

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**AUGUST 19-22, 2010 OMNIBUS**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**N=1003**

**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<br/>closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>closely</u> | <b>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</b> |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy |                         |                           |                            |                               |                          |
| 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                            | *                        |
| 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                            | *                        |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|                             | <u>Very<br/>closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>closely</u> | <u>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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                        |
| 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                            | *                        |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|   | <u>Very<br/>closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>closely</u> | <b>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</b> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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                        |
| b. The major oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico |                         |                           |                            |                               |                          |
| August 19-22, 2010                          | 41                      | 34                        | 15                         | 9                             | 1                        |
| August 12-15, 2010                          | 39                      | 34                        | 17                         | 9                             | 1                        |
| August 5-8, 2010                            | 42                      | 36                        | 12                         | 9                             | 1                        |
| July 29-August 1, 2010                      | 57                      | 31                        | 10                         | 2                             | 0                        |
| July 22-25, 2010                            | 59                      | 29                        | 8                          | 3                             | *                        |
| July 15-18, 2010                            | 50                      | 32                        | 10                         | 7                             | *                        |
| July 8-11, 2010                             | 43                      | 40                        | 10                         | 6                             | 1                        |
| July 1-5, 2010                              | 57                      | 29                        | 9                          | 5                             | *                        |
| June 24-27, 2010                            | 56                      | 31                        | 8                          | 5                             | *                        |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|   | Very<br><u>closely</u> | Fairly<br><u>closely</u> | Not too<br><u>closely</u> | Not at all<br><u>closely</u> | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| June 17-20, 2010  | 55                     | 32                       | 6                         | 6                            | *                |
| June 10-13, 2010  | 55                     | 31                       | 9                         | 5                            | *                |
| June 3-6, 2010  | 57                     | 27                       | 9                         | 6                            | *                |
| May 27-30, 2010   | 55                     | 26                       | 11                        | 7                            | *                |
| May 20-23, 2010: <i>An oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states</i>                     | 47                     | 35                       | 11                        | 7                            | *                |
| May 13-16, 2010   | 58                     | 29                       | 9                         | 4                            | *                |
| May 7-10, 2010  | 46                     | 33                       | 11                        | 10                           | *                |
| April 30-May 3, 2010: <i>Oil leaking into the ocean near the Louisiana coast after an off-shore oil rig explosion</i> | 44                     | 35                       | 11                        | 10                           | *                |
| April 23-26, 2010: <i>An explosion on an off-shore oil rig near the coast of Louisiana</i>                            | 21                     | 35                       | 22                        | 23                           | *                |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>   |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| April 1-5, 2010: <i>President Obama's proposal to allow offshore oil and gas drilling</i>                             | 20                     | 24                       | 21                        | 33                           | 1                |
| July 25-28, 2008: <i>A major oil spill into the Mississippi River</i>   | 14                     | 19                       | 25                        | 41                           | 1                |
| December 4-8, 2002: <i>The large oil spill polluting the coast of Spain</i>   | 15                     | 29                       | 28                        | 27                           | 1                |
| May 4-7, 1989: <i>The Alaska oil spill</i>  | 52                     | 37                       | 7                         | 4                            | --               |
| c. News about this year's congressional elections   |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| 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                |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>   |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| October 24-27, 2008: <i>News about candidates for local and statewide elections</i>                                   | 20                     | 35                       | 24                        | 20                           | 1                |
| Early November, 2006: <i>News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district</i>                  | 27                     | 37                       | 18                        | 17                           | 1                |
| Late October, 2006 (RVs)  | 27                     | 45                       | 17                        | 11                           | *                |
| Early October, 2006   | 21                     | 38                       | 25                        | 15                           | 1                |
| Early September, 2006   | 16                     | 32                       | 28                        | 23                           | 1                |
| August, 2006  | 20                     | 29                       | 28                        | 22                           | 1                |
| June, 2006  | 18                     | 30                       | 29                        | 21                           | 2                |
| May, 2006   | 18                     | 28                       | 30                        | 23                           | 1                |
| Early November, 2002 (RVs)  | 27                     | 46                       | 18                        | 9                            | *                |
| Late October, 2002 (RVs)  | 28                     | 34                       | 24                        | 13                           | 1                |
| Early October, 2002 (RVs)   | 21                     | 46                       | 22                        | 10                           | 1                |
| Early September, 2002   | 17                     | 29                       | 29                        | 24                           | 1                |
| Late October, 1998 (RVs)  | 26                     | 45                       | 20                        | 9                            | *                |
| Early October, 1998 (RVs)   | 21                     | 43                       | 24                        | 11                           | 1                |
| Early September, 1998   | 17                     | 32                       | 28                        | 23                           | *                |
| Early August, 1998  | 13                     | 30                       | 28                        | 23                           | 1                |
| June, 1998  | 9                      | 27                       | 33                        | 30                           | 1                |
| April, 1998 <sup>1</sup>  | 16                     | 33                       | 24                        | 27                           | *                |
| November, 1994  | 18                     | 42                       | 25                        | 15                           | *                |

