



THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER
For The People & The Press

NEWS Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, November 24, 2010

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Most Aware of Energy Drink Warnings Public Focused on Economy, Election Impact

News about the economy topped the public's news interest last week, though many Americans also closely tracked the fallout from the midterm elections and the debate over enhanced security measures at the nation's airports.

About three-in-ten (29%) say they followed news about the economy more closely than other major stories, while 20% say they followed news about the election outcome most closely. At the start of a busy holiday travel period, 14% say they most closely

followed news about tougher passenger screening procedures at airports, according to the latest News Interest Index survey conducted Nov. 18-21 among 1,004 adults.

The media divided coverage among top stories, including the economy (11% of coverage) and the election outcome (9%), according to a separate analysis by the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. News about airport security screening procedures made up 6% of the newshole measured by PEJ, while coverage of the situation in Afghanistan accounted for 7%.

News Interest vs. News Coverage

	News Interest	News Coverage
Economy	29	11
Election outcomes	20	9
Airport security	14	6
Afghanistan	10	7
Royal engagement	6	4
Terror suspect trial	2	2

News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, Nov. 18-21, 2010. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, Nov. 15-21, 2010.

Plurality Sees Press Coverage of Obama as Fair

Currently, 46% say they think press coverage of President Obama has been fair, 23% say coverage has been too easy and 21% say it has been too tough.

In September, 37% said they thought coverage had been fair, 27% thought coverage was too easy and 23% said it was too tough. Responses to this question have fluctuated only modestly through 2010.

About four-in-ten Democrats (41%) say coverage has been too tough, matching the number that said this in September. Currently, 47% say coverage has been fair, up from 36% shortly after Labor Day; 5% say coverage has been too easy. About one-in-ten (12%) said this in September.

Among Republicans, half (50%) say coverage has been too easy, matching the number that said this in September. Roughly four-in-ten (39%) say coverage has been fair, while just 5% say it has been too tough. In September, 34% said coverage had been fair and 6% said it had been too tough.

Currently, 51% of independents say coverage of the president has been fair, up from 40% in September. About a quarter of independents (23%) say coverage has been too easy, while 15% say it has been too tough. In September, 28% said coverage was too easy and 19% said it was too tough.

Little Change in Perceptions of Obama Press Coverage

<i>Press coverage of Obama has been...</i>	Apr	Jul	Sept	Nov
	%	%	%	%
Too easy	29	27	27	23
Too tough	21	24	23	21
Fair	42	39	37	46
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER November 18-21, 2010.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Wide Partisan Gap in Impressions of Obama Press Coverage

<i>Press coverage of Obama has been...</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Too easy	23	50	5	23
Too tough	21	5	41	15
Fair	46	39	47	51
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER November 18-21, 2010.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Most Aware of Stir over Energy Drinks with Alcohol

Nearly eight-in-ten Americans (79%) say they heard at least a little about a warning by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that caffeinated alcoholic beverages are unsafe. About four-in-ten (42%) say they heard a lot about this, while 37% say they heard a little.

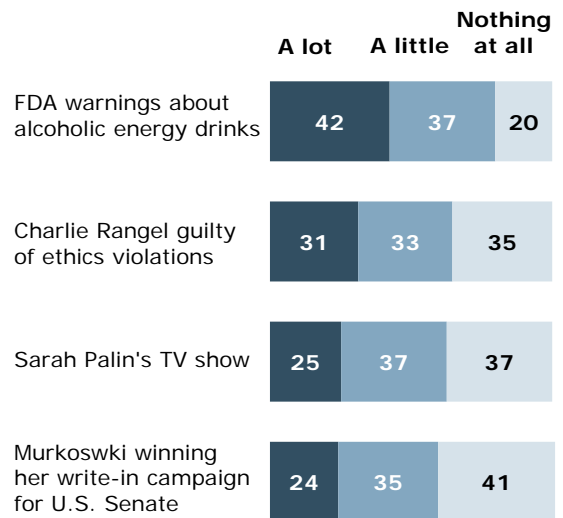
More say they heard about the energy drink warning than said they heard about graphic warning labels for cigarette packages proposed by the FDA one week earlier. Just 17% said they heard a lot about the proposed new labels; 38% heard a little.

Unlike most news stories, the FDA's warnings about energy drinks resonated with young people. Nearly half (46%) of those younger than 30 say they heard a lot about these reports, which is comparable to the percentage of those older than 50 (48%) who heard a lot about the warnings.

Several political figures in the news last week registered similar amounts of public awareness. More than six-in-ten (64%) heard either a lot (31%) or a little (33%) about the House Ethics Committee finding New York Congressman Charlie Rangel guilty of ethics violations. A similar majority (62%) heard at least a little about Sarah Palin's new television show on TLC (25% heard a lot, 37% a little) and close to six-in-ten (59%) heard a lot (24%) or a little (35%) about Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski winning her write-in campaign for re-election to the U.S. Senate.

Republicans (30%) and Democrats (27%) were about equally likely to say they heard a lot about Palin's new reality show. That also is the case for Murkowski's write-in win (30% of Republicans and 24% of Democrats heard a lot about this).

Many Aware of Warnings about Alcoholic Energy Drinks



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Nov. 18-21, 2010

More Republicans (41%) than either Democrats (27%) or independents (30%) say they heard a lot about the ethics panel's findings on the Rangel charges. The committee has recommended that the full House censure Rangel.

The Week's News

For the first time since the Nov. 2 elections, more say they tracked news about the economy most closely (29%) than news about the elections (20%). Nearly half (46%) say they followed news about the economy very closely, while 40% say they followed news about the election outcomes that closely. News about the elections and their ramifications accounted for 9% of coverage.

A third of the public (33%) says they followed the debate over new airport screening procedures very closely, while 14% say this was the news they followed most closely. News about airport security screening made up 6% of coverage.

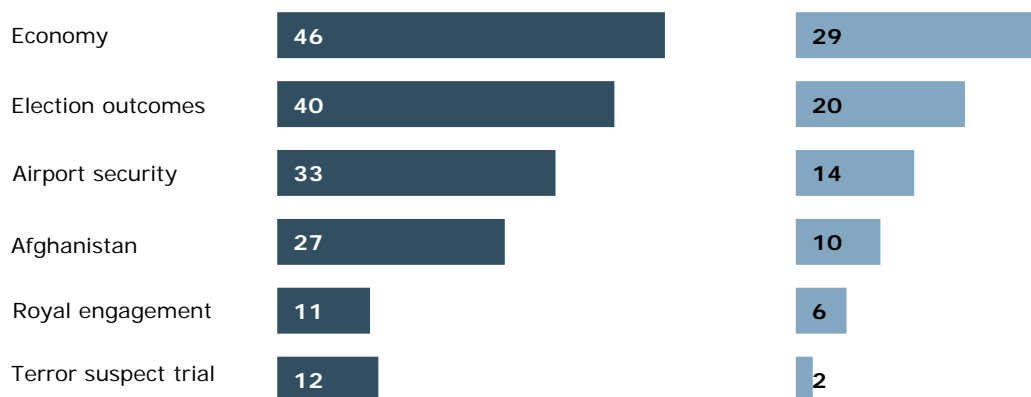
More than a quarter (27%) say they very closely followed news about the situation in Afghanistan; 10% say this was the news they followed most closely. News about Afghanistan accounted for 7% of coverage.

News about the verdict in the trial of the first former Guantanamo detainee in a civilian court attracted less attention. About one-in-ten (12%) say they followed the outcome of the trial of Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani very closely, while 2% say this was the news they

News Interest

% following each story very closely

Which one story did you follow most closely



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Nov 18-21, 2010

followed most closely. The trial accounted for 2% of coverage.

Republicans tracked each of these stories – except the debate over airport security – more closely than Democrats. For example, 54% of Republicans say they followed news about the election outcome very closely, compared with 39% of Democrats and 35% of independents. Republicans tracked election news more closely than Democrats throughout the campaign as well.

Nearly two-in-ten Republicans (19%) followed the terror trial very closely, compared with 9% of Democrats and 10% of independents.

About one-in-ten (11%) of the public say they followed news about Prince William's engagement to Kate Middleton very closely; 6% say this was the news they followed most closely. The royal engagement accounted for 4% of the coverage measured by PEJ. More women than men say they tracked this story very closely (16% vs. 7%). That is especially true among those 50 and older. In that age group, 22% of women say they followed this news very closely, compared with 9% of men.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected November 15-21, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected November 18-21, from a nationally representative sample of 1,004 adults.

About the News Interest Index

The *News Interest Index* is a weekly survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press aimed at gauging the public's interest in and reaction to major news events. This project has been undertaken in conjunction with the Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, an ongoing content analysis of the news. The News Coverage Index catalogues the news from top news organizations across five major sectors of the media: newspapers, network television, cable television, radio and the internet. Each week (from Monday through Sunday) PEJ compiles this data to identify the top stories for the week. (For more information about the Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, go to www.journalism.org.) The News Interest Index survey collects data from Thursday through Sunday to gauge public interest in the most covered stories of the week.

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a national sample of 1,004 adults living in the continental United States, 18 years of age or older, from November 18-21, 2010 (670 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 334 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 151 who had no landline telephone). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also weighted to match current patterns of telephone status based on extrapolations from the 2009 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 within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,004	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	273	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	317	7.0 percentage points
Independents	337	6.5 percentage points

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.

About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

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For more information about the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press' weekly News Interest Index, go to www.people-press.org.

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX
NOVEMBER 18-21, 2010 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1004

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.) DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
November 18-21, 2010	46	31	11	11	*
November 11-14, 2010	38	30	15	16	1
November 4-7, 2010	44	32	11	13	*
October 28-November 1, 2010	39	34	11	15	1
October 21-24, 2010	41	29	14	14	1
October 14-17, 2010	42	33	12	13	*
October 7-10, 2010	36	33	15	15	1
September 30-October 3, 2010	43	35	10	11	1
September 23-26, 2010	43	34	13	9	1
September 16-19, 2010	37	30	16	16	1
September 2-6, 2010	43	31	13	12	*
August 19-22, 2010	39	31	14	15	1
August 5-8, 2010	39	33	14	13	1
July 29-August 1, 2010	51	33	11	5	*
July 22-25, 2010	46	33	14	6	1
July 15-18, 2010	37	33	14	15	1
July 8-11, 2010	36	33	15	16	*
July 1-5, 2010	48	30	13	8	*
June 24-27, 2010	37	37	15	11	1
June 17-20, 2010	38	34	15	13	*
June 10-13, 2010	39	35	17	9	*
June 3-6, 2010	35	33	16	14	1
May 27-30, 2010	43	29	13	15	*
May 20-23, 2010	40	35	13	11	*
May 13-16, 2010	49	32	11	8	1
May 7-10, 2010	42	34	11	12	*
April 30-May 3, 2010	32	37	17	14	1
April 23-26, 2010	42	31	13	14	*
April 16-19, 2010	40	32	14	14	0
April 9-12, 2010	40	32	15	13	*
April 1-5, 2010	33	34	14	19	*
March 19-22, 2010	41	32	14	13	*
March 12-15, 2010	41	35	12	12	*
March 5-8, 2010	40	34	12	13	*
February 26-March 1, 2010	31	33	17	19	*
February 19-22, 2010	38	34	15	12	*
February 12-15, 2010	35	34	15	16	*
February 5-8, 2010	43	36	13	9	*
January 29-February 1, 2010	45	32	13	10	*
January 22-25, 2010	41	34	14	10	*
January 15-18, 2010	37	38	14	11	*
January 8-11, 2010	39	33	15	12	*
December 18-21, 2009	45	31	14	10	0
December 11-14, 2009	42	31	14	13	*
December 4-7, 2009	41	36	13	9	1
November 13-16, 2009	38	33	14	15	*
October 30-November 2, 2009	34	32	17	16	*

