

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
April 30-May 3, 2015 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,000

ASK ALL:

PEW.1 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
April 30-May 3, 2015	20	28	25	26	1
March 5-8, 2015	24	31	16	29	1
February 5-8, 2015	24	32	19	23	2
January 22-25, 2015	26	30	18	24	2
January 8-11, 2015	24	35	17	24	1
December 4-7, 2014	28	31	20	19	1
November 6-9, 2014	31	35	21	12	2
October 16-19, 2014	26	33	22	18	1
September 25-28, 2014	25	33	22	19	1
July 31-August 3, 2014	27	29	23	21	1
June 5-8, 2014	26	28	20	24	1
March 20-23, 2014	30	34	18	17	2
March 6-9, 2014	27	31	19	22	1
February 27-March 2, 2014	27	32	16	24	1
February 6-9, 2014	28	29	20	22	1
January 30-February 2, 2014	29	31	17	23	*
January 9-12, 2014	28	29	19	23	1
January 2-5, 2014	29	31	17	22	1
<u>SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2015/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf</u>					
b. News about candidates for the 2016 presidential election					
April 30-May 3, 2015	16	25	23	34	1
<u>SEE TRENDS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2015/05/NII-Election-trend.pdf</u>					
c. Unrest in Baltimore following the death of African-American man Freddie Gray					
April 30-May 3, 2015	33	32	18	15	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
March 5-8, 2015: <i>The Justice Department's report on race and policing in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	21	25	15	38	1
December 4-7, 2014: <i>Reactions following a grand jury decision not to charge a police officer in the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	41	31	14	14	1
November 20-23, 2014: <i>Developments in Ferguson, Missouri in the shooting death of Michael Brown</i>	25	29	20	25	2
August 14-17, 2014: <i>The police shooting of an African American teen and protests in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	27	30	18	23	2

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July 11-14, 2013: <i>The trial of George Zimmerman for the shooting death of Florida teen Trayvon Martin</i>	26	28	24	21	1
June 27-30, 2013	22	29	23	25	1
June 13-16, 2013	15	26	24	35	1
April 26-29, 2012: <i>Developments in the case against George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin</i>	24	28	22	25	1
April 20-22, 2012	27	29	21	21	1
April 12-15, 2012: <i>George Zimmerman being charged with second-degree murder in the death of Trayvon Martin</i>	35	31	16	17	1
April 5-8, 2012: <i>Controversy over the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an African American teen in Florida</i>	34	30	18	18	*
March 29-April 1, 2012	30	35	15	20	*
March 22-25, 2012	35	24	15	26	1
July 31-August 3, 2009: <i>Reports about the arrest of Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates and President Obama's response to the incident</i>	25	26	22	25	2
July 24-27, 2009: <i>The arrest of Henry Louis Gates, a black Harvard professor, at his home after a dispute with a police officer</i>	30	31	17	21	1
April 25-28, 2008: <i>The acquittal of three New York City police officers in the shooting of an unarmed man on his wedding day</i>	13	24	24	38	1
September 21-24, 2007: <i>Demonstrations in Jena, Louisiana, about six black teenagers involved in a schoolyard fight</i>	18	27	25	30	*
April 2001: <i>Rioting in Cincinnati after an unarmed black man was shot by police</i>	24	32	23	20	1
July 2000: <i>The video showing Philadelphia police kicking and beating a carjacking suspect</i>	22	32	22	23	1
March 2000: <i>The acquittal of four New York policemen who shot and killed Amadou Diallo, an African immigrant</i>	28	35	20	17	0
February 1999: <i>The Texas murder trial of a man accused of dragging a black man behind a pickup truck</i>	24	41	20	14	1
May 1993: <i>The Rodney King trial and verdict in Los Angeles</i>	47	34	13	6	*
May 1992: <i>The verdict in the Rodney King case and the riots and disturbances that followed</i>	70	22	5	2	1
March 1991: <i>The videotaped beating by Los Angeles police of a suspect they apprehended in an auto chase</i>	46	30	13	10	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
d. The Supreme Court hearing a case about same-sex marriage					
April 30-May 3, 2015	18	22	24	35	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
June 27-30, 2013: <i>The Supreme Court decisions on same-sex marriage</i>	30	31	20	19	*
June 20-23, 2013: <i>Recent Supreme Court rulings and cases before the court</i>	13	21	25	40	1
March 28-31, 2013: <i>The Supreme Court hearing cases about same-sex marriage</i>	22	29	22	26	1
Feb 9-12, 2012: <i>A federal appeals court ruling that California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional</i>	16	23	24	37	1
Feb 24-27, 2011: <i>Recent developments in the debate over gay marriage</i>	19	26	20	34	1
May 29-June 1, 2009: <i>The California Supreme Court upholding a ban on gay marriage</i>	22	35	19	23	1
Nov 7-10, 2008: <i>California voting to ban gay marriage</i>	18	26	24	32	*
June 20-23, 2008: <i>Same sex marriage in CA</i>	22	26	25	27	*
May 16-19, 2008: <i>The California Supreme Court's decision giving same sex couples the right to marry</i>	19	27	25	28	1
e. The aftermath of a major earthquake in Nepal					
April 30-May 3, 2015	22	32	25	20	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
November 14-17, 2013: <i>The aftermath of a major typhoon in the Philippines</i>	32	35	18	14	*
April 14-17, 2011: <i>The aftermath of a major earthquake and tsunami in Japan</i>	38	37	16	8	*
April 7-10, 2011	46	37	11	5	1
March 31-April 3, 2011	50	35	9	5	*
March 24-27, 2011	50	35	12	3	*
March 17-20, 2011	55	31	9	4	*
March 11-13, 2011: <i>A major earthquake and tsunami off the coast of Japan¹</i>	52	29	12	7	*
February 24-27, 2011: <i>A major earthquake in New Zealand</i>	20	30	26	23	1
October 28-November 1, 2010: <i>A tsunami and a volcano erupting in Indonesia</i>	11	25	27	36	1
March 12-15, 2010: <i>Major aftershocks in Chile following an earthquake in late February</i>	18	41	27	14	*
March 5-8, 2010: <i>A major earthquake in Chile</i>	27	42	19	12	*
February 12-15, 2010: <i>The aftermath of a major earthquake and relief efforts in Haiti</i>	37	37	17	8	*
February 5-8, 2010	42	39	13	6	*

¹ This item was added to polling on the second day of the field period. Data were collected March 11-13, 2011. N=671.

