

# HARPER'S INDEX

- Chances that an American describes his or her diet as "healthy" : 9 in 10
- Graduates of the Cattlemen's Beef Board "Masters of Beef Advocacy" program since 2009 : 1,950
- Number of U.S. states that have more pigs than people : 3
- Radioactive animal droppings found in 2009 near the Hanford nuclear site in Washington : 33
- Percentage change since 2001 in the Alsatian great hamster population : -78 (See page 84)
- Minimum number of birds that die from crashing into New York City windows each year : 100,000
- Percentage of black kite raptors that decorate their nests with white plastic : 82
- Maximum occupancy of a Madrid hotel, made entirely from garbage, that opened in January : 10
- Portion of Singaporeans who live in public housing : 4/5
- Chance that an American benefits from at least one government antipoverty project : 1 in 6
- Amount Santa Barbara proposes to spend moving benches to discourage the homeless from panhandling on them : \$50,000
- Amount Massachusetts has allocated since 2000 to decrease class size and increase teacher pay : \$1,200,000,000
- Percentage of that allocation that has gone to cover rising health-care costs : 100
- Chances that an American opposes any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or education spending : 6 in 10
- Minimum number of U.S. religious facilities that have been foreclosed on since 2008 : 195
- Percentage by which books on contemporary ethics are more likely than other books to be stolen : 50
- Minimum cost of a "pleasure palace" being built for Vladimir Putin : \$1,000,000,000
- Number of Bentleys purchased in Russia in 2000 and in 2010, respectively : 0, 113
- Rank of Communist China among the "greenest" regimes in history, based on total atmospheric carbon reduction : 1
- Of Genghis Khan's Mongol Empire : 2
- Estimated portion of registered voters in Zimbabwe who are dead : 1/4
- Average annual income of an Englishman living at the start of the Black Death, adjusted for inflation : \$1,300
- Of a Haitian at the start of the current cholera epidemic : \$659
- Number of hostages taken by pirates last year : 1,181
- Years since record-keeping began in which that number has been higher : 0
- Number of militias active in the United States in 2007 and in 2010, respectively : 43, 330
- Respective number of states with budget shortfalls in those years : 1, 48
- Number of states that have applied for funding under the 2010 Affordable Care Act : 50
- Number that have joined a lawsuit challenging the act's constitutionality : 26
- Minimum number of U.S. states and territories in which the Army flew unmanned drones last year : 21
- Percentage of Americans aged 18 to 29 who think violence against the U.S. government is justified : 17
- Date on which Glenn Beck hypothesized that an attempted assassination of Sarah Palin "could bring the republic down" : 1/10/11
- Percentage of Canadians who support increasing their country's military presence in the Arctic : 58
- Number of American soldiers who died in combat last year : 455
- Minimum number who committed suicide : 407
- Percentage of Ohio voters who think that House Speaker John Boehner's willingness to cry is a sign of strength : 36
- Average minutes more exercise per week that a heavy drinker gets than a non-drinker : 21
- Percentage increase since 2000 in the number of Britons under 30 with alcohol-related liver disease : 53
- Chance that a woman undergoing in-vitro fertilization in Israel becomes pregnant : 1 in 5
- Chance if she is subjected, before fertilization, to "medical clowning" : 1 in 3

*Figures cited are the latest available as of February 2011. Sources are listed on page 57.  
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