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
October 23-26, 2009	44	30	15	10	1
October 9-12, 2009	41	29	16	13	*
October 2-5, 2009	44	30	15	11	0
September 25-28, 2009	44	37	10	10	*
September 18-21, 2009	44	34	15	7	*
September 11-14, 2009	45	32	14	9	*
September 3-6, 2009	41	31	15	13	*
August 28-31, 2009	45	30	13	12	1
August 21-24, 2009	50	27	13	10	1
August 14-17, 2009	41	37	11	12	*
August 7-10, 2009	42	34	13	10	*
July 31-August 3, 2009	46	34	11	8	*
July 24-27, 2009	45	35	12	8	*
July 17-20, 2009	43	35	11	11	1
July 10-13, 2009	37	38	13	11	*
July 2-5, 2009	38	35	15	12	*
June 19-22, 2009	42	33	15	10	*
June 12-15, 2009	41	35	12	12	*
June 5-8, 2009	41	34	11	14	*
May 29-June 1, 2009	43	37	11	8	*
May 21-24, 2009	44	35	13	9	*
May 15-18, 2009	44	35	12	8	*
May 8-11, 2009	42	34	12	12	*
May 1-4, 2009	47	36	11	5	1
April 17-20, 2009	52	30	10	7	1
April 9-13, 2009	48	29	13	10	0
March 27-30, 2009	48	32	10	10	*
March 20-23, 2009	52	34	8	6	*
March 13-16, 2009	48	33	9	10	*
February 27-March 2, 2009	56	30	8	6	*
February 13-16, 2009	55	29	10	6	*
January 30-February 2, 2009	52	31	12	5	*
January 23-26, 2009	57	30	8	5	0
January 16-19, 2009	43	35	13	9	*
January 2-4, 2009	42	36	15	7	*
December 12-15, 2008	51	33	9	7	*
December 5-8, 2008	42	38	13	7	*
November 21-24, 2008	59	24	9	8	*
November 14-17, 2008	56	29	9	6	*
November 7-10, 2008	54	31	8	7	*
October 31-November 3, 2008	63	27	6	4	*
October 24-27, 2008	52	35	7	5	1
October 17-20, 2008	62	29	6	3	*
October 10-13, 2008	65	25	7	3	*
October 3-6, 2008	69	23	5	3	*
September 26-29, 2008	70	22	5	3	*
September 19-22, 2008	56	27	12	5	*
September 5-8, 2008	44	33	16	7	*
August 29-31, 2008	41	34	13	11	1
August 15-18, 2008	39	36	15	10	*
August 8-11, 2008	39	35	16	10	*
August 1-4, 2008	47	34	11	8	0
July 25-28, 2008	46	32	10	12	*
July 18-21, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
July 11-14, 2008	44	33	12	10	1
June 27-30, 2008	49	31	12	7	1
June 13-16, 2008	42	33	14	11	*
May 9-12, 2008	45	31	13	11	*
May 2-5, 2008	43	31	15	10	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
April 18-21, 2008	41	35	13	10	1
April 4-7, 2008	39	37	12	12	*
March 28-31, 2008	42	36	14	8	*
March 20-24, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
February 29-March 3, 2008	38	35	15	11	1
February 15-18, 2008	37	36	11	16	8
February 1-4, 2008	40	37	14	8	1
January 18-21, 2008	42	31	16	11	*
January 11-14, 2008	36	32	15	16	1
November 2-5, 2007	27	37	16	19	1
October 19-22, 2007	25	34	20	21	*
August 10-13, 2007	28	36	18	18	*
Mid-November, 2006	31	40	17	11	1
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	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
b. News about the outcome of the elections					
November 18-21, 2010	40	29	14	17	1
November 11-14, 2010	39	28	15	17	1
November 4-7, 2010	47	25	14	14	*
November, 2006	46	33	11	10	*
November, 1998	42	31	14	12	1
December, 1994	41	36	13	10	*
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
October 28-November 1, 2010: <i>News about this year's congressional elections</i>	29	30	17	23	1
October 21-24, 2010	30	28	18	23	1
October 14-17, 2010	33	25	19	23	*
October 7-10, 2010	23	27	19	30	1
September 30-October 3, 2010	25	34	19	21	1
September 23-26, 2010	25	33	23	18	1
September 16-19, 2010	23	26	23	27	1
September 9-12, 2010	22	23	21	34	1
September 2-6, 2010	26	24	23	26	1
August 26-29, 2010	20	27	23	28	1
August 19-22, 2010	19	23	24	33	1
August 12-15, 2010	20	22	19	38	1
