## PEW RESEARCH CENTER AUGUST 11-14, 2011 OMNIBUS FI NAL TOPLI NE <br> $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 0 0 5}$

## 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, [I NSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE;] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]
a. Recent ups and downs in the stock market

August 11-14, 2011
July 28-31, 2011
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:
J anuary 27-30, 2011: Recent gains in the stock market
August 12-15, 2010: Recent ups and downs in the stock market
March 26-29, 2010
October 16-19, 2009: Recent gains in the stock market
July 24-27, 2009
March 13-16, 2009
March 6-9, 2009: Recent major drops in
the U.S. stock market
February 20-23, 2009
November 21-24, 2008
October 17-20, 2008: Recent major ups
and downs in the U.S. stock market
October 10-13, 2008: Recent major drops
in the U.S. stock market
July 3-7, 2008: Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market
March 14-17, 2008
J anuary 25-28, 2008
August 17-20, 2007
July 27-30, 2007
March 2-5, 2007: The recent drop in the
U.S. stock market

Early September, 2002: Recent major ups
and downs in the U.S. stock market
Late July, 2002
March, 2001
Mid-October, 2000
April, 2000
Early April, 2000
March, 2000
March, 1999
J anuary, 1999
Early September, 1998
Mid-August, 1998

| Very <br> closely | Fairly <br> closely | Not too <br> closely | Not at all <br> closely | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 32 | 28 | 16 |  |  |
| 18 | 23 | 20 | 39 | 1 |
|  | 23 |  |  | 1 |

January, 1998
Mid-November, 1997

| 13 | 17 | 20 | 49 | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17 | 21 | 20 | 42 | 1 |
| 13 | 23 | 23 | 40 | 1 |
| 15 | 23 | 19 | 43 | * |
| 23 | 25 | 24 | 28 | * |
| 38 | 31 | 14 | 17 | 0 |
| 35 | 31 | 15 | 19 | * |
| 31 | 32 | 20 | 17 | * |
| 50 | 23 | 15 | 12 | * |
| 54 | 31 | 9 | 6 | * |
| 59 | 26 | 9 | 6 | * |
| 22 | 29 | 23 | 26 | * |
| 25 | 31 | 23 | 21 | * |
| 29 | 28 | 19 | 23 | 1 |
| 21 | 24 | 22 | 33 | * |
| 15 | 26 | 21 | 37 | 1 |
| 21 | 28 | 25 | 26 | * |
| 27 | 30 | 20 | 22 | 1 |
| 33 | 33 | 15 | 18 | 1 |
| 27 | 27 | 18 | 27 | 1 |
| 20 | 26 | 23 | 31 | 1 |
| 18 | 28 | 23 | 31 | * |
| 19 | 29 | 20 | 32 | * |
| 23 | 29 | 21 | 26 | 1 |
| 18 | 29 | 22 | 31 | * |
| 24 | 28 | 19 | 28 | 1 |
| 32 | 31 | 20 | 17 | * |
| 17 | 23 | 21 | 39 | * |
| 21 | 25 | 23 | 31 | * |
| 25 | 36 | 18 | 20 | 1 |

Early November, 1997: Thinking about last
Monday when the stock market dropped,
how closely did you follow what was
happening? 16
16
$29 \quad 22$
33

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

September, 1997: Recent major ups and downs in the stock market
April, 1997
February, 1996
b. Severe food shortages in Somalia

August 11-14, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:
April 25-28, 2008: Reports about a worldwide food shortage
April 18-21, 2008
October, 1993: The situation in Somalia
September, 1993
February, 1993: Accounts about U.S.
troops in Somalia
J anuary, 1993: The deployment of U.S.
forces to Somalia
September, 1992: The civil war and famine in Somalia
c. The 30 U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan in a helicopter attack

August 11-14, 2011

## TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

J une 30-J uly 3, 2011: The current situation and events in Afghanistan
June 23-26, 2011: Discussions in
Washington about U.S. troop levels in
Afghanistan
June 2-5, 2011: The current situation and
events in Afghanistan
March 3-6, 2011: U.S. airmen killed at an airport in Frankfort, Germany
December 16-19, 2010: The Obama
administration's review of the Afghanistan war strategy
December 9-12, 2010: The current
situation and events in Afghanistan
November 18-21, 2010
October 21-24, 2010
October 7-10, 2010
September 30-October 3, 2010
September 23-26, 2010
September 9-12, 2010
July 29-August 1, 2010
July 15-18, 2010

