

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
FEBRUARY 2009 POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
FEBRUARY 4-8, 2009
N=1,303

QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=643]:

Q.3F2 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

		Early				Mid-				Mid-								
		Oct	July	Jan	Nov	Sept	Jan	Sept	Jan	May	Jan	July	Jan	Apr	Feb	Mar	May	Feb
		08	08	08	07	07	07	06	06	05	05	04	04	03	03	02	01	01 ¹
53	Economy (general)	55	39	20	14	10	5	9	11	15	12	14	20	28	21	8	7	7
31	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	9	5	5	4	3	5	4	7	7	7	8	13	10	6	4	5	6
16	Financial crisis	26	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5	Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	4	3	6	5	7	8	6	5	6	5	7	5	3	5	4	2	5
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced																	
4	budget/Govt spending	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	2	--	1	1	1
3	Health care/costs	4	3	10	7	7	8	4	6	7	5	5	5	3	2	2	6	7
3	War/War in Iraq/War in Afghan.	11	17	27	32	37	42	25	23	24	32	25	16	14	34	10	--	--
	Recession/Depression/Slowing																	
3	down of the economy	1	1	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	2
2	Inflation/Difference in Wages/Costs	5	6	3	2	1	--	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
1	Morality/Ethics/Family values	1	3	2	2	3	3	2	4	3	5	4	3	4	5	8	6	12
	Education/schools/affording																	
1	education	--	4	4	2	3	4	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	1	4	8	11
1	Trade/Jobs moving overseas	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	2	1	1	2	1	--	--	--	--	--
1	Terrorism	2	3	3	4	6	5	14	6	8	10	8	14	9	16	24	1	--
	Crime/Violence/gangs/																	
1	justice system	--	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	4	8
	U.S. foreign policy/International																	
1	affairs	1	2	2	3	1	--	2	3	1	1	4	2	--	--	--	2	2
	Pay more attention to problems																	
1	at home	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
1	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	7	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3
	Environment/pollution/Global																	
1	warming	1	3	1	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	3	1
	Defense issues/Military spending/																	
1	National & homeland security	1	3	3	2	3	1	4	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	5	1	1
1	Immigration	1	2	6	6	6	5	6	3	4	1	1	3	1	--	1	1	2
1	Many things/Everything	1	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Abortion	1	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	1	1
4	Other																	
3	Don't know/No answer	4	4	5	6	5	7	7	7	5	5	6	4	9	4	8	8	7
	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/																	
7	INTERNATIONAL	18	25	36	40	48	50	47	37	36	49	41	37	29	54	39	3	5
80	(NET) ECONOMIC	75	61	34	31	20	15	23	26	31	24	26	35	41	29	16	40	26

¹ Complete trend for Q.3F2 not shown.

QUESTION 4a PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

QUESTIONS 4b AND 4c HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 5 AND 6 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 7 AND 8

QUESTIONS 9 AND 10 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

QUESTION 11 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 12 AND 13

ASK ALL:

ROTATE Q.14-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

Thinking now about the nation's economy...

Q.14 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
February, 2009	*	4	24	71	1=100
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1=100
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1=100
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1=100
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1=100
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1=100
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1=100
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*=100
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1=100
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2=100
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1=100
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1=100
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2=100
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2=100
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1=100
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2=100
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2=100
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2=100
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2=100
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1=100
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2=100
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1=100
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1=100
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1=100
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1=100
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1=100
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2=100
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1=100
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2=100
Late February, 2004 ²	2	29	42	26	1=100

² Earlier trends available from Gallup.

ASK IF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS ONLY FAIR OR POOR (3,4 IN Q.14)

Q.15 Do you think the U.S. economy is just having a few problems, is in a recession, or is in a depression?

BASED ON TOTAL:

		<u>Dec</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>March</u>
		<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>
4	Excellent/Good	7	7	7	9	7	10	11
95	Only fair/Poor	92	92	92	90	92	89	88
	5 Just having a few problems	6	11	12	11	12	14	14
	57 In a recession	64	58	58	54	56	54	56
	30 In a depression	20	18	19	22	21	18	15
	3 Don't know/refused (VOL.)	2	5	3	3	3	3	3
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=660]:

Q.16F1 What do you think is the most important economic problem facing the country today? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

