

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
DECEMBER 2010 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
December 1-5, 2010
N=1500

RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2**ASK ALL:**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

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

RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2**ASK ALL:**

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satis- fied</u>	<u>Dis- satisfied</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>				
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	August, 2008	21	74	5
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	July, 2008	19	74	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	June, 2008	19	76	5
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	March, 2008	22	72	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	Late December, 2007	27	66	7
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	October, 2007	28	66	6
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	February, 2007	30	61	9
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	Early January, 2007	30	63	7
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	December, 2006	28	65	7
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	July, 2006	30	65	5
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	May, 2006*	29	65	6
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	March, 2006	32	63	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	January, 2006	34	61	5
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	July, 2005	35	58	7
December, 2008	13	83	4	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	February, 2005	38	56	6
				January, 2005	40	54	6
				December, 2004	39	54	7
				Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
				July, 2004	38	55	7
				May, 2004	33	61	6
				Late February, 2004*	39	55	6

1 From September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early January, 2004	45	48	7	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
December, 2003	44	47	9	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
October, 2003	38	56	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
August, 2003	40	53	7	January, 1998	46	50	4
<i>April 8, 2003</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>	September, 1997	45	49	6
January, 2003	44	50	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
November, 2002	41	48	11	January, 1997	38	58	4
September, 2002	41	55	4	July, 1996	29	67	4
Late August, 2002	47	44	9	March, 1996	28	70	2
May, 2002	44	44	12	October, 1995	23	73	4
March, 2002	50	40	10	June, 1995	25	73	2
Late September, 2001	57	34	9	April, 1995	23	74	3
Early September, 2001	41	53	6	July, 1994	24	73	3
June, 2001	43	52	5	March, 1994	24	71	5
March, 2001	47	45	8	October, 1993	22	73	5
February, 2001	46	43	11	September, 1993	20	75	5
January, 2001	55	41	4	May, 1993	22	71	7
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7	January, 1993	39	50	11
September, 2000	51	41	8	January, 1992	28	68	4
June, 2000	47	45	8	November, 1991	34	61	5
April, 2000	48	43	9	<i>Gallup: Late Feb, 1991</i>	66	31	3
August, 1999	56	39	5	August, 1990	47	48	5
January, 1999	53	41	6	May, 1990	41	54	5
November, 1998	46	44	10	January, 1989	45	50	5
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

ASK ALL:

Q.3 Looking ahead, so far as you are concerned, do you think that 2011 will be better or worse than 2010?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	55	31	14
Jan 6-10, 2010	67	26	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	52	37	11
December, 2007	50	34	16
December, 2006	57	28	15
December, 1999	66	19	15
December, 1998	59	25	16
December, 1994	59	28	13
<i>Gallup: December, 1993</i>	64	20	16
<i>Gallup: December, 1992</i>	61	11	28
<i>Gallup: December, 1991</i>	61	31	8
<i>Gallup: December, 1990</i>	48	42	10
<i>Gallup: December, 1986</i>	53	25	22
<i>Gallup: December, 1985</i>	64	20	17
<i>Gallup: December, 1984</i>	61	20	19
<i>Gallup: December, 1982</i>	50	32	18
<i>Gallup: December, 1981</i>	41	44	15

ASK ALL:

Q.4 How do you get most of your news about national and international issues? From **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**? **[ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL: "Anything Else?"]**

	Tele- vision	News- papers	Radio	Maga- zines	Internet	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	66	31	16	3	41	1	1
July 8-11, 2010	68	24	17	3	41	2	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	70	32	17	3	35	1	1
July 22-26, 2009	71	33	21	3	42	1	1
December, 2008	70	35	18	5	40	2	1
September, 2007	74	34	13	2	24	2	1
Late September, 2006	74	37	16	4	21	3	1
August, 2006	72	36	14	4	24	2	1
November, 2005	73	36	16	2	20	2	*
Early Sept, 2005² (Hurricane Katrina)	89	35	17	*	21	3	*
June, 2005	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
March, 2003 (War in Iraq)	89	24	19	*	11	2	*
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)	90	11	14	*	5	1	1
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995	82	63	20	10	--	1	1
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991 (Persian Gulf)	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

Figures add to more than 100% because of multiple responses.

²

In Early September 2005, the question was worded "news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina." In March 2003, the question was worded "news about the war in Iraq," and in Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "news about the terrorist attacks." In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

IF '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.4 ASK:

Q.5 On television, do you get most of your news about national and international issues from **[READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 7 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]**

BASED ON TOTAL:

	<u>Local</u>	<u>ABC</u>	<u>CBS</u>	<u>NBC</u>	<u>CNN</u>	<u>MSNBC</u>	<u>Channel</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>TV not a main source</i>
Dec 1-5, 2010	16	10	7	9	16	7	16	3	2	(34)
July 8-11, 2010	17	9	8	8	17	5	19	4	2	(32)
Dec 9-13, 2009	16	12	8	10	19	6	19	3	2	(30)
July 22-26, 2009	18	11	10	13	22	6	19	3	1	(29)
December, 2008	15	12	9	10	23	8	17	4	2	(30)
September, 2007	18	11	8	13	22	7	16	3	2	(26)
August, 2006	13	10	9	12	24	6	20	6	1	(28)
November, 2005	16	14	12	15	24	8	22	5	3	(27)
Early Sept, 2005³ (Hurricane Katrina)	19	14	8	12	31	9	22	3	3	(11)
June, 2005	13	12	9	12	18	5	16	2	4	(26)
December, 2004	15	11	9	14	20	6	19	3	3	(26)
October, 2003	17	12	8	13	20	6	17	--	4	(20)
August, 2003	17	12	10	15	26	7	18	3	4	(21)
Early July, 2003	17	12	11	14	27	9	22	3	3	(21)
January, 2002	16	11	11	15	28	8	16	4	2	(18)

Figures add to more than 100% because of multiple responses.

NO QUESTIONS 6-8**ASK ALL:**

Q.9 As I read a list of some issues, please tell me if you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or if things are about the same as they have been. First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**. Do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been on this issue? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been on this issue?]**

	<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:				
a.F1 The way the health care system is working				
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	47	5
December, 2008	8	33	56	3
February, 2007	13	24	60	3
May, 2005	9	25	62	4
March, 2002	16	25	54	5
February, 2001	13	29	53	5
November, 1997	16	26	54	4
December, 1996	20	25	52	3
April, 1995	14	30	53	3
March, 1994	16	31	49	4
b.F1 The availability of good-paying jobs				
Dec 1-5, 2010	11	24	63	3
December, 2008	5	21	72	2
February, 2007	16	32	47	5
May, 2005	15	25	55	5
March, 2002	21	22	51	6

³ In early September 2005, the question was worded: "Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from ..."