<sup>1</sup> In April 1998, September 1994 and October 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and election campaigns in your state." In November 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and elections in your state."

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|   | Very<br><u>closely</u> | Fairly<br><u>closely</u> | Not too<br><u>closely</u> | Not at all<br><u>closely</u> | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Late October, 1994  | 14                     | 38                       | 31                        | 16                           | 1                |
| Early October, 1994   | 23                     | 34                       | 23                        | 19                           | 1                |
| September, 1994   | 19                     | 34                       | 29                        | 18                           | *                |
| November, 1990  | 38                     | 34                       | 17                        | 11                           | *                |
| October, 1990   | 18                     | 32                       | 28                        | 22                           | *                |
| d. The planned building of an Islamic cultural center and mosque in downtown New York City              |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| August 19-22, 2010  | 31                     | 25                       | 17                        | 27                           | 1                |
| August 5-8, 2010  | 19                     | 19                       | 18                        | 42                           | 2                |
| e. The flooding in Pakistan and its aftermath   |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| August 19-22, 2010  | 11                     | 23                       | 32                        | 33                           | 1                |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>   |                        |                          |                           |                              |                  |
| August 12-15, 2010: <i>Floods in Pakistan</i>   | 8                      | 19                       | 30                        | 43                           | 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                            | *                |
| 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                           | *                |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|   | <u>Very<br/>closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>closely</u> | <u>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</u> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| f. The withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq   |                         |                           |                            |                               |                          |
| August 19-22, 2010  | 31                      | 33                        | 19                         | 17                            | 1                        |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>   |                         |                           |                            |                               |                          |
| August 5-8, 2010: <i>The current situation and events in Iraq</i>   | 23                      | 35                        | 22                         | 18                            | 1                        |
| May 13-16, 2010   | 31                      | 34                        | 21                         | 13                            | 2                        |
| March 12-15, 2010   | 22                      | 36                        | 28                         | 14                            | *                        |
| March 5-8, 2010   | 26                      | 34                        | 20                         | 20                            | *                        |
| January 29-February 1, 2010   | 23                      | 33                        | 27                         | 17                            | *                        |
| January 15-18, 2010   | 20                      | 35                        | 28                         | 17                            | *                        |
| October 16-19, 2009   | 23                      | 30                        | 24                         | 23                            | *                        |
| September 11-14, 2009   | 21                      | 33                        | 30                         | 16                            | *                        |
| August 21-24, 2009  | 25                      | 35                        | 22                         | 18                            | 1                        |
| August 14-17, 2009  | 19                      | 38                        | 23                         | 18                            | *                        |
| July 2-5, 2009: <i>U.S. troops withdrawing from Iraqi cities</i>  | 25                      | 34                        | 20                         | 21                            | 0                        |
| April 24-27, 2009: <i>The current situation and events in Iraq</i>  | 21                      | 35                        | 25                         | 19                            | *                        |
| March 20-23, 2009   | 25                      | 37                        | 21                         | 17                            | *                        |
| February 27-March 2, 2009: <i>Barack Obama's plan to withdraw most U.S. troops from Iraq by August 2010</i> | 40                      | 37                        | 13                         | 9                             | 1                        |
| December 12-15, 2008: <i>The current situation and events in Iraq</i>                                       | 24                      | 35                        | 25                         | 16                            | *                        |
| November 21-24, 2008  | 32                      | 31                        | 24                         | 13                            | 0                        |
| November 14-17, 2008  | 24                      | 33                        | 27                         | 16                            | *                        |
| October 31-November 3, 2008   | 30                      | 35                        | 22                         | 12                            | 1                        |
| October 24-27, 2008   | 29                      | 35                        | 25                         | 11                            | *                        |
| October 10-13, 2008   | 23                      | 34                        | 30                         | 13                            | *                        |
| October 3-6, 2008   | 29                      | 33                        | 28                         | 10                            | *                        |
| September 5-8, 2008   | 24                      | 37                        | 26                         | 13                            | *                        |
| August 29-31, 2008  | 22                      | 32                        | 29                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| August 22-25, 2008  | 26                      | 31                        | 27                         | 15                            | 1                        |
| August 1-4, 2008  | 27                      | 40                        | 23                         | 10                            | *                        |
| July 25-28, 2008  | 28                      | 33                        | 22                         | 17                            | *                        |
| July 18-21, 2008  | 33                      | 35                        | 20                         | 12                            | *                        |
| July 11-14, 2008  | 24                      | 35                        | 24                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| July 3-7, 2008  | 25                      | 35                        | 25                         | 15                            | *                        |
| June 20-23, 2008  | 25                      | 36                        | 24                         | 15                            | *                        |
| May 9-12, 2008  | 29                      | 35                        | 21                         | 14                            | 1                        |
| May 2-5, 2008   | 26                      | 35                        | 25                         | 13                            | 1                        |
| April 25-28, 2008   | 29                      | 35                        | 23                         | 12                            | 1                        |
| April 18-21, 2008   | 29                      | 39                        | 20                         | 11                            | 1                        |
| April 11-14, 2008   | 25                      | 39                        | 20                         | 15                            | 1                        |
| April 4-7, 2008   | 25                      | 37                        | 23                         | 15                            | *                        |
| March 28-31, 2008   | 29                      | 40                        | 19                         | 11                            | 1                        |
| March 20-24, 2008   | 30                      | 38                        | 19                         | 13                            | *                        |
| March 14-17, 2008   | 29                      | 38                        | 23                         | 10                            | *                        |
| March 7-10, 2008  | 28                      | 39                        | 18                         | 15                            | *                        |
| February 29-March 3, 2008   | 28                      | 40                        | 19                         | 13                            | *                        |
| February 8-11, 2008   | 24                      | 35                        | 25                         | 16                            | *                        |
| February 1-4, 2008  | 28                      | 39                        | 22                         | 11                            | *                        |
| January 25-28, 2008   | 23                      | 35                        | 26                         | 16                            | *                        |
| January 18-21, 2008   | 31                      | 33                        | 20                         | 15                            | 1                        |
| January 11-14, 2008   | 25                      | 38                        | 21                         | 16                            | *                        |
| January 4-7, 2008   | 27                      | 38                        | 20                         | 15                            | *                        |
| December 14-17, 2007  | 26                      | 32                        | 24                         | 18                            | *                        |
| December 7-10, 2007   | 28                      | 37                        | 21                         | 14                            | *                        |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|  | <u>Very<br/>closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>closely</u> | <u>(VOL.)<br/>DK/Ref</u> |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| November 23-26, 2007   | 25                      | 37                        | 21                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| November 16-19, 2007   | 31                      | 37                        | 19                         | 12                            | 1                        |
| November 9-12, 2007  | 29                      | 38                        | 19                         | 13                            | 1                        |
| November 2-5, 2007   | 31                      | 35                        | 18                         | 15                            | 1                        |
| October 26-29, 2007  | 28                      | 37                        | 21                         | 13                            | 1                        |
| October 19-22, 2007  | 28                      | 37                        | 20                         | 15                            | *                        |
| October 12-15, 2007  | 26                      | 36                        | 18                         | 19                            | 1                        |
| October 5-8, 2007  | 29                      | 33                        | 22                         | 16                            | *                        |
| September 28 – October 1, 2007   | 30                      | 41                        | 18                         | 11                            | *                        |
| September 21-24, 2007  | 32                      | 38                        | 17                         | 13                            | *                        |
| September 14-17, 2007  | 31                      | 36                        | 18                         | 15                            | 0                        |
| September 7-10, 2007   | 32                      | 34                        | 20                         | 14                            | *                        |
| August 30 – September 2, 2007  | 31                      | 34                        | 18                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| August 24-27, 2007   | 34                      | 36                        | 18                         | 12                            | *                        |