		Early Oct <u>2008</u>	July <u>2008</u>	Early Feb <u>2008</u>
42	(NET) JOBS	10	13	18
41	Unemployment/lack of (good) jobs/low wages	9	11	14
1	Jobs moving overseas/outsourcing	2	2	4
18	(NET) FINANCIAL CRISIS	27		
3	The bailout of financial institutions/government intervention	6	--	--
3	Large corporations/corporate greed	6	1	1
3	Banking crisis/Problems with financial institutions	8	1	--
2	Credit crunch/Banks and others not giving loans	--	--	--
2	Debt/credit issues/bankruptcy	5	3	4
2	CEOs/Overpaid management/Inappropriate bonuses	--	--	--
2	Lack of consumer confidence/Fear	--	--	--
1	The stock market	5	--	--
1	Depression/Recession	--	--	--
1	The stimulus plan	--	--	--
1	Other financial crisis	--	--	--
8	(NET) HOUSING	12	10	13
4	Mortgage problems/sub-prime mortgages/foreclosures	8	7	6
4	Housing/real estate/affordable housing	4	3	9
6	(NET) GOVERNMENT	12	7	11
3	Budget/deficit/government spending or waste	5	2	4
1	Taxes	2	1	3
1	Government (President, Congress, Democrats, lobbyists, etc.)	5	4	2
1	Other government	--	--	--
5	(NET) PRICES	16	45	24
3	Health care/medical/Medicare	4	2	9
2	Gasoline/oil prices/energy costs	10	38	11
1	Cost of living/not enough money/ difference between wages and costs/inflation	3	9	5
6	Economy (general)	4	2	3
5	Money/Finances	--	--	--
2	Personal (ir)responsibility/spending more than you have	4	2	1
2	Spending on war in Iraq	4	8	10
1	Gap between rich and poor/distribution of wealth/ disappearance of middle class	3	1	2
1	Immigration	1	1	3
1	Education/schools	1	1	2
1	Decline of the U.S. industrial base, including auto industry	--	--	--
1	Trade/imports and exports	1	1	2
1	Loss of religion/faith	--	--	--
1	Corruption	--	--	--
6	Other			
*	None/no problem	*	*	1
8	Don't know/Refused/Non-response/Uncodeable	11	9	10

ASK ALL:

Q.17 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

(VOL.)

Don't Know/

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>Refused</u>
February, 2009	40	18	38	4=100
December, 2008	43	17	36	4=100
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8=100
July, 2008	30	21	41	8=100
March, 2008	33	22	39	6=100
January, 2008	20	26	48	6=100
September, 2007	19	23	53	5=100
June, 2007	16	24	55	5=100
February, 2007	17	20	58	5=100
December, 2006	22	18	56	4=100
September, 2006	16	25	55	4=100
January, 2006	20	22	55	3=100
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3=100
January, 2005	27	18	52	3=100
August, 2004	36	9	47	8=100
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8=100
September, 2003	37	17	43	3=100
May, 2003	43	19	35	3=100
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7=100
January, 2003	30	20	44	6=100
January, 2002	44	17	36	3=100
January, 2001 <i>Newsweek</i>	18	33	44	5=100
June, 2000	15	24	55	6=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5=100
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4=100
May, 1990	18	31	45	6=100
February, 1989	25	22	49	4=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9=100
May, 1988	24	20	46	10=100
January, 1988	22	26	45	7=100
January, 1984 <i>Newsweek</i> (RVs)	35	13	49	3=100

ASK ALL:

ROTATE Q.14-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.18 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

(VOL.)

Don't Know/

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Refused</u>
February, 2009	5	33	41	20	1=100
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1=100
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1=100
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2=100
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2=100
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2=100
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2=100

Q.18 CONTINUED...

	(VOL.)				
	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know/Refused</u>
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2=100
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1=100
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2=100
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1=100
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1=100
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2=100
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1=100
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1=100
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1=100
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1=100
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1=100
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4=100
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1=100
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1=100
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2=100
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2=100
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1=100
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2=100
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1=100
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1=100
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1=100
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1=100
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1=100
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1=100
January, 1993 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	33	46	16	1=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	34	40	19	1=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	5	30	47	17	1=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	35	45	15	1=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	32	45	18	1=100

ASK ALL:

Q.19 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

	(VOL.)					
	<u>Improve a lot</u>	<u>Improve some</u>	<u>Get a little worse</u>	<u>Get a lot worse</u>	<u>Stay the same</u>	<u>Don't Know/Refused</u>
February, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4=100
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4=100
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6=100
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7=100
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5=100
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4=100
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4=100
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3=100
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3=100
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4=100
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4=100
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3=100
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6=100
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3=100
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7=100

Q.19 CONTINUED...

