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# Campaign 2016: Modest Interest, High Stakes

Wide Gaps in GOP Candidate Visibility; Small Gaps in Support

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## Campaign 2016: Modest Interest, High Stakes

Wide Gaps in GOP Candidate Visibility; Small Gaps in Support

The 2016 presidential campaign has gotten off to a slow start with voters. A majority of registered voters (58%) say they have given at least some thought to candidates who may run for president in 2016, but that is 10 points lower than at a comparable point in the 2008 campaign – the last time both parties had contested nominations.

Yet, even at this early stage, the vast majority of voters (87%) say they care a good deal about who wins the presidency, and 72% say they care which party prevails.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted March 25-29 among 1,500 adults, including 1,097 registered voters, finds stark differences in the way the possible Democratic and Republican fields are shaping up.

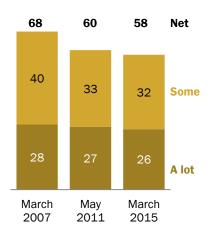
Among the potential set of Democratic candidates, Hillary Clinton has a wide lead over other possible contenders, with fully 59% of Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters saying there is a good chance they would vote for her (86% say there is at least some chance they would).

By contrast, no Republican stands out among the party's crowded field: Of 10 possible GOP contenders asked about in the current survey, no candidate garners solid support from more than a quarter of Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters.

Though Jeb Bush is widely known by Republican voters, just 23% say there is a good chance they would vote for him, while 41% say there is some chance; 25% say there is no chance they would vote for the former Florida governor. Mike Huckabee has similar levels of both recognition and support among Republican voters.

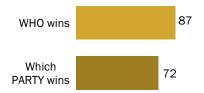
## Modest Interest in Campaign 2016

% of registered voters who have thought about presidential candidates...



## But Broad Agreement About Its Importance

% of registered voters who say they care "a good deal" about \_\_\_\_\_ the 2016 presidential election



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters.

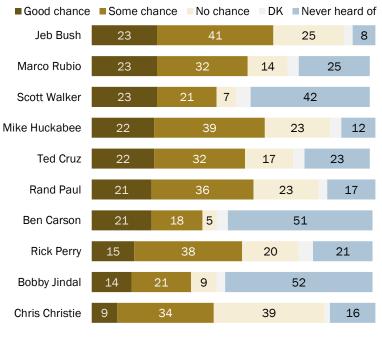
By comparison, Marco Rubio, Scott Walker, Ted Cruz, Rand Paul and Ben Carson are all less well known, yet about as many GOP voters say there is a good chance they would vote for each of them as say this about Bush.

Walker and Carson, in particular, are relatively unfamiliar potential candidates in the GOP race, but they fare well among the subset of Republican voters who have heard of them.

Just 57% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters have heard of Wisconsin Gov. Walker, yet 23% say there is a good chance they would vote for him and just 7% say there is no chance. And Carson has

## No Clear Leader in the GOP Field

Among Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters, % chance would vote for each...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.

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name recognition only among 48% of GOP voters, but 21% say there is a good chance he would get their vote while just 5% say there is no chance of this.

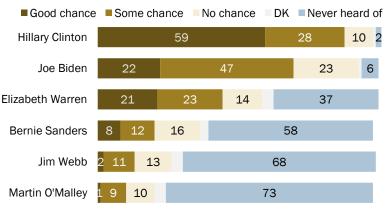
Chris Christie sits on the other end of the spectrum. Though relatively well-known (83% of GOP voters have heard of the New Jersey governor), there is little potential support for a Christie candidacy: Just 9% of GOP voters say there is a good chance they would vote for him, while nearly four-in-ten (39%) say there is no chance.

In contrast to the tight Republican field, Hillary Clinton enjoys broad support among Democratic voters. Potential rivals for her party's nomination have much softer levels of support among Democrats.

Fully 59% of Democratic voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Clinton, while an additional 28% say there is some chance (just 10% say there is no chance). Though Joe Biden is similarly well-known, just 22% say there is a good chance they would vote for

## Most Democrats See a 'Good Chance' of Supporting Clinton; Many Possible Rivals Are Not Well Known

Among Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters, % chance would vote for each...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Democratic and Democratic- leaning registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.



him, while 47% say there is some chance of this (23% say there is no chance).

About two-in-ten (21%) also say there is a good chance they would vote for Elizabeth Warren, although only 63% of Democratic voters have heard of her. (Warren has frequently said she is not running for the office.)

The remainder of the potential Democratic field is much less well-known, with fewer than half of Democratic voters having heard of Bernie Sanders, Jim Webb or Martin O'Malley.

Though there is the prospect of having both Hillary Clinton and Jeb Bush — two candidates related to recent presidents — in the 2016 race, there is little sign that this is a concern among their respective constituencies. Three-quarters (75%) of Republican voters say it doesn't really bother them that the Bush family continues to play a large role in the GOP, while fully 88% of Democratic voters say they aren't bothered by the Clintons' continued role in the Democratic Party.

At this stage in the race, 52% of voters say it is more important to them that a presidential candidate will compromise with the other party than that he or she will stick to their core values and positions (41%).

Democratic voters, in particular, place value on candidates who will make compromises: 63% say this, compared with 31% who prioritize sticking to core values. Republican voters, by contrast, are more likely to value candidates who stick to their core values (57% vs. 35%).

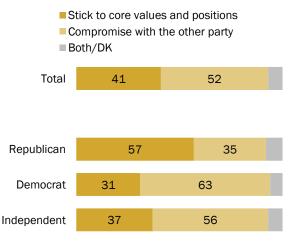
Within the party coalitions there are differences on these measures among each candidate's supporters, particularly within the GOP. Among Republican voters, those who say there is a good chance they would vote for Bush are more supportive of a candidate who would compromise with the other party than are supporters of Cruz, Carson, Walker, or Paul.

And half of voters (50%) say "experience and a proven record" is more important to them than "new ideas and a different approach" (43%). Republicans (59%) are more likely than either Democrats (46%) or independents (48%) to prioritize a proven record.

As the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress nears its 100-day mark, overall views of the institution remain at a near-record low: Today, just 22% of Americans have a favorable view of Congress. Views of the GOP Congressional leadership are little changed over the last few months as well; Mitch McConnell continues to be viewed more

## Democratic Voters Prefer a Candidate Who Compromises With Other Party

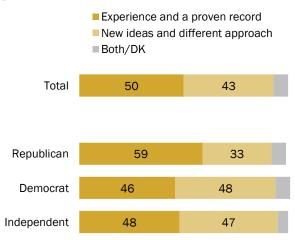
% of registered voters who say it is more important for a presidential candidate to...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. **PEW RESEARCH CENTER** 

### GOP Voters Prefer a Candidate With 'Proven Record' to One With 'New Ideas'

% of registered voters who say it is more important that a presidential candidate has...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. **PEW RESEARCH CENTER** 

unfavorably (38%) than favorably (23%), though many Americans say they have no opinion of the Senate majority leader. And John Boehner — who is substantially better known than his Senate counterpart — is viewed much more unfavorably (51%) than favorably (22%).

Overall views of Barack Obama are little changed since the beginning of the year. Currently 46% approve of his job performance, while 47% disapprove. About half (51%) have a favorable view of Obama personally, while 46% have an unfavorable impression. These ratings have changed little since the beginning of last year.