| August 17-20, 2007   | 33                      | 34                        | 18                         | 15                            | *                        |
| August 10-13, 2007   | 36                      | 37                        | 14                         | 13                            | *                        |
| August 3-6, 2007   | 29                      | 40                        | 19                         | 12                            | *                        |
| July 27-30, 2007   | 28                      | 36                        | 19                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| July 20-23, 2007   | 28                      | 34                        | 21                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| July 13-16, 2007   | 25                      | 41                        | 17                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| July 6-9, 2007   | 36                      | 34                        | 18                         | 12                            | *                        |
| June 29-July 2, 2007   | 32                      | 35                        | 19                         | 13                            | 1                        |
| June 22-25, 2007   | 30                      | 36                        | 18                         | 15                            | 1                        |
| June 15-18, 2007   | 30                      | 37                        | 20                         | 13                            | *                        |
| June 8-11, 2007  | 32                      | 38                        | 15                         | 14                            | 1                        |
| June 1-4, 2007   | 30                      | 36                        | 20                         | 13                            | 1                        |
| May 24-27, 2007  | 33                      | 36                        | 18                         | 12                            | 1                        |
| May 18-21, 2007  | 36                      | 34                        | 15                         | 14                            | 1                        |
| May 11-14, 2007  | 30                      | 34                        | 18                         | 17                            | 1                        |
| May 4-7, 2007  | 38                      | 37                        | 15                         | 10                            | *                        |
| April 27-30, 2007  | 27                      | 35                        | 21                         | 16                            | 1                        |
| April 20-23, 2007  | 28                      | 35                        | 22                         | 15                            | *                        |
| April 12-16, 2007  | 34                      | 33                        | 20                         | 13                            | *                        |
| April 5-9, 2007  | 33                      | 39                        | 16                         | 11                            | 1                        |
| March 30-April 2, 2007   | 34                      | 37                        | 16                         | 13                            | *                        |
| March 23-March 26, 2007: <i>News about the<br/>current situation in Iraq</i> | 31                      | 38                        | 18                         | 12                            | 1                        |
| March 16-19, 2007  | 34                      | 34                        | 17                         | 15                            | *                        |
| March 9-12, 2007   | 34                      | 37                        | 16                         | 13                            | *                        |
| March 2-5, 2007  | 37                      | 37                        | 16                         | 9                             | 1                        |
| February 23-26, 2007   | 36                      | 36                        | 15                         | 13                            | *                        |
| February 16-19, 2007   | 30                      | 36                        | 19                         | 14                            | 1                        |
| February 9-12, 2007  | 37                      | 34                        | 18                         | 11                            | *                        |
| February 2-5, 2007   | 38                      | 38                        | 17                         | 7                             | *                        |
| January 26-29, 2007  | 36                      | 38                        | 15                         | 11                            | *                        |
| January 19-22, 2007  | 37                      | 34                        | 18                         | 10                            | 1                        |
| January 12-15, 2007  | 38                      | 36                        | 17                         | 8                             | 1                        |
| January, 2007  | 46                      | 40                        | 8                          | 5                             | 1                        |
| January 5-8, 2007  | 40                      | 32                        | 16                         | 12                            | 0                        |
| December, 2006   | 42                      | 39                        | 12                         | 7                             | *                        |
| November 30-December 3, 2006   | 40                      | 36                        | 13                         | 11                            | *                        |
| Mid-November, 2006   | 44                      | 38                        | 12                         | 6                             | *                        |
| September, 2006  | 33                      | 43                        | 14                         | 8                             | 2                        |
| August, 2006   | 41                      | 39                        | 12                         | 7                             | 1                        |
| June, 2006   | 37                      | 43                        | 13                         | 6                             | 1                        |
| May, 2006  | 42                      | 35                        | 15                         | 7                             | 1                        |
| April, 2006  | 43                      | 36                        | 13                         | 7                             | 1                        |
| March, 2006  | 43                      | 38                        | 12                         | 6                             | 1                        |

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

|   | Very<br><u>closely</u> | Fairly<br><u>closely</u> | Not too<br><u>closely</u> | Not at all<br><u>closely</u> | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| February, 2006  | 39                     | 42                       | 12                        | 6                            | 1                |
| January, 2006   | 40                     | 40                       | 12                        | 7                            | 1                |
| December, 2005  | 45                     | 38                       | 11                        | 5                            | 1                |
| Early November, 2005  | 41                     | 40                       | 13                        | 6                            | *                |
| Early October, 2005   | 43                     | 36                       | 15                        | 6                            | *                |
| Early September, 2005   | 32                     | 40                       | 20                        | 7                            | 1                |
| July, 2005  | 43                     | 37                       | 13                        | 6                            | 1                |
| Mid-May, 2005   | 42                     | 42                       | 11                        | 5                            | *                |
| Mid-March, 2005   | 40                     | 39                       | 14                        | 5                            | 2                |
| February, 2005  | 38                     | 45                       | 13                        | 4                            | *                |
| January, 2005   | 48                     | 37                       | 11                        | 4                            | *                |
| December, 2004  | 34                     | 44                       | 15                        | 6                            | 1                |
| Mid-October, 2004   | 42                     | 38                       | 11                        | 8                            | 1                |
| Early September, 2004   | 47                     | 37                       | 9                         | 6                            | 1                |
| August, 2004  | 39                     | 42                       | 12                        | 6                            | 1                |
| July, 2004  | 43                     | 40                       | 11                        | 6                            | *                |
| June, 2004  | 39                     | 42                       | 12                        | 6                            | 1                |
| April, 2004   | 54                     | 33                       | 8                         | 5                            | *                |
| Mid-March, 2004   | 47                     | 36                       | 12                        | 4                            | 1                |
| Early February, 2004  | 47                     | 38                       | 10                        | 4                            | 1                |
| Mid-January, 2004   | 48                     | 39                       | 9                         | 4                            | *                |
| December, 2003  | 44                     | 38                       | 11                        | 6                            | 1                |
| November, 2003  | 52                     | 33                       | 9                         | 5                            | 1                |
| September, 2003   | 50                     | 33                       | 10                        | 6                            | 1                |
| Mid-August, 2003  | 45                     | 39                       | 10                        | 5                            | 1                |
| Early July, 2003  | 37                     | 41                       | 13                        | 8                            | 1                |
| June, 2003  | 46                     | 35                       | 13                        | 6                            | *                |
| May, 2003   | 63                     | 29                       | 6                         | 2                            | *                |
| April 11-16, 2003: <i>News about the war in Iraq</i>  | 47                     | 40                       | 10                        | 2                            | 1                |
| April 2-7, 2003   | 54                     | 34                       | 9                         | 2                            | 1                |
| March 20-24, 2003   | 57                     | 33                       | 7                         | 2                            | 1                |
| March 13-16, 2003: <i>Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq</i> | 62                     | 27                       | 6                         | 4                            | 1                |
| February, 2003  | 62                     | 25                       | 8                         | 4                            | 1                |
| January, 2003   | 55                     | 29                       | 10                        | 4                            | 2                |
| December, 2002  | 51                     | 32                       | 10                        | 6                            | 1                |
| Late October, 2002  | 53                     | 33                       | 8                         | 5                            | 1                |
| Early October, 2002   | 60                     | 28                       | 6                         | 5                            | 1                |
| Early September, 2002: <i>Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq</i>              | 48                     | 29                       | 15                        | 6                            | 2                |

## 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.]

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 34 | The major oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico  |
| 15 | Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy   |
| 13 | The planned building of an Islamic cultural center and mosque in downtown New York City |
| 9  | The withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq  |
| 4  | News about this year's Congressional elections  |
| 3  | The flooding in Pakistan and its aftermath  |
| 7  | Some other story (VOL.)   |
| 14 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   |



**ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 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> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. A federal jury convicting former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich of one count of lying to the FBI but deadlocking on other charges<br>August 19-22, 2010       | 31           | 42              | 27                    | 1                              |
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b><br>June 10-13, 2010: <i>The start of former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich's federal trial on corruption charges</i>                | 16           | 47              | 37                    | 1                              |
| b. Dr. Laura Schlessinger quitting her radio show after controversy over her use of a derogatory racial term<br>August 19-22, 2010                                  | 17           | 38              | 44                    | 1                              |
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b><br>April 12-16, 2007: <i>The remarks Don Imus recently made on his radio show about the Rutgers University women's basketball team</i> | 61           | 21              | 18                    | *                              |
| c. Talk show host Glenn Beck's upcoming rally at the Lincoln Memorial, on the anniversary of Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech<br>August 19-22, 2010     | 11           | 17              | 71                    | *                              |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b><br>September 18-21, 2009: <i>A September 12<sup>th</sup> rally in Washington to protest government spending and policies</i>          | 23           | 37              | 40                    | *                              |
| May 2-6, 2000: <i>The Million Mom March, a rally to be held in Washington, D.C. on Mother's Day in support of gun control</i>                                       | 10           | 42              | 48                    | *                              |
| d. The recall of 380 million eggs after an outbreak of salmonella<br>August 19-22, 2010   | 40           | 37              | 22                    | *                              |
| <b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b><br>May 7-10, 2010: <i>The recall of many children's medicines, including children's Tylenol and Motrin</i>                            | 29           | 40              | 30                    | *                              |
| April 3-6, 2009: <i>The recall of pistachio nuts due to potential salmonella contamination</i>  | 33           | 47              | 20                    | *                              |