The SOM Institute

The SOM Institute at the University of Gothenburg, founded in 1986, conducts interdisciplinary survey research and organizes seminars on the topics of Society, Opinion and Media (hence the name SOM). The institute is jointly managed by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg.

The Institute is headed by Professor Henrik Ekengren Oscarsson. Associate professor Annika Bergström and Ph D Jonas Ohlsson are research administrators and Kerstin Gidsäter is head administrator. Members of the steering committee are Professor Bengt Johansson, The Department of Journalism, Media and Communication, University of Gothenburg, Professor André Jansson, The Department of Media and Communication Science, University of Karlstad, Associate Professor Maria Oskarson, The Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg and Professor Karin M Ekström, School of Business and IT, University of Borås.

The National SOM Surveys

From 1986 till 1997, the core of the SOM Institute has been an annual nationwide survey, National SOM, carried out every autumn in the form of a mail questionnaire to 2 800 randomly selected persons between the ages of 15 and 80. In 1998 the survey was doubled, and since 2013 each of the four sub-surveys comprise a sample of 3 400 respondents with an increased age limit to 85.

Research

The central questions addressed in National SOM are attitudes toward mass media, politics and public services. A report summarizing the main results of each year’s survey is published annually. The data files from the surveys are deposited at the Swedish National Data Service in Gothenburg. The results on the following pages are based on data from National SOM.

Infrastructure

The SOM Institute is part of the Swedish national research infrastructure. Researchers and research projects are invited to co-operate with the surveys, and thereby access high quality data, mainly within the area of social sciences. The SOM staff plan the surveys, design questionnaires and work with quality control and refinement of the gathered data. The questionnaires are constructed in close collaboration with participating research projects.

It is of great importance to the SOM Institute to be transparent in all parts of our work. Questionnaires and reports are made available on the web page and each survey is well documented in methods sections of our publications.

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SOCIAL TRENDS
**Question:** “According to your view, during the last twelve months, has the Swedish economy gotten better, remained the same, or gotten worse?”

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013

**Comment:** All respondents are included in the calculations.
ASSESSING PERSONAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

Personal financial situation compared to twelve months ago

Comment: All respondents are included in the percent calculations.

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013

Question: “According to your view, during the last twelve months, has your personal financial situation gotten better, remained the same, or gotten worse?”

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CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS

Police & Courts

Comment: The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS
Royal Family, Church of Sweden & Defence

Comment: The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
**CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS**

Bank of Sweden, Banks, Big business & Trade unions

**Comment:** The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

**Question:** "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013
CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS
Parliament, Government, Local governments, Political parties

Comment: The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Comment: The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1998-2013
CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS
Daily press & Radio/Television

Comment: The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Opinion balance

Health Care, Universities & Elementary Schools

**Comment:** The lines show the percentage of respondents indicating very or fairly much confidence minus the percentage indicating fairly or very little confidence (opinion balance). The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much nor little; Fairly little; Very little".

**Question:** "How much confidence do you have in the way the following institutions/groups do their job?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013
CONFIDENCE IN SOME PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Comment: Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much, nor little; Fairly little; Very little, No opinion". The results are percent indicating very or fairly much confidence. The percentages are based on the respondents answering each individual item, including those who marked "No opinion".

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the way the following professional groups do their job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 2002-2013

Staff in health care
Teachers in elementary school
Academic researchers
Policemen
National politicians
CONFIDENCE IN RESEARCH IN DIFFERENT RESEARCH AREAS

Comment: Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Neither much, nor little; Fairly little; Very little; No opinion". The results show percent answering "Very" or "Fairly much" confidence.

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the following research areas?"

Source: The National SOM survey 2002-2013
Comment: The cinema and theatre figures indicate attendance/activity at least once every six months, while restaurant figures indicate attendance at least once a month. The percentages include all respondents in the survey.

Question: "How often have you engaged in the following activities during the past twelve months?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1988-2013
LEISURE ACTIVITIES
Sports, Outdoor life & Exercise

Comment: The figures indicate attendance/activity at least once a week. The percentages include all respondents in the survey.

Question: "How often have you engaged in the following activities during the past twelve months?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1998-2013

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Comment: Attended church service figures indicate attendance at least once a month, while 'prayed to God' figures indicate activity at least once a month. The percentages include all respondents in the survey.

Question: "How often have you engaged in the following activities during the past twelve months?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1987-2013
Comment: The figures indicate activity at least once a week. Percentages are based on respondents answering at least one item of a multi-item question on lifestyle and leisure activities.

Question: "How often have you engaged in the following activities during the past twelve months?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1992-2013
Comment: The scale runs between 0 and 10 with 0 labeled "It is not possible to trust people in general", and 10 "It is possible to trust people in general". Percentages are based on all respondents in the survey including non-opinion (varies between 2 and 6 percent).

Question: "According to your view, to what extent is it possible to trust people in general? Please answer using this scale."

Source: The National SOM survey 1996-2013
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**Comment:** Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very important; Fairly important; Neither important, nor unimportant; Not very important; Not at all important". The results show percent respondents answering "Very important". Percentages are based on those answering at least one item.

**Question:** "How important do you consider the following things to be to yourself?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1988-2011
**SATISFACTION IN LIFE**

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question: "Very satisfied; Fairly satisfied; Not very satisfied; Not at all satisfied". Percentages are calculated among respondents who have answered the question. The two negative response alternatives are combined into "Not satisfied" in the figure.

Question: "On the whole, how satisfied are you with the life you lead?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1996-2013
WHAT SWEDES WORRY ABOUT
Unemployment & Economic Crises

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very worrying; Somewhat worrying; Not particularly worrying; Not at all worrying". The results show percent answering "Very worrying" among persons who answered at least part of the question.

Question: "Looking at today's situation, what worries you most?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1991-2013
WHAT SWEDES WORRY ABOUT

Changes in global climate & Environmental deterioration

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very worrying; Somewhat worrying; Not particularly worrying; Not at all worrying". The results show percent answering "Very worrying" among persons who answered at least part of the question.

Question: "Looking at today's situation, what worries you most?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013

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WHAT SWEDES WORRY ABOUT
Terrorism & Organized crime

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very worrying; Somewhat worrying; Not particularly worrying; Not at all worrying". The results show percent answering "Very worrying" among persons who answered at least part of the question.

Question: "Looking at today's situation, what worries you most?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
WHAT SWEDES WORRY ABOUT
More refugees & Social divide

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very worrying; Somewhat worrying; Not particularly worrying; Not at all worrying". The results show percent answering "Very worrying" among persons who answered at least part of the question.

Question: “Looking at today’s situation, what worries you most?”

Source: The National SOM survey 1993-2013
POLITICAL TRENDS
POLITICAL INTEREST AND PARTY MEMBERSHIP

Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very interested; Fairly interested; Not especially interested; Not at all interested". The results show percent "Very much" or "Fairly interested" in politics and percent party members among all.

Question: "In general, how interested are you in politics?", "Are you a member of a political party?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
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**Comment:** The results are unweighted and calculated among eligible voters (18 years or older and Swedish citizens).

**Question:** "Which party do you like best at the present time?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Comment: The question is given to respondents stating a party preference. Response alternatives to the question asked: "Yes, very convinced", "Yes, somewhat convinced", "No". The results show percent very convinced or somewhat convinced party supporters among all respondents.

Question: "Do you consider yourself a convinced supporter of your party?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS
The leader of the Left Party (V)

Comment: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

Question: "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013

www.som.gu.se  info@som.gu.se
VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS
The leader of the Social Democratic Party (S)

**Comment:** The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

**Question:** "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Comment: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

Question: "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS
The leader of the Liberal Party (FP)

Comment: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

Question: “Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?”