July 29-August 1, 2010	29	34	22	14	*
July 15-18, 2010	17	23	26	33	1
June 10-13, 2010	20	29	24	27	1
May 20-23, 2010	23	25	24	27	*
April 23-26, 2010	20	25	19	35	*
March 5-8, 2010	25	27	21	26	1
January 8-11, 2010	20	24	26	29	1
c. The British royal family announcing Prince William's engagement					
November 18-21, 2010	11	24	27	37	1
d. The debate over new airport security screening procedures					
November 18-21, 2010	33	32	17	18	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
Mid-November, 2001: <i>The debate in Washington over whether airport security personnel should be federal employees or not</i>	31	32	22	14	1
e. The current situation and events in Afghanistan					
November 18-21, 2010	27	33	21	18	1
October 21-24, 2010	21	34	23	21	1
October 7-10, 2010	21	36	20	22	1
September 30-October 3, 2010	23	37	23	15	1
September 23-26, 2010	29	40	19	11	1
September 9-12, 2010	30	33	20	17	*
July 29-August 1, 2010	34	35	22	9	*
July 15-18, 2010	22	33	23	22	*
July 8-11, 2010	23	32	24	20	1
July 1-5, 2010	29	34	23	14	1
June 17-20, 2010	21	30	27	22	*
May 20-23, 2010	22	33	25	20	*
April 9-12, 2010	21	29	27	22	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
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
June 24-27, 2010: <i>General Stanley McChrystal resigning as head of U.S. forces in Afghanistan after being quoted criticizing President Obama and his Afghanistan strategy</i>	28	31	19	21	1
February 19-22, 2010: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	24	36	21	19	*
January 8-11, 2010: <i>Suicide bombing that killed seven Americans at a CIA base in Afghanistan</i>	24	31	27	17	1
December 11-14, 2009: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	35	33	18	13	*
December 4-7, 2009: <i>President Obama's decision to send more U.S. troops to Afghanistan</i>	43	33	14	8	1
November 20-23, 2009: <i>The debate over whether to send more troops to Afghanistan</i>	29	31	17	22	1
November 13-16, 2009	29	28	20	22	1
November 6-9, 2009: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	22	35	24	18	*
October 30-November 2, 2009	24	32	21	22	*
October 23-26, 2009	32	29	21	18	*
October 16-19, 2009	25	31	20	24	*
September 25-28, 2009: <i>The debate over whether to send more troops to Afghanistan</i>	27	40	17	16	*
September 18-21, 2009: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	26	33	25	16	*
September 11-14, 2009	25	35	22	18	1
September 3-6, 2009	23	33	23	21	0
August 7-10, 2009	24	32	23	21	1
March 20-23, 2009	24	32	22	22	*
February 20-23, 2009: <i>The Obama administration's decision to send 17,000 additional U.S. troops to Afghanistan</i>	27	29	24	19	1
January 30-February 2, 2009: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	26	34	24	16	*
January 2-4, 2009	22	33	23	21	1
October 24-27, 2008	28	32	22	17	1
October 10-13, 2008: <i>The military effort in Afghanistan against Taliban fighters</i>	19	34	29	18	*
September 12-15, 2008	21	34	25	19	1
August 29-31, 2008	18	27	32	23	*
July 18-21, 2008	27	33	24	16	*
July 11-14, 2008	19	28	29	23	1
July 3-7, 2008	19	28	32	21	*
June 20-23, 2008	20	30	30	20	*
Late July, 2002: <i>The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan</i>	41	38	13	7	1
June, 2002	38	32	20	9	1
April, 2002	39	39	13	8	1
Early April, 2002	45	37	12	5	1
February, 2002	47	39	8	5	1
January, 2002	51	35	9	4	1
December, 2001	44	38	12	5	1
Mid-November, 2001	49	36	11	3	1
Early November, 2001	45	36	12	6	1
Mid-October, 2001	51	35	10	3	1