## An Early Look the 2016 Campaign

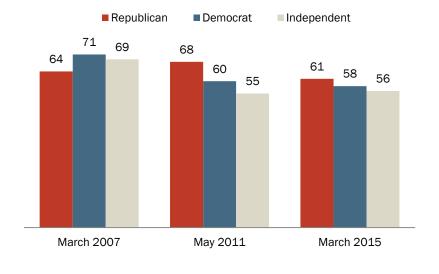
With the 2016 election more than a year and a half away, most voters have yet to fully engage with it—just 26% say they have given a lot of thought to the 2016 candidates, while 58% say they have given at least some thought.

Overall, there is less interest in the campaign today than there was in March 2007 (when 68% had given the candidates at least some thought). At that stage of the 2008 election, all of the major candidates from both parties had formally announced their candidacies. As of today, just one 2016 candidate—Ted Cruz—has formally declared an intention to run.

Today, Democrats, Republicans, and independents are about equally likely to say they have given thought to 2016 candidates. In March 2007, Democratic voters were

## Voters Paying Less Attention to Presidential Race Than Eight Years Ago

% who say they have given a lot or some thought to candidates for president in 2016



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. PEW RESEARCH CENTER

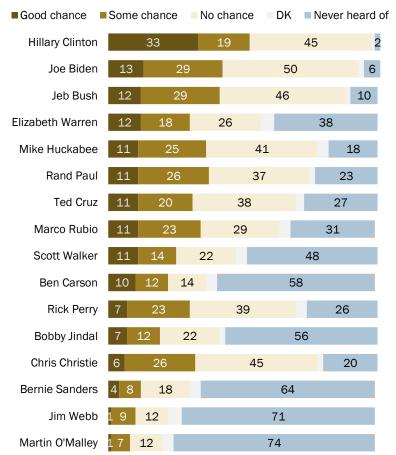
somewhat more attentive to the election than their Republican counterparts (71% said they had given it at least some thought, compared with 64% of GOP voters).

Among all registered voters, Hillary Clinton registers the greatest share of support. One-third

(33%) of voters say there is a good chance they would vote for her, while an additional 19% say there is at least some chance. No more than 13% say there is a good chance they would vote for any single other candidate.

However, among the field of possible candidates beyond Clinton, there is little differentiation at this early stage. This is particularly the case when it comes to possible GOP contenders: Jeb Bush, Mike Huckabee, Rand Paul, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, Scott Walker and Ben Carson all have about one-in-ten registered voters saying there is a good chance they would vote for them.

At this stage, there is considerable variance in awareness of potential candidates. Virtually all voters have heard of Clinton, and Biden and Jeb Bush also



## Voters' Early Impressions of Possible 2016 Candidates

Among registered voters, chance would vote for each in 2016 presidential election (%)...

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.

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are widely known. Among the other Republicans, Mike Huckabee, Chris Christie, Rand Paul, Ted Cruz, Rick Perry, and Marco Rubio are familiar to at least two-thirds of voters. But fewer than half of all voters have heard of Bobby Jindal, Ben Carson or Scott Walker. Among the other Democrats, just over half of voters have heard of Elizabeth Warren and less than a third say they are familiar with either Jim Webb or Martin O'Malley.

## The GOP Field

No single GOP contender emerges as the clear preference of Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Jeb Bush is by far the best known among GOP voters, followed by Mike Huckabee, Chris Christie and Rand Paul.

Jeb Bush and Mike Huckabee lead the pack, both in overall name recognition and in the proportion of GOP voters who say they would consider voting for each: 63% of Republican voters say there is at least some chance they would vote for Bush (23% good chance), with about as many (61%) saying this about Huckabee. Smaller majorities of GOP voters also say there is at least some chance they would vote for Rand Paul (57%), Marco Rubio (55%) and Ted Cruz (54%).

Republican voters' overall support for Scott Walker (44% at least some chance) and Ben Carson (39% at least some

## Majorities of GOP Voters See At Least 'Some Chance' of Voting for Bush, Huckabee, Paul, Cruz and Rubio

Among Republican and Republican leaning-independent registered voters, chance would vote for each (%)...

	NET Good/Some chance	Good	Some	None	Never heard of
	%	%	%	%	%
Jeb Bush	63	23	41	25	8
Marco Rubio	55	23	32	14	25
Scott Walker	44	23	21	7	42
Mike Huckabee	61	22	39	23	12
Ted Cruz	54	22	32	17	23
Rand Paul	57	21	36	23	17
Ben Carson	39	21	18	5	51
Rick Perry	53	15	38	20	21
Bobby Jindal	34	14	21	9	52
Chris Christie	43	9	34	39	16

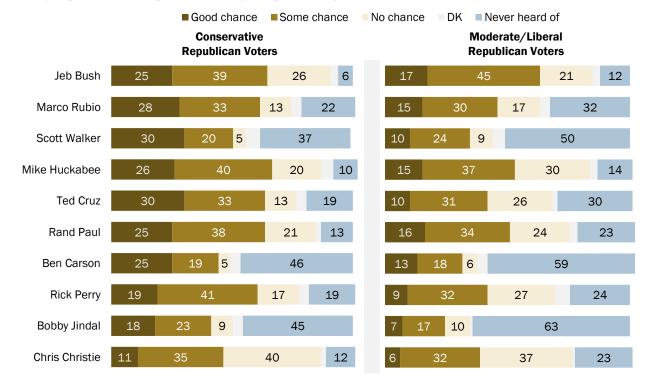
Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Republican and Republican leaning registered voters. Don't know responses not shown.

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chance) lags behind these other candidates, but that is largely because of their relative unfamiliarity within the GOP base. Both men are known by fewer than six-in-ten Republicans; yet among those who are familiar with each candidate, both men have more support than other candidates. All of the possible Republican candidates asked about are better known among conservative Republican voters than among the party's moderates and liberals. And most candidates draw more support among conservatives, although the differences are greater for some than others.

For example, three-in-ten conservative Republican voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Ted Cruz (30%) or Scott Walker (30%), while just 10% of moderate and liberal Republicans say this about either man. About twice as many GOP conservatives (25%) as moderates and liberals (13%) say there is a good chance they would support Ben Carson. There is a narrower gap in support for Jeb Bush: 25% of conservative Republican voters and 17% of moderate and liberal Republican voters say there is a good chance they would vote for the former Florida governor.

## Conservative Republicans More Likely to Support all GOP Contenders, but Walker, Cruz, Carson Draw Disproportionate Support



Among Republican and Republican leaning-independent registered voters, chance would vote for each (%)...

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Republican and Republican leaning registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.

Chris Christie is relatively well known among both conservative and moderate and liberal Republican voters, but draws little support from either group. Just 11% of conservative Republicans and 6% of moderate and liberal Republicans say they see a good chance of supporting Christie; 40% and 37%, respectively, say there is no chance they would vote for the New Jersey governor.

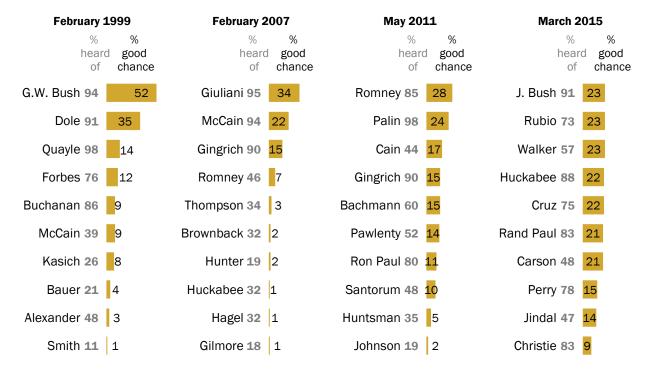
## 2016 Shaping up as a Different Kind of Race for the GOP

Currently, seven GOP presidential candidates draw potentially strong support from 20% or more Republican and Republican-leaning voters. At a slightly later point in the 2012 campaign (May 2011), there were only two candidates – Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin – for whom 20% or more GOP voters said there was a good chance of voting.

Similarly, in February 2007, only two GOP candidates surpassed the 20% mark: 34% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters said there was a good chance they would support Rudy

## GOP Field Crowded at the Top, Unlike In the Recent Past

% of Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters who have heard of / good chance of voting for each...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters.

Giuliani and 22% said the same about John McCain. In February 1999, about half of Republican voters saw a good chance of voting for George W. Bush (52%) in the 2000 election, and 35% said there was a good chance they would vote for Elizabeth Dole.

## The Democratic Field

An overwhelming majority of Democratic and Democraticleaning registered voters (86%) say there is either a good chance (59%) or some chance (28%) they would vote for Hillary Clinton. A majority (69%) of Democrats say there is at least some chance they would support Joe Biden, though just 22% say there is a good chance they would do so.

About as many Democratic voters (21%) say there is a good chance they would vote for Senator Elizabeth Warren, despite being substantially less

### Clinton Stands Out Among Democrats, But Most Would Also Consider Voting for Biden

Among Democratic and Democratic leaning-independent registered voters, chance would vote for each (%)...

	NET Good/Some chance	Good	Some	None	Never heard of
	%	%	%	%	%
Hillary Clinton	86	59	28	10	2
Joe Biden	69	22	47	23	6
Elizabeth Warren	45	21	23	14	37
Bernie Sanders	20	8	12	16	58
Jim Webb	12	2	11	13	68
Martin O'Malley	10	1	9	10	73

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Democratic and Democratic leaning registered voters. Don't know responses not shown.

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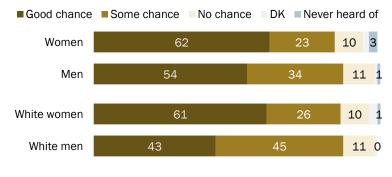
well known than the vice president. Bernie Sanders, Jim Webb and Martin O'Malley are little recognized, and fewer than a quarter of Democratic voters currently say there is any chance they would vote for them.

Though support for Clinton is widespread among Democratic voters, there is a gender gap in the strength of her support among white Democratic voters. Overall, 62% of women and 54% of men say there is a good chance they would vote for Clinton.

But these differences are particularly evident among whites: 61% of white Democratic women say there is a good chance they would vote for Clinton compared

## Gender Gap in Intensity of Potential Democratic Support For Clinton

Among Democratic and Democratic leaning-independent registered voters, chance would vote for Hillary Clinton (%)...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.

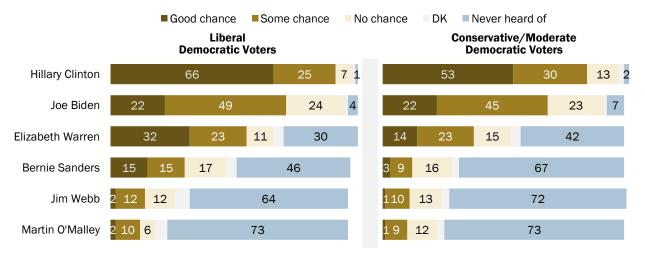
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with 43% of white Democratic men. Conversely, more white Democratic men (45%) than women (26%) see some chance of voting for Clinton. Only about 10% in each group sees no chance of voting for her.

Support for Clinton is greater among liberal Democratic voters (66% of whom say there is a good chance they would vote for her) than among conservative and moderate Democratic voters (53% say this). Still, large majorities of both groups (91% of liberal Democratic voters and 83% of conservative and moderate Democratic voters) say there is at least some chance they would cast a ballot for her.

Joe Biden garners about equal levels of support from both liberals and moderates in the party, while Elizabeth Warren has greater support among the party's liberals. Nearly a third (32%) of liberal Democratic and Democratic leaning voters say there is a good chance they'd vote for her, while just 14% of conservative and moderate Democratic voters say this. To some extent, this reflects liberals' greater familiarity with Warren: 70% of liberal Democratic voters have heard of Warren, compared with 56% of conservative and moderate Democrats.

## Broad Support for Clinton; Warren Draws Greater Potential Support From Liberal Democrats Than Conservative and Moderate Democrats



Among Democratic and Democratic leaning-independent registered voters, chance would vote for each (%)...

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Democratic and Democratic leaning registered voters. Don't know responses to "heard about" question not shown.

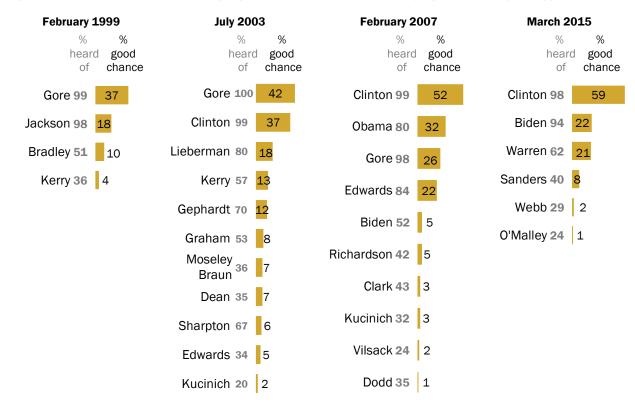
## 2016 Democratic Primary in Historical Perspective

Democrats' early preferences for the 2016 election are similar to those at a comparable point in the 2008 election in one respect: A large share of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters say there is a good chance they would vote for Hillary Clinton. Nearly six-in-ten (59%) Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters say that today; 52% said that at a comparable point in the campaign eight years ago.

But the Democratic field in 2007 was very different than it is today. Currently, about one-in-five Democrats say there is a good chance they would vote for Joe Biden (22%) if he were to decide to run and about as many say the same about Elizabeth Warren (21%), who has repeatedly indicated no interest in being a candidate.

## Hillary Clinton's Potential Support on Par With 2007, But Early Field Is Different

% of Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters who have heard of / good chance of voting for each...



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters.

At about this point in 2007, Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards had all announced their candidacies; 32% of Democrats said there was a good chance they would support Obama and 22% said there was a good chance they would vote for Edwards.

## **Views of Candidate Qualities**

Long-standing partisan differences in attitudes about political compromise are reflected in views of important qualities for presidential candidates. Overall, 52% of registered voters say it is more important for a presidential candidate to compromise with the other party; 42% say it is more important that a candidate sticks to their core values and positions.

By roughly two-to-one (63% to 31%), Democratic voters value a candidate who compromises. Republican voters, by 57% to 35%, prefer someone who adheres to core values and positions.

In recent years, Democrats have been consistently more likely than Republicans to prefer elected officials who make compromises. (For a recent example, see our <u>post-election</u> <u>survey</u>, conducted after the GOP's midterm victories.)

Large majorities of both liberal Democratic voters (66%), and conservative and moderate Democratic voters (60%), say it is more important for a candidate to compromise than to stick to core positions.

Republican voters are internally divided: 64% of conservative Republicans say it is more important for a candidate to stick to core values; just 30% prefer a candidate who makes

## More Democrats Than Republicans Prefer Candidate Who Compromises

% of registered voters who say it is more important for a presidential candidate to...

	Stick to core values & positions %	Compromise with other party %	(Vol.) Both %	<b>DK</b> %
All registered voters	41	52	5	2=100
Men	41	52	4	2=100
Women	41	52	6	2=100
White	40	53	5	2=100
Black	38	54	4	4=100
18-29	46	50	3	1=100
30-49	44	49	5	2=100
50-64	46	47	6	1=100
65+	29	63	5	4=100
College grad+	36	60	3	1=100
Some college	44	48	7	2=100
HS or less	44	48	5	3=100
Republican	57	35	5	3=100
Cons Rep	64	30	3	3=100
Mod/Lib Rep	44	45	9	3=100
Independent	37	56	5	2=100
Democrat	31	63	4	2=100
Cons/Mod Dem	35	60	3	2=100
Liberal Dem	27	66	6	1=100

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic.

compromises. Moderate and liberal Republican voters are split (44% stick to core values, 45% compromise).

There also are differences among GOP voters based on candidate preferences. Among all Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters, those who say there is a good chance they will vote for Jeb Bush are divided over whether it is more important for a candidate to stick to core positions (48%) or compromise with the other party (46%).

Majorities of those who say there is a good chance they will vote for Ted Cruz (75%), Scott Walker (69%), Rand Paul (68%), Ben Carson (66%), Mike Huckabee (61%) and Marco Rubio (58%) say it is more important for a candidate to stick to their positions than to compromise.

Republican and Democratic voters also differ over whether it is more important for a presidential candidate to have experience and a proven record or new ideas and a different approach. In general, more GOP voters prefer a candidate who has experience (59%) to one who has news ideas and different approach (33%). Among Democrats, nearly identical percentages value new ideas (48%) and experience (46%).

## **GOP Voters Value Experience More Than** New Ideas: Democrats Are Divided

% of registered voters who say it is more important that a presidential candidate has...

	& proven record	approach	(Vol.) Both	DK
	%	%	%	%
All registered voters	50	43	5	2=100
Men	49	42	6	3=100
Women	51	43	5	1=100
18-29	38	56	5	1=100
30-49	51	43	5	1=100
50-64	51	42	5	2=100
65+	58	33	6	2=100
College grad+	51	44	5	1=100
Some college	51	41	7	1=100
HS or less	49	44	4	3=100
Republican	59	33	6	1=100
Cons Rep	57	33	8	1=100
Mod/Lib Rep	62	34	3	1=100
Independent	48	47	4	2=100
Democrat	46	48	6	1=100
Cons/Mod Dem	45	50	5	*=100
Liberal Dem	47	45	7	1=100

Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Age is a bigger factor than partisanship in opinions about the relative importance of experience and new ideas. Voters younger than 30 are the only age group to prefer a candidate with new ideas (56% say this, while 38% say they would prefer a candidate with experience and a proven record).

There is little variance in these views among Democratic voters who express a good chance of voting for different candidates. For example, about half (47%) of those who see a good chance of voting for Hillary Clinton value experience over new ideas, as do 50% of those who say there would

be a good chance of supporting Elizabeth Warren and 45% of those who see a good chance of voting for Joe Biden.

## **Opinions of Obama, Congress and GOP Leaders**

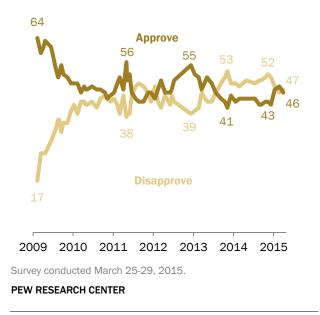
Barack Obama's approval rating remains divided, with 46% approving of his job performance and 47% disapproving of it.

Obama's approval rating is little changed since the start of the year. But through much of 2014, Obama's job rating hovered around 44%.

As has been the case for much of his presidency, Obama's personal favorability ratings are somewhat more positive than views of his job performance. In the current poll, a somewhat greater share (51%) have a favorable opinion of Obama than approve of his job performance.

## **Obama's Job Approval Little Changed**

% who \_\_\_\_\_ of way Obama is handling his job



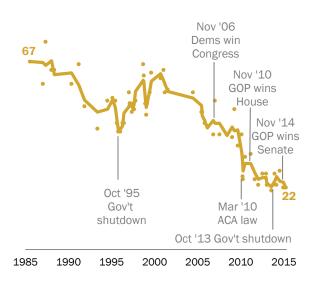
The public's views of Congress continue to hover near all-time lows. Just 22% have a favorable opinion of Congress — equal to its rating last December — while 72% feel unfavorably about Congress.

The share giving Congress a positive rating dropped below 30% in March 2010 – coinciding with the passage of the Affordable Care Act — and has remained there nearly every survey since.

With the GOP now in control of both houses of Congress, Republicans' views of the institution are only slightly more positive than Democrats': 29% of Republicans have a favorable opinion of Congress, compared with 22% of Democrats (and 19% of independents).

#### Views of Congress: 1985-2015

% with a favorable view of Congress

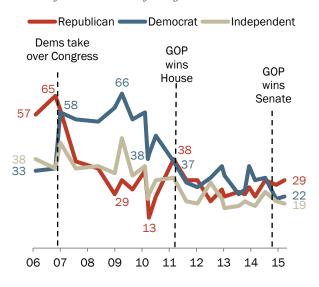


Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Line based on three-survey average; dots show individual surveys. March 2015 based on current survey.

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## Republicans Continue to Take Dim View of Congress, Even With GOP in Control

% with a favorable view of Congress



Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Individual surveys shown.

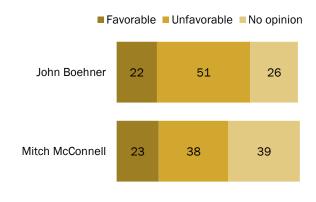
About half of the public (51%) express unfavorable views of Speaker of the House John Boehner, while 22% have a favorable opinion of him (26% hold no opinion). A smaller share of the public has an opinion of Senate Majority Leader McConnell; however, about as many rate him favorably as Boehner (23%) and fewer (38%) have an unfavorable opinion of him (39% have no opinion).

In a Pew Research survey <u>last December</u>, the Democratic congressional leaders also received negative ratings. Nearly half of the public (47%) had an unfavorable view of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and 27% were favorable, though Democrats rated her positively on balance. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, who recently announced his upcoming retirement, was rated unfavorably by 41% of the public and favorably by 20%.

In a change from late 2014, Boehner's ratings among Republicans and Republican leaners are now more unfavorable (43%) than favorable (34%). Republicans and leaners had rated him either positively or about even in eight previous Pew Research Center surveys since the Republicans won back the House in November 2010.

### Public Rates GOP Congressional Leaders More Negatively Than Positively

% who say their view is ...

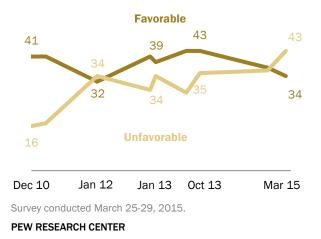


Survey conducted March 25-29, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## Boehner Now More Unfavorable Among Republicans and GOP Leaners

% of Republicans and Republican leaners who say their view of John Boehner is...



## **About the Survey**

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted March 25-29 among a national sample of 1,500 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (525 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 975 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 567 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see

http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the 2013 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2014 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus
Total sample	1,500	2.9 percentage points
Registered voters	1,097	3.4 percentage points
Republican voters	324	6.2 percentage points
Democratic voters	332	6.2 percentage points
Independent voters	396	5.6 percentage points
Republican/Republican- leaning voters	501	5.0 percentage points
Democratic/Democratic- leaning voters	503	5.0 percentage points

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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#### PEW RESEARCH CENTER MARCH 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE MARCH 25-29, 2015 N=1,500

#### **RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH:** Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]** 

	Approve	Dis- approve	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref		Approve	Dis- approve	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref
Mar 25-29, 2015	46	47	7	Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8
Feb 18-22, 2015	48	46	5	Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8
Jan 7-11, 2015	47	48	5	May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	42	51	6	May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11
Nov 6-9, 2014	43	52	5	May 2, 2011 (WP)	56	38	6
Oct 15-20, 2014	43	51	6	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8
Sep 2-9, 2014	42	50	8	Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	42	50	8	Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9
Jul 8-14, 2014	44	49	6	Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10
Apr 23-27, 2014 (∪)	44	50	7	Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13
Feb 27-Mar 16, 2014	44	49	7	Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12
Feb 14-23, 2014	44	48	8	Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	43	49	8	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	45	49	6	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	41	53	6	Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11
Oct 9-13, 2013	43	51	6	Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	44	49	8	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Jul 17-21, 2013	46	46	7	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Jun 12-16, 2013	49	43	7	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
May 1-5, 2013	51	43	6	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
Mar 13-17, 2013	47	46	8	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	51	41	7	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Jan 9-13, 2013	52	40	7	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	39	6	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	50	43	7	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Jun 7-17, 2012	47	45	8	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	46	42	11	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Apr 4-15, 2012	46	45	9	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Mar 7-11, 2012	50	41	9	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Feb 8-12, 2012	47	43	10	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	44	48	8	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Dec 7-11, 2011	46	43	11	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Nov 9-14, 2011	46	46	8	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7				

See past presidents' approval trends: George W. Bush, Bill Clinton

#### **RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2**

ASK ALL:

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satic-	Dic			Satic	Dic	
	Satis-	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis-	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref
Mar 25 20 2015	fied			Aug 20, 27, 2000	fied		
Mar 25-29, 2015	31	64	5	Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7
Feb 18-22, 2015	33	62	5	Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7
Jan 7-11, 2015	31	66	4	Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	26	71	3	Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	68	4	Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8
Oct 15-20, 2014	29	65	6	Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7
Sep 2-9, 2014	25	71	4	Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	72	4	December, 2008	13	83	4
Jul 8-14, 2014	29	68	4	Early October, 2008	11	86	3
Apr 23-27, 2014	29	65	6	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
Feb 12-26, 2014	28	66	6	August, 2008	21	74	5
Jan 15-19, 2014	26	69	5	July, 2008	19	74	7
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	21	75	3	June, 2008	19	76	5
Oct 9-13, 2013	14	81	5	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
Jul 17-21, 2013	27	67	6	March, 2008	22	72	6
May 1-5, 2013	30	65	5	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	31	64	5	Late December, 2007	27	66	7
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	October, 2007	28	66	6
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	February, 2007	30	61	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
	32	61	8		30	63	7
Oct 18-21, 2012				Early January, 2007			
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5	December, 2006	28	65	7
Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6	July, 2006	30	65	5
Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6	May, 2006*	29	65	6
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4	March, 2006	32	63	5
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	January, 2006	34	61	5
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	July, 2005	35	58	7
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	February, 2005	38	56	6
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	January, 2005	40	54	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	December, 2004	39	54	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	July, 2004	38	55	7
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	May, 2004	33	61	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	December, 2003	44	47	9
			9 7				
May 13-16, 2010	28	64		October, 2003	38	56	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	August, 2003	40	53	7
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	January, 2003	44	50	6
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	November, 2002	41	48	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	September, 2002	41	55	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	March, 2002	50	40	10
Sep 10-15, 2009 <sup>1</sup>	30	64	7	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
				Early September, 2001	41	53	6
				June, 2001	43	52	5
<sup>1</sup> In September 10-15, 2009				March, 2001	47	45	8
an asterisk, the question wa	is worded '	"Overall, ar	e you	Echrupry 2001	16	12	11

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

February, 2001 January, 2001

46

55

43

41

11

4

#### Q.2 CONTINUED...

	Satis-	Dis-	(VOL.)	Satis-	Dis-	(VOL.)
	fied	<u>satisfied</u>	DK/Ref	fied	<u>satisfied</u>	DK/Ref
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7	October, 1995 23	73	4
September, 2000	51	41	8	June, 1995 25	73	2
June, 2000	47	45	8	April, 1995 23	74	3
April, 2000	48	43	9	July, 1994 24	73	3
August, 1999	56	39	5	March, 1994 24	71	5
January, 1999	53	41	6	October, 1993 22	73	5
November, 1998	46	44	10	September, 1993 20	75	5
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	May, 1993 22	71	7
Late August, 1998	55	41	4	January, 1993 39	50	11
Early August, 1998	50	44	6	January, 1992 28	68	4
February, 1998	59	37	4	November, 1991 34	61	5
January, 1998	46	50	4	<i>Gallup:</i> Late Feb, 1991 66	31	3
September, 1997	45	49	6	August, 1990 47	48	5
August, 1997	49	46	5	May, 1990 41	54	5
January, 1997	38	58	4	January, 1989 45	50	5
July, 1996	29	67	4	September, 1988 <i>(RVs)</i> 50	45	5
March, 1996	28	70	2			

#### **NO QUESTIONS 3-13**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.14 Would you say your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** is very favorable, mostly favorable, or very unfavorable? **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY:** Just in general, is your overall opinion of **[ITEM]** very favorable, mostly favorable, or very unfavorable?] **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]** 

а.	Congress	 <u>Total</u>	Favoral <u>Very</u>	ole <u>Mostly</u>	Ui <u>Total</u>	nfavoral <u>Very</u>	ole <u>Mostly</u>	(VOL.) Never <u>heard of</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> Can't rate/ <u>Ref</u>
а.	Mar 25-29, 2015	22	4	18	72	34	38	*	5
	Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	22	4	18	71	34	37	*	7
	Jul 8-14, 2014	28	5	23	69	28	41	*	4
	Feb 12-Feb 26, 2014	23	5	18	72	35	37	*	5
	Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	27	6	21	67	32	35	*	6
	Oct 9-13, 2013	23	4	19	73	32	42	0	4
	Jul 17-21, 2013	21	3	18	70	33	37	*	9
	Jan 9-13, 2013	23	4	19	68	32	36	*	9
	Dec 5-9, 2012	27	4	22	67	24	43	1	6
	Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	27	5	22	65	30	35	*	8
	Jan 11-16, 2012	23	5	18	69	33	36	*	8
	Aug 17-21, 2011	25	4	21	70	30	40	4	6
	Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	34	4	30	57	21	36	1	8
	July 1-5, 2010	33	6	27	56	23	33	*	11
	April 1-5, 2010	25	3	22	65	30	36	*	9
	Mar 18-21, 2010	26	3	23	62	23	39	*	12
	Feb 3-9, 2010	41	3	38	50	17	34	0	9
	Aug 20-27, 2009	37	4	33	52	20	32	*	11
	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	50	10	40	43	15	28	*	7
	Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	52	20	32	*	8
	Late May, 2008	41	6	35	51	17	34	0	8
	July, 2007	41	6	35	51	16	35	0	8
	Early January, 2007	53	11	42	38	9	29	1	8
	Late October, 2006	41	5	36	46	15	31	*	13
	February, 2006	44	6	38	47	14	33	0	9
	Late October, 2005	45	7	38	45	13	32	*	10
	July, 2005	49	6	43	40	11	29	*	11

#### Q.14 CONTINUED...

2.14 CONTINUED											
		Favoral	ole		nfovorol		(VOL.)	(VOL.)			
					nfavoral			Can't rate/			
June, 2005	<u>Total</u> 49	<u>Very</u> 6	<u>Mostly</u> 43	<u>Total</u> 40	<u>Very</u> 10	<u>Mostly</u> 30	heard of *	<u>Ref</u> 11			
	56	7	43 49	33	7	26	*	11			
June, 2004	57	7	49 50	33	8	20 24	*	11			
July, 2001	56	6	50 50	36		24 26	1	7			
March, 2001	50 64	10	50 54	23	10 5	20 18	1	12			
January, 2001	64 61	8	54 53	32	5	27	*	7			
September, 2000 (RVs)	63	8 8	55 55	32 34	5 7	27	*	3			
August, 1999		8 9					*	5			
June, 1999	56 52		47 48	39	9 8	30 26					
February, 1999	52 48	4 7		44		36	0 0	4 7			
January, 1999			41	45	15	<i>30</i>	0	7			
Early December, 1998	52 62	11 7	41 55	41 33	12 8	29 25	0	5			
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	62 66			27	8 5	23	0	7			
Early September, 1998	53	7 5	59 48	27 44	5 11	22 33	0	3			
October, 1997	50	6	40 44	44 44	11	33	0	6			
August, 1997	50 52				8	33 34		6			
June, 1997	52 49	4 5	48 44	42 42	8 10	34 32	0 *	9			
May, 1997 February, 1007	49 52	6	44 46	42 40	9	32 31	*	8			
February, 1997	52		40 50	40 40	8	32	*	8 4			
January, 1997	45	6 6	30 39	40 50	8 12	32 38	*	4 5			
June, 1996	45 45	6	39	50	12	37	0	5			
April, 1996	43	4	39	50 54	15	37	*	4			
January, 1996 Octobor, 1995	42	4 4	38 38	54	13	38 42	0	3			
October, 1995	42 45	4 5	38 40	47	13	42 34	U *	5 7			
August, 1995	45 53	8	40 45	47	13	34 31	*	5			
June, 1995 February, 1995	54	10 10	43 44	37	10	27	0	9			
February, 1995 July, 1994	53	7	44 46	43	9	27 34	*	9 4			
	43	8	40 35	43	9 13	34 35	0	9			
May, 1993	43 51	7	44	43	9	33 34	0	6			
November, 1991	66	, 16	44 50	26	9 7	19	0	8			
March, 1991	59	6	53	20 34	9	25	1	6			
May, 1990 May, 1988	59 64	8	55	28	5	23	0	8			
	64	6	50 58		4	25	0	7			
January, 1988 May, 1987	64 74	0 10	58 64	29 20	4 4	25 16	U *	6			
May, 1987	59	7	52	20 31	4 8	23	0	10			
January, 1987	59 67	9	52 58	26	8 5	23 21	U *	10 7			
July, 1985	07	9	50	20	5	21	·	/			

#### **QUESTIONS 14b-d, 15 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

#### ASK ALL:

Next,

Would you say your overall opinion of [INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE ITEMS b-d WITH ITEM e Q.16 ALWAYS LAST] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about [NEXT NAME]? [IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

NO	ITEM a	 <u>Total</u>	Favorat <u>Very</u>	ole <u>Mostly</u>	U <u>Total</u>	Infavora <u>Very</u>	ble <u>Mostly</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> Never (C <u>heard of</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> Can't rate/ <u>Ref</u>
b.	Barack Obama Mar 25-29, 2015 Dec 3-7, 2014 Jul 8-14, 2014 Jan 15-19, 2014 Oct 9-13, 2013	51 48 50 51 47	18 19 19 19 17	33 29 32 32 31	46 49 48 45 50	27 28 30 24 32	19 20 18 22 18	* 0 0 *	3 3 2 4 3

#### Q.16 CONTINUED...

<b>Q</b> .1	Q.16 CONTINUED								
						nfourn	hla	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
				ole <u>Mostly</u>			ble		Can't rate/
	Jan 9-13, 2013	<u>Total</u> 59	<u>Very</u> 28	<u>31</u>	<u>Total</u> 38	<u>Very</u> 20	<u>Mostly</u> 18	heard of *	<u>Ref</u> 3
	Dec 5-9, 2012	59	26	33	40	20 24	16	*	2
	Oct 4-7, 2012	50	20	26	45	24	19	*	5
	Sep 12-16, 2012	57	24 27	20 30	40	23	17	*	4
	Jul 16-26, 2012	51	24	26	42	27	15	0	8 4
	Jun 7-17, 2012	53	20	33	44	22	21	0 *	
	Mar 7-11, 2012	56	24	32	41	25	16 16	*	3 5
	Feb 8-12, 2012	54	22	32	42	26	16 21		5 4
	Jan 11-16, 2012	51 52	23 21	28 31	45	24 24	21 21	0 *	4
	Nov 9-14, 2011		21		45			*	3
	Mar 8-14, 2011	58 54	22 26	36	39	20 25	19	*	3 2 5
	Dec 2-5, 2010		20 21	29 32	43	23 23	18 20	*	Z F
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	53 56	21 27	32 30	43	23 20	20 19	0	5 4
	Jun 10-13, 2010				39			0 *	4
	Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	65	33	32	30	16	14	*	5 3
	Jun 10-14, 2009	72	37	35	25	11	14	*	3
	Apr 14-21, 2009	73	38 40	35	24	10	14		
	Jan 7-11, 2009 Mid October, 2008	79	40 33	39	15	4	11 15	0 *	6
	Mid-October, 2008	66 65		33	28	13		*	6 5
	Late September, 2008	65 62	33 28	32 34	30	11 15	19 19	*	5 4
	Mid-September, 2008	51	20 23	28	34	21	19 19	*	
	Late May, 2008	51	23 21		40	21		*	9 6
	April, 2008 March, 2008	52	21	31 35	42 34	18	21 16		9
	-	57	21	33	34 34	16	18 18	1 1	8
	Late February, 2008	58	24 19	39		13	17	2	10
	Early February, 2008	56	20		30 33	13	20	2	8
	January, 2008	56 54	20 16	36		12		5	8 11
	Late December, 2007	- 34 - 48	10 14	38 24	30 26	12	18 16	13	13
	August, 2007	40	14	34	20	10	10	15	15
c.	Mitch McConnell								
с.	Mar 25-29, 2015	23	3	19	38	16	22	25	14
	Dec 3-7, 2014	21	5	16	37	15	22	24	18
	Oct 9-13, 2013	23	2	20	37	14	23	23	17
	Jan 9-13, 2013	21	2	18	28	11	17	32	20
	Dec 2-5, 2010	22	5	18	27	11	16	35	15
	Rep/Lean only:	22	5	10	21	11	10	55	15
	Jul 17-21, 2013	36	7	29	24	5	19	21	19
	50117 21, 2015	50	/	20	27	9	1 )	~ 1	ТĴ
d.	John Boehner								
u.	Mar 25-29, 2015	22	4	19	51	22	29	18	9
	Dec 3-7, 2014	24	5	19	46	20	25	18	13
	Oct 9-13, 2013	27	4	23	50	23	27	13	11
	Jan 9-13, 2013	26	6	21	40	17	23	20	14
	Dec 5-9, 2012	28	5	23	40	17	23	22	11
	Jan 11-16, 2012	21	5	16	40	16	23	22	17
	Mar 8-14, 2011	26	7	19	27	11	16	32	16
	Dec 2-5, 2010	28	8	20	25	12	14	34	12
	Jun 10-13, 2010	12	3	9	22	8	15	54	12
	Rep/Lean only:		5	2	~~	0	15	57	± <b>C</b>
	Jul 17-21, 2013	43	9	34	28	9	19	15	14
	JULT , 21/2010	10	2	57	20	2	- 2	10	± 1

