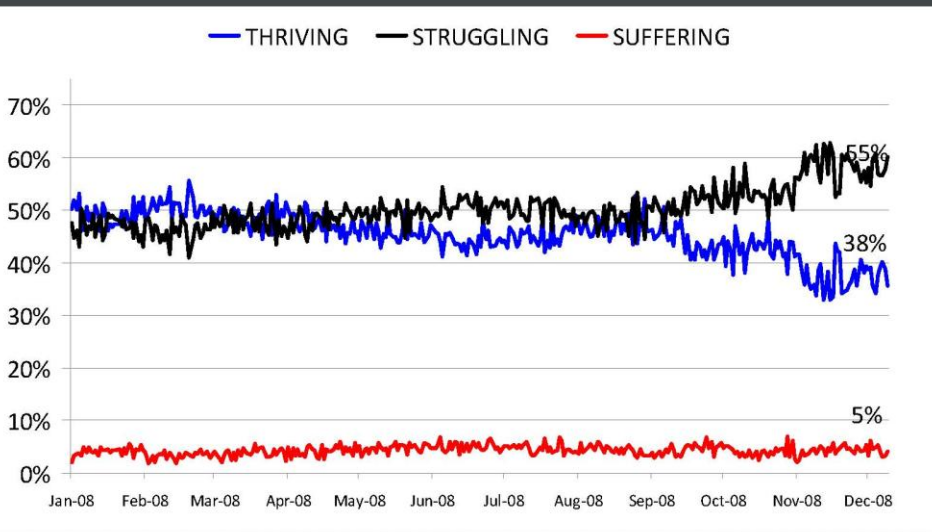
Poverty, Unemployment, and Food Stamp USA Data on Need that Tracks Poverty



Gallup.com World Poll

- The first chart is based on life evaluation (ladder of life). Thriving are those who rate their current life a 7 or higher and project their life as 8 or higher in five years.
- Both present and future ratings have dropped this year, future by a little more. Suffering are those who rate their present life 4 or below and future also 4 or below. Struggling are all those who are not thriving or suffering. So again this is life evaluation...which doesn't change as much by day, but certainly has changed this year (by month).
- This index appears to be largely driven by perception of standard of living.

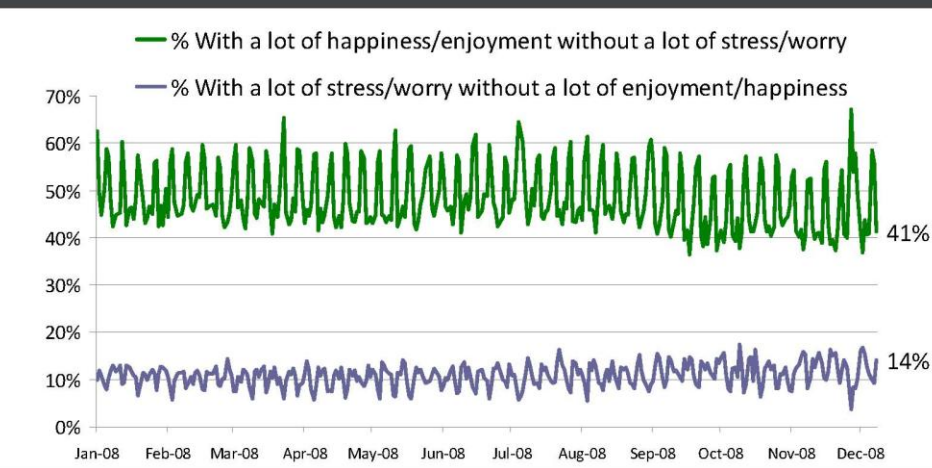
Life Evaluation Index: Daily Trend



GALLUP POLL
World Poll

1

Happiness-Stress Index: Daily Trend

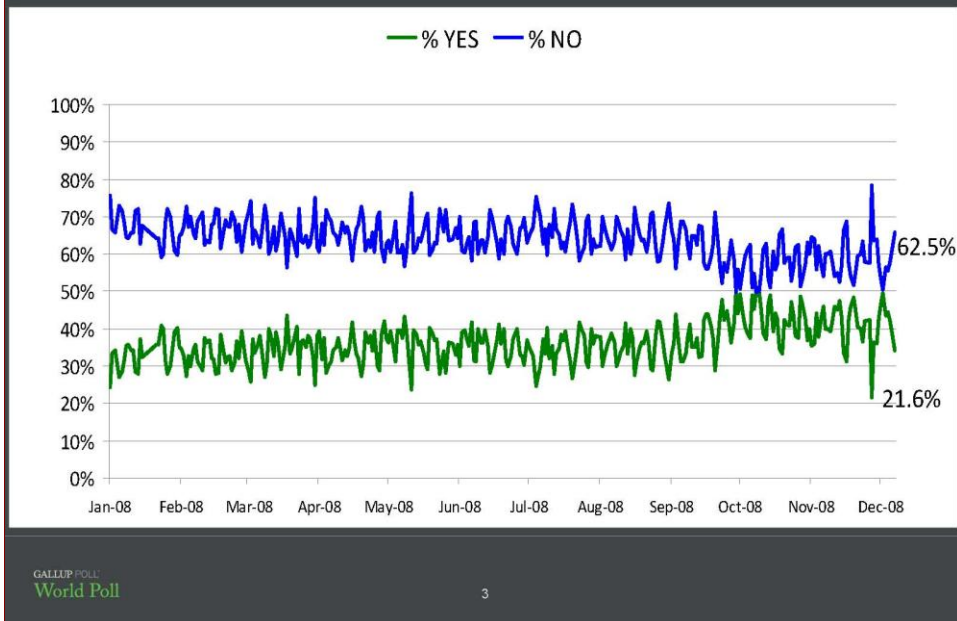


January 1st through December 1st, 2008

GALLUP POLL
World Poll

2

Did you worry about money yesterday?



Finally

- Poverty measurement is dated—takes a year or more to get poverty rates, full incomes, etc—so we need something different, faster and indicating hardship or stress or worries—and we can use administrative data and polling for this
- BUT knowing when you are in trouble and acting on it are two different things—do not forget the latter is much slower in all OECD nations