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS

The leader of the Christian Democratic Party (KD)

**Comment:** The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

**Question:** "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1988-2013

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VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS

The leader of the Conservatives (M)

Comment: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

Question: "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS

The leader of the Green Party (MP)

Comment: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

Question: "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1993-2013
**Comment**: The results are based on answers on a dislike-like scale running between -5 ("Dislike") and +5 ("Like"). The numbers have been multiplied by ten to avoid decimals. Consequently, the scale runs between -50 ("Dislike") and +50 ("Like").

**Question**: "Generally speaking, how much do you like or dislike the party leaders? Using this scale, where would you like to place the different party leaders?"

**Source**: The National SOM survey 2007-2013

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**VOTER ASSESSMENTS OF THE PARTY LEADERS**

The leader of the Sweden Democratic Party (SD)

- **SD sympathizers**: +32 in 2013
- **All respondents**: -20 in 2013

- **2007**: Average score +18
- **2008**: Average score +18
- **2009**: Average score +30
- **2010**: Average score +30
- **2011**: Average score +30
- **2012**: Average score +30
- **2013**: Average score +30

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**37**
LEFT-RIGHT SELF PLACEMENT

Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Clearly to the left; Somewhat to the left; Neither to the left, nor to the right; Somewhat to the right; Somewhat to the left". No-answers (3-5 percent on average every year) are excluded from the analysis.

Question: "It is sometimes said that political opinions can be placed on a scale from left to right. Where would you place yourself on such a left-right scale?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
ASSESSING THE GOVERNMENT'S JOB PERFORMANCE

Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very well; Fairly well; Neither well, nor badly; Fairly badly; Very badly". The results show percent respondents answering "Very or "Fairly well/bad".

Question: "How well do you think the Government is doing its job?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
SATISFACTION WITH THE WAY DEMOCRACY WORKS

**Comment**: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very satisfied; fairly satisfied; Not very satisfied; Not at all satisfied". The results show percentages responding "Very" or "Fairly satisfied" among people answering the questions.

**Question**: "On the whole, are you satisfied with the way democracy works?"

**Source**: The National SOM survey 1998-2013
Comment: Four response alternatives to the question asked: "Very much; Fairly much; Fairly little; Very little". The results show percent answering "Very much" or "Fairly much" among all respondents. No-answers vary between 1 to 4 percent, and are included in the percentage base.

Question: "In general, how much do you trust Swedish politicians?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1998-2013
POLITICAL ISSUES
## IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR SWEDES (Percent)

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**Comment:** The percentages are based on all respondents. The respondents were asked to provide a maximum of three issues/societal problems in an open-ended question.

**Question:** "Which issue(s) or societal problem(s) do you think is/are the most important in Sweden today?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1987-2013
Comment: All respondents are included in the percent calculations. Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Abolish nuclear power quickly; Abolish nuclear power, but not until our present reactors have done their job; Use nuclear power and renew the reactors when they are worn out; Use nuclear power and build additional reactors in the future; No definite opinion".

Question: "What is your view on the long term use of nuclear power as an energy source in Sweden?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
ASSESSING NUCLEAR POWER RISKS

Question: “What is your opinion on the following risks that have been discussed in connection with nuclear power?”

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2012

Comment: The results are means ranging between 1 ("Low risk") and 10 ("High risk"). Response alternative to the questions asked were offered in the form of a scale ranging between 1 ("Very little risk") and 10 ("Very large risk").
**Comment:** Five response alternatives to the question asked: "More than today; About the same as today; Less than today; Abolish/Give up the energy source completely; No opinion". All respondents who answered each question are included in the percentage base.

**Question:** "During the next 5-10 years, how much should we in Sweden invest in the following energy sources?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1999-2013

---

**INVEST IN DIFFERENT ENERGY SOURCES**

- **Solar:** 81
- **Wind:** 61
- **Wave:** 58
- **Bio:** 43
- **Hydro:** 41
- **Fossil/gas:** 20
- **Nuclear:** 13
- **Oil:** 2
- **Coal:** 2

Year: 1999-2013

Percent: 0-90
ATTITUDES TOWARD THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Comment: All respondents who answered any item in the battery of questions are included in the percent calculations. Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal".

Question: "Reduce the size of the public sector?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Comment: In all four cases response alternatives were: “Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal”. The results are percent in favour of a proposal minus percent opposed (opinion balance).

Source: The National SOM survey 1987-2013

Question: “Convert public utilities like Swedish Telecom into private enterprises; Increase the proportion of health care operated by private interests; Let private enterprises handle care for the elderly; Give more resources to free schools.”
YES TO SIX HOUR WORK DAY

Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good idea; fairly good idea; Neither good, nor bad idea; Fairly bad idea; Very bad idea". The results show percent respondents answering "Very good" or "Fairly good" among women and men. The percentages are based on the number of respondents answering the question.

Question: "Introduce a six hour work day for all gainfully employed?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1996-2013
ACCEPTING FEWER REFUGEES

Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal". The results show percent answering "Very good/bad" or "Fairly good/bad" among respondents who answered the question.

Question: "Accept fewer refugees into Sweden?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1990-2013
**SUPPORT FOR NEW AND OLD VALUE ISSUES**

**Comment:** Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal; No opinion". The results show percent answering "Very good" or "fairly good" proposal among persons who answered each item.

**Question:** "Here are a number of proposals. What is your view on them?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 2001-2013

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**Topics:**
- Strengthen animal rights
- Strengthen the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in society
- Legalize euthanasia in Sweden
- Allow selling liquor in grocery stores
- Introduce death penalty for murder
- Forbid research on embryonic stem cells

---

**Years (2001-2013):**
- Percentages for each year are represented on the graph.

---

**Website:** www.som.gu.se

**Email:** info@som.gu.se
MEDIA TRENDS
**Comment:** The results show percent of all respondents reading a morning paper in print or online at least five days a week, reading an evening tabloid in print or online at least three days a week, and watching the specified television and radion news programs at least five days a week.

**Question:** "How often do you usually watch or listen to the following programmes on radio or television? If you read a morning paper regularly - about how many times a week do you usually read? How often do you read an evening tabloid in print or online?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1990-2013
**Comment**: The results show percent of all respondents subscribing to a morning paper in print; reading at least one morning paper (in print) at least five days a week.

**Source**: The National SOM survey 1990-2013

**Question**: "Do you read or look in a morning paper regularly? If yes, write down the name of the paper or papers and state how many days you usually read or look into it"; "Do you or anybody else in your household subscribe to a newspaper?"
### MOST READ CONTENT IN LOCAL MORNING PAPERS (Percent)

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<td>87</td>
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<tr>
<td>About radio and tv</td>
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**Comment:** Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Everything/almost everything; Fairly much; Not very much; Nothing/hardly anything; Don't know". The results show percent respondents answering "Everything/almost everything" or "Fairly much". The results refer to the population of reading a local newspaper at least once a week. Percentages are based on respondents who answered at least one question item.

**Question:** “How much of the following content types do you usually read in the local morning paper?”

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2012
LISTENING TO PUBLIC SERVICE VS. COMMERCIAL RADIO

Comment: Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Daily; 5-6 days a week; 3-4 days a week; 1-2 days a week; More seldom; Never".

Question: "How often do you listen to the following radio channels?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1994-2013
LISTENING TO PUBLIC SERVICE RADIO CHANNELS

Comment: Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Daily; 5-6 days a week; 3-4 days a week; 1-2 days a week; More seldom; Never". The results show percent of all respondents listening at least five days a week.

Question: "How often do you listen to the following radio channels?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1994-2013
WATCHING VARIOUS TV CHANNELS

Comment: The results show percent watching the channel at least five days a week. Percentages are based on respondents answering at least one question item.

Question: "How often do you normally watch programmes in the following TV channels?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1992-2013
Comment: The results show the percent among all respondents indicating access to the specified equipment in the household. Minor changes in the age composition of the sample over the years affect the level of penetration of media with a few percentage points.

Question: "Among the following, what kinds of equipment do you have access to in your household?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1987-2013
INTERNET USAGE

Comment: Seven response alternatives to the question asked: “Never; About once/twelve months; About once/six months; About once every month; About once every week; Several times a week”. The results show percent among all respondents, using the Internet several times a seek.

Question: “During the last twelve months, how often have you used the Internet?”

Source: The National SOM survey 1995-2013
AREAS OF USE ON THE INTERNET

Comment: Seven response alternatives to the question asked: "Never; About once/twelve months; About once/six months; About once a month; About once a week; Several times a week; Daily". The results show percent among all respondents, active in each area at least once a week.

Question: "During the last twelve months, how often have you done the following?"

Source: The National SOM survey 2005-2013
TRUST IN MEDIA CONTENT

Comment: The results are percent indicating "Very much confidence" or "Fairly much confidence" minus percent "Fairly little confidence" or "Very little confidence" (opinion balance). Percentages are based on respondents who answered at least parts of the question.

Question: "How much confidence do you have in content of the following media?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1999-2012
## TRUST IN MEDIA CONTENT (Opinion balance)

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<td>Kanal 5</td>
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**Comment:** The results are percent indicating “Very much confidence” or “Fairly much confidence” minus percent “Fairly little confidence” or “Very little confidence” (opinion balance). Percentages are based on respondents who answered at least parts of the question.

**Question:** “How much confidence do you have in content of the following media?”

**Source:** The National SOM survey 2010-2013
Comment: Six response alternatives to the question asked: "Never; About once/twelve months; About once/six months; About once a month; About once a week; Several times a week". The percent reading a book on at least a weekly basis among men and women who answered at least parts of a multi-item question on leisure activities.

Question: "How often have you engaged in the following activities during the past twelve months?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1988-2013
SWEDEN AND THE WORLD
Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal". The results show percent answering "Very/fairly good" or "Very/fairly bad" among respondents who answered the question.

Question: "Reduce foreign aid?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1987-2013
Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal". The results show percent answering "Very/fairly good" or "Very/fairly bad" among respondents who answered the question.

Question: "Reduce defence spending?"

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
**Comment:** Three response alternatives to the question asked: "On the whole in favour; On the whole against; No definite opinion". All respondents answering the question are included in the percentage base.

**Question:** "What is your opinion on the Swedish membership in the European Union?"

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1992-2013
SWEDISH MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION

Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal". The results show percent answering "Very/fairly good" or "Very/fairly bad" among respondents who answered the question.

Question: "Sweden should introduce the Euro as currency"

Source: The National SOM survey 1995-2013
Comment: Five response alternatives to the question asked: "Very good proposal; Fairly good proposal; Neither good, nor bad proposal; Fairly bad proposal; Very bad proposal". The results show percent answering "Very/fairly good" or "Very/fairly bad" among respondents who answered the question.

Question: "Sweden should apply for membership in NATO"

Source: The National SOM survey 1994-2013

Percent

Year


48 34 Bad idea
29 Good idea

15

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BACKGROUND
**SUBJECTIVE FAMILY CLASS**

**Comment:** Percentages are based on respondents answering the question.

**Question:** If you describe your home during your childhood, which of the categories below is most appropriate?

**Source:** The National SOM survey 1986-2013
Comment: Based on self-classification. Unemployment includes people in relief work or training programs. The percent calculations are based upon respondents who have answered the questions.

Question: “Which of the following groups do you belong to?”

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013
PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL SOCIETY

Comment: All respondents are included in the percent calculations.

Source: The National SOM survey 1986-2013

Question: "List which associations you are a member of, and how active you are in those associations."
The SOM Institute at the University of Gothenburg conducts yearly national and local surveys in Sweden, and gives seminars on Society, Opinion and Media.

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