#### ITEM e PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

#### **NO QUESTIONS 17-19, 23-24**

#### **QUESTIONS 20-22 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.25 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2016 **[READ]**?

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	None <u>at all</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 25-29, 2015	22	28	26	23	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
2012 Presidential Election					
Feb 8-12, 2012 <sup>2</sup>	44	25	16	13	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	38	27	19	16	1
Jan 4-8, 2012	31	30	18	19	1
Nov 9-14, 2011	36	26	21	15	1
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	29	29	22	19	2
Aug 17-21, 2011	27	30	23	18	1
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	29	27	23	1
May 25-30, 2011	23	30	27	19	1
2008 Presidential Election					
February, 2008	48	29	10	11	2
January, 2008	44	32	11	11	2
December, 2007	35	33	13	18	1
November, 2007	34	35	16	14	1
October, 2007	30	37	17	14	2
September, 2007	27	33	21	17	2
July, 2007	30	38	16	15	1
June, 2007	29	34	20	16	1
April, 2007	26	34	21	17	2
March, 2007	24	36	20	18	2
February, 2007	24	34	22	18	2
December, 2006	23	36	20	20	1

#### ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=752]:

Q.26F1 Generally speaking would you say that you personally care a good deal WHO wins the 2016 presidential election or that you don't care very much who wins?

			(VOL.)
	Care a good deal	<u>Don't care very much</u>	DK/Ref
Mar 25-29, 2015	81	18	1
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 <sup>3</sup>	81	18	1
October, 2007	84	14	2
February, 2007	83	14	3
October, 2003	77	21	2
February, 1999	83	16	1
October, 1995	78	19	3
October, 1991	73	22	5
May, 1987	76	20	4

#### ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=748]:

Q.27F2 Generally speaking would you say that you personally care a good deal WHICH PARTY wins the 2016 presidential election or that you don't care very much which party wins?

Mar 25-29 <u>2015</u>		Oct <u>2007</u>	Feb <u>2007</u>	Oct <u>2003</u>	Feb <u>1999</u>	Oct <u>1995</u>	Oct <u>1991</u>	May <u>1987</u>
64	Care a good deal	63	62	62	61	61	55	54
34	Don't care very much	33	35	36	36	36	39	40
1	Don't know/Refused	4	3	2	3	3	6	6

In 2011 and 2012, question read: "How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates running for president in 2012?" In 2006, 2007 and 2008, question read "How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates running for president in 2008?"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In 2011, the question referred to the 2012 presidential election; in 2007, it referred to the 2008 presidential election; in 2003, it referred to the 2004 presidential election; in 1999, it referred to the 2000 presidential election; in 1995, it referred to the 1996 presidential election; in 1991, it referred to the 1992 presidential election; in 1987, it referred to the 1988 presidential election.

#### **NO QUESTIONS 28-29**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.30 I'm going to read you a list of some people who have been in the news lately. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. First, [INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES], have you heard of [REPEAT NAME] or not?

**[ASK IF HAVE HEARD:]** How much of a chance is there that you would vote for **[INSERT NAME]** if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2016 — is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?

Have you heard of [NEXT NAME] or not?

[ASK IF HAVE HEARD:] Is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance that you would vote for [NEXT NAME] for president? [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: ONCE RESPONDENT HAS BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO QUESTION AND RESPONSE STRUCTURE, OKAY TO ACCEPT VOLUNTEERED "good chance, some chance, no chance" BEFORE HAVING FINISHED READING FULL QUESTION WORDING]<sup>4</sup>

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,097]:**

_	Jeb Bush	NET: Have <u>heard</u>	Good <u>chance</u>	Some <u>chance</u>	No <u>chance</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>	NET: Have not <u>heard</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref	"Heard of″ <u>(N)</u>
a.	Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	89	12 14	29 <i>32</i>	46 52	2 3	10	1	(1,006)
b.	Ben Carson Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	40	10 26	12 29	14 36	4 9	58	2	(487)
c.	Chris Christie Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	79	6 8	26 <i>32</i>	45 <i>57</i>	2 3	20	1	(910)
d.	Ted Cruz Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	72	11 15	20 28	38 <i>53</i>	3 4	27	1	(845)
NO I	ITEMS e-f								
g.	Mike Huckabee Mar 25-29, 2015 <i>Based on "heard of"</i> June, 2007 February, 2007	81 42 28	11 <i>13</i> 3 1	25 <i>31</i> 7 6	41 <i>51</i> 24 15	4 5 8 7	18 57 71	1 1 1	(932)
h.	Bobby Jindal Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	43	7 16	12 29	22 51	2 5	56	1	(546)
i.	Rand Paul Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	76	11 14	26 34	37 48	2 3	23	1	(883)

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In 2011, question read "How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2012 – is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?; In 2007, question read "How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2008 – is there a good chance, some chance, some chance, or no chance?; In 2003, question read "How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2008 – is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?; In 2003, question read "How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2004 – is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?

#### Q.30 CONTINUED...

		NET: Have <u>heard</u>	Good <u>chance</u>	Some <u>chance</u>	No <u>chance</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>	NET: Have not <u>heard</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref	"Heard of″ <u>(N)</u>
j.	Rick Perry Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	73	7 10	23 <i>31</i>	39 <i>53</i>	4 5	26	1	(847)
	Aug 17-21, 2011	71	14	20	33	4	28	*	
k.	Marco Rubio Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	67	11 16	23 <i>34</i>	29 44	4 6	31	1	(792)
I.	Scott Walker Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	51	11 22	14 28	22 43	4 7	48	2	(611)
m.	Joe Biden Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	94	13 <i>13</i>	29 <i>31</i>	50 <i>54</i>	2 2	6	1	(1,039)
	June, 2007 February, 2007	58 47	4 3	14 12	34 25	6 6	41 53	1 1	
n.	Hillary Clinton Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	98	33 <i>33</i>	19 <i>19</i>	45 46	1 1	2	*	(1,076)
	June, 2007 February, 2007 July, 2003	99 98 99	28 31 20	25 23 22	42 39 55	4 4 2	* 1 *	1 1 *	
0.	Martin O'Malley Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	24	1 4	7 29	12 52	4 15	74	2	(271)
р.	Bernie Sanders Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	35	4 12	8 24	18 52	4 12	64	2	(407)
q.	Elizabeth Warren Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	60	12 19	18 <i>30</i>	26 43	5 8	38	2	(715)
r.	Jim Webb Mar 25-29, 2015 Based on "heard of"	27	1 4	9 33	12 46	5 17	71	2	(314)

#### **NO QUESTION 31**

#### **RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS 32 AND 33**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.32 Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate? [READ; RANDOMIZE]

#### Mar 25-29

<u>2015</u>

- 47 Experience and a proven record
- 45 New ideas and a different approach
- 5 Both (VOL.)
- 3 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

#### **RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS 32 AND 33**

#### ASK ALL:

Q.33 Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]** 

Mar 25-29

<u>2015</u>

- 42 Someone who will stick to their core values and positions
- 50 Someone who will compromise with the other party
- 5 Both (VOL.)
- 3 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS 34-39, 42, 46, 51-56, 58-59, 63-69, 72-73, 76-79

QUESTIONS 40-41, 43-45, 47-50, 60-62 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

**QUESTIONS 57, 70-71, 74-75 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED** 

#### ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent? **ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):** 

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				<b>(VOL.)</b> No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent			DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Mar 25-29, 2015	25	30	39	4	*	2	15	17
Feb 18-22, 2015	24	31	38	4	1	1	18	17
Jan 7-11, 2015	21	30	44	3	1	1	19	18
Dec 3-7, 2014	24	31	39	3	1	2	17	17
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	32	36	2	*	1	15	16
Oct 15-20, 2014	24	33	38	4	*	1	13	17
Sep 2-9, 2014	24	33	38	3	1	2	15	15
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	31	37	4	1	4	15	16
Jul 8-14, 2014	25	34	37	2	1	1	16	15
Apr 23-27, 2014	24	30	41	2	1	2	18	17
Jan 23-Mar 16, 201	.4 22	31	41	3	1	2	17	17
Yearly Totals								
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3		3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34					
1987	26	35	39					

#### ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):

TEAPARTY3 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

#### BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=627]:

				(VOL.)		Not
			No opinion	Haven't	(VOL.)	heard of/
	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>either way</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Refused</u>	<u>DK</u>
Mar 25-29, 2015	35	11	52	1	1	
Feb 18-22, 2015	36	9	54	*	*	
Jan 7-11, 2015	34	9	54	1	2	

#### **TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...**

ARTY3 CONTINUED						
				(VOL.)		Not
		5.	No opinion	Haven't		heard of/
D 2 7 2014	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>either way</u>	<u>heard of</u>	Refused	<u>DK</u>
Dec 3-7, 2014	34	9	55	2	1	
Nov 6-9, 2014	31	10	57	1	1	
Oct 15-20, 2014	32	8	56	2	2	
Sep 2-9, 2014	38	10	50	1	1	
Aug 20-24, 2014	34	10	53	*	2	
Jul 8-14, 2014	35	12	50	2	1	
Apr 23-27, 2014	33	11	54	1	1	
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	37	11	50	1	1	
Feb 14-23, 2014	36	9	54	1	1 *	
Jan 15-19, 2014	35	12	52	1		
Dec 3-8, 2013	32	9	57	1	1	
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	40	9	48	2	1	
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	11	45	2	1	
Sep 4-8, 2013	35	9	54	1	1	
Jul 17-21, 2013	37	10	50	2	1	
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	9	46	1	2	
May 23-26, 2013	41	7	48	1	3	
May 1-5, 2013	28	8	61	2	1	
Mar 13-17, 2013	43	7	47	1	1	
Feb 13-18, 2013	36	9	52	1	3	
Feb 14-17, 2013	43	9	45	1	2	
Jan 9-13, 2013	35	10	51	2	2	
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	11	51	1	*	
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 ( <i>RVs</i> )	40	8	49	1	2	
Oct 4-7, 2012	38	9	50	1	3	
Sep 12-16, 2013	39	7	52	1	1	
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	40	9	47	2	1	
Jun 7-17, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	36	9	53	1	2	
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	
Mar 7-11, 2012	38	10	49	2	1	
Feb 8-12, 2012	40	7	51	1	1	
Jan 11-16, 2012	42	8	47	1	1	
Jan 4-8, 2012	37	8	52	1	1	
Dec 7-11, 2011	40	9	48	2	1	
Nov 9-14, 2011	41	9	49	*	1	
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	37	11	51	1	1	
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	7	49	*	1	
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	7	51	*	1	
Jun 15-19, 2011	42	9	47	1	1	
May 25-30, 2011	37	7	52	1	3	
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	45	9	46	*	1 *	
Mar 8-14, 2011	37	7	54	1		
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	41	9	48	1	1	
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>5</sup>	43	8	47	1	1	
Jan 5-9, 2011	45	6	47	1	1	
Dec 1-5, 2010	48	5	45	1	1	
Nov 4-7, 2010	51	5	42	1	1	
Oct 27-30, 2010 ( <i>RVs</i> )	58	5	27		1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 ( <i>RVs</i> )	54	5	30		1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 ( <i>RVs</i> )	56	6	29		*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36		1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30		*	19

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In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May 2010 through October 2010, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

#### TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)		Not
			No opinion	Haven't	(VOL.)	heard of/
	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>either way</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Refused</u>	<u>DK</u>
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25		1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26		1	21

#### ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1) [N=627]:

Q.80 Thinking about Jeb Bush and the Bush family's role in the Republican Party, which of the following statements comes closer to your view? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]** 

Mar 25-29

- <u>2015</u>
  - It bothers me that the Bush family continues to play a large role in the Republican Party
  - 22 Republical Party
  - It doesn't really bother me that the Bush family continues to play a large role in the Republican Party
  - \* Both (VOL.)
  - 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

#### ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2) [N=702]:

Q.81 Thinking about Hillary Clinton and the Clinton family's role in the Democratic Party, which of the following statements comes closer to your view? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]** 

Mar 25-29

<u>2015</u>

- It bothers me that the Clinton family continues to play a large role in the Democratic Party
- It doesn't really bother me that the Clinton family continues to play a large role in the Democratic Party
- 1 Both (VOL.)
- 1 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

Key to Pew Res	Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:							
(U)	Pew Research Center/USA Today polls							
(WP)	Pew Research Center/Washington Post polls							