## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS MARCH 2012 POLITICAL SURVEY <br> FI NAL TOPLI NE <br> March 7-11, 2012 <br> $\mathrm{N}=1503$

## 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 STI LL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

|  |  | Dis- | (VOL.) |  |  | Dis- | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Approve | approve | DK/Ref |  | Approve | approve | DK/Ref |
| March 7-11, 2012 | 50 | 41 | 9 | Jun 8-28, 2010 | 48 | 41 | 11 |
| Feb 8-12, 2012 | 47 | 43 | 10 | Jun 16-20, 2010 | 48 | 43 | 9 |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 44 | 48 | 8 | May 6-9, 2010 | 47 | 42 | 11 |
| Dec 7-11, 2011 | 46 | 43 | 11 | Apr 21-26, 2010 | 47 | 42 | 11 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 46 | 46 | 8 | Apr 8-11, 2010 | 48 | 43 | 9 |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 | 43 | 48 | 9 | Mar 10-14, 2010 | 46 | 43 | 12 |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 43 | 49 | 7 | Feb 3-9, 2010 | 49 | 39 | 12 |
| Jul 20-24, 2011 | 44 | 48 | 8 | Jan 6-10, 2010 | 49 | 42 | 10 |
| Jun 15-19, 2011 | 46 | 45 | 8 | Dec 9-13, 2009 | 49 | 40 | 11 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 52 | 39 | 10 | Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 | 51 | 36 | 13 |
| May 5-8, 2011 | 50 | 39 | 11 | Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009 | 52 | 36 | 12 |
| May 2, 2011 | 56 | 38 | 6 | Sep 10-15, 2009 | 55 | 33 | 13 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 47 | 45 | 8 | Aug 20-27, 2009 | 52 | 37 | 12 |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011 | 51 | 39 | 10 | Aug 11-17, 2009 | 51 | 37 | 11 |
| Feb 2-7, 2011 | 49 | 42 | 9 | Jul 22-26, 2009 | 54 | 34 | 12 |
| J an 5-9, 2011 | 46 | 44 | 10 | Jun 10-14, 2009 | 61 | 30 | 9 |
| Dec 1-5, 2010 | 45 | 43 | 13 | Apr 14-21, 2009 | 63 | 26 | 11 |
| Nov 4-7, 2010 | 44 | 44 | 12 | Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009 | 61 | 26 | 13 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 46 | 45 | 9 | Mar 9-12, 2009 | 59 | 26 | 15 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 47 | 44 | 9 | Feb 4-8, 2009 | 64 | 17 | 19 |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 47 | 41 | 12 |  |  |  |  |

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $N=766]$ :

## Q.2F1 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? [RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY - DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITI ONAL MENTI ONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTI ON, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTI ON]

| Mar |  |  |  |  | Early |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7-11 |  | Dec |  | Jan | Aug |  | Aug | Feb | Oct | Jul | Jan | Sep | an |
| $\underline{2012}$ |  | $11^{1}$ | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 09 | 09 | 08 | 08 | 08 | 07 | $\underline{07}$ |
| 31 | Unemployment/Lack of jobs | 21 | 26 | 35 | 27 | 31 | 19 | 31 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 24 | Economy (general) | 19 | 28 | 27 | 35 | 24 | 27 | 53 | 55 | 39 | 20 | 10 | 5 |
| 8 | Energy costs | 1 | 7 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 5 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 8 | Deficit/National debt/Balanced budget/Gov't spending | 9 | 10 | 11 | 3 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 5 | Health care/costs/accessibility | 4 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 20 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 8 |
| 4 | Dissatisfaction with gov't/politics/ | 10 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 3 | Partisanship/Parties/Gridlock | 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 3 | War/War in Iraq/War in Afghan. | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 11 | 17 | 27 | 37 | 42 |
| 3 | Finances/money | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 2 | Immigration | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| 2 | Taxes | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 2 | 1 | -- |
| 2 | Defense/national security | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | Housing market/foreclosures | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | 5 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Oil dependence/Energy policy and alternatives | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | -- |
| 1 | Poverty/Hunger/Starvation | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | Inflation | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | -- | -- | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | -- |
| 1 | Recession/Slowing economy | -- | 1 | -- | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -- | -- |
| 1 | Education/schools/affording education | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | -- | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Jobs moving overseas/Trade | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | -- |
| 1 | Crime/Violence | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | Distribution of wealth/inequality | 2 | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Greed | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Welfare abuse/Gov't dependency | -- | -- | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Medicare | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 1 | Morality/Ethics/Family values | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | Too much foreign aid/Spend at home | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | -- |
| 1 | Race relations/Racism | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | -- |
| 13 | Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Don't know/No answer <br> (NET) FOREI GN ISSUES/ | 6 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| 5 | I NTERNATI ONAL | 6 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 18 | 25 | 36 | 48 | 50 |
| 66 | ( NET) ECONOMIC | 55 | 68 | 62 | 65 | 65 | 55 | 80 | 75 | 61 | 34 | 20 | 15 |

Total exceeds 100\% because of multiple responses.

## NO QUESTI ON 3

[^0]ASK ALL:
Q. 4 Is your overall opinion of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMI ZE] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [ITEM] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTI NGUI SH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

| a. The Republican Party | -------Favorable------- |  |  | ------Unfavorable------ |  |  | (VOL.) <br> Never heard of | (VOL.) <br> Can't rate/ Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Very | Mostly | Total | Very | Mostly |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 36 | 7 | 30 | 56 | 27 | 29 | * | 8 |
| J an 11-16, 2012 | 35 | 7 | 27 | 58 | 28 | 30 | * | 7 |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 | 36 | 7 | 29 | 55 | 27 | 28 | * | 9 |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 34 | 5 | 29 | 59 | 27 | 32 | * | 7 |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011 | 42 | 9 | 32 | 51 | 22 | 28 | 1 | 7 |
| Feb 2-7, 2011 | 43 | 8 | 35 | 48 | 19 | 29 | * | 9 |
| 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 |
| J an 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 J anuary, 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 |
| J une, 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 |
| J anuary, 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 |
| J anuary, 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 |
| J anuary, 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 |