Q.9 CONTINUED...

		<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	February, 2001	33	26	36	5
	November, 1997	31	28	37	4
	December, 1996	19	26	51	4
	April, 1995	17	24	55	4
	March, 1994	10	23	63	4
c.F1	Environmental pollution				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	26	45	23	6
	December, 2008	32	31	33	4
	February, 2007	20	26	52	2
	May, 2005	21	35	37	7
	November, 1997	38	32	27	3
	December, 1996	42	26	30	2
	April, 1995	43	26	30	1
	March, 1994	37	26	34	3
	February, 1989	32	20	42	6
d.F1	The gap between rich and poor				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	5	32	58	5
	December, 2008	5	32	59	4
	February, 2007	7	27	63	3
	February, 1989	8	30	58	4
e.F1	Illegal immigration				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	11	41	42	7
	December, 2008	10	34	51	5
	February, 2007	11	25	59	5
	May, 2005	11	29	52	8
	November, 1997	13	29	48	10
	December, 1996	15	32	47	6
	April, 1995	9	23	62	6
	March, 1994	9	22	58	11
f.F1	The financial condition of Medicare				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	9	29	51	11
	December, 2008	6	31	53	10
	May, 2005	5	26	56	13
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:					
g.F2	Our ability to compete economically with other countries				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	12	28	55	6
	December, 2008	8	30	58	4
	March, 1994	24	26	43	7
h.F2	The cost of living				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	4	28	64	3
	December, 2008	8	20	69	3
	April, 1995	9	28	61	2
	March, 1994	8	32	59	1
i.F2	The quality of public education				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	17	34	44	5
	December, 2008	19	28	50	3
	February, 2007	24	26	45	5
	May, 2005	20	26	50	4
	March, 2002	27	22	45	6
	February, 2001	23	20	53	4
	November, 1997	26	26	46	2
	December, 1996	24	22	52	2

Q.9 CONTINUED...

		<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	April, 1995	18	20	60	2
	March, 1994	17	19	61	3
j.F2	The federal budget deficit				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	8	20	67	5
	December, 2008	3	15	79	3
	February, 2007	8	20	64	8
	May, 2005	6	19	65	10
	November, 1997	32	30	29	9
	December, 1996	23	24	48	5
	April, 1995	15	21	60	4
	March, 1994	11	21	60	8
	February, 1989 ⁴	16	27	50	7
k.F2	The financial condition of Social Security				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	25	64	8
	December, 2008	6	23	63	8
	May, 2005	6	25	63	6
l.F2	International terrorism				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	27	43	25	6
	December, 2008	32	37	28	3
	February, 2007	30	27	38	5
	May, 2005	36	28	31	5
	March, 2002	40	14	40	6
	April, 1995	19	40	36	5
	March, 1994	20	41	35	4
	February, 1989	18	24	53	5

NO QUESTIONS 10-11**ASK ALL:**

Q.12 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about the debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

38	A lot
43	A little
17	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:

Q.13F1 As you may know, these tax cuts are set to expire at the end of December. Which comes closer to your view about what President Obama and Congress should do now? **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

	<u>Keep all of the tax cuts in place</u>	<u>Keep the tax cuts only for income below \$250,000, but end the tax cuts for income above that</u>	<u>End all of the tax cuts</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	33	47	11	9

⁴ In February 1989, the item was "the budget deficit."

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.14F2 As you may know, these tax cuts are set to expire at the end of December. Which comes closer to your view about what President Obama and Congress should do now? **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

	Keep all of the tax cuts in place	Keep the tax cuts only for income below \$1 million but end the tax cuts for income above that	End all of the tax cuts	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	34	36	14	15

TREND FOR COMPARISON

Which comes closer to your view about the tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president?
[READ IN ORDER]

	All of the tax cuts should remain in place	Tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed, while others stay in place	All of the tax cuts should be repealed	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Nov 4-7, 2010	34	30	28	8
Sep 9-12, 2010	29	29	28	14
Jul 22-25, 2010	30	27	31	12
Late October, 2008 ⁵	23	34	27	16
Mid-October, 2008	25	37	25	13
November, 2007	30	38	22	10
October, 2007	24	31	30	15
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	34	22	14
Early October, 2006	26	36	26	12
April, 2006	25	36	28	11
December, 2004	28	35	25	12
Early September, 2004	27	31	28	14

NO QUESTIONS 15-16**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about Afghanistan...

Q.17 How well is the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010		Jul 8-11 2010	Jun 16-20 2010	Mar 10-14 2010	Dec 9-13 2009	Oct 28-Nov 8 2009	Jan 7-11 2009	Feb 2008
8	Very well	9	8	9	7	4	7	10
39	Fairly well	40	40	43	39	32	38	38
28	Not too well	31	32	22	32	41	34	31
15	Not at all well	9	13	13	11	16	11	10
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	7	13	10	6	10	11

RANDOMIZE Q.18 AND Q.19**ASK ALL:**

Q.18 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Afghanistan, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Afghanistan?

Dec 1-5 2010		Jun 16-20 2010	Mar 10-14 2010	Dec 9-13 2009	Jan 7-11 2009
9	Definitely succeed	14	12	11	13
40	Probably succeed	45	46	48	49
30	Probably fail	26	22	25	23
9	Definitely fail	7	7	7	6
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	12	10	9

⁵ In 2008 and earlier surveys, the question was worded "...tax cuts passed under President Bush over the past few years."

RANDOMIZE Q.18 AND Q.19**ASK ALL:**

Q.19 Do you think the U.S. and NATO should keep military troops in Afghanistan until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. and NATO should remove their troops as soon as possible?

	<u>Keep troops in Afghanistan</u>	<u>Remove their troops</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	44	47	8
Jul 8-11, 2010	47	42	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	53	40	6
Apr 15-May 5, 2010 (GAP)	48	45	7
Sep 10-15, 2009 (GAP)	50	43	7
June, 2009 (GAP)	57	38	5
Mid-Sept, 2008	61	33	6
April, 2008 (GAP)	50	44	6
Late Feb, 2008	61	32	7
May, 2007 (GAP)	50	42	7

RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS**ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about the nation's economy...