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) Stay the <u>same</u>	(VOL.) Don't Know/ <u>Refused</u>
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4=100
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6=100
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4=100
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4=100
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8=100
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4=100
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4=100
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4=100
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3=100
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3=100
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	51	14	3	15	8=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	50	20	5	14	5=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	8	49	22	4	13	4=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	46	19	5	16	5=100

ASK ALL:

Q.20 Some people think that the federal government cannot fix the economy so easily these days because the U.S. is part of a global economy. Others believe that the government still has the power to fix the economy. Which of these comes closer to your view?

	Dec <u>2008</u>	Early Oct <u>2008</u>	July <u>2008</u>
40 The government can't fix it so easily	35	37	26
52 The government still has the power to fix it	59	56	68
<u>8</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.21 As you think about your OWN financial situation, which of the following economic issues worries you MOST right now? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	Dec <u>2008</u>	Early Oct <u>2008</u>	March <u>2008</u>
21 Rising prices	31	38	49
21 Problems in the financial markets	29	31	14
45 The job situation	26	18	19
9 Declining real estate values	9	8	12
1 Other (VOL.)	1	2	2
1 None / not worried about any (VOL.)	2	1	2
<u>2</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100	100	100	100

NO QUESTION 22

QUESTIONS 23 THROUGH 29 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

Now,

ASK ALL:

Q.30 Thinking about your personal finances, have you done any of the following lately? (First,) Have you [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] or not? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
a.	Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new home or make major home improvements			
	February, 2009	37	62	1=100
	December, 2008	36	63	1=100
b.	Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new car			
	February, 2009	37	62	1=100
	December, 2008	33	67	*=100
c.	Delayed or canceled plans to make a major purchase for your household, such as a computer or appliance			
	February, 2009	44	55	1=100
	December, 2008	44	56	*=100
d.	Cut back on planned spending for vacation travel			
	February, 2009	59	41	*=100
	December, 2008	57	42	1=100
e.	Adjusted your plans for retirement			
	February, 2009	29	70	1=100
	December, 2008	27	72	1=100
f.	Changed the way your money is saved or invested			
	February, 2009	53	46	1=100
	December, 2008	48	51	1=100
g.	Been eating out at restaurants less often			
	February, 2009	55	44	1=100
	December, 2008	55	44	1=100

IF CHANGED SPENDING HABITS (1 IN Q.30b,Q30c,Q30d, or Q30g) [N=990]:

Q.31 You mentioned making some cutbacks in spending. Have you been cutting back because your financial situation has GOTTEN worse and made such cutbacks necessary, or because you worry that your financial situation MIGHT GET worse in the future?

	<u>Dec³ 2008</u>
30 Financial situation has gotten worse	30
56 Worry that it might get worse in the future	59
5 Both (VOL.)	4
6 Other (VOL.)	4
<u>3</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>3</u>
100	100

NO QUESTIONS 32 OR 33

³ In December 2008, the beginning of the question was worded: "In general, have you been cutting back on spending because...".

ASK ALL:

EMPLOY Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

45	Employed full time
15	Employed part time
40	Not employed
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

ASK ALL:

EMPLOY Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

IF NOT EMPLOYED (3 IN EMPLOY) ASK:

EMPLOY1 Are you currently looking for work, or not?

IF PART TIME (2 IN EMPLOY) ASK:

EMPLOY7 Would you prefer to be working full time, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL:

45	Employed full time
15	Employed part time
7	Yes, would prefer full time
8	No, would not
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
40	Not employed
12	Yes, looking for work
28	No, not looking
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

ASK IF EMPLOYED (EMPLOY=1,2) OR NOT EMPLOYED AND NOT CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR WORK (EMPLOY1=2,9)

Q.34 Over the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or someone in your household has been without a job and looking for work, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL:

		Dec <u>2008</u>	Early Feb <u>2008</u>	May <u>2005</u>
39	Yes ⁴	35	28	31
61	No	65	71	69
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	1	*
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

⁴ "Yes" includes those who said they were looking for work in EMPLOY1.

ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (1 or 2 in EMPLOY) [N=760]:

Q.35 Which of the following best describes your job? Are you an employee of a private company or business, an employee of a non-profit organization, a government employee, or self-employed in your own business or professional practice? [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS MORE THAN ONE JOB/ EMPLOYER ASK ABOUT THEIR “main job”]

- 50 Private company or business
- 10 Non-profit organization (INCLUDES private schools, colleges and universities)
- 20 Government (INCLUDES federal, state or local government, public schools, colleges and universities)
- 18 Self employed or business owner (INCLUDES independent contractor, freelance worker)
- 1 Other (VOL.)
- 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

IF EMPLOYED AND NOT SELF-EMPLOYED (Q.35=1,2,3,5,9) ASK:

EMPLOY4 Do you work for an annual salary or are you paid by the hour?

BASED ON THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED [N=760]:

- 30 Paid a salary
- 48 Paid hourly
- 1 Both (VOL.)
- 2 Other / piecework / by the job (VOL.)
- 18 Self-employed (From Q.35)
- 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (1 or 2 in EMPLOY) [N=760]:

Q.36 Including all its locations and worksites, not just your own, about how many people are employed in your company or organization? Just stop me when I get to the right category. Are there... (READ) [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTIONS: IF RESPONDENT SAYS WORK FOR SELF CODE AS 1; IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS MORE THAN ONE JOB/ EMPLOYER ASK ABOUT THEIR “main job”; IF RESPONDENT IS UNSURE PROBE ONCE: “Just your best guess.”]

- 29 Fewer than 25
- 15 25 to under 100
- 22 100 to under 1000 [OR]
- 32 1,000 or more people
- 2 Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
- 100

ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (1 or 2 in EMPLOY) [N=760]:

Q.37 How would you rate the financial condition of the company or organization that employs you? Would you say it is in excellent financial shape, good shape, only fair shape or in poor shape?

		Early				--- U.S. News & World Report ---			
		Dec	Oct	Feb	June	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
15	Excellent shape	20	22	30	31	27	23	25	22
43	Good shape	43	44	39	39	38	40	40	39
29	Only fair shape	27	25	21	20	23	26	22	24
10	Poor shape	8	5	6	7	10	9	11	12
*	Does not apply (VOL.)	1	2	2	2	--	--	--	--
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.38 Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community or are jobs difficult to find?

	Plenty of jobs available	Jobs are difficult to find	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, few of others	(VOL.) DK/ Refused
February, 2009	11	80	3	6=100
December, 2008	19	73	4	4=100
Early October, 2008	25	64	4	7=100
July, 2008	31	58	4	7=100
April, 2008	30	61	4	5=100
Early February, 2008	34	53	5	8=100
November, 2007	41	48	4	7=100
September, 2007	36	50	6	8=100
June, 2007	39	49	5	7=100
February, 2007	39	48	6	7=100
December, 2006	40	49	5	6=100
March, 2006	37	56	3	4=100
January, 2006	33	56	6	5=100
Early October, 2005	36	56	4	4=100
May, 2005	30	60	6	4=100
January, 2005	32	58	5	5=100
Mid-September, 2004	31	52	6	11=100
August, 2004	34	55	4	7=100
Late April, 2004	30	57	4	9=100
Late February, 2004	31	59	5	6=100
Mid-January, 2004	27	60	6	7=100
October, 2003	24	66	5	5=100
June, 2002	31	59	4	6=100
June, 2001	42	44	8	6=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	15	76	6	3=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	16	77	4	3=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	12	79	6	3=100

ASK ALL:

Q.39 For each of the following, please tell me whether or not it is something that happened to you in the past year....Have you [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS a. THRU f. WITH ITEM g. ALWAYS LAST]? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>Don't know</u>
a. Had trouble getting or paying for medical care for yourself or your family			
February, 2009	23	77	*=100
January, 2008 <i>Pew Social & Demographic Trends</i>	23	76	1=100
TREND FOR COMPARISON:⁵			
August, 1999 <i>Washington Post/Kaiser/Harvard</i>	21	78	*=100

⁵ Trends for items 39a, 39b, 39d and 39f are from a study conducted by the *Washington Post*, Kaiser and Harvard from June 30 to August 30, 1999. The introduction to these items was: "For each of the following, please tell me whether or not it is something that has happened to you and your immediate family during the past year..." The wording for the trend to item 39d was: "Have you gotten a promotion or a big pay raise at work?"

Q.39 CONTINUED...