| Very <br> closely | Fairly <br> closely <br> 14 | Not too <br> closely | Not at all <br> closely | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17 | 23 | 22 | 40 | 1 |
| 12 | 20 | 25 | 42 | $*$ |
|  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 15 | 23 | 22 | 39 | 1 |
| 12 | 21 | 26 | 40 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | 33 | 12 | 11 | 1 |
| 14 | 25 | 25 | 34 | 2 |
| 34 | 41 | 16 | 8 | 1 |
| 20 | 42 | 26 | 12 | $*$ |
| 28 | 42 | 22 | 8 | $*$ |
| 52 | 37 | 8 | 3 | $*$ |
| 11 | 24 | 31 | 33 | 1 |


| 39 | 33 | 13 | 14 | 1 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | 34 | 24 | 20 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 27 | 32 | 20 | 20 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | 35 | 23 | 21 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | 22 | 19 | 42 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 26 | 25 | 31 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | 31 | 22 | 22 | 1 |
| 27 | 33 | 21 | 18 | 1 |
| 21 | 34 | 23 | 21 | 1 |
| 21 | 36 | 20 | 22 | 1 |
| 23 | 37 | 23 | 15 | 1 |
| 29 | 40 | 19 | 11 | 1 |
| 30 | 33 | 20 | 17 | $*$ |
| 34 | 35 | 22 | 9 | $*$ |
| 22 | 33 | 23 | 22 | $*$ |
| 23 | 32 | 24 | 20 | 1 |
| 29 | 34 | 23 | 14 | 1 |
| 21 | 30 | 27 | 22 | $*$ |
| 22 | 33 | 25 | 20 | $*$ |
| 21 | 29 | 27 | 22 | 1 |

June 24-27, 2010: General Stanley
McChrystal resigning as head of U.S. forces
in Afghanistan after being quoted criticizing
President Obama and his Afghanistan

## strategy

February 19-22, 2010: The U.S. military
effort in Afghanistan

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

January 8-11, 2010: Suicide bombing that killed seven Americans at a CIA base in Afghanistan
December 11-14, 2009: The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan
December 4-7, 2009: President Obama's decision to send more U.S. troops to Afghanistan
November 20-23, 2009: The debate over whether to send more troops to Afghanistan
November 13-16, 2009
November 6-9, 2009: The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan
October 30-November 2, 2009
October 23-26, 2009
October 16-19, 2009
September 25-28, 2009: The debate over whether to send more troops to Afghanistan
September 18-21, 2009: The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan
September 11-14, 2009
September 3-6, 2009
August 7-10, 2009
March 20-23, 2009
February 20-23, 2009: The Obama administration's decision to send 17,000 additional U.S. troops to Afghanistan J anuary 30-February 2, 2009: The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan
January 2-4, 2009
October 24-27, 2008
October 10-13, 2008: The military effort in Afghanistan against Taliban fighters
September 12-15, 2008
August 29-31, 2008
July 18-21, 2008
July 11-14, 2008
July 3-7, 2008
J une 20-23, 2008
Late July, 2002: The U.S. military effort in
Afghanistan
June, 2002

| Very | Fairly | Not too | Not at all | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| closely | closely | closely | closely | DK/Ref |

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

May 7-10, 2010: The financial crisis in Greece and violent protests there April 30-May 3, 2010: The financial crisis in Greece

| Very <br> closely | Fairly <br> closely | Not too <br> closely | Not at all <br> closely | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 19 | 23 | 26 | 31 | $*$ |
| 6 | 15 | 28 | 51 | 1 |

e. News about candidates for the 2012
presidential elections
August 11-14, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
July 28-31, 2011
July 21-24, 2011
July 14-17, 2011
July 7-10, 2011
June 30-July 3, 2011
June 23-26, 2011
June 16-19, 2011
June 9-12, 2011
June 2-5, 2011
May 26-29, 2011
May 19-22, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
May 5-8, 2011
April 21-25, 2011
April 14-17, 2011
March 24-27, 2011
March 10-13, 2011
February 10-13, 2011
February 3-6, 2011

| 19 | 24 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 18 | 21 |
| 17 | 27 |
| 17 | 22 |
| 18 | 26 |
| 16 | 23 |
| 21 | 28 |
| 19 | 26 |
| 23 | 29 |
| 18 | 3 |
| 21 | 31 |
| 20 | 27 |
| 15 | 27 |
| 15 | 22 |
| 16 | 24 |
| 18 | 26 |
| 20 | 23 |
| 13 | 19 |
| 15 | 21 |
| 16 | 19 |
| 15 | 20 |

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

## 2008 Election

October 31-November 3, 2008: News
about the presidential election

| 57 | 29 | 9 | 5 | $*$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 44 | 36 | 11 | 8 | 1 |
| 61 | 28 | 7 | 4 | $*$ |
| 52 | 31 | 12 | 5 | $*$ |
| 57 | 31 | 8 | 4 | $*$ |
| 56 | 29 | 10 | 5 | $*$ |
| 47 | 33 | 14 | 6 | $*$ |
| 40 | 38 | 14 | 7 | 1 |
| 45 | 39 | 12 | 4 | $*$ |
| 45 | 32 | 15 | 8 | $*$ |
| 31 | 36 | 22 | 11 | $*$ |
| 25 | 41 | 19 | 14 | 1 |
| 27 | 38 | 22 | 13 | $*$ |
| 30 | 42 | 19 | 9 | $*$ |
| 30 | 34 | 21 | 15 | $*$ |
| 30 | 35 | 21 | 14 | $*$ |
| 28 | 34 | 22 | 15 | 1 |
| 25 | 35 | 23 | 17 | $*$ |
| 39 | 33 | 18 | 10 | $*$ |
| 28 | 38 | 22 | 12 | $*$ |
| 35 | 35 | 20 | 10 | $*$ |
| 38 | 35 | 17 | 10 | $*$ |
| 30 | 35 | 21 | 14 | $*$ |
| 32 | 37 | 20 | 11 | $*$ |
| 33 | 37 | 19 | 10 | 1 |
| 35 | 36 | 18 | 11 | $*$ |

October 24-27, 2008: News about
candidates for the 2008 presidential election
October 17-20, 2008
October 10-13, 2008
October 3-6, 2008
September 26-29, 2008
September 19-22, 2008
September 12-15, 2008
September 5-8, 2008
August 29-31, 2008
August 22-25, 2008
August 15-18, 2008
August 8-11, 2008
August 1-4, 2008
July 25-28, 2008
July 18-21, 2008

July 11-14, 2008
July 3-7, 2008
June 27-30, 2008
June 20-23, 2008
J une 13-16, 2008
June 6-9, 2008
May 30-June 2, 2008
May 22-25, 2008
May 16-19, 2008
May 9-12, 2008

| 20 | 36 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 22 | 37 | 1 |
| 21 | 35 | 1 |
| 28 | 32 | $*$ |
| 27 | 28 | 1 |
| 27 | 33 | 1 |
| 24 | 25 | 2 |
| 24 | 31 | $*$ |
| 23 | 25 | $*$ |
| 22 | 30 | 1 |
| 22 | 26 | $*$ |
| 24 | 28 | $*$ |
| 24 | 32 | 1 |
| 26 | 35 | 1 |
| 27 | 32 | 1 |
| 23 | 32 | 1 |
| 29 | 27 | 1 |
| 26 | 41 | 1 |
| 26 | 38 | 0 |
| 24 | 40 | $*$ |
| 23 | 42 | $*$ |

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

May 2-5, 2008
April 25-28, 2008
April 18-21, 2008
April 11-14, 2008
April 4-7, 2008
March 28-31, 2008
March 20-24, 2008
March 14-17, 2008
March 7-10, 2008
February 29-March 3, 2008
February 22-25, 2008
February 15-18, 2008
February 8-11, 2008
February 1-4, 2008
January 25-28, 2008
J anuary 18-21, 2008
January 11-14, 2008: News about the New
Hampshire primaries and the presidential campaign
J anuary 4-7, 2008: News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election
December 14-17, 2007
December 7-10, 2007
November 30 - December 3, 2007
November 23-26, 2007
November 16-19, 2007
November 9-12, 2007
November 2-5, 2007
October 26-29, 2007
October 19-22, 2007
October 12-15, 2007
October 5-8, 2007
September 28 - October 1, 2007
September 21-24, 2007
September 14-17, 2007
September 7-10, 2007
August 30-September 2, 2007
August 24-27, 2007
August 17-20, 2007
August 10-13, 2007
August 3-6, 2007
July 27-30, 2007
July 20-23, 2007
July 13-16, 2007
July 6-9, 2007
June 29-July 2, 2007
June 22-25, 2007
J une 15-18, 2007
J une 8-11, 2007
June 1-4, 2007
May 24-27, 2007
May 18-21, 2007
May 11-14, 2007
May 4-7, 2007
April 27-30, 2007
April 20-23, 2007
April 12-16, 2007
April 5-9, 2007
March 30-April 2, 2007

| Very | Fairly | Not too | Not at all | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| closely | closely | closely | closely | DK/Ref |
| 27 | 35 | 23 | 14 | 1 |
| 34 | 37 | 18 | 11 | * |
| 29 | 41 | 19 | 10 | 1 |
| 31 | 37 | 22 | 10 | * |
| 33 | 36 | 17 | 14 | * |
| 31 | 41 | 18 | 10 | * |
| 34 | 37 | 18 | 11 | * |
| 40 | 37 | 16 | 7 | * |
| 39 | 36 | 15 | 9 | 1 |
| 43 | 34 | 14 | 9 | * |
| 42 | 37 | 13 | 8 | * |
| 44 | 36 | 10 | 10 | * |
| 39 | 37 | 15 | 9 | 0 |
| 37 | 35 | 16 | 12 | * |
| 36 | 37 | 14 | 12 | 1 |
| 36 | 34 | 18 | 12 | * |
| 32 | 31 | 19 | 17 | 1 |
| 33 | 36 | 19 | 11 | 1 |
| 25 | 34 | 22 | 19 | * |
| 24 | 35 | 22 | 19 | * |
| 23 | 35 | 23 | 19 | * |
| 20 | 33 | 26 | 20 | 1 |
| 26 | 33 | 21 | 19 | 1 |
| 21 | 33 | 25 | 21 | * |
| 27 | 30 | 21 | 21 | 1 |
| 21 | 34 | 26 | 19 | * |
| 23 | 32 | 22 | 23 | * |
| 13 | 31 | 26 | 30 | * |
| 22 | 30 | 24 | 24 | * |
| 21 | 34 | 25 | 20 | * |
| 24 | 31 | 22 | 23 | * |
| 22 | 31 | 24 | 23 | * |
| 18 | 34 | 26 | 22 | * |
| 19 | 35 | 21 | 25 | * |
| 22 | 28 | 24 | 26 | * |
| 19 | 27 | 24 | 30 | * |
| 23 | 32 | 21 | 24 | * |
| 19 | 31 | 25 | 25 | * |
| 19 | 32 | 22 | 26 | 1 |
| 16 | 26 | 30 | 27 | 1 |
| 17 | 29 | 27 | 27 | * |
| 24 | 29 | 24 | 22 | 1 |
| 20 | 32 | 25 | 23 | * |
| 18 | 31 | 21 | 30 | * |
| 17 | 32 | 26 | 25 | * |
| 19 | 30 | 24 | 26 | 1 |
| 16 | 27 | 32 | 24 | 1 |
| 22 | 33 | 23 | 22 | * |
| 18 | 31 | 24 | 27 | * |
| 18 | 30 | 23 | 28 | 1 |
| 23 | 34 | 21 | 21 | 1 |
| 14 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 1 |
| 18 | 28 | 27 | 27 | * |
| 18 | 28 | 27 | 27 | * |
| 25 | 30 | 26 | 19 | * |
| 20 | 29 | 27 | 23 | 1 |

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

March 23-26, 2007
March 16-19, 2007
March 9-12, 2007
March 2-5, 2007
February 23-26, 2007
February 16-19, 2007
February 9-12, 2007
February 2-5, 2007
January 26-29, 2007
J anuary 19-22, 2007: Recent
announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2008

| Very <br> closely | Fairly <br> closely | Not too <br> closely | Not at all <br> closely | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20 | 32 | 22 | 26 | $*$ |
| 15 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 1 |
| 24 | 30 | 23 | 23 | $*$ |
| 19 | 31 | 26 | 23 | 1 |
| 22 | 33 | 24 | 21 | $*$ |
| 18 | 32 | 22 | 27 | 1 |
| 24 | 30 | 24 | 21 | 1 |
| 24 | 36 | 22 | 18 | $*$ |
| 24 | 33 | 23 | 20 | $*$ |

## 2004 Election <br> November, 2004: News about the

 presidential electionMid-October, 2004: News about candidates
for the 2004 presidential election
September, 2004
August, 2004
July, 2004
June, 2004
April, 2004
Mid-March, 2004
Late February, 2004 (GAP)
Early February, 2004: The race for the
Democratic presidential nomination
Mid-J anuary, 2004
Early J anuary, 2004
December, 2003
November, 2003
October, 2003
September, 2003
Mid-August, 2003
May, 2003
January, 2003: Recent announcements by
prominent Democrats about plans to run
for president in 2004