Q.20 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	1	8	44	45	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	1	7	38	54	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	1	7	43	48	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	1	8	48	43	1
Apr 21-26, 2010	*	11	39	49	1
Mar 10-14, 2010	1	6	39	53	1
Feb 3-9, 2010	1	7	38	53	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	1	7	41	50	1
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
Mar 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1

Q.20 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2
Late February, 2004 ⁶	2	29	42	26	1

RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS**ASK ALL:**

Q.21 Which of these best describes your opinion: **[READ; READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]**?

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>		Aug 25-Sep 6 <u>2010</u> ⁷	Jun 3-6 <u>2010</u>	Mar 10-14 <u>2010</u>
17	The economy is recovering	10	13	13
33	The economy is not yet recovering but will recover soon	37	35	37
48	It will be a long time before the economy recovers	52	50	48
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2

TREND FOR COMPARISON

How would you describe economic conditions in this country? Would you say the economy is now recovering OR that we are in a recession that will pass fairly soon OR that we are in an economic depression that will last a long time?

	Jan <u>2004</u>	March <u>1994</u>	Dec <u>1993</u>	Jan <u>1993</u>	March <u>1992</u>	Jan <u>1992</u>
The economy is now recovering	45	40	37	34	16	7
We are in a recession that will pass fairly soon	33	33	27	35	41	51
We are in a depression that will last a long time	18	21	29	27	40	38
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	6	7	4	3	4

RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS**ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.22 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?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	30	40	23	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	6	33	36	23	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	6	30	40	23	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	6	32	38	20	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	6	31	39	22	2
Dec 9-13, 2009	7	28	39	24	2
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	5	30	40	25	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	6	32	38	22	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	6	31	36	26	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	5	33	41	20	1
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2

⁶ Earlier trends available from Gallup.

⁷ In September 2010 and earlier, the first answer choice read "The economy is now recovering."

Q.22 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1
<i>U.S. News:January, 1993</i>	4	33	46	16	1
<i>U.S. News:October, 1992</i>	6	34	40	19	1
<i>U.S. News:August, 1992</i>	5	30	47	17	1
<i>U.S. News:May, 1992</i>	4	35	45	15	1
<i>U.S. News:January, 1992</i>	4	32	45	18	1

RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS**ASK ALL:**

Q.23 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?

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>Stay the same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	7	49	20	6	14	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	9	48	16	6	17	5
Mar 10-14, 2010	9	52	15	8	12	4
Dec 9-13, 2009	9	44	19	8	15	4
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	6	50	19	8	13	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	10	49	17	6	13	4
Aug 11-17, 2009	8	47	17	8	15	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4

Q.23 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.) DK/Ref
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3
U.S. News:October, 1992	9	51	14	3	15	8
U.S. News:August, 1992	6	50	20	5	14	5
U.S. News:May, 1992	8	49	22	4	13	4
U.S. News:January, 1992	9	46	19	5	16	5

ASK ALL:

Q.24 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>		Aug 25-Sep 6 <u>2010</u>	Jun 3-6 <u>2010</u>	Mar 10-14 <u>2010</u>
47	The job situation	49	41	45
19	The federal budget deficit	19	23	22
15	Rising prices	15	16	17
14	Problems in the financial and housing markets	12	13	11
1	Other (VOL.)	2	3	2
1	None/Not worried about any (VOL.)	1	1	*
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2

NO QUESTIONS 25-27**ASK ALL:**

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

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>	
43	Full-time
15	Part time
42	Not employed
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (EMPLOY=1,2) [N=828]:

Q.28 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?

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	(VOL.) Does not <u>apply</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	23	41	27	7	2	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	18	42	27	10	2	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	15	43	29	10	*	3
December, 2008	20	43	27	8	1	1
Early October, 2008	22	44	25	5	2	2

Q.28 CONTINUED...

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	(VOL.) Does not <u>apply</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Early February, 2008	30	39	21	6	2	2
June, 2001	31	39	20	7	2	1
<i>U.S. News</i> :October, 1992	27	38	23	10	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :August, 1992	23	40	26	9	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	25	40	22	11	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :January, 1992	22	39	24	12	--	3

ASK ALL:

Q.29 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 <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	14	79	3	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	10	85	3	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	14	79	3	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	11	80	3	6
December, 2008	19	73	4	4
Early October, 2008	25	64	4	7
July, 2008	31	58	4	7
April, 2008	30	61	4	5
Early February, 2008	34	53	5	8
November, 2007	41	48	4	7
September, 2007	36	50	6	8
June, 2007	39	49	5	7
February, 2007	39	48	6	7
December, 2006	40	49	5	6
March, 2006	37	56	3	4
January, 2006	33	56	6	5
Early October, 2005	36	56	4	4
May, 2005	30	60	6	4
January, 2005	32	58	5	5
Mid-September, 2004	31	52	6	11
August, 2004	34	55	4	7
Late April, 2004	30	57	4	9
Late February, 2004	31	59	5	6
Mid-January, 2004	27	60	6	7
October, 2003	24	66	5	5
June, 2002	31	59	4	6
June, 2001	42	44	8	6
<i>U.S. News</i> :August, 1992	15	76	6	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	16	77	4	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :January, 1992	12	79	6	3

ASK IF EMPLOYED FULL OR PART TIME (EMPLOY=1,2) [N=828]:

Q.30 And what about the job opportunities available to you? Do you think there are plenty of jobs in your line of work available in your community, or are jobs in your line of work difficult to find?

	Plenty of <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	30	65	2	3
December, 2008	38	56	2	4
Early February, 2008	48	46	3	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	32	63	2	3

ASK ALL:

Q.31 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?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	46	53	*
Oct 27-30, 2010	38	60	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	44	56	1
Mar 10-14, 2010 ⁸	54	45	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	42	58	*
Feb 4-8, 2009	39	61	*
December, 2008	35	65	*
Early February, 2008	28	71	1
May, 2005	31	69	*

ASK ALL:

Q.32 What's your impression about the real estate market in your area? Over the past year, have home prices in your area gone up a lot, gone up a little, gone down a little, or gone down a lot?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>Sep 30-Oct 4 2009</u>	<u>Dec 2008</u>	<u>Early Oct 2008</u>	<u>July 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2007</u>
8	Gone up a lot	8	11	19	20	28	28
17	Gone up a little	13	11	14	13	18	22
34	Gone down a little	35	33	29	32	23	25
29	Gone down a lot	31	34	25	24	18	15
5	Stayed about the same (VOL.)	6	5	4	5	3	3
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	6	9	6	10	7

ASK ALL:

Q.33 And how about over the next few years... Do you think the price of homes in your area will go up a lot, go up a little, go down a little or go down a lot?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>July 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2007</u>	<u>June 2007</u>
10	Go up a lot	14	15	17	26
47	Go up a little	40	40	36	36
25	Go down a little	29	26	28	23
8	Go down a lot	7	8	8	5
4	Stay about the same (VOL.)	4	4	5	4
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	7	6	6

ASK ALL:

Q.34 In general, how easy or difficult is it for you to afford the things in life that you want – very easy, easy, difficult or very difficult?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>Early Dec 2008</u>	<u>Early Oct 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>June 2002</u>	<u>June 2001</u>	<i>U.S. News</i> <u>Jan 1992</u>
4	Very easy	6	8	9	5	7	4
36	Easy	37	41	43	44	43	35
40	Difficult	40	37	33	37	36	46
17	Very difficult	15	11	12	11	12	12
3	Don't Know/Ref (VOL.)	2	3	3	3	2	3

⁸ In March 10-14, 2010 and February 4-8, 2009, those who were not employed and looking for work, identified on an earlier question, were not asked this question, but are included in "yes."

ASK ALL:

Q.35 How easy or difficult is it for you and your family to afford **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** – very easy, easy, difficult or very difficult? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?⁹

		Very easy	Easy	Difficult	Very difficult	(VOL.) N/A	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.	Food						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	10	58	22	7	*	2
	December, 2008	9	60	25	4	*	2
	July, 2008	10	50	30	8	*	2
	Early February, 2008	14	57	22	5	*	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August, 1992	11	65	18	5	*	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May, 1992	12	66	18	3	*	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January, 1992	7	68	21	3	*	1
b.	Health care						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	8	37	31	20	3	2
	December, 2008	7	44	29	16	1	3
	July, 2008	9	40	30	16	2	3
	Early February, 2008	11	39	29	16	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August, 1992	7	39	32	19	2	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May, 1992	10	42	29	15	3	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January, 1992	6	43	29	16	4	2
c.	Taxes						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	34	43	14	3	3
	December, 2008	3	38	41	11	3	4
	July, 2008	5	35	40	12	3	5
	Early February, 2008	6	36	37	14	3	4
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992	3	32	43	17	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	4	30	46	15	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	2	33	45	13	4	3
d.	Savings for retirement						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	20	35	29	11	3
	December, 2008	2	23	39	25	8	3
	July, 2008	5	23	37	22	10	3
	Early February, 2008	5	28	34	22	8	3
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992	3	22	36	29	9	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	2	21	38	24	13	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	2	22	37	23	14	2
e.	Your home heating and electric bills						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	7	41	37	11	2	3
	December, 2008	7	46	32	10	2	3
	July, 2008	6	41	38	11	1	3
	Early February, 2008	8	44	33	11	2	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992 ¹⁰	7	54	29	8	1	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	9	54	28	6	1	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	4	55	31	7	1	2
f.	Gasoline						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	6	38	36	14	4	2
	December, 2008	10	57	21	6	5	1
	July, 2008	4	23	42	26	3	2
	Early February, 2008	5	30	38	22	3	2

⁹ In all 1992 surveys, the question was worded "How easy is it for you and your family to afford" the items.

¹⁰ In all 1992 surveys, category was "Heating oil, gas and electric."

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.36F2 Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans—not including your mortgage—would you say you...**[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010		Early		Early		Jan 2006	Mid-	Late	U.S. News	
		Oct 2008 ¹¹	July 2008	Feb 2008	Sep 2007		May 2005	Feb 2004	June 2001	Jan 1992
12	Owe a lot more than you can afford	10	10	9	7	8	10	9	13	7
15	Owe a little more than you can afford	15	12	13	13	15	15	13	15	14
30	Owe about what you can afford	33	34	32	31	30	33	29	31	32
17	Owe less than you can afford?	22	20	22	26	24	22	23	18	19
14	Do not have any debts (VOL.)	13	16	12	15	15	13	20	12	16
10	No credit cards or loans (VOL.)	6	6	9	6	6	5	5	10	11
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:

Q.37F1 Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans—not including your mortgage—would you say you...**[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010	
12	Owe a lot more than you can afford
15	Owe a little more than you can afford
27	Owe about what you can afford
42	Do you not owe any money on credit cards or installment loans?
1	Pay off credit cards every month (VOL.)
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION 38**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

Q.39 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military

	-----FAVOR-----			-----OPPOSE-----			(VOL.)
	Total	Strongly favor	Favor	Total	Strongly oppose	Oppose	
Dec 1-5, 2010	59	21	38	23	8	16	17
Nov 4-7, 2010	58	23	35	27	11	16	16
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 ¹²	60	21	39	30	13	17	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	61	18	43	27	10	17	12
Mar 9-12, 2009	59	19	40	32	13	19	9
March, 2006	60	20	40	32	13	19	8
July, 2005	58	15	43	32	15	17	10
July, 1994	52	16	36	45	26	19	3

¹¹ In 2008 and before, the question read "excluding your mortgage...."

¹² In July 2010, March 2009, March 2006, July 2005, and July 1994 the question was part of a list. The question was not part of a list in February 2010.

ASK ALL:

Q.40 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about the release of a Defense Department study on the possibility of gays and lesbians serving openly in the military? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

29	A lot
49	A little
20	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Thinking about foreign policy...

Q.41 How much, if anything have you heard about the START treaty signed by President Obama and the president of Russia to reduce the number of nuclear weapons in both countries?

Dec 1-5

2010

16	A lot
52	A little
31	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.41=1,2):

Q.42 As you may know, this treaty will only take effect if the U.S. Senate votes to ratify it. Would you favor or oppose the Senate ratifying the START treaty?

BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE [N=1085]

Dec 1-5

2010

54	Favor
24	Oppose
22	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.43 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about a recent North Korean artillery attack on a South Korean island? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

38	A lot
40	A little
22	Nothing at all
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.43=1,2):

Q.44 Do you think this attack represents a major increase in hostilities between the two countries, or do you think it is similar to other incidents that have happened from time to time in the past?

BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE [N=1236]

Dec 1-5

2010

41	Major increase in hostilities
50	Similar to other incidents from time to time in the past
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS 45-48

ASK ALL:

Q.49 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

31	A lot
49	A little
19	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.50 Which of these statements do you think best describes the federal budget deficit **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

Dec 1-5

2010

70	It is a major problem that the country must address now
23	It is a major problem that should be addressed when the economy is better
1	It is not much of a problem for the country
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.51 What is the best way to reduce the federal budget deficit? Should we mostly focus on **[RANDOMIZE: Cutting major programs / Increasing taxes]** mostly focus on **[increasing taxes / cutting major programs]** or should we do a combination of both?

Dec 1-5

2010

16	Cutting major programs
4	Increasing taxes
65	Combination of both
1	Deficit is not a priority/Don't focus on deficit (VOL.)
13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.52 Looking ahead five years or so, do you think we will have made significant progress in reducing the federal budget deficit, or not?

Dec 1-5

2010

37	Yes
52	No
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Feb

1989

40
46
14

ASK ALL:

Q.53 Thinking about ways to reduce the federal budget deficit, please tell me if you would you approve or disapprove of each of the following. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the federal budget deficit?]**

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.F1 Reduce federal funding to states for things like education and roads Dec 1-5, 2010	25	71	4
b.F1 Gradually raise the age at which people can begin receiving Social Security benefits Dec 1-5, 2010	38	58	4

Q.53 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c.F1	Reduce Social Security benefits for seniors with higher incomes Dec 1-5, 2010	48	47	5
d.F1	Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages Dec 1-5, 2010	34	56	10
e.F1	Create a national sales tax Dec 1-5, 2010	42	52	6
f.F1	Reduce the number of people serving in the military Dec 1-5, 2010	34	61	5

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

g.F2	Raise the amount people on Medicare contribute to cover their health care costs Dec 1-5, 2010	32	64	5
h.F2	Tax the health insurance people receive from their employer Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7
i.F2	Cut back on the development of military weapons programs Dec 1-5, 2010	43	50	8
j.F2	Make more of high-earners' income subject to the Social Security payroll tax Dec 1-5, 2010	64	27	9
k.F2	Freeze the salaries of federal workers Dec 1-5, 2010	59	35	5
l.F2	Raise the national gasoline tax Dec 1-5, 2010	22	74	4

ASK ALL:

Q.54 How much confidence do you have in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** to do the right thing when it comes to dealing with the federal budget deficit – a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Barack Obama Dec 1-5, 2010	19	34	20	24	4
b.	Republican leaders in Congress Dec 1-5, 2010	6	34	29	27	4
c.	Democratic leaders in Congress Dec 1-5, 2010	9	33	28	24	5

ASK ALL:

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

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

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

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	27	34	34	3	1	2	15	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	26	33	36	3	1	3	16	13
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	26	31	37	3	*	3	14	17
Jan 6-10, 2010	22	33	42	2	1	2	17	16
Yearly Totals								
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2):

Q.55 How good a job is Barack Obama doing these days in standing up for the Democratic Party's traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people — In general, would you say Obama is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=676]:

Dec 1-5

2009

17	Excellent
37	Good
36	Only fair
7	Poor
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

TEAPARTY From what you know, do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	Strongly <u>agree</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	Strongly <u>disagree</u>	No opinion <u>either way</u>	(VOL.) Haven't <u>heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	Not <u>heard of/</u> <u>DK</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	17	14	12	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	8	19	11	11	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 ¹³ (RVs)	12	17	11	14	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	9	19	11	13	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	11	18	12	14	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	8	14	9	9	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	9	15	10	8	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	10	15	8	10	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	9	15	7	7	29	--	1	31

¹³

In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party Protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX
DECEMBER 2-5, 2010 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1003**

ASK ALL:

PEW.1 Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: would you say your overall opinion of [ITEM] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?]** **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

	----- Favorable -----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	heard of	
a. The Republican Party								
Dec 2-5, 2010	41	13	28	52	29	24	*	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	8	35	49	21	28	*	8
July 1-5, 2010	39	10	29	49	24	25	*	12
April 1-5, 2010	37	8	29	53	26	27	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	37	5	32	51	20	31	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	5	41	46	14	32	0	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	40	6	34	50	19	31	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	40	7	33	50	18	32	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	40	7	33	51	17	34	0	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	55	21	34	*	5
Late October, 2008	40	10	30	50	23	27	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	47	11	36	46	22	24	*	7
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6
b. The Democratic Party								
Dec 2-5, 2010	45	14	31	51	28	23	*	4
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	13	36	44	20	24	*	7
July 1-5, 2010	44	12	31	45	22	23	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	38	9	29	52	27	25	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	40	8	32	49	25	24	*	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	9	39	44	17	27	*	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	48	11	37	43	19	24	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	49	12	37	40	16	25	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	59	15	44	34	13	21	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	19	43	32	12	20	*	6
Late October, 2008	57	19	38	33	15	18	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	55	18	37	39	14	25	*	6
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6
c. Congress								
Dec 2-5, 2010	31	8	23	62	28	34	1	6
July 1-5, 2010	33	6	27	56	23	33	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	25	3	22	65	30	36	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	26	3	23	62	23	39	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	41	3	38	50	17	34	0	9
Aug 20-27, 2009	37	4	33	52	20	32	*	11
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	50	10	40	43	15	28	*	7