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>Don't know</u>
b.	Had problems paying your rent or mortgage			
	February, 2009	20	80	*=100
	January, 2008 <i>Pew Social & Demographic Trends</i>	16	83	1=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	August, 1999 <i>Washington Post/Kaiser/Harvard</i>	13	87	*=100
c.	Been laid off or lost your job			
	February, 2009	18	82	*=100
	January, 2008 <i>Pew Social & Demographic Trends</i>	14	85	1=100
d.	Gotten a pay raise at your current job or gotten a better job			
	February, 2009	29	70	1=100
	January, 2008 <i>Pew Social & Demographic Trends</i>	41	57	2=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	August, 1999 <i>Washington Post/Kaiser/Harvard</i>	29	69	2=100
e.	Had a mortgage, other loan, or credit card application denied			
	February, 2009	17	83	*=100
f.	Had problems with collection or credit agencies			
	February, 2009	20	80	*=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	August, 1999 <i>Washington Post/Kaiser/Harvard</i>	19	80	*=100

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>Don't know</u>	<i>Laid off</i>
--	--	------------	-----------	-----------------------------	-----------------

**ASK IF NOT LAID OFF (Q.39c=2,9):
BASED ON TOTAL:**

g.	Had your hours reduced or been asked to take a cut in pay	11	71	*	18=100
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ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (1 or 2 in EMPLOY) [N=760]:

Q.40 Thinking about the next 12 months, how likely is it that [INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? Is it very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely? What about [INSERT NEXT ITEM]... **IF NECESSARY:** Is it very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely that (**REPEAT ITEM**)

		<u>NET</u> <u>Likely</u>	<i>Very</i> <i>likely</i>	<i>what</i> <i>likely</i>	<u>NET</u> <u>Not</u> <u>likely</u>	<i>Not</i> <i>too</i> <i>likely</i>	<i>Not</i> <i>at all</i> <i>likely</i>	(VOL.) <u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>
a.	Your employer may go out of business or relocate to another city							
	February, 2009	13	4	9	85	19	66	2=100
	January, 2008 <i>Pew Social Trends</i>	12	4	8	87	24	63	1=100

NO ITEM b

c.	You may have your health care benefits reduced or eliminated by your employer							
	February, 2009	24	10	14	69	19	50	7=100
	January, 2008 <i>Pew Social Trends</i>	20	7	13	74	25	49	6=100

Q.40 CONTINUED...

	NET	<i>Some-</i>	NET	<i>Not</i>	<i>Not</i>	(VOL.)	
	Likely	<i>Very</i>	Not	<i>too</i>	<i>at all</i>	Don't	
		<i>likely</i>	likely	<i>likely</i>	<i>likely</i>	know	
		<i>likely</i>					
d. You may be asked to take a cut in pay							
February, 2009	25	10	15	73	23	50	2=100
January, 2008 <i>Pew Social Trends</i>	13	4	9	86	27	59	1=100

NO ITEM e

f. You may be laid off							
February, 2009	21	5	16	77	31	46	2=100
January, 2008 <i>Pew Social Trends</i>	15	5	10	84	28	56	1=100
g. You may have your retirement benefits reduced or eliminated by your employer							
February, 2009	18	6	12	75	22	53	7=100

QUESTIONS 41 THROUGH 48 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

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

	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No Preference	Other Party	DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2=100	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2=100	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3=100	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3=100	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3=100	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3=100	11	15
Late September, 2008	25	35	34	3	1	2=100	13	15
Mid-September, 2008	28	35	32	3	*	2=100	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2=100	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3=100	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2=100	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3=100	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2=100	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4=100	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3=100	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3=100	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2=100	12	18
Yearly Totals								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1=100	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1=100	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8=100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9=100	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5=100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7=100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7=100	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6=100	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1=100	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0=100	11.6	11.6

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	DK/	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9=100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4=100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3=100	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100			12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4=100			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100			14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8=100			11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100			13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5=100			14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8=100			12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100					
1987	26	35	39=100					

ASK ALL:

CLASS Which of the following labels best describes your household: **[READ ITEMS, IN ORDER]**

	Professional or			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Business</u>	<u>Working</u>	<u>Struggling</u>	More than one/ <u>None</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
February, 2009	26	52	16	4	2=100
December, 2008	32	44	19	3	2=100
Early October, 2008	31	48	15	4	2=100
April, 2008	33	42	17	6	2=100
Early February, 2008	32	47	15	3	3=100
January, 2008	33	46	12	6	3=100
December, 2007	30	46	15	6	3=100
September, 2007	35	46	12	4	3=100
August, 2007	34	44	13	7	2=100
January, 2007	30	47	16	5	2=100
October, 2006	34	45	15	4	2=100
January, 2006	32	46	14	4	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	32	45	15	5	3=100
February, 2004 <i>GAP</i>	32	47	15	4	2=100
August, 2003	31	47	14	6	2=100
June, 2003	31	44	15	8	2=100
June, 2002	31	47	14	5	3=100
February, 2002	32	46	14	6	2=100
June, 2001	29	47	15	6	3=100

OWNRENT, MORTGAGE, AND MORTGAGE2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE