

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS/USA TODAY
JANUARY 2014 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
January 15-19, 2014
N=1,504**

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

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

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 15-19, 2014	26	69	5	Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	21	75	3	Oct 18-21, 2012	32	61	8
Oct 9-13, 2013	14	81	5	Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5
Jul 17-21, 2013	27	67	6	Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5
May 1-5, 2013	30	65	5	May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	31	64	5	Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	February, 2005	38	56	6
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	January, 2005	40	54	6
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	December, 2004	39	54	7
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	July, 2004	38	55	7
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	May, 2004	33	61	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	December, 2003	44	47	9
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	October, 2003	38	56	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	August, 2003	40	53	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	January, 2003	44	50	6
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	November, 2002	41	48	11
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	September, 2002	41	55	4
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	May, 2002	44	44	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	March, 2002	50	40	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	June, 2001	43	52	5
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	February, 2001	46	43	11
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	January, 2001	55	41	4
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	September, 2000	51	41	8
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	June, 2000	47	45	8
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	April, 2000	48	43	9
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	August, 1999	56	39	5
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	January, 1999	53	41	6
December, 2008	13	83	4	November, 1998	46	44	10
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
August, 2008	21	74	5	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
July, 2008	19	74	7	February, 1998	59	37	4
June, 2008	19	76	5	January, 1998	46	50	4
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	September, 1997	45	49	6
March, 2008	22	72	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	January, 1997	38	58	4
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	July, 1996	29	67	4
October, 2007	28	66	6	March, 1996	28	70	2
February, 2007	30	61	9	October, 1995	23	73	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	June, 1995	25	73	2
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	April, 1995	23	74	3
December, 2006	28	65	7	July, 1994	24	73	3
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	March, 1994	24	71	5
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	October, 1993	22	73	5
July, 2006	30	65	5	September, 1993	20	75	5
May, 2006*	29	65	6	May, 1993	22	71	7
March, 2006	32	63	5	January, 1993	39	50	11
January, 2006	34	61	5	January, 1992	28	68	4
Late November, 2005	34	59	7	November, 1991	34	61	5
Early October, 2005	29	65	6	Gallup: Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
July, 2005	35	58	7	August, 1990	47	48	5
				May, 1990	41	54	5
				January, 1989	45	50	5
				September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

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?"

**QUESTIONS 3-4, 9-16, 18, 20-21, 23-26 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 5-8, 17, 19, 22**

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.27 Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the government's collection of telephone and internet data as part of anti-terrorism efforts?

(U) Jan 15-19 <u>2014</u>		Jul 17-21 <u>2013</u>	(U) Jun 12-16 <u>2013</u>
40	Approve	50	48
53	Disapprove	44	47
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	4

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the data the government collects as part of anti-terrorism efforts ...

Q.28 Do you think there are adequate limits on what telephone and internet data the government can collect, or not?

(U) Jan 15-19 <u>2014</u>	
41	Yes, there are adequate limits on what government can collect
48	No, there are not adequate limits on what government can collect
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

*Thinking about the data the government collects as part of anti-terrorism efforts ...
Do you think federal courts do or do not provide adequate limits on what telephone and internet data the government can collect?*

Jul 17-21 <u>2013</u>	
30	Do provide adequate limits on what government can collect
56	Do not provide adequate limits on what government can collect
15	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=765]:

Q.29F1 Do you think Edward Snowden's leak of classified information about the U.S. government's phone and internet surveillance programs has served the public interest or harmed the public interest?

(U) Jan 15-19 <u>2014</u>		Oct 30- Nov 6 <u>2013</u> ²
45	Has served the public interest	34
43	Has harmed the public interest	55
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11

² In November 2013, question was asked in a different context, following a battery of questions about foreign policy and terrorism. For more, see ["Public Sees U.S. Power Declining as Support for Global Engagement Slips."](#)

Q29F1 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

As you may know, news organizations found out about this [the government's collection of telephone and internet data] program through the leak of classified information. Do you think the release of this classified information [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

(U)	
Jun 12-16	
<u>2013</u>	
49	Has served the public interest
44	Has harmed the public interest
3	Neither/Both (VOL.)
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

From what you've read and heard, do you think the release of classified documents about U.S. diplomatic relations by WikiLeaks [READ AND RANDOMIZE]:

Dec 2-5	
<u>2010</u>	
29	Has served the public interest
53	Has harmed the public interest
7	Neither/Both (VOL.)
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=739]:

Q.30F2 Do you think the government should or should not pursue a criminal case against Edward Snowden, who leaked the classified information about the U.S. government's phone and internet surveillance program?

(U)		(U)
Jan 15-19		Jun 12-16
<u>2014</u>		<u>2013</u> ³
56	Should pursue criminal case	54
32	Should not pursue criminal case	38
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8

ASK JANUARY 17-19, 2014 ONLY [N=800]:

Q.31 As you may know, on Friday, Barack Obama gave a speech outlining proposed changes to the government's phone and internet surveillance program. How much, if anything, have you heard about these proposed changes? **[READ IN ORDER]**

(U)	
Jan 17-19	
<u>2014</u>	
8	A lot
41	A little
50	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK JANUARY 17-19, 2014 ONLY AND IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.31=1,2) [N=436]:

Q.31b Do you think these proposed changes will increase protections on people's privacy or will they not make much of a difference?

(U)	
Jan 17-19	
<u>2014</u>	
21	Will increase protections on privacy
73	Will not make much of a difference
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

³ In June 2013, question asked whether the government should pursue a criminal case against the "person responsible" for leaking the classified information.

ASK JANUARY 17-19, 2014 ONLY AND IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.31=1,2) [N=436]:

Q.31c Do you think these proposed changes will make it more difficult for the government to fight terrorism or will they not make much of a difference?

(U)	
Jan 17-19	
<u>2014</u>	
13	Will make it more difficult to fight terrorism
79	Will not make much of a difference
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

QUESTIONS 32-38, 42 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 39-41, 43

ASK ALL:

Q.44 I'm going to read you some pairs of statements. As I read each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE PAIRS BUT NOT STATEMENTS WITHIN EACH PAIR]**. The next pair is **[NEXT PAIR]**...

ITEMS a-c, e HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

d.	Americans need to be willing to give up privacy and freedom in order to be safe from terrorism	Americans shouldn't have to give up privacy and freedom in order to be safe from terrorism	(VOL.) Neither/DK
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	26	70	4
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	26	68	6
December, 2004 ⁴	35	60	5

QUESTION 45-50, 52 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTION 51

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
Jan 15-19, 2014	21	31	41	3	1	2	18	16
Dec 3-8, 2013	24	34	37	3	*	2	17	15
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	24	32	38	4	*	2	16	14
Oct 9-13, 2013	25	32	37	3	1	3	16	18
Sep 4-8, 2013	26	32	38	3	1	1	17	15
Jul 17-21, 2013	19	29	46	3	*	2	19	18
Jun 12-16, 2013	23	33	39	3	*	2	17	15
May 1-5, 2013	25	32	37	2	1	3	14	16
Mar 13-17, 2013	26	33	34	3	1	3	14	15
Feb 13-18, 2013	22	32	41	2	*	2	15	19
Jan 9-13, 2013	25	32	38	2	*	2	15	16
Yearly Totals								
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

⁴ In 2004, both answer choices read "...to give up more privacy and freedom...".

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(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>
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	--	--	--	--	--

QUESTIONS REPJOB, DEMJOB, 53-55 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**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=624]:

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	(VOL.) <u>Haven't heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	Not heard of/ <u>DK</u>
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 (RVs)	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	--

TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
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 ⁵	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 (RVs)	58	5	27	--	1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	54	5	30	--	1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	56	6	29	--	*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36	--	1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30	--	*	19
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25	--	1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26	--	1	21

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U)	Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
(WP)	Pew Research Center/Washington Post polls

⁵ 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."