

2021 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 85 March survey
TOPLINE
March 8-14, 2021
N=12,045

ASK ALL:

TOPICFOL How closely, if at all, have you been following news about... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. The actions and initiatives of the Biden administration since the inauguration March 8-14, 2021	22	44	25	9	*
b. The distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S. March 8-14, 2021	27	44	23	7	*
c. The aftermath and discussion of the January 6th attack on the Capitol March 8-14, 2021	22	36	31	11	*

ASK ALL:

BIDENMEDIA Do you think that the relationship between **[RANDOMIZE: the Biden administration and the U.S. news media / the U.S. news media and the Biden administration]** is generally...

March 8-14

2021

66	Healthy
32	Unhealthy
2	No answer

[ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]

ASK ALL:

SOURCEUSE2 Please click on all of the sources that you got political news from in the past week. This includes any way that you can get the source. If you are unsure, please DO NOT click it.

For second screen of images, should say: "Again, please click on all that you got political news from in the past week."

DO NOT SHOW THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO RESPONDENTS WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS (XTABLET=1): HuffPost; Breitbart; BuzzFeed; Business Insider; Vox

BASED ON TOTAL [N=12,045]:

March 8-14 <u>2021</u>		March 8-14 <u>2021</u>	
43	Fox News	36	ABC News
27	MSNBC	41	NBC News
45	CNN	37	CBS News
16	PBS	22	NPR
15	The Wall Street Journal	4	Mark Levin Show (radio)
15	USA Today	7	Sean Hannity Show (radio)
12	Politico	23	Washington Post
9	BuzzFeed	26	The New York Times
7	Newsweek	9	HuffPost
7	Business Insider (now a part of Insider)	4	Breitbart
7	Vox	9	New York Post
8	The Hill	7	One America News Network
2	Washington Examiner		
10	Newsmax		

[ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]**ASK ALL:**

STORYSOURCE As you may know, journalists often quote or get information from various sources for a news story, such as experts, politicians, or people involved in the event.

How closely do you pay attention to the sources cited in a news story?

March 8-14 <u>2021</u>	
22	Very closely
45	Somewhat closely
24	Not too closely
9	Not at all closely
*	No answer

[ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]

ASK ALL:
STORYWHY

When you read, watch or listen to a news story, how important is each of the following in deciding whether it is trustworthy? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not very <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. The news organization that publishes the story March 8-14, 2021	50	38	8	4	1
b. The person, if any, who shares the story with me March 8-14, 2021	23	45	22	10	1
c. The story has a lot of shares, comments or likes on social media March 8-14, 2021	6	18	33	42	1
d. The sources that are cited in the story March 8-14, 2021	47	39	9	4	1
e. The specific journalist who reported the story March 8-14, 2021	24	42	23	9	1
f. My gut instinct about the story March 8-14, 2021	30	48	16	6	1

ASK ALL:

ASSESSMENT Thinking now about what you see and hear in the news about the Biden administration, would you say you see... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2; KEEP OPTION 3 LAST]**

March 8-14
2021

46	Mostly positive assessments of the administration
14	Mostly negative assessments of the administration
39	About an even mix of positive and negative assessments of the administration
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

ASSESS_FAIR And would you say that the news coverage you've seen of the Biden administration has been... **[RANDOMIZE]**

March 8-14
2021

76	Mostly fair
21	Mostly unfair
3	No answer

ASK ALL:

ADMINTOPIC In the news you are getting about the Biden administration, are you seeing more about...
[RANDOMIZE]

March 8-14

2021

27	Biden's character and leadership skills
69	Biden's policy positions and agenda
4	No answer

ASK ALL:

ASSESS_ACC And would you say that the news coverage you've seen of the Biden administration has been
... **[RANDOMIZE]**

March 8-14

2021

69	Mostly accurate
26	Mostly inaccurate
5	No answer

ASK ALL:

BIDENATTN Thinking of some of the early issues that the Biden administration has focused on how much attention do you think news organizations are giving to each of the following?

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2 IN THE SAME ORDER FOR EACH RESPONDENT; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST]

	<u>Too much attention</u>	<u>Too little attention</u>	<u>Right amount of attention</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The coronavirus outbreak March 8-14, 2021	28	13	58	1
b. The U.S. economy March 8-14, 2021	8	44	47	1
c. Immigration March 8-14, 2021	18	43	37	1
d. Climate policy March 8-14, 2021	24	39	35	2
e. Racial inequality March 8-14, 2021	36	28	35	1

ASK ALL:

BIDENATTN2 And, in their coverage of the Biden administration, which of these issues are your main news sources giving the most attention to? **[RANDOMIZE]**

March 8-14

2021

55	The coronavirus outbreak
21	The U.S. economy
11	Immigration
2	Climate policy
9	Racial inequality
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

BIDENHEARD Thinking about some stories covered by news organizations in the past several weeks...

Regardless of your own views and opinions, how much, if anything, have you heard or read about each of the following efforts of the Biden administration? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Passage of a new economic stimulus bill March 8-14, 2021	77	19	3	1
b. Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine to Americans March 8-14, 2021	74	23	3	*
c. Reforming immigration policy March 8-14, 2021	30	51	19	1
d. Using executive actions to reverse many of the Trump administration's policies March 8-14, 2021	52	36	12	1
e. Rejoining international organizations and agreements March 8-14, 2021	31	50	19	1
f. Pursuing talks with Iran March 8-14, 2021	10	50	39	1
g. The reopening of schools March 8-14, 2021	35	51	13	1

ASK IF HEARD AT LEAST 'A LITTLE' ABOUT EACH ITEM IN BIDENHEARD (BIDENHEARD_A-G=1,2)

BIDENHEARD2 How would you describe the news you have heard or read about the Biden administration's efforts on each of the following?

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER FOR EACH RESPONDENT; KEEP OPTION 3 LAST]

	Mostly <u>positive</u>	Mostly <u>negative</u>	About an even mix of positive <u>and negative</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. Passage of a new economic stimulus bill March 8-14, 2021 [N=11,787]	56	14	29	1
b. Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine to Americans March 8-14, 2021 [N=11,789]	65	9	25	1
c. Reforming immigration policy March 8-14, 2021 [N=10,272]	34	26	39	1
d. Using executive actions to reverse many of the Trump administration's policies March 8-14, 2021 [N=11,109]	42	26	30	2
e. Rejoining international organizations and agreements March 8-14, 2021 [N=8,196]	52	17	30	1
f. Pursuing talks with Iran March 8-14, 2021 [N=8,196]	26	25	47	2
g. The reopening of schools March 8-14, 2021 [N=10,849]	38	18	43	1

ASK ALL:

KNOWVACC1 As you may know, the Biden administration had previously set a goal of vaccinating 1 million Americans a day.

As far as you know, is the administration meeting this initial goal?

March 8-14
2021

33	Yes, they are meeting or exceeding this goal {correct}
27	No, they are not meeting this goal [space]
40	Not sure
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

KNOWVACC2 As far as you know, which is true about the number of doses required for the COVID-19 vaccines currently approved for use in the U.S.? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-3; KEEP OPTION 4 LAST]**

March 8-14

2021

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 2 | All vaccines require only 1 dose |
| 18 | All vaccines require 2 doses |
| | The number of doses required varies |
| 69 | {correct} |
| | [space] |
| 9 | Not sure |
| 1 | No answer |

ASK ALL:

KNOWMIN As you may know, Joe Biden included an increase in the national minimum wage in his January stimulus proposal. As far as you know, what was the new minimum wage he proposed?

March 8-14

2021

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | \$7.25 |
| 2 | \$10.00 |
| 2 | \$13.25 |
| 81 | \$15.00 {correct} |
| 1 | \$17.25 |
| | [space] |
| 13 | Not sure |
| * | No answer |

ASK ALL:

KNOWBORDER As far as you know, which of the following has the Biden administration done regarding immigration policy? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2, 3 AND 4 ALWAYS LAST]**

March 8-14

2021

- | | |
|----|---|
| | Stopped federal funding for the construction of the border wall between the U.S. and Mexico {correct} |
| 43 | |
| | Ordered that parts of the existing border wall between the U.S. and Mexico be taken down |
| 3 | |
| 20 | Both of these things |
| | [space] |
| 33 | Not sure |
| 1 | No answer |

ASK ALL:

KNOWCLIMATE As far as you know, which of the following has the Biden administration done regarding climate policy? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 and 2, 3 AND 4 ALWAYS LAST]**

March 8-14

2021

14	Reentered the Paris agreement
	Rescinded construction permits for the
8	Keystone pipeline
49	Both of these things {most correct}
	[space]
28	Not sure
1	No answer

On a different topic...

ASK ALL:

COVIDFOL How closely have you been following news about the outbreak of the coronavirus strain known as COVID-19?

March 8-14		Nov 18-29	Oct 6- 12	Aug 31- Sep 7	Jun 4- 10	Apr 20-26	Mar 19- 24	Mar 10-16
<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
31	Very closely	37	37	35	39	46	57	51
43	Fairly closely	42	42	46	46	42	35	38
19	Not too closely	15	16	14	11	10	7	9
5	Not at all closely	5	4	4	3	2	1	2
1	No answer	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

ASK ALL:

COVIDDEAL All in all, do you think that the coronavirus outbreak has been... **[RANDOMIZE ANSWER CHOICES 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK ANSWER CHOICE 3 LAST]**

March 8-14		Nov 18-29	Oct 6-12	Aug 31- Sep 7	Jun 4- 10	Apr 20- 26
<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
34	Made a BIGGER deal than it really is	34	36	39	38	29
23	Made a SMALLER deal than it really is	30	30	26	21	27
43	Approached about right	36	33	33	40	42
1	No answer	*	1	2	1	1

ASK ALL:

COVIDCONTROL Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

March 8-14		Nov 18-29	Oct 6-12	Aug 31-Sep 7
<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
42	The U.S. has controlled the outbreak as much as it could have	36	38	37
56	The U.S. has not controlled the outbreak as much as it could have	62	61	61
2	No answer	1	1	2

[ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

24	Republican
32	Democrat
28	Independent
14	Something else
2	No answer

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [N=4,757]:PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...¹⁶**BASED ON TOTAL [N=12,045]:**

19	The Republican Party
20	The Democratic Party
5	No answer

¹⁶ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.