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January 29-February 1, 2010	45	38	13	4	*
January 22-25, 2010	50	40	8	3	*
January 15-18, 2010: <i>A major earthquake in Haiti</i>	60	28	8	4	*
August 14-17, 2009: <i>A typhoon that caused flooding and mudslides in Taiwan</i>	7	21	30	41	1
April 9-13, 2009: <i>A major earthquake in Italy</i>	18	35	25	22	*
May 16-19, 2008: <i>The earthquake in China</i>	30	41	17	12	*
May 9-12, 2008: <i>Reports about the cyclone that hit Burma</i>	23	35	23	19	*
November 2-5, 2007: <i>The impact of Hurricane Noel on the Bahamas and Cuba</i>	11	22	31	35	1
September 7-10, 2007: <i>The impact of Hurricanes Felix and Henriette on Mexico and Central America</i>	14	29	29	27	1
August 24-27, 2007: <i>The destruction caused by Hurricane Dean in Mexico and the Caribbean</i>	18	39	24	18	1
October, 2005: <i>The earthquake in Pakistan</i>	22	39	23	16	*
January, 2005: <i>The earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean</i>	58	32	7	3	*
January, 2004: <i>The earthquake in Iran</i>	16	34	31	19	*
February, 2001: <i>The earthquake in India</i>	15	33	31	20	1
March, 2000: <i>Flood rescue efforts in Mozambique</i>	10	26	30	34	*
September, 1999: <i>The earthquake in Turkey</i>	27	37	23	12	1
November, 1998: <i>Hurricane Mitch and the rain and mudslides in Central America</i>	36	36	16	11	1
February, 1995: <i>The earthquake in Japan</i>	25	47	20	8	*
May, 1991: <i>The cyclone that devastated Bangladesh</i>	23	36	23	17	1
July, 1990: <i>The earthquake in Iran</i>	20	36	28	16	*

NO QUESTION PEW.2

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 How much confidence do you have in the investigations into the death of Freddie Gray, who died after his arrest by Baltimore police—a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

13	A great deal of confidence
35	A fair amount of confidence
27	Not too much confidence
17	No confidence at all
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

How much confidence do you have in the investigations of the police shooting in Ferguson, Missouri—a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all?

Aug 14-17

2014

12	A great deal of confidence
33	A fair amount of confidence
24	Not too much confidence
17	No confidence at all
14	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION PEW.4**ASK ALL:**

PEW.5 In general, how would you rate the job news organizations have done covering the events in Baltimore? Have news organizations done an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job covering the events in Baltimore?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

9	Excellent
35	Good
28	Only fair
20	Poor
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.6 Thinking about some specific aspects of the events in Baltimore, do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage, too little coverage or the right amount of coverage to each of the following?
[READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The circumstances surrounding the death of Freddie Gray April 30-May 3, 2015	25	28	39	9
b. Unrest and acts of violence that have taken place April 30-May 3, 2015	44	12	38	6

PEW.6 CONTINUED...

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c. The non-violent protests over Freddie Gray's death April 30-May 3, 2015	22	37	34	8

NO QUESTION PEW.7**ASK ALL:**

PEW.8 How much, if at all, do you think each of the following contributed to the violence and unrest in Baltimore? First, do you think **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** contributed a great deal, some, not too much, or not at all to the violence and unrest in Baltimore? How about, **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY "Do you think [ITEM] contributed a great deal, some, not too much or not at all to the violence and unrest in Baltimore?"]**

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Anger over the death of Freddie Gray after his arrest by police April 30-May 3, 2015	50	27	13	5	6
b. Some people taking advantage of the situation to engage in criminal behavior April 30-May 3, 2015	61	21	8	5	5
c. Tensions between the African-American community and the police April 30-May 3, 2015	56	24	8	5	7
d. The initial response by top city officials April 30-May 3, 2015	28	34	17	11	11
e. Poverty and lack of opportunities in some neighborhoods April 30-May 3, 2015	40	28	13	12	7

ASK ALL MAY 1-3 ONLY [N=798]:

PEW.9 As you may know, some Baltimore police officers are facing criminal charges in the death of Freddie Gray, including one who has been charged with second-degree murder. All things considered, do you think the state attorney made the right decision or the wrong decision in bringing these charges?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

65 Right decision
16 Wrong decision
18 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

All things considered, do you think the grand jury made the right decision or the wrong decision not to charge Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown?

(U)
Dec 3-7
2014
50 Right decision
37 Wrong decision
13 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

All things considered, do you think the grand jury made the right decision or the wrong decision not to charge a police officer in the death of Eric Garner?

(U)
Dec 4-7
2014
22 Right decision
57 Wrong decision
20 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

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?

		(VOL.)	(VOL.)		(VOL.)	Lean	Lean	
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No preference</u>	<u>Other party</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
April 30-May 3, 2015	19	31	39	7	*	3	13	18

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls