

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
January 17-20, 2013, OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,006

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 closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
January 17-20, 2013	36	32	15	16	*
January 3-6, 2013	34	32	18	16	1
December 6-9, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
November 8-11, 2012	41	31	15	12	1
November 1-4, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
October 25-28, 2012	44	30	14	11	1
October 18-21, 2012	39	36	12	12	1
October 12-14, 2012	42	28	14	15	1
October 4-7, 2012	40	29	13	17	*
September 27-30, 2012	34	37	13	15	1
September 20-23, 2012	36	32	17	15	*
September 13-16, 2012	38	32	17	12	1
September 7-9, 2012	36	31	17	15	2
August 31-September 3, 2012	33	31	20	16	1
August 23-26, 2012	38	30	15	16	1
August 16-19, 2012	33	32	16	19	*
August 9-12, 2012	30	31	20	18	1
August 2-5, 2012	33	29	20	17	1
July 26-29, 2012	32	30	20	19	*
July 19-22, 2012	39	29	16	16	*
July 12-15, 2012	32	33	18	17	1
July 5-8, 2012	34	28	18	19	1
June 28-July 1, 2012	38	28	15	18	1
June 21-24, 2012	33	32	17	17	*
June 14-17, 2012	39	28	15	17	*
June 7-10, 2012	35	32	15	18	*
May 31-June 3, 2012	37	34	13	14	1
May 24-27, 2012	33	31	19	16	1
May 17-20, 2012	35	30	16	19	*
May 10-13, 2012	40	26	16	17	*
May 3-6, 2012	38	29	13	20	*
April 26-29, 2012	34	32	17	16	1
April 19-22, 2012	35	35	13	14	2
April 12-15, 2012	39	28	16	17	1
April 5-8, 2012	37	31	16	16	1
March 29-April 1, 2012	34	33	15	18	1
March 22-25, 2012	36	29	16	18	1
March 15-18, 2012	40	35	11	14	1
March 8-11, 2012	37	32	14	17	*
March 1-4, 2012	41	27	15	17	1
February 23-26, 2012	37	33	14	15	1
February 16-20, 2012	33	32	16	17	1
February 9-12, 2012	42	30	14	13	1
February 2-5, 2012	38	32	16	13	1
January 26-29, 2012	35	31	16	19	*
January 19-22, 2012	35	30	16	19	1
January 12-15, 2012	33	32	14	20	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January 5-8, 2012	39	31	15	15	*
SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2013/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf					
b. President Obama announcing proposals for strengthening gun laws January 17-20, 2013	43	29	15	13	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
January 3-6, 2013: Debate over gun control in the U.S.	34	30	18	16	1
June, 1999: <i>Debates about gun control legislation in Congress and state legislatures</i>	28	37	22	12	1
c. Lance Armstrong admitting that he used performance-enhancing drugs January 17-20, 2013	11	30	31	27	1
October 18-21, 2012: <i>Nike and other companies ending their sponsorship of Lance Armstrong because of evidence he used performance enhancing drugs</i>	8	22	29	40	1
d. Hostages, including some Americans, taken by Islamic militants in Algeria January 17-20, 2013	17	31	23	29	*
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
July 3-7, 2008: <i>The rescue of 15 hostages held by rebels in Colombia</i>	17	27	23	32	1
April 5-9, 2007: <i>Fifteen British sailors and marines held captive and later releases by the Iranian government</i>	31	37	18	14	*
March 30-April 2, 2007: <i>Fifteen British sailors and marines held captive by the Iranian government</i>	27	28	22	22	1
November, 1990: <i>The plight of American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq and Kuwait</i>	49	33	13	4	1
October, 1990	47	37	11	5	*
September, 1990:	57	30	9	3	1
August, 1989: <i>The murder of Marine Lt. Col. Higgins, in Lebanon, and negotiations to free the other hostages in the Mideast</i>	49	34	12	4	1
e. The FAA grounding Boeing's 787 aircraft over safety concerns January 17-20, 2013	9	19	25	46	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
April 7-10, 2011: <i>Safety checks on Boeing 737 airplanes after a piece of the roof came off during a Southwest Airlines flight</i>	20	28	26	26	*
November 4-7, 2010: <i>An engine failure on a Qantas flight that caused the airline to ground some of its planes</i>	13	23	22	40	1
April 11-14, 2008: <i>Widespread airline delays and cancellations due to safety concerns</i>	19	30	30	21	*
March 28-31, 2008: <i>Issues with safety inspections on commercial airlines</i>	14	26	27	32	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
f. An alleged hoax involving Notre Dame football player Manti Te'o and false claims about his deceased girlfriend January 17-20, 2013	10	26	25	39	*

ASK ALL:

PEW.2 From what you've read and heard, do you think Barack Obama's proposals on guns go too far, not far enough or are about right in addressing the nation's gun laws?

Jan 18-20

2013

31	Too far
13	Not far enough
39	About right
17	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

PEW.2 ASKED ONLY ON THE FINAL THREE NIGHTS OF THE SURVEY (JAN.18-20), N=744.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
January 3-6, 2013, OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,003

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August 2-5, 2012	33	29	20	17	1
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June 21-24, 2012	33	32	17	17	*
June 14-17, 2012	39	28	15	17	*
June 7-10, 2012	35	32	15	18	*
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May 17-20, 2012	35	30	16	19	*
May 10-13, 2012	40	26	16	17	*
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	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
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SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2013/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf					
b. Debate over gun control in the U.S. January 3-6, 2013	34	30	18	16	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON: June, 1999: <i>Debates about gun control legislation in Congress and state legislatures</i>	28	37	22	12	1
c. Congress and the president passing legislation to avoid the Fiscal Cliff January 3-6, 2013	38	26	16	21	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON: December 13-16, 2012: <i>The debate in Washington over automatic spending cuts and tax increases that would take effect in January unless the president and Congress act</i>	37	28	16	18	1
December 6-9, 2012	37	26	17	20	1
November 29-December 2, 2012	40	26	14	20	1
November 15-18, 2012	33	24	16	25	1
November 8-11, 2012	38	20	20	20	*
July 19-22, 2012	23	21	22	33	1
February 16-20, 2012: <i>Congress passing a bill to extend payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits¹</i>	24	27	21	27	1
August 4-7, 2011: <i>Congress and the president agreeing to cut federal spending and raise the debt limit</i>	46	25	13	14	1
December 16-19, 2010 ² : <i>The extension of tax cuts and unemployment benefits approved by Congress and signed by President Obama</i>	37	27	15	19	1
December 9-12, 2010: <i>The agreement reached between Barack Obama and Congressional Republicans to extend tax cuts and unemployment benefits</i>	37	29	15	17	1
December 2-5, 2010: <i>The debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president</i>	39	26	17	17	1
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

¹ The wording of item PEW.1d was changed after the first night of interviewing (February 16, 2012) to reflect Congress passing this legislation. On February 16, 2012, the item wording was "Negotiations in Congress to extend payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits."

² The wording of item PEW.1c was changed after the first night of interviewing (December 16, 2010), to reflect Congress passing and Obama signing this legislation. On December 16, 2010 the item read "The debate in Washington over extending tax cuts and unemployment benefits."

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

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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	*
May, 2003: <i>George W. Bush's tax cut and economic stimulus plan</i>	25	36	22	15	2
February, 2003	26	33	23	16	2
January, 2003	28	34	21	15	2
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
September, 1999: <i>The debate in Washington over how much to cut taxes</i>	18	30	28	23	1
July, 1999	14	34	21	31	*
June, 1997: <i>Competing proposals on ways to cut taxes as part of the recent bipartisan budget agreement</i>	11	27	28	33	1
September, 1992 (RVs): <i>George Bush's plan to improve the economy by cutting government spending and cutting taxes</i>	28	44	18	9	1
d. Hillary Clinton's recent health problems January 3-6, 2013	17	24	23	34	2
e. Congress delaying a vote on Hurricane Sandy relief January 3-6, 2013	22	24	26	27	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
November 8-11, 2012: <i>The impact of Hurricane Sandy</i>	46	33	12	9	1
November 1-4, 2012	53	31	9	6	1
October 25-28, 2012: <i>Hurricane Sandy</i>	28	24	22	25	1

PEW.2-PEW.8 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED