

PRESS RELEASE

FAU National Index Shows Hispanics Souring on Direction of U.S. Economy as Approval for Trump Drops to 31 Percent

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BOCA RATON, Fla., Oct. 11, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Hispanics in the U.S. are souring on the direction of the economy and showing growing dissatisfaction with U.S. President Donald Trump, according to a new national consumer sentiment index conducted by the Florida Atlantic University Business and Economics Polling Initiative ([FAU BEPI](#)) in the College of Business.

The Hispanic Consumer Sentiment Index (CSI), taken from July through September, stands at 92, down nearly three points from the second quarter of 2017, when FAU conducted its last quarterly survey of Hispanic consumers nationally. Only 23 percent of Hispanics said the economy was getting better, while the number of



saying they are better off than they were a year ago and 74 percent saying they will be better off over the next year.

Overall, the percentage of Hispanics who thought it was a good time to buy a big-ticket item for their home fell three points to 61 percent. Only 53 percent thought it was a good time to buy a car, which is down 6 percent from the second quarter. However, perhaps in response to the expectations of high interest rates in the future – 50 percent of respondents expect interest rates to rise – nearly six in 10 Hispanics (58 percent) said it's a good time to buy a house, up seven points from the previous quarter.

President Trump's approval rating among Hispanics fell for the third straight quarter – from 39 percent in the first quarter to 33 percent in the second and 31 percent in the third. Of those surveyed, 16 percent identified themselves as Republicans, 52 percent Democrats, 19 percent Independents and 13 percent were not registered.

The survey was conducted nationally July 1-Sept. 30. The random polling sample consisted of 1,000 Hispanics, 18 years of age and older, with a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percent. The survey was administered using both landlines via IVR data collection (44 percent) and online data collection (56 percent) using [Survey Sampling International](#).