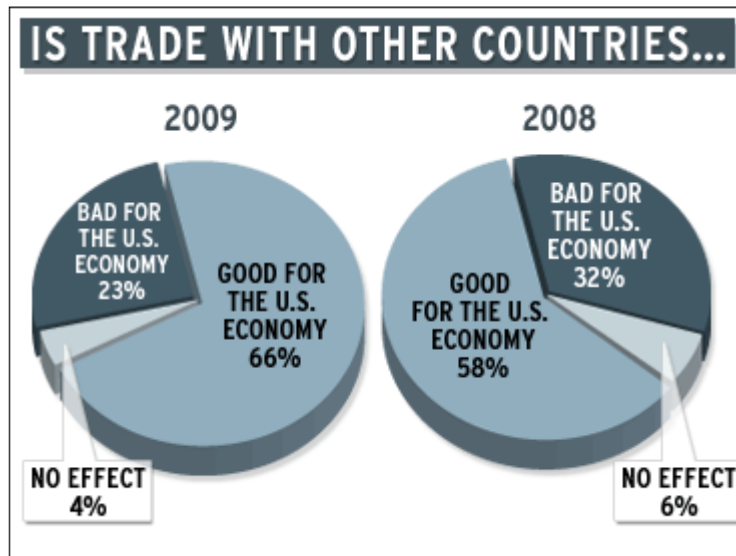


# Poll: Support For Free Trade On The Rise

*Posted by Kevin Hechtkopf*

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Sixty-six percent of Americans now think that, on balance, trade with other countries is good for the U.S. economy, according to a new **CBS News/New York Times** poll. That's up eight points from a poll in March of 2008.

In the poll, twenty-three percent say that trade is bad for the economy, and four percent say it has no effect.

The poll also finds that fewer Americans now think that trade restrictions are necessary to protect domestic industries, though 60 percent still think they are. Sixty-eight percent said the same thing in the poll last year.

Meanwhile, twenty-eight percent said that free trade must be allowed even if domestic industries are hurt by foreign competition. That's up from 24 percent last year.