

PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX
JANUARY 27-30, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1007

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. Projections of a record high federal budget deficit this year					
January 27-30, 2011	23	28	18	29	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
December 2-5, 2010: <i>Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit</i>	35	25	21	17	2
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	*
b. News about a congresswoman and others shot in Tucson, Arizona					
January 27-30, 2011	42	32	13	13	*
January 20-23, 2011	45	33	13	9	1
January 13-16, 2011	49	28	12	11	1
January 9, 2011 ¹	31	33	13	23	1
c. Anti-government protests in Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries					
January 27-30, 2011	17	26	21	35	*
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
January 20-23, 2011: <i>Political instability in Tunisia following the collapse of the government</i>	7	15	25	53	1
January 13-16, 2010: <i>The collapse of the Lebanese government</i>	4	11	20	64	*

¹ Question asked about "news about a congresswoman shot in Tucson, Arizona," and was asked on January 9, 2011, only, following the shooting on January 8.

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
May 20-23, 2010: <i>A government crackdown on protestors in Thailand</i>	7	14	27	52	1
July 31-August 3, 2009: <i>The Iranian government's crackdown on opposition protestors</i>	18	23	26	31	2
July 2-5, 2009: <i>News about controversy surrounding the recent Iranian election</i>	22	31	23	23	*
June 26-29, 2009: <i>The Iranian government's crackdown on election protestors</i>	31	27	18	23	1
June 19-22, 2009: <i>Protests in Iran over disputed elections</i>	28	28	21	22	1
March 20-24, 2008: <i>Violent protests in Tibet against the Chinese government</i>	12	27	26	35	*
September 28-October 1, 2007: <i>Pro-democracy protests by Buddhist monks in Burma</i>	13	27	20	39	1
March 17-21, 2005: <i>Protests and political changes in Lebanon</i>	10	28	25	36	1
October 6-8, 2000: <i>Civil unrest and rioting in Belgrade, Yugoslavia</i>	18	27	24	31	*
January 9-12, 1997: <i>Protests and demonstrations in Belgrade against Serbian President Milosevic</i>	7	14	29	49	1
d. Recent gains in the stock market					
January 27-30, 2011	13	17	20	49	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
August 12-15, 2010: <i>Recent ups and downs in the stock market</i>	17	21	20	42	1
March 26-29, 2010	13	23	23	40	1
October 16-19, 2009: <i>Recent gains in the stock market</i>	15	23	19	43	*
July 24-27, 2009	23	25	24	28	*
March 13-16, 2009	38	31	14	17	0
March 6-9, 2009: <i>Recent major drops in the U.S. stock market</i>	35	31	15	19	*
February 20-23, 2009	31	32	20	17	*
November 21-24, 2008	50	23	15	12	*
October 17-20, 2008: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	54	31	9	6	*
October 10-13, 2008: <i>Recent major drops in the U.S. stock market</i>	59	26	9	6	*
July 3-7, 2008: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	22	29	23	26	*
March 14-17, 2008	25	31	23	21	*
January 25-28, 2008	29	28	19	23	1
August 17-20, 2007	21	24	22	33	*
July 27-30, 2007	15	26	21	37	1
March 2-5, 2007: <i>The recent drop in the U.S. stock market</i>	21	28	25	26	*
Early September, 2002: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	27	30	20	22	1
Late July, 2002	33	33	15	18	1
March, 2001	27	27	18	27	1
Mid-October, 2000	20	26	23	31	1
April, 2000	18	28	23	31	*
Early April, 2000	19	29	20	32	*
Early April, 2000	19	29	20	32	*

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
March, 2000	23	29	21	26	1
March, 1999	18	29	22	31	*
January, 1999	24	28	19	28	1
Early September, 1998	32	31	20	17	*
Mid-August, 1998	17	23	21	39	*
January, 1998	21	25	23	31	*
Mid-November, 1997	25	36	18	20	1
Early November, 1997: <i>Thinking about last Monday when the stock market dropped, how closely did you follow what was happening?</i>	16	29	22	33	*
September, 1997: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the stock market</i>	14	22	23	40	1
April, 1997	17	21	22	40	*
February, 1996	12	20	25	42	1
e. Suicide bombing at an airport in Russia that killed at least 35 people					
January 27-30, 2011	14	30	24	31	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
April 1-5, 2010: Suicide bombings in Russia	10	26	24	40	*
July 17-20, 2009: <i>The bombing of two hotels in Indonesia</i>	13	26	23	36	2
December 5-8, 2008: <i>The terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India</i>	29	37	20	14	*
July 6-9, 2007: <i>Investigation into who was responsible for car bombs that were discovered in London and a car bomb that went off at an airport in Scotland</i>	34	30	19	16	1
June 29-July 2, 2007: <i>London car bomb</i>	34	31	16	18	1
August, 2006: <i>British officials stop terror plot</i>	54	26	9	9	2
October, 2005: <i>The recent terrorist bombings in Bali, Indonesia</i>	13	31	26	29	1
July, 2005: <i>The terrorist bombings in London, England</i>	48	37	11	4	*
March, 2004: <i>The terrorist bombings in Madrid, Spain</i>	34	35	18	12	1
Late October, 2002: <i>The terrorist bombing of a nightclub in Bali, Indonesia</i>	20	34	25	20	1
September, 2004: <i>The killing of Russian school children by Chechen rebels</i>	48	30	11	10	1
March, 2004: <i>The terrorist bombings in Madrid, Spain</i>	34	35	18	12	1
Late October, 2002: <i>The terrorist bombing of a nightclub in Bali, Indonesia</i>	20	34	25	20	1
January, 2000: <i>The conflict between the Russian military and the rebels in Chechnya</i>	10	25	30	34	1
December, 2009	11	22	31	34	1
February, 1995: <i>Russia's fighting in Chechnya</i>	10	27	27	35	1
f. Barack Obama's State of the Union speech					
January 27-30, 2011	28	22	13	36	1
January 29-February 1, 2010	33	22	17	29	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
February 27-March 2, 2009: <i>Barack Obama's first address to a joint session of Congress</i>	37	26	14	23	*

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
February 1-4, 2008: <i>President Bush's State of the Union address</i>	18	17	20	45	*
January 26-29, 2007: <i>Reports about George Bush's State of the Union address</i>	25	26	20	28	1
February, 2006: <i>George W. Bush's State of the Union address</i>	24	22	19	34	1
February, 2003	36	24	15	24	1
January, 1994: <i>Reports about Bill Clinton's State of the Union address</i>	26	25	18	31	*
February, 1992: <i>President Bush's State of the Union Address</i>	26	26	20	27	1

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.]**

Jan 27-30

2011

38	News about a Congresswoman and others shot in Tucson, Arizona
12	Barack Obama's State of the Union speech
11	Anti-government protests in Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries
5	Projections of a record high federal budget deficit this year
4	Recent gains in the stock market
3	The suicide bombing at an airport in Russia that killed at least 35 people
8	Some other story (VOL.)
18	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 Did you happen to watch President Obama's State of the Union address on Tuesday night, or didn't you get a chance to see it?

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Jan 27-30		Jan 29- Feb 1	President Obama's speech about health care
<u>2011</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>Sep 11-14, 2009</u>
40	Yes, watched	45	41
59	No, didn't watch	55	59
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	*