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	52	20	32	*	8
Late May, 2008	41	6	35	51	17	34	0	8
July, 2007	41	6	35	51	16	35	0	8
Early January, 2007	53	11	42	38	9	29	1	8
Late October, 2006	41	5	36	46	15	31	*	13
February, 2006	44	6	38	47	14	33	0	9
Late October, 2005	45	7	38	45	13	32	*	10
July, 2005	49	6	43	40	11	29	*	11
June, 2005	49	6	43	40	10	30	*	11
June, 2004	56	7	49	33	7	26	*	11
July, 2001	57	7	50	32	8	24	*	11
March, 2001	56	6	50	36	10	26	1	7
January, 2001	64	10	54	23	5	18	1	12
September, 2000 (RVs)	61	8	53	32	5	27	*	7
August, 1999	63	8	55	34	7	27	*	3
June, 1999	56	9	47	39	9	30	*	5
February, 1999	52	4	48	44	8	36	0	4
January, 1999	48	7	41	45	15	30	0	7
Early December, 1998	52	11	41	41	12	29	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	62	7	55	33	8	25	0	5
Early September, 1998	66	7	59	27	5	22	0	7
October, 1997	53	5	48	44	11	33	0	3
August, 1997	50	6	44	44	11	33	0	6
June, 1997	52	4	48	42	8	34	0	6
May, 1997	49	5	44	42	10	32	*	9
February, 1997	52	6	46	40	9	31	*	8
January, 1997	56	6	50	40	8	32	*	4
June, 1996	45	6	39	50	12	38	*	5
April, 1996	45	6	39	50	13	37	0	5
January, 1996	42	4	38	54	16	38	*	4
October, 1995	42	4	38	55	13	42	0	3
August, 1995	45	5	40	47	13	34	*	7
June, 1995	53	8	45	42	11	31	*	5
February, 1995	54	10	44	37	10	27	0	9
July, 1994	53	7	46	43	9	34	*	4
May, 1993	43	8	35	48	13	35	0	9
November, 1991	51	7	44	43	9	34	0	6
March, 1991	66	16	50	26	7	19	0	8
May, 1990	59	6	53	34	9	25	1	6
May, 1988	64	8	56	28	5	23	0	8
January, 1988	64	6	58	29	4	25	0	7
May, 1987	74	10	64	20	4	16	*	6
January, 1987	59	7	52	31	8	23	0	10
July, 1985	67	9	58	26	5	21	*	7

ASK ALL:

PEW.2 And how about [INSERT FIRST NAME]? [IF NECESSARY: would you say your overall opinion of [NAME] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?]
 [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

a. Barack Obama	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Dec 2-5, 2010	54	26	29	43	25	18	*	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	53	21	32	43	23	20	*	5
Jun 10-13, 2010	56	27	30	39	20	19	0	4
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	65	33	32	30	16	14	*	5

PEW.2 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Jun 10-14, 2009	72	37	35	25	11	14	*	3
Apr 14-21, 2009	73	38	35	24	10	14	*	3
Jan 7-11, 2009	79	40	39	15	4	11	0	6
Mid-October, 2008	66	33	33	28	13	15	*	6
Late September, 2008	65	33	32	30	11	19	*	5
Mid-September, 2008	62	28	34	34	15	19	*	4
Late May, 2008	51	23	28	40	21	19	*	9
April, 2008	52	21	31	42	21	21	*	6
March, 2008	56	21	35	34	18	16	1	9
Late February, 2008	57	24	33	34	16	18	1	8
Early February, 2008	58	19	39	30	13	17	2	10
January, 2008	56	20	36	33	13	20	3	8
Late December, 2007	54	16	38	30	12	18	5	11
August, 2007	48	14	34	26	10	16	13	13
b. Michelle Obama								
Dec 2-5, 2010	62	30	31	27	15	12	1	10
Jun 10-13, 2010	69	31	38	22	9	12	1	9
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	71	33	38	16	8	8	1	11
Jun 10-14, 2009	76	36	39	14	5	9	1	9
Apr 14-21, 2009	76	36	40	13	4	9	1	10
Jan 7-11, 2009	68	28	40	15	4	11	2	15
Mid-September, 2008	56	23	33	25	11	14	2	17
Late May, 2008	43	14	29	21	8	13	4	32
c. Nancy Pelosi								
Dec 2-5, 2010	29	10	20	55	35	19	9	6
Jun 10-13, 2010	27	5	22	50	28	23	14	8
Jun 10-14, 2009	35	8	28	41	25	16	15	8
December, 2007	25	6	19	38	19	19	20	17
December, 2006	32	9	23	27	13	14	26	15
d. John Boehner								
Dec 2-5, 2010	28	8	20	25	12	14	34	12
Jun 10-13, 2010	12	3	9	22	8	15	54	12
e. Harry Reid								
Dec 2-5, 2010	23	5	18	39	21	18	26	12
December, 2006	17	3	14	20	7	13	45	18
f. Mitch McConnell								
Dec 2-5, 2010	22	5	18	27	11	16	35	15
g. Hillary Clinton								
Dec 2-5, 2010	59	24	35	34	15	20	2	4
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	66	26	40	28	11	17	1	6
Late May, 2008	48	17	31	44	22	22	*	8
April, 2008	49	16	33	47	23	24	0	4
March, 2008	50	16	34	44	23	21	*	6
Late February, 2008	51	19	32	44	23	21	0	5
Early February, 2008	52	20	32	42	24	18	*	6
January, 2008	52	20	32	44	25	19	*	4
Late December, 2007	50	21	29	44	26	18	*	6
August, 2007	55	21	34	39	21	18	2	4
December, 2006	56	22	34	39	21	18	*	5
April, 2006	54	20	34	42	21	21	1	3
Late October, 2005	56	20	36	38	19	19	1	5
Late March, 2005	57	22	35	36	17	19	*	7
December, 2002	47	15	32	44	23	21	1	8

PEW.2 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
July, 2001	53	20	33	42	23	19	1	4
January, 2001	60	25	35	35	16	19	*	5
May, 2000	49	15	34	42	22	20	1	8
Early December, 1998	66	32	34	31	15	16	*	3
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	58	24	34	36	18	18	*	6
Early September, 1998	64	24	40	31	13	18	0	5
Late August, 1998	63	25	38	34	13	21	*	3
March, 1998	65	26	39	31	14	17	*	4
January, 1997	57	17	40	40	17	23	*	3
June, 1996	53	13	40	43	17	26	*	4
April, 1996	49	12	37	46	19	27	0	5
February, 1996	42	14	28	54	27	27	0	4
January, 1996	42	10	32	54	26	28	0	4
October, 1995	58	14	44	38	14	24	--	4
August, 1995	49	16	33	47	22	25	*	4
December, 1994	50	17	33	45	20	25	1	4
July, 1994	57	19	38	40	18	22	1	2
May, 1993	60	19	41	29	11	18	1	10

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 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?"]

	Very closely	Fairly closely	Not too closely	Not at all closely	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
December 2-5, 2010	52	28	11	9	*
November 18-21, 2010	46	31	11	11	*
November 11-14, 2010	38	30	15	16	1
November 4-7, 2010	44	32	11	13	*
October 28-November 1, 2010	39	34	11	15	1
October 21-24, 2010	41	29	14	14	1
October 14-17, 2010	42	33	12	13	*
October 7-10, 2010	36	33	15	15	1
September 30-October 3, 2010	43	35	10	11	1
September 23-26, 2010	43	34	13	9	1
September 16-19, 2010	37	30	16	16	1
September 2-6, 2010	43	31	13	12	*
August 19-22, 2010	39	31	14	15	1
August 5-8, 2010	39	33	14	13	1
July 29-August 1, 2010	51	33	11	5	*
July 22-25, 2010	46	33	14	6	1
July 15-18, 2010	37	33	14	15	1
July 8-11, 2010	36	33	15	16	*
July 1-5, 2010	48	30	13	8	*
June 24-27, 2010	37	37	15	11	1
June 17-20, 2010	38	34	15	13	*
June 10-13, 2010	39	35	17	9	*
June 3-6, 2010	35	33	16	14	1
May 27-30, 2010	43	29	13	15	*
May 20-23, 2010	40	35	13	11	*
May 13-16, 2010	49	32	11	8	1
May 7-10, 2010	42	34	11	12	*
April 30-May 3, 2010	32	37	17	14	1
April 23-26, 2010	42	31	13	14	*
April 16-19, 2010	40	32	14	14	0

PEW.3 CONTINUED...

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

PEW.3 CONTINUED...

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

PEW.3 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
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 release of classified documents about U.S. diplomatic relations by the Wikileaks website December 2-5, 2010	30	23	20	25	2
c. Tensions between North Korea and South Korea					
December 2-5, 2010	35	30	19	16	1
May 27-30, 2010	19	24	24	32	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
June 19-22, 2009: <i>New military threats from North Korea</i>	27	31	21	21	*
May 29-June 1, 2009: <i>Reports about North Korea testing nuclear weapons and missiles</i>	34	36	17	13	*
April 3-6, 2009: <i>North Korea's plans to test a long range missile</i>	23	31	19	27	*
June 27-30, 2008: <i>North Korea takes steps to halt its nuclear weapons program</i>	19	30	26	24	1
February 16-19, 2007: <i>Recent negotiations to shut down North Korea's nuclear weapons program</i>	15	31	22	31	1
Late October, 2006: <i>North Korea's announcement that it recently tested a nuclear weapon</i>	45	33	13	8	1
February, 2005: <i>North Korea's nuclear weapons program</i>	22	34	22	22	*
September, 2003	19	32	27	21	1
May, 2003	27	40	22	11	*
March, 2003	34	34	19	12	1
February, 2003	33	34	18	13	2
January, 2003	33	34	18	14	1
Late October, 2002: <i>North Korea's admission that it has been secretly developing nuclear weapons</i>	25	31	23	20	1
June, 1994: <i>Reports about North Korea's building of nuclear weapons and refusal to allow U.N. inspections</i>	27	33	26	14	*

PEW.3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
d. Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit					
December 2-5, 2010	35	25	21	17	2
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
November 11-14, 2010: <i>Proposals made by leaders of the federal budget deficit commission</i>	15	21	21	41	1
January 9-12, 2009: <i>Projections of a record high federal budget deficit this year</i>	35	30	19	16	*
November, 1990: <i>Congressional and administration efforts to reach a budget deficit agreement</i>	34	33	20	11	2
October, 1990: <i>Attempts by Congress and the administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit</i>	34	37	17	12	*
August, 1990	19	30	27	23	1
July, 1990: <i>President Bush's call for higher taxes to help reduce the federal deficit</i>	30	34	22	14	*
June, 1990: <i>Special meetings between the Bush administration and congressional leaders to find ways to reduce the federal deficit</i>	18	33	28	20	1
April, 1990: <i>The spending and tax proposals made by Congressman Dan Rostenkowski to help reduce the budget deficit</i>	10	22	26	42	*
e. The debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president					
December 2-5, 2010	39	26	17	17	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
September 16-19, 2010: <i>The debate in Washington over competing Democratic and Republican tax plans</i>	21	24	21	34	*
September 9-12, 2010	16	19	22	42	1
May 8-11, 2009: <i>The debate in Washington over the federal budget</i>	22	28	19	31	*
March 27-30, 2009: <i>Debate over Barack Obama's budget proposal</i>	28	34	18	19	1
February 27-March 2, 2009: <i>Barack Obama's budget proposal for next year that raises taxes on wealthy Americans and increases spending on health care, education and other programs</i>	47	34	9	10	*
February, 2002: <i>Debate in Congress over G.W. Bush's budget and tax cut plan</i>	17	31	28	23	1
April, 2001	24	38	20	18	*
February, 2001: <i>G.W. Bush's tax cut plan</i>	31	35	19	14	1
f. News about the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning gays in the military					
December 2-5, 2010	29	23	25	21	2
October 21-24, 2010	20	28	22	28	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
October 14-17, 2010: <i>A federal judge's decision to block the enforcement of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning gays in the military</i>	20	24	25	30	1

PEW.3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
September 23-26, 2010: <i>Debate about whether Congress should repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning gays in the military</i>	24	30	22	22	2
May 27-30, 2010: <i>Congressional debate over whether to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning gays in the military</i>	16	22	24	37	1
February 5-8, 2010: <i>Military leaders saying they support allowing gays to serve openly in the military</i>	19	31	26	24	*
August, 1993: <i>Bill Clinton's decision to ease the ban on homosexuals in the military</i>	44	37	13	5	1
February, 1993: <i>Bill Clinton's attempts to lift the ban on gays in the military</i>	45	35	14	6	*

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 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.]**

Dec 2-5

2010

25	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
17	The debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president
16	Tensions between North Korea and South Korea
9	News about the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning gays in the military
7	The release of classified documents about U.S. diplomatic relations by the Wikileaks website
6	Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit
9	Some other story (VOL.)
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.5 From what you've read and heard, do you think the release of classified documents about U.S. diplomatic relations by WikiLeaks **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]:**

		BASED ON THOSE FOLLOWING LEAKS VERY, FAIRLY OR NOT TOO CLOSELY		TRENDS FOR COMPARISON	
		Dec 2-5 <u>2010</u>	Jul 29-Aug 1 <u>2010</u> ¹	Mar <u>2007</u>	Jul <u>1986</u>
Dec 2-5 <u>2010</u>					
29	Serves the public interest [OR]	31	42	42	43
53	Harms the public interest	60	47	44	42
7	Neither/Both (VOL.)	4	6	--	--
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	5	14	15
		(N=779)	(N=758)		

¹

For July 29-August 1, 2010 the question was asked only of those who heard a lot or a little about the Wikileaks release and was worded "...do you think the release of the classified documents about the war in Afghanistan by WikiLeaks serves the public interest [OR] harms the public interest?" In March 2007 and July 1986 question was worded "Which comes closer to your opinion: news leaks serve the public interest more by providing Americans with information they should have OR news leaks harm the public interest by revealing information that people ought not to have?" In these years, question was asked only of those who had heard of the term "news leak" and could correctly identify it as "a government official providing information."

ASK ALL:

PEW.6 In your view, did news organizations **[RANDOMIZE: Go too far in reporting the leaked material, hold back too much of the leaked material]** or did they strike the right balance?

**BASED ON THOSE FOLLOWING
LEAKS VERY, FAIRLY
OR NOT TOO CLOSELY**

<u>Dec 2-5 2010</u>		<u>Dec 2-5 2010</u>
34	Go too far in reporting the leaked material	38
14	Hold back too much of the leaked material [OR]	14
36	Strike the right balance	39
16	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8
		(N=779)

ASK ALL:

Thinking about recent economic news ...

PEW.7 Are you hearing mostly good news about the economy these days, mostly bad news about the economy or a mix of both good and bad news?

	<u>Hearing mostly good news</u>	<u>Hearing mostly bad news</u>	<u>A mix of good and bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
December 2-5, 2010	4	39	55	1
November 11-14, 2010	5	41	53	2
October 7-10, 2010	6	39	53	2
September 2-6, 2010	3	41	54	2
August 5-8, 2010	4	38	55	3
July 1-5, 2010	3	42	54	1
June 10-13, 2010	4	30	65	1
May 7-10, 2010	4	29	66	1
April 1-5, 2010	6	28	66	*
March 5-8, 2010	4	30	66	1
February 5-8, 2010	4	35	61	*
January 8-11, 2010	5	29	65	1
December 4-7, 2009	7	33	59	1
October 30-November 2, 2009	5	31	62	2
October 9-12, 2009	6	27	66	1
September 3-6, 2009	5	27	68	1
August 7-10, 2009	11	29	59	1
July 2-5, 2009	3	41	56	*
June 12-15, 2009	4	37	59	*
May 8-11, 2009	4	31	64	1
April 9-13, 2009	4	39	56	1
March 13-16, 2009	2	51	46	1
February 13-16, 2009	2	60	37	1
January 16-19, 2009	2	67	30	1
December 5-8, 2008	1	80	19	*

ASK ALL:

PEW.8 Thinking about some specific aspects of the nation's economy...Please tell me if you are hearing mostly good news, mostly bad news or a mix of both good and bad news about each of the following. **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Hearing mostly good news</u>	<u>Hearing mostly bad news</u>	<u>A mix of good and bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The financial markets				
December 2-5, 2010	13	38	44	4
September 2-6, 2010	9	43	40	8
July 1-5, 2010	4	46	44	6
May 7-10, 2010	6	41	49	3

PEW.8 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
April 1-5, 2010	15	30	50	6
March 5-8, 2010	11	26	59	4
January 8-11, 2010	16	32	47	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	33	48	7
August 7-10, 2009	20	31	43	6
June 12-15, 2009	9	43	45	3
b. Real estate values				
December 2-5, 2010	6	62	28	4
September 2-6, 2010	6	57	32	5
July 1-5, 2010	9	49	35	7
May 7-10, 2010	12	41	42	5
April 1-5, 2010	12	44	38	6
March 5-8, 2010	8	45	42	5
January 8-11, 2010	11	43	40	5
October 30-November 2, 2009	13	43	37	6
August 7-10, 2009	11	40	41	7
June 12-15, 2009	11	45	40	3
c. Prices for food and consumer goods				
December 2-5, 2010	16	41	39	5
September 2-6, 2010	12	35	42	10
July 1-5, 2010	9	32	48	10
May 7-10, 2010	8	37	46	9
April 1-5, 2010	10	35	46	9
March 5-8, 2010	9	34	50	7
January 8-11, 2010	12	37	45	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	39	42	7
August 7-10, 2009	10	36	46	9
June 12-15, 2009	9	39	46	6
d. The job situation				
December 2-5, 2010	6	66	27	1
September 2-6, 2010	5	65	28	2
July 1-5, 2010	5	64	30	1
May 7-10, 2010	9	52	38	2
April 1-5, 2010	9	56	33	2
March 5-8, 2010	5	59	35	1
January 8-11, 2010	6	61	31	2
October 30-November 2, 2009	3	68	27	2
August 7-10, 2009	6	61	32	1
June 12-15, 2009	1	71	27	1
e. Retail sales				
December 2-5, 2010	33	18	45	4

ASK ALL DECEMBER 3-5 ONLY [N=775]:

PEW.8f How much, if anything have you heard about the federal budget deficit commission that recently made proposals on how to reduce the national debt over the next several years? Have you heard **[READ IN ORDER]**

		<i>\$1.75 trillion deficit projection</i>	
Dec 3-5		Feb 27-Mar 2	
<u>2010</u>		<u>2009²</u>	
24	A lot	57	
48	A little	30	
27	Nothing at all	12	
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)	1	

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (PEW.8f=1,2), DECEMBER 3-5 ONLY [N=578]:

PEW.8g From what you have read and heard, do you approve or disapprove of the deficit commission's proposals?

Dec 3-5	
<u>2010</u>	
30	Approve
48	Disapprove
21	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.9 In general, how interested are you in news about what happens in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**?

		<u>Very interested</u>	<u>Somewhat interested</u>	<u>Not too interested</u>	<u>Not at all interested</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	China December 2-5, 2010	34	35	10	19	1
b.	Japan December 2-5, 2010	20	39	18	22	1
c.	Saudi Arabia December 2-5, 2010	24	38	16	22	1
d.	Nigeria December 2-5, 2010	12	28	26	33	2
e.	Italy December 2-5, 2010	11	31	27	29	1
f.	Brazil December 2-5, 2010	13	29	26	31	1
g.	Poland December 2-5, 2010	8	26	29	36	1

² For February 27-March 2, 2009 the question asked about "The Obama administration projecting a \$1.75 trillion budget deficit for this year."