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>
f. The verdict in a federal court trial of a former Guantanamo detainee November 18-21, 2010	12	20	22	45	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
August 8-11, 2008: <i>The trial of Osama bin Laden's former driver at Guantanamo military base</i>	5	15	33	46	1
June 13-16, 2008: <i>The U.S. Supreme Court ruling that foreign terror suspects held at Guantanamo Bay have the right to challenge their confinement</i>	21	23	24	32	*
April, 2006: <i>Accused terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui's death penalty trial</i>	23	33	24	19	1

ASK ALL:

PEW.2 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? **[DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]**

29	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
20	News about the outcome of the elections
14	The debate over new airport security screening procedures
10	The current situation and events in Afghanistan
6	The British royal family announcing Prince William's engagement
2	The verdict in a federal court trial of a former Guantanamo detainee
8	Some other story (VOL.)
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 Would you say the press has been too easy, too tough or fair in the way it has covered Barack Obama?

	<u>Too easy</u>	<u>Too tough</u>	<u>Fair</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November 18-21, 2010	23	21	46	9
September 9-12, 2010 ¹	27	23	37	13
July 15-18, 2010	27	24	39	10
April 9-12, 2010	29	21	42	8
October 3-6, 2008	31	7	60	2
April 25-28, 2008	26	17	52	5
March 20-24, 2008	23	15	55	7
February 29-March 3, 2008	28	8	58	6
February 1-4, 2008	23	8	61	8

¹ For September 9-12, 2010 and before this question was asked in a list.

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 How much if anything, have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski winning her write-in campaign for reelection to the U.S. Senate November 18-21, 2010	24	35	41	1
b. Warnings by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that alcoholic energy drinks are unsafe November 18-21, 2010	42	37	20	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:				
November 11-14, 2010: <i>The federal FDA's new graphic warning labels for cigarette packs in the U.S.</i>	17	38	44	1
April 23-26, 2010: <i>The FDA encouraging food companies to reduce salt in processed foods</i>	20	48	33	*
July 2-5, 2009: <i>An FDA panel recommending restrictions on painkillers such as Tylenol and Vicodin because they can cause liver damage</i>	29	38	33	*
June 19-22, 2009: <i>The FDA advising consumers to stop using Zicam cold remedy because it could damage people's sense of smell</i>	21	35	44	*
c. Sarah Palin's TV show November 18-21, 2010	25	37	37	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:				
March 19-22, 2010: <i>Sarah Palin</i> ²	20	51	29	*
January 15-18, 2010: <i>Sarah Palin becoming a commentator on Fox News</i>	24	46	29	*
June 12-15, 2009: <i>A feud between Sarah Palin and David Letterman over a joke he made about Palin's daughter</i>	35	36	29	*
October 24-27, 2008: <i>Sarah Palin's recent appearance on Saturday Night Live</i>	56	30	14	*
October 3-6, 2008: <i>Sarah Palin's TV interview with Katie Couric of CBS News</i>	41	37	22	*
September 26-29, 2008	31	37	32	*
September 12-15, 2008: <i>Sarah Palin's interview with Charles Gibson of ABC News</i>	35	32	32	1
d. News that a Congressional panel found Congressman Charlie Rangel guilty of ethics violations November 18-21, 2010	31	33	35	1

² For March 19-22, 2010 Sarah Palin was asked about in a list with several other people in the news.