## 2000 Election

Early November, 2000: News about the presidential election
Mid-October, 2000: News about the presidential election campaign
Early October, 2000

| 33 | 41 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 36 | 35 |
| 35 | 35 |
| 22 | 42 |
|  |  |
| 21 | 38 |
| 23 | 32 |
| 18 | 33 |
| 18 | 39 |
| 26 | 41 |
| 26 | 36 |
| 19 | 34 |
| 16 | 36 |
| 17 | 32 |
| 15 | 31 |
| 15 | 38 |
| 11 | 25 |

September, 2000
July, 2000: News about candidates for the
2000 presidential election
June, 2000
May, 2000
April, 2000
Early April, 2000
March, 2000
February, 2000
January, 2000
December, 1999
October, 1999
September, 1999
July, 1999
June, 1999
1996 Election

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

|  | Very closely | Fairly closely | Not too closely | Not at all closely | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 1996: News about the presidential election | 28 | 42 | 19 | 10 | * |
| October, 1996: News about the presidential election campaign | 31 | 39 | 18 | 12 | * |
| Early September, 1996 | 24 | 36 | 23 | 17 | * |
| July, 1996 | 22 | 40 | 23 | 14 | 1 |
| April, 1996 | 23 | 35 | 25 | 17 | * |
| March, 1996 News about the Republican presidential candidates | 26 | 41 | 20 | 13 | * |
| J anuary, 1996 | 10 | 34 | 31 | 24 | 1 |
| October, 1995 | 12 | 36 | 30 | 22 | * |
| August, 1995 | 13 | 34 | 28 | 25 | * |
| J une, 1995 | 11 | 31 | 31 | 26 | 1 |
| 1992 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| October, 1992: News about the presidential election (RVs) | 55 | 36 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| September, 1992: News about the presidential election campaign | 42 | 37 | 13 | 8 | * |
| August, 1992: News about the presidential election (RVs) | 36 | 51 | 11 | 2 | 0 |
| July, 1992: News about the presidential campaign | 20 | 45 | 26 | 9 | * |
| May, 1992: The presidential election campaign | 32 | 44 | 16 | 8 | * |
| March, 1992: The race for the Democratic presidential nomination | 35 | 40 | 16 | 9 | * |
| March, 1992: The race for the Republican presidential nomination | 25 | 40 | 22 | 13 | 1 |
| February 1992: The Democratic primary in New Hampshire | 19 | 31 | 26 | 24 | * |
| February, 1992: The Republican primary in New Hampshire | 19 | 31 | 26 | 23 | 1 |
| J anuary, 1992: News about the Democratic |  |  |  |  |  |
| candidates for the presidential nomination | 11 | 25 | 36 | 27 | 1 |
| December, 1991 | 10 | 28 | 32 | 30 | * |
| October, 1991 | 12 | 26 | 31 | 29 | 2 |
| 1988 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| October, 1988: News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (RVs) | 43 | 44 | 11 | 2 | * |
| August, 1988 (RVs) | 39 | 45 | 13 | 3 | * |
| May, 1988 (RVs) | 22 | 46 | 23 | 6 | 3 |
| November, 1987: News about the |  |  |  |  |  |
| Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination | 15 | 28 | 35 | 21 | 1 |
| November, 1987: News about the |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican candidates for the presidential nomination | 13 | 28 | 36 | 22 | 1 |
| September, 1987: Coverage of the Democratic and Republican candidates for the presidential nomination | 14 | 34 | 37 | 14 | 1 |
| Standard and Poor's downgrading the U.S. credit rating |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 31 | 27 | 16 | 25 | 1 |
| TRENDS FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |  |
| August 4-7, 2011: Congress and the |  |  |  |  |  |
| President agreeing to cut federal spending and raise the debt limit | 46 | 25 | 13 | 14 | 1 |

## PEW. 1 CONTI NUED...

July 28-31, 2011: Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit and national debt July 21-24, 2011
July 14-17, 2011
July 7-10, 2011
June 30-July 3, 2011
June 16-19, 2011: Debate in Washington over whether to raise the federal debt limit
une 2-5, 2011
May 26-29, 2011: Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit May 12-15, 2011

| Very | Fairly | Not too | Not at all | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| closely | closely | closely | closely | DK/Ref |

May 5-8, 2011: Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit and national debt
April 21-25, 2011
April 14-17, 2011
April 7-10, 2011: The threat of a
government shutdown because of budget disagreements in Washington
March 31-April 3, 2011: Discussions in
Washington about how to address the
federal budget deficit
March 17-20, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 17-20, 2011
December 2-5, 2010

| 41 | 27 | 15 | 17 | $*$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 38 | 28 | 17 | 17 | $*$ |
| 34 | 29 | 18 | 19 | $*$ |
| 25 | 30 | 21 | 23 | $*$ |
| 29 | 30 | 15 | 25 | 2 |
| 24 | 26 | 22 | 28 | $*$ |
| 23 | 24 | 22 | 31 | $*$ |
| 25 | 26 | 20 | 29 | $*$ |
| 21 | 26 | 24 | 28 | 1 |

November 11-14, 2010: Proposals made by leaders of the federal budget deficit commission
January 9-12, 2009: Projections of a record high federal budget deficit this year November, 1990: Congressional and administration efforts to reach a budget deficit agreement October, 1990: Attempts by Congress and the administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit

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.]

Aug 11-14
$\underline{2011}$
27 The 30 U.S. troops killed in Afghanistan in a helicopter attack
19 Recent ups and downs in the stock market
10 Standard and Poor's downgrading the U.S. credit rating
8 News about candidates for the 2012 presidential elections
5 Riots in London and other parts of Britain
4 Severe food shortages in Somalia
9 Some other story (VOL.)
17 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

## ASK ALL:

PEW. 3 When you see or hear news reports about the economy, does it make you feel...[READ AND RANDOMI ZE]?

|  | Yes | No | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Optimistic |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 28 | 69 | 2 |
| November 14-17, 2008 | 30 | 69 | 1 |
| b. Angry |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 58 | 41 | 1 |
| November 14-17, 2008 | 49 | 50 | 1 |
| c. Depressed |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 33 | 66 | 1 |
| November 14-17, 2008 | 35 | 65 | * |
| d. Confused |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 40 | 59 | 1 |
| November 14-17, 2008 | 37 | 63 | * |
| e. Scared |  |  |  |
| August 11-14, 2011 | 39 | 60 | 1 |
| November 14-17, 2008 | 43 | 57 | * |

PEW. 4 Thinking about what you've been reading and hearing in the news recently, what one economic or financial problem have you heard the most about these days? [OPEN END. DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDI TI ONAL MENTI ONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTI ON, RECORD UP TO THREE RESPONSES IN ORDER OF MENTION]

Aug 11-14
$\underline{2011}$
32 Deficit/Debt/Government spending/Federal deficit/National debt
14 Jobs/unemployment
13 Stock market
7 U.S. credit rating downgrade/Standard and Poor's (S\&P) downgrade
4 Housing/Mortgages/Foreclosures
3 Health care/Medicare/Medicaid
2 Gas prices/Oil prices
2 Social Security
2 Recession/Depression
2 Inflation/Cost of living/Cost of food
1 Taxes
1 The political situation/Political gridlock
1 War(s)/Military spending
1 Economy (General mentions)
6 Some other (SPECI FY)
4 None/No problem
9 Don't know/No answer
Figures add to more than 100\%.

## PEW. 4 CONTI NUED...

## TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

| Nov |  | June | Jan |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $14-17$ |  | $13-16$ | $18-21$ |
| $\frac{2008}{21}$ | Housing/Mortgage crisis/Foreclosures/Sub-prime mortgages | $\frac{2008}{11}$ | $\frac{2008}{31}$ |
| 17 | Auto industry | -- | -- |
| 13 | Government bailout plan | -- | -- |
| 13 | Economy/Economic problems/Financial problems (general) | 7 | 7 |
| 11 | Wall Street banks/Credit crisis/Bank lending practices | 2 | 2 |
| 9 | Stock market | 1 | 6 |
| 7 | Jobs/Unemployment | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | Gas and oil prices | 72 | 7 |
| 2 | Health care/Health care costs/Medicare | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Recession/Possible Recession | 1 | 14 |
| 1 | Taxes (general) | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | Inflation/Cost of living/Cost of food | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | The war in Iraq/The military | -- | -- |
| 1 | Lagging retail sales/Major retailers losing money | -- | -- |
| 3 | Other | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | None/no problem | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused | 3 | 7 |