Q. 4 CONTI NUED...

July, 1992
b. The Democratic Party

Mar 7-11, 2012
J an 11-16, 2012
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011
Aug 17-21, 2011
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011
Feb 2-7, 2011
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010
July 1-5, 2010
April 1-5, 2010
Mar 18-21, 2010
Feb 3-9, 2010
Aug 20-27, 2009
Aug 11-17, 2009
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009
J an 7-11, 2009
Late October, 2008
Mid-September, 2008
August, 2008
Late May, 2008
July, 2007
Early J anuary, 2007
Late October, 2006
July, 2006
April, 2006
February, 2006
Late October, 2005
July, 2005
June, 2005
December, 2004
June, 2004
Early February, 2004
June, 2003
April, 2003
December, 2002
July, 2001
J anuary, 2001
September, 2000 (RVs)
August, 1999
February, 1999
J anuary, 1999
Early December, 1998
Early October, 1998 (RVs)
Early September, 1998
March, 1998
August, 1997
June, 1997
J anuary, 1997
October, 1995
December, 1994
July, 1994
May, 1993
July, 1992

| ------- | Favorable------- | - ----Unfavorable----- |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{\text { Total }}{46}$ | $\frac{\text { Very }}{9}$ | $\frac{\text { Mostly }}{37}$ | $\frac{\text { Total }}{48}$ | $\frac{\text { Very }}{17}$ | $\frac{\text { Mostly }}{31}$ |


| (VOL.) <br> Never | (VOL.) <br> Can't rate/ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $*$$\frac{\frac{\text { Ref }}{6}}{6}$ |  |


| 49 | 14 | 36 | 43 | 18 | 25 | $*$ | 7 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 43 | 13 | 29 | 51 | 23 | 28 | $*$ | 7 |
| 46 | 13 | 32 | 45 | 19 | 26 | $*$ | 9 |
| 43 | 9 | 34 | 50 | 21 | 29 | $*$ | 7 |
| 48 | 14 | 34 | 45 | 18 | 27 | $*$ | 6 |
| 47 | 13 | 35 | 46 | 17 | 29 | $*$ | 6 |
| 50 | 13 | 36 | 44 | 20 | 24 | $*$ | 7 |
| 44 | 12 | 31 | 45 | 22 | 23 | $*$ | 11 |
| 38 | 9 | 29 | 52 | 27 | 25 | $*$ | 9 |
| 40 | 8 | 32 | 49 | 25 | 24 | $*$ | 11 |
| 48 | 9 | 39 | 44 | 17 | 27 | $*$ | 8 |
| 48 | 11 | 37 | 43 | 19 | 24 | $*$ | 10 |
| 49 | 12 | 37 | 40 | 16 | 25 | $*$ | 10 |
| 59 | 15 | 44 | 34 | 13 | 21 | $*$ | 7 |
| 62 | 19 | 43 | 32 | 12 | 20 | $*$ | 6 |
| 57 | 19 | 38 | 33 | 15 | 18 | $*$ | 10 |
| 55 | 18 | 37 | 39 | 14 | 25 | $*$ | 6 |
| 57 | 16 | 41 | 37 | 13 | 24 | $*$ | 6 |
| 57 | 14 | 43 | 37 | 14 | 23 | $*$ | 6 |
| 51 | 13 | 38 | 41 | 14 | 27 | 0 | 8 |
| 54 | 15 | 39 | 35 | 12 | 23 | $*$ | 11 |
| 53 | 13 | 40 | 36 | 11 | 25 | $*$ | 11 |
| 47 | 13 | 34 | 44 | 13 | 31 | 2 | 7 |
| 47 | 12 | 35 | 42 | 14 | 28 | $*$ | 11 |
| 48 | 14 | 34 | 44 | 17 | 27 | 0 | 8 |
| 49 | 14 | 35 | 41 | 15 | 26 | $*$ | 10 |
| 50 | 15 | 35 | 41 | 14 | 27 | $*$ | 9 |
| 52 | 12 | 40 | 39 | 13 | 26 | $*$ | 9 |
| 53 | 13 | 40 | 41 | 14 | 27 | $*$ | 6 |
| 54 | 12 | 42 | 36 | 11 | 25 | 0 | 10 |
| 58 | 14 | 44 | 37 | 9 | 28 | $*$ | 5 |
| 54 | 11 | 43 | 38 | 10 | 28 | 0 | 8 |
| 57 | 13 | 44 | 36 | 11 | 25 | $*$ | 7 |
| 54 | 15 | 39 | 37 | 10 | 27 | $*$ | 9 |
| 58 | 18 | 40 | 34 | 10 | 24 | $*$ | 8 |
| 60 | 18 | 42 | 30 | 9 | 21 | 1 | 9 |
| 60 | 16 | 44 | 35 | 12 | 23 | $*$ | 5 |
| 59 | 14 | 45 | 37 | 9 | 28 | $*$ | 4 |
| 58 | 11 | 47 | 37 | 11 | 26 | 0 | 5 |
| 55 | 14 | 41 | 38 | 12 | 26 | 0 | 7 |
| 59 | 18 | 41 | 34 | 10 | 24 | 0 | 7 |
| 56 | 11 | 45 | 38 | 9 | 29 | $*$ | 6 |
| 60 | 13 | 47 | 33 | 8 | 25 | $*$ | 7 |
| 58 | 15 | 43 | 36 | 10 | 26 | $*$ | 6 |
| 52 | 11 | 41 | 42 | 10 | 32 | 0 | 6 |
| 61 | 10 | 51 | 33 | 8 | 25 | $*$ | 6 |
| 60 | 13 | 47 | 35 | 7 | 28 | $*$ | 5 |
| 49 | 9 | 40 | 48 | 11 | 37 | 0 | 3 |
| 50 | 13 | 37 | 44 | 13 | 31 | $*$ | 6 |
| 62 | 13 | 49 | 34 | 7 | 27 | $*$ | 4 |
| 57 | 14 | 43 | 34 | 9 | 25 | 0 | 9 |
| 61 | 17 | 44 | 33 | 9 | 24 | $*$ | 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

ASK ALL:
Q. 5 And how about, [I NSERT NAME; RANDOMI ZE]? Is your overall opinion of [I NSERT NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about [NEXT NAME]? [IF NECESSARY: J ust in general, is your overall opinion of [NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [I NTERVI EWERS: PROBE TO DI STI NGUI SH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]


ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:
Now, thinking about how Barack Obama is handling some issues...
Q.6F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling [INSERT ITEM,

RANDOMIZE] How about [NEXT ITEM]? [REPEAT INTRODUCTI ON AS NECESSARY]
a. The economy Mar 7-11, 2012
J an 11-16, 2012
Nov 9-14, 2011

Approve

```
43
38
35
```

Disapprove
53
59
58
(VOL.)
DK/Ref
4
4
6

## Q.6F2 CONTI NUED...

|  | Approve | Disapprove | DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 34 | 60 | 6 |
| May 2, 2011 | 40 | 55 | 4 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 39 | 56 | 6 |
| J an 6-9, 2011 | 42 | 51 | 7 |
| J un 16-20, 2010 | 43 | 51 | 5 |
| May 6-9, 2010 | 41 | 51 | 8 |
| Apr 21-26, 2010 | 38 | 54 | 8 |
| Mar 10-14, 2010 | 41 | 52 | 7 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 42 | 51 | 7 |
| Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 | 42 | 52 | 5 |
| Jul 22-26, 2009 | 38 | 53 | 9 |
| Jun 10-14, 2009 | 52 | 40 | 8 |
| Apr 14-21, 2009 | 60 | 33 | 7 |
| Feb 4-8, 2009 | 56 | 24 | 20 |

b. Energy policy

Mar 7-11, 201242
J an 11-16, 2012
Nov 9-14, 2011
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011
J an 6-9, 2011
Jun 16-20, 2010
Apr 21-26, 2010
Jan 6-10, 2010
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009
Jul 22-26, 2009

| 45 | 13 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 46 | 18 |
| 38 | 18 |
| 44 | 16 |
| 37 | 18 |
| 40 | 15 |
| 34 | 23 |
| 35 | 20 |
| 34 | 16 |
| 31 | 22 |

c. Dealing with Iran

| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 47 | 40 | 14 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 48 | 41 | 11 |
| Jan 6-9, 2011 | 42 | 39 | 19 |
| Apr 21-26, 2010 | 38 | 43 | 19 |
| Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 | 43 | 40 | 17 |

d. The situation in Afghanistan

| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 49 | 42 | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 56 | 37 | 7 |
| May 2, 2011 | 60 | 29 | 11 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 43 | 45 | 11 |
| Jan 6-9, 2011 | 44 | 42 | 13 |
| Jun 16-20, 2010 | 45 | 46 | 9 |
| Apr 21-26, 2010 | 41 | 42 | 17 |
| Mar 10-14, 2010 | 51 | 35 | 15 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 45 | 43 | 12 |
| Oct 28-Nov 8,2009 | 36 | 49 | 15 |
| Jul 22-26, 2009 | 47 | 33 | 19 |

e. The federal budget deficit

| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 36 | 58 | 7 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 34 | 62 | 5 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 34 | 57 | 9 |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 32 | 60 | 9 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 33 | 59 | 8 |
| Jan 6-9, 2011 | 35 | 53 | 12 |
| Jun 16-20, 2010 | 35 | 56 | 9 |
| Jan 6-10, 2010 | 32 | 58 | 11 |
| Oct 28-Nov 8,2009 | 31 | 58 | 11 |
| Jul 22-26, 2009 | 32 | 53 | 15 |
| April 14-21,2009 | 50 | 38 | 12 |

## NO QUESTI ONS 7-11

ASK ALL:
THOUGHT
How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election . . . Quite a lot or only a little?

## BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1188$ ]:

|  | Quite a lot | (VOL.) Some | Only a little | (VOL.) <br> None | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2012 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 66 | 2 | 30 | 1 | 1 |
| 2008 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| November, 2008 | 81 | 3 | 13 | 2 | 1 |
| Late October, 2008 | 81 | 3 | 13 | 2 | 1 |
| Mid-October, 2008 | 81 | 3 | 13 | 3 | * |
| Early October, 2008 | 81 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 1 |
| Late September, 2008 | 80 | 3 | 14 | 2 | 1 |
| Mid-September, 2008 | 78 | 4 | 14 | 3 | 1 |
| August, 2008 | 74 | 6 | 17 | 2 | 1 |
| July, 2008 | 74 | 2 | 20 | 3 | 1 |
| June, 2008 | 72 | 2 | 23 | 2 | 1 |
| Late May, 2008 | 75 | 4 | 17 | 3 | 1 |
| April, 2008 | 77 | 7 | 13 | 2 | 1 |
| March, 2008 | 78 | 3 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
| Late February, 2008 | 74 | 3 | 19 | 2 | 2 |
| 2004 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| November, 2004 | 82 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 1 |
| Mid-October, 2004 | 76 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
| Early October, 2004 | 74 | 4 | 19 | 2 | 1 |
| September, 2004 | 71 | 3 | 22 | 3 | 1 |
| August, 2004 | 69 | 2 | 26 | 2 | 1 |
| July, 2004 | 67 | 2 | 28 | 2 | 1 |
| June, 2004 | 58 | 3 | 36 | 2 | 1 |
| May, 2004 | 59 | 6 | 30 | 4 | 1 |
| Late March, 2004 | 60 | 4 | 31 | 4 | 1 |
| Mid-March, 2004 | 65 | 2 | 31 | 2 | * |
| 2000 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| November, 2000 | 72 | 6 | 19 | 2 | 1 |
| Late October, 2000 | 66 | 6 | 24 | 4 | * |
| Mid-October, 2000 | 67 | 9 | 19 | 4 | 1 |
| Early October, 2000 | 60 | 8 | 27 | 4 | 1 |
| September, 2000 | 59 | 8 | 29 | 3 | 1 |
| July, 2000 | 46 | 6 | 45 | 3 | * |
| June, 2000 | 46 | 6 | 43 | 5 | * |
| May, 2000 | 48 | 4 | 42 | 5 | 1 |
| April, 2000 | 45 | 7 | 41 | 7 | * |
| 1996 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| November, 1996 | 67 | 8 | 22 | 3 | * |
| October, 1996 | 65 | 7 | 26 | 1 | 1 |
| Late September, 1996 | 61 | 7 | 29 | 2 | 1 |
| Early September, 1996 | 56 | 3 | 36 | 4 | 1 |
| July, 1996 | 55 | 3 | 41 | 1 | * |
| June, 1996 | 50 | 5 | 41 | 3 | 1 |
| 1992 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| Early October, 1992 | 77 | 5 | 16 | 1 | 1 |
| September, 1992 | 69 | 3 | 26 | 1 | 1 |
| August, 1992 | 72 | 4 | 23 | 1 | * |
| June, 1992 | 63 | 6 | 29 | 1 | 1 |
| 1988 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gallup: November, 1988 | 73 | 8 | 17 | 2 | 0 |
| Gallup: October, 1988 | 69 | 9 | 20 | 2 | 0 |

## THOUGHT CONTI NUED...

Gallup: August, 1988
Gallup: September, 1988

| Quite | (VOL.) | Only a | (VOL.) | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a lot | $\frac{\text { Some }}{}$ | $\frac{\text { little }}{}$ | None | $\frac{\text { DK/Ref }}{2}$ |
| 61 | 10 | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| 57 | 18 | 23 | 2 | 0 |

ASK ALL:
Q. 12 Over the course of the campaign, are you getting more interested or less interested in the outcome of the election this November?

## BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1188$ ]:

| Mar 7-11 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2012}{72}$ | More interested [OR] |
| 22 | Less interested |
| 4 | Neither/no change (VOL.) |
| 2 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

ASK ALL:
REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?
[INSTRUCTI ON: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1 FOR REGIST AND REGICERT]
ASK IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN REGIST:
REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

| Mar 7-11 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2012}{76}$ | Yes, registered |
| 72 | Absolutely certain |
| 4 | Chance registration has lapsed |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |
| 23 | No, not registered |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

## ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGI CERT=1):

Q. 13 Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1188$ ]:

|  | Excellent | Good | Only fair | Poor | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2012 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 4 | 25 | 34 | 34 | 3 |
| J an 26-29, 2012 | 4 | 21 | 37 | 34 | 5 |
| J an 4-8, 2012 | 3 | 27 | 35 | 27 | 7 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 5 | 23 | 36 | 28 | 7 |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 4 | 22 | 38 | 26 | 9 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 3 | 22 | 35 | 27 | 13 |

## Q. 13 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON ...

|  | Excellent | Good | Only fair | Poor | (VOL.) DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SELECTED TRENDS FOR COMPARISON ${ }^{2}$ : 2008 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| October, 2007 (Republican) | 3 | 28 | 40 | 19 | 10 |
| October, 2007 (Democratic) | 9 | 35 | 33 | 17 | 6 |
| 2004 Election 17 |  |  |  |  |  |
| September, 2003 (Democratic) | 3 | 29 | 39 | 15 | 14 |
| 1996 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| October, 1995 (Republican) | 3 | 30 | 44 | 19 | 4 |
| 1992 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| October, 1991 (Democratic) | 2 | 19 | 39 | 16 | 24 |
| 1988 Election |  |  |  |  |  |
| J anuary, 1988 (Republican) | 4 | 36 | 41 | 11 | 8 |
| J anuary, 1988 (Democratic) | 2 | 29 | 44 | 17 | 8 |

## Q. 13 FULL TREND:

Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

## BASED ON REPUBLI CAN AND REPUBLI CAN-LEANI NG REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=538$ ]:

|  | Excellent |  | Good |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Only fair |  |  |  |  |  |  |$\quad$| (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the DEMOCRATIC presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?
BASED ON DEMOCRATI C AND DEMOCRATI C-LEANI NG REGI STERED VOTERS:
(VOL.)
February, 2008
Excellent

[^1]
## Q. 13 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTI NUED...

|  | Excellent | Good |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| October, 1991 (GP) | 3 | 24 |
| January, 1988 (GP) | 4 | 33 |

Only fair
38
45
(VOL.)
DK/Ref
23
January, 1988 (GP)

## ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGI CERT=1):

Q. 14 As I name some Republican candidates for president in 2012, please tell me which one, if any, you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate? [READ AND RANDOMIZE] [PROBE IF NECESSARY: As of today, who would you say you LEAN toward?]

## BASED ON REPUBLI CAN/ REPUBLI CAN-LEANI NG REGI STERED VOTERS [ N=538]:

| Mar |  | Feb | J an | J an | Dec | Nov | Sep 22- | Jul | Mar | Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7-11 |  | 8-12 | 11-16 | 4-8 | 7-11 | 9-14 | Oct 4 | 20-24 | 8-14 | 4-7 |
| $\underline{2012}$ |  | $\underline{2012}$ | $\underline{2012}$ | $\underline{2012}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2010}$ |
| 33 | Mitt Romney | 28 | 31 | 27 | 21 | 23 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 17 |
| 24 | Rick Santorum | 30 | 14 | 16 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 20 | Newt Gingrich | 17 | 16 | 16 | 33 | 16 | 7 | 3 | 11 | 9 |
| 14 | Ron Paul | 12 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 10 |
| * | Other (VOL. ${ }^{3}$ | 1 | 2 | 1 | * | * | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
|  | Rick Perry | -- | 5 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 12 | -- | -- |
|  | J on Huntsman | -- | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -- | -- |
|  | Michele Bachmann | -- | -- | -- | 6 | 5 | 4 | 11 | -- | -- |
|  | Herman Cain | -- | -- | -- | -- | 22 | 12 | 8 | -- | -- |
|  | Sarah Palin | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 9 | 11 | 13 | 16 |
|  | Tim Pawlenty | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 3 | 3 | 5 |
|  | Mike Huckabee | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 20 | 19 |
|  | Mitch Daniels | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | -- |
|  | Haley Barbour | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 2 |
|  | Chris Christie | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | -- |
| 4 | None (VOL.) | 4 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 3 | Too early to tell (VOL.) | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 3 | -- |
| 2 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | ) 5 | 6 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 10 |

NO QUESTI ONS 15-17

[^2]RANDOMI ZE ORDER OF Q.18-Q.18b/ Q.19-Q.19b IN BLOCKS ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1): ASK BEFORE FIRST BLOCK:
Now, suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held TODAY and...
ASK BEFORE SECOND BLOCK:
If the election were TODAY and...
ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):
Q. 18 / Q. 19 You had to choose between, [READ AND RANDOMI ZE], who would you vote for?

ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q. 18 / Q.19=3,9):
Q.18a / Q.19a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.18/Q.19]? ASK IF NAMED A CANDIDATE (Q.18/ Q.19=1,2):
Q.18b / Q.19b Would you support [INSERT LAST NAME OF CANDIDATE CHOSEN IN Q. 18 / Q.19] over [I NSERT LAST NAME OF CANDIDATE NOT CHOSEN IN Q. 18 / Q.19] strongly, or only moderately? ${ }^{4}$

## BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1188$ ]:

Q. 18 Mitt Romney

|  | Romney | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Obama | Strongly | Only mod | (VOL.)(VOL.) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | DK | Other | DK/Ref |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 42 | 28 | 13 | * | 54 | 41 | 12 | * | 1 | 3 |
| Feb 8-12, 2012 | 44 | -- | -- | -- | 52 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 3 |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 45 | -- | -- | -- | 50 | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 4 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 47 | -- | -- | -- | 49 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 3 |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 | 48 | -- | -- | -- | 48 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 4 |

Q. 19 Rick Santorum

Mar 7-11, 2012
Feb 8-12, 2012

| Santorum Strongly | Only mod | DK | Obama | Strongly $\begin{aligned} & \text { Only } \\ & \text { mod }\end{aligned}$ |  | (VOL.)(VOL.) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | DK | Other | DK/Ref |
| 3928 | 11 | 0 | 57 | 45 | 11 | * | 1 | 3 |
| 43 | -- | -- | 53 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 3 |

Q.18-Q.18b/ Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON:

BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS:

|  | McCain | Strongly | Only $\mathrm{mod}^{5}$ | DK | Obama | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Nader | Barr | Other/ DK/ Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 2008 | 39 | 21 | 18 | * | 50 | 35 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Late October, 2008 | 36 | 20 | 15 | 1 | 52 | 39 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 |
| Mid-October, 2008 | 38 | 21 | 16 | 1 | 52 | 36 | 16 | * | n/a | n/a | 10 |
| Early October, 2008 | 40 | 21 | 18 | 1 | 50 | 36 | 14 | * | n/a | n/a | 10 |
| Late September, 2008 | 42 | 23 | 19 | * | 49 | 33 | 15 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 9 |
| Mid-September, $2008{ }^{6}$ | 64 | 25 | 19 | * | 46 | 30 | 15 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 10 |
| August, 2008 | 43 | 17 | 26 | * | 46 | 27 | 19 | * | n/a | n/a | 11 |
| July, 2008 | 42 | 17 | 24 | 1 | 47 | 24 | 22 | 1 | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | n/a | 11 |
| June, 2008 | 40 | 14 | 26 | * | 48 | 28 | 19 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 12 |
| Late May, 2008 | 44 |  |  |  | 47 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 9 |
| April, 2008 | 44 |  |  |  | 50 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 6 |
| March, 2008 | 43 |  |  |  | 49 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 8 |
| Late February, 2008 | 43 |  |  |  | 50 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 7 |
|  | Bush | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Kerry | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Nader |  | Other/ DK/ Ref |
| November, 2004 | 45 | 34 | 11 | * | 46 | 29 | 16 | 1 | 1 |  | 8 |
| Mid-October, 2004 | 45 | 32 | 13 | * | 45 | 28 | 16 | 1 | 1 |  | 9 |
| Early October, 2004 | 48 | 35 | 12 | 1 | 41 | 24 | 17 | * | 2 |  | 9 |

[^3]
## Q.18-Q.18b/ Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTI NUED...

Other/

|  | Bush | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Gore | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Nader | Buchanan | Other/ DK/ Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 2000 | 41 | 26 | 15 | * | 45 | 25 | 19 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| Late October, 2000 | 45 | 29 | 16 | * | 43 | 24 | 19 | * | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| Mid-October, 2000 | 43 | 25 | 18 | * | 45 | 22 | 23 | * | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| Early October, 2000 | 43 | 26 | 17 | * | 44 | 22 | 22 | * | 5 | * | 8 |
| September, 2000 | 41 | 21 | 19 | 1 | 47 | 25 | 21 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| July, 2000 | 42 |  |  |  | 41 |  |  |  | 6 | 2 | 9 |
| Late June, 2000 | 42 |  |  |  | 35 |  |  |  | 2 | 2 | 19 |
| Mid-J une, 2000 | 41 |  |  |  | 42 |  |  |  | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| J anuary, 2000 | 51 |  |  |  | 39 |  |  |  | n/a | 4 | 6 |
| September, 1999 | 49 |  |  |  | 35 |  |  |  | n/a | 10 | 6 |
| Two-way trial heats: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| July, 2000 | 48 |  |  |  | 46 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 6 |
| Mid-J une, 2000 | 45 | 20 | 25 | * | 46 | 18 | 27 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 9 |
| May, 2000 | 46 |  |  |  | 45 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 9 |
| March, 2000 | 43 |  |  |  | 49 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 8 |
| February, 2000 | 46 | 19 | 27 | * | 45 | 18 | 26 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 9 |
| December, 1999 | 55 |  |  |  | 40 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 5 |
| October, 1999 | 54 |  |  |  | 39 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 7 |
| September, 1999 | 54 |  |  |  | 39 |  |  |  | n/a | n/a | 7 |
| July, 1999 | 53 |  |  |  | 42 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 5 |
| March, 1999 | 54 |  |  |  | 41 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 5 |
| J anuary, 1999 | 50 |  |  |  | 44 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 6 |
| Early September, 1998 | 53 |  |  |  | 40 |  |  |  | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 7 |


|  | Dole | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Clinton | Strongly | Only mod | DK | Perot | Other/ DK/ Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November, 1996 | 32 | 17 | 15 | * | 51 | 26 | 24 | 1 | 9 | 8 |
| October, 1996 | 34 | 17 | 16 | 1 | 51 | 25 | 26 | * | 8 | 7 |
| Late September, 1996 | 35 | 16 | 18 | 1 | 51 | 26 | 25 | * | 7 | 7 |
| Early September, 1996 | 34 | 17 | 17 | * | 52 | 26 | 26 | 0 | 8 | 6 |
| July, 1996 | 34 |  |  |  | 44 |  |  |  | 16 | 6 |
| March, 1996 | 35 |  |  |  | 44 |  |  |  | 16 | 5 |
| September, 1995 | 36 |  |  |  | 42 |  |  |  | 19 | 3 |
| July, 1994 | 36 |  |  |  | 39 |  |  |  | 20 | 5 |
| Two-way trial heats: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| July, 1996 | 42 | 11 | 30 | * | 53 | 20 | 31 | 1 | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 5 |
| J une, 1996 | 40 | 13 | 23 | 1 | 55 | 22 | 29 | 1 | n/a | 5 |
| April, 1996 | 40 |  |  |  | 54 |  |  |  |  | 6 |
| March, 1996 | 41 |  |  |  | 53 |  |  |  |  | 6 |
| February, 1996 | 44 |  |  |  | 52 |  |  |  |  | 4 |

Q.18-Q.18b/ Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTI NUED...

|  |  | Only |  |  |  | Only |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dole | Strongly mod | DK | Clinton | Strongly | mod | DK | Perot |
| J anuary, 1996 | 41 |  |  | 53 |  |  |  |  |
| July, 1994 | 49 |  |  | 46 |  |  |  |  |

Other/

## RANDOMIZE Q. 20 AND Q. 21

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):
Q. 20 Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between [RANDOMI ZE: Barack Obama and Mitt Romney]?
Q. 21 Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between [RANDOMI ZE: Barack Obama and Rick Santorum]?

BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1188$ ]:

|  |  | Republican |  | Democ |  | (VOL.) <br> Other/DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q. 20 | Mar 7-11, 2012 | 32 | Romney | 59 | Obama | 9 |
| Q. 21 | Mar 7-11, 2012 | 24 | Santorum | 68 | Obama | 8 |

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:
Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election?

Republican Democrat
2008 Election
Mid-October, 2008
Mid-September, 2008
June, 2008
April, 2008 ${ }^{7}$
April, 2008
March, 2008
March, 2008
2004 Election
November, 2004
Mid-October, 2004
Early October, 2004
September, 2004
August, 2004
July, 2004
June, 2004

| 17 | McCain | 61 | Obama | 22 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 39 | McCain | 39 | Obama | 22 |
| 27 | McCain | 53 | Obama | 20 |
| 42 | McCain | 47 | Obama | 11 |
| 46 | McCain | 45 | Clinton | 9 |
| 38 | McCain | 50 | Obama | 12 |
| 46 | McCain | 42 | Clinton | 12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 48 | Bush | 27 | Kerry | 25 |
| 54 | Bush | 27 | Kerry | 19 |
| 61 | Bush | 27 | Kerry | 12 |
| 60 | Bush | 22 | Kerry | 18 |
| 44 | Bush | 37 | Kerry | 19 |
| 42 | Bush | 38 | Kerry | 20 |
| 51 | Bush | 35 | Kerry | 14 |

[^4]
## Q.20/ Q. 21 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTI NUED...

|  | Republican |  | Democrat |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| May, 2004 | 52 | Bush | 31 | Kerry | 17 |
| Early February, 2004 | 56 | Bush | 32 | Dem Candidate | 12 |
| Mid-J anuary, 2004 | 61 | Bush | 21 | Dem Candidate | 18 |
| September, 2003 | 47 | Bush | 34 | Dem Candidate | 19 |
| June, 2003 | 66 | Bush | 22 | Dem Candidate | 12 |
| 2000 Election |  |  |  |  | 25 |
| November, 2000 | 43 | Bush | 32 | Gore | 14 |
| Late October, 2000 | 48 | Bush | 38 | Gore | 21 |
| Early October, 2000 | 33 | Bush | 46 | Gore | 16 |
| June, 2000 | 51 | Bush | 33 | Gore | 7 |
| October, 1999 | 70 | Bush | 23 | Gore |  |
| 1996 Election |  |  |  |  | 9 |
| Late September, 1996 | 12 | Dole | 79 | Clinton | 9 |
| Early September, 1996 | 16 | Dole | 75 | Clinton | 9 |
| July, 1996 | 19 | Dole | 72 | Clinton |  |
| 1992 Election |  |  |  |  | 9 |
| October, 1992 | 30 | Bush, Sr. | 61 | Clinton | 9 |
| March, 1992 | 72 | Bush, Sr. | 20 | Dem Candidate | 8 |
| February, 1992 | 66 | Bush, Sr. | 25 | Dem Candidate | 9 |
| October, 1991 | 78 | Bush, Sr. | 11 | Dem Candidate | 11 |

## QUESTI ON 22 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGI CERT=1):

Q. 23 Do you think the fact that the Republican primary contest has not yet been decided and is still going on is a good thing or a bad thing for the Republican Party?

BASED ON REPUBLI CAN/ REPUBLICAN-LEANI NG REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=538$ ]:

| Mar 7-11  <br> $\underline{2012}$  <br> 47 Good thing | Feb 8-12 |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 43 | Bad thing | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2}$ |
| 3 | Neither/Still early (VOL.) | 36 |
| 7 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 4 |

## ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGI CERT=1) :

Q. 24 Just in general, how well do you think [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMI ZE] understands the needs of people like you? Very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well? How about [ NEXT ITEM]?

BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1188$ ]:

|  | Very <br> well | Fairly <br> well | Not too <br> well | Not at all <br> well | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b.Barack Obama <br> Mar 7-11, 2012 | Mitt Romney <br> Mar 7-11, 2012 | 12 | 29 | 16 | 25 |

NO QUESTI ONS 25-26

[^5]
## RANDOMI ZE Q. 27 AND Q. 28

ASK ALL REGI STERED VOTERS (REGI CERT=1):
Q. 27 In general, do you think [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] positions on the issues are too conservative, not conservative enough, or about right? And do you think [NEXT ITEM] positions on the issues are too conservative, not conservative enough, or about right?

## BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1188$ ]:

|  |  | Too conservative | Not conservative enough | About right | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Mitt Romney's |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mar 7-11, 2012 | 29 | 23 | 35 | 14 |
| b. | Rick Santorum's <br> Mar 7-11, 2012 | 40 | 15 | 33 | 13 |
|  | TREND FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Too | Not conservative | About | (VOL.) |
|  |  | conservative | enough | right | DK/Ref |
|  | John McCain February, 2008 | 26 | 22 | 37 | 15 |

RANDOMI ZE Q. 27 AND Q. 28
ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):
Q. 28 In general, do you think Barack Obama's positions on the issues are [READ IN ORDER]:

BASED ON REGI STERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=1188$ ]:

Mar 7-11, 2012
February, 2008

| Too <br> liberal | Not liberal <br> enough | About <br> right | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 41 | 12 | $\frac{42}{32}$ | 48 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 29 Do you happen to know if [I NSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE] is Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, atheist, agnostic, or some other religion? How about [I NSERT NEXT NAME]? Is he Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, atheist, agnostic, or some other religion? [I NTERVI EWERS: I F R SAYS "MULTI PLE FAITHS/ ALL OF THE ABOVE," RECORD AS "8SOME OTHER RELIGI ON" AND RECORD VERBATI M RESPONSE]
a. Mitt Romney

Mar 7-11 2012

2 Protestan

Nov 9-14
2011
3 Catholic 3
48 Mormon 39
1 Jewish
*
Muslim 1
Atheist *
Agnostic *
Some other religion 0
Christian (VOL.) 1
42 Don't know (VOL.) 51
1 Refused (VOL.) 1

## Q. 29 CONTI NUED...

| b. | Rick Santorum <br> Mar $7-11$ |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\underline{2012}$ |  |
| 9 | Protestant |
| 24 | Catholic |
| 3 | Mormon |
| 1 | Jewish |
| $*$ | Muslim |
| $*$ | Atheist |
| $*$ | Agnostic |
| $*$ | Some other religion |
| 4 | Christian (VOL.) |
| 58 | Don't know (VOL.) |
| 1 | Refused (VOL.) |

ASK Q.30a-b I MMEDI ATELY AFTER ITEM IN Q.29a-b IF RESPONSE IS PROTESTANT/ CATHOLIC/ MORMON/ CHRISTI AN OR OTHER (Q.29a=1,2,3,8,9 / Q.29b=1,2,3,8,9):
Q. 30 And, do you happen to know if [INSERT NAME; OBSERVE FI LTERS] is an evangelical or "born again" Christian, or not?

ASK I MMEDI ATELY AFTER Q.29a IF PROTESTANT/ CATHOLIC/ MORMON/ CHRISTI AN (Q.29a=1,2,3,8,9):
a. Mitt Romney

| BASED ON TOTAL: | BASED ON FI LTER: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Mar 7-11 | Mar 7-11 |  |
| $\frac{2012}{6}$ | $\underline{2012}$ |  |
| 22 | 11 | Yes, evangelical or "born again" Christian |
| 27 | 41 | No, not evangelical or "born again" Christian |
| 45 | -- | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |
|  |  | Don't know/Refused or Non-Christian religion in Q29a |

N $1503 \quad 949$

```
ASK I MMEDI ATELY AFTER Q.29b IF PROTESTANT/ CATHOLIC/ MORMON/ CHRISTI AN
(Q.29b=1,2,3,8,9):
b. Rick Santorum
BASED ON TOTAL: BASED ON FILTER:
```


## Mar 7-11

 $\underline{2012}$ 14 9 17 60 -.Yes, evangelical or "born again" Christian No, not evangelical or "born again" Christian Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Don't know/Refused or Non-Christian religion in Q29b

N 1503
709
NO QUESTI ON 31

ASK ALL:
Thinking now about the nation's economy...
Q. 32 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

Mar 7-11, 2012
Feb 8-12, 2012
Jan 11-16, 2012
Dec 7-11, 2011
Aug 17-21, 2011
Jun 15-19, 2011
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011
Feb 2-7, 2011
Dec 1-5, 2010
Oct 13-18, 2010
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010
Jun 3-6, 2010
Apr 21-26, 2010
Mar 10-14, 2010
Feb 3-9, 2010
Dec 9-13, 2009
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009
Aug 11-17, 2009
Jun 10-14, 2009
Mar 9-12, 2009
Feb 4-8, 2009
December, 2008
November, 2008
Late October, 2008
Early October, 2008
Late September, 2008
July, 2008
April, 2008
March, 2008
Early February, 2008
January, 2008
November, 2007
September, 2007
June, 2007
February, 2007
December, 2006
Early November, 2006 (RVs)
Late October, 2006
September, 2006
March, 2006
January, 2006
Early October, 2005
Mid-September, 2005
Mid-May, 2005
January, 2005
December, 2004
Early November, 2004 (RVs)
Mid-September, 2004
August, 2004
Late April, 2004
Late February, $2004^{9}$
$9 \quad$ Earlier trends available from Gallup.

## ASK ALL:

Q. 33 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

Mar 7-11, 2012
Feb 8-12, 2012
Jan 11-16, 2012
Dec 7-11, 2011
Aug 17-21, 2011
Jun 15-19, 2011
Oct 13-18, 2010
Apr 21-26, 2010
Feb 3-9, 2010
Dec 9-13, 2009
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009
Aug 11-17, 2009
Jun 10-14, 2009
Mar 9-12, 2009
Feb 4-8, 2009
December, 2008
Early October, 2008
July, 2008
March, 2008
J anuary, 2008
September, 2007
June, 2007
February, 2007
December, 2006
September, 2006
J anuary, 2006
Early October, 2005
Mid-September, 2005
Mid-May, 2005

| Better | Worse | Same | DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 44 | 14 | 38 | 4 |
| 44 | 10 | 42 | 3 |
| 34 | 16 | 46 | 3 |
| 28 | 18 | 50 | 4 |
| 29 | 18 | 50 | 2 |
| 29 | 23 | 46 | 2 |
| 35 | 16 | 45 | 4 |
| 42 | 19 | 36 | 3 |
| 42 | 16 | 40 | 3 |
| 42 | 17 | 38 | 3 |
| 39 | 19 | 39 | 2 |
| 45 | 15 | 38 | 3 |
| 45 | 19 | 33 | 3 |
| 48 | 16 | 34 | 2 |
| 41 | 19 | 37 | 3 |
| 40 | 18 | 38 | 4 |
| 43 | 17 | 36 | 4 |
| 46 | 16 | 30 | 8 |
| 30 | 21 | 41 | 8 |
| 33 | 22 | 39 | 6 |
| 20 | 26 | 48 | 6 |
| 19 | 23 | 53 | 5 |
| 16 | 24 | 55 | 5 |
| 17 | 20 | 58 | 5 |
| 22 | 18 | 56 | 4 |
| 16 | 25 | 55 | 4 |
| 20 | 22 | 55 | 3 |
| 20 | 32 | 45 | 3 |
| 18 | 37 | 43 | 2 |
| 18 | 24 | 55 | 3 |
| 27 | 18 | 52 | 3 |
| 36 | 9 | 47 | 8 |
| 39 | 12 | 41 | 8 |
| 37 | 17 | 43 | 3 |
| 43 | 19 | 35 | 3 |
| 33 | 23 | 37 | 7 |
| 30 | 20 | 44 | 6 |
| 44 | 17 | 36 | 3 |
| 18 | 33 | 44 | 5 |
| 15 | 24 | 55 | 6 |
| 16 | 22 | 57 | 5 |
| 18 | 17 | 61 | 4 |
| 18 | 31 | 45 | 6 |
| 25 | 22 | 49 | 4 |
| 24 | 16 | 51 | 9 |
| 24 | 20 | 46 | 10 |
| 22 | 26 | 45 | 7 |
| 35 | 13 | 49 | 3 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 34 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? [READ AND RANDOMI ZE]

|  | The job situation | The federal budget deficit | Rising prices | Problems in the financial and housing markets | (VOL.) Other | (VOL.) <br> None/not worried about any | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 39 | 24 | 22 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 47 | 22 | 13 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Sep 1-4, 2011 | 43 | 22 | 17 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Jul 20-24, 2011 | 39 | 29 | 15 | 11 | 3 |  | 2 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 38 | 28 | 20 | 10 | 2 | * | 2 |
| Mar 8-14, 2011 | 34 | 24 | 28 | 10 | 3 | * | 1 |
| Feb 2-7, 2011 | 44 | 19 | 23 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Dec 1-5, 2010 | 47 | 19 | 15 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 49 | 19 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Jun 3-6, 2010 | 41 | 23 | 16 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Mar 10-14, 2010 | 45 | 22 | 17 | 11 | 2 | * | 2 |

NO QUESTI ONS 35-37, 40-41, 46-54

## QUESTI ONS 38-39, 42-45 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Thinking about the political parties ...
ASK ALL:
Q. 55 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders (First,) which party do you think is better described by the phrase... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE.] Which party [NEXT ITEM]?


## NO ITEM a.

b. Can better manage the federal government

| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 39 | 42 | 1 | 9 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dec 7-11, 2011 | 35 | 41 | 3 | 13 |
| Jul 20-24, 2011 | 40 | 38 | 2 | 14 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 41 | 39 | 2 | 9 |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 | 43 | 36 | 2 | 11 |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 41 | 41 | 3 | 9 |
| Jun 16-20, 2010 | 41 | 37 | 3 | 12 |
| Feb 3-9, 2010 | 40 | 40 | 4 | 9 |
| Aug 27-30, 2009 | 34 | 38 | 4 | 14 |
| October, 2007 | 32 | 44 | 5 | 9 |
| March, 2007 | 31 | 47 | 3 | 8 |
| Early October, 2006 | 34 | 44 | 3 | 9 |
| April, 2006 | 35 | 39 | 3 | 10 |
| January, 2006 | 34 | 40 | 4 | 12 |
| Early October, 2005 | 35 | 41 | 3 | 13 |
| July, 2004 | 37 | 40 | 4 | 9 |
| Early September, 1998 | 37 | 32 | 8 | 12 |
| August, 1997 | 39 | 33 | 4 | 16 |
| July, 1996 | 45 | 32 | 4 | 12 |
| April, 1995 | 49 | 30 | 3 | 13 |
| July, 1994 | 43 | 31 | 4 | 17 |
| May, 1993 | 36 | 32 | 2 | 17 |
| July, 1992 | 30 | 36 | 1 | 7 |
| May, 1990 | 28 | 20 | 12 | 23 |

[^6]
## Q. 55 CONTI NUED...

May, 1988

| Republican | Democratic <br> Party | Both <br> Party | (VOL.) <br> equally | Neither |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |  |  |  |  |
| 30 | 30 | 10 | 17 | 10 |
| 24 | 28 | 12 | 20 | 10 |
| 24 | 25 | 13 | 28 | 10 |

c. Is more extreme in its positions

| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 50 | 35 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dec 7-11, 2011 | 53 | 33 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 | 50 | 38 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Jul 20-24, 2011 | 50 | 35 | 4 | 2 | 9 |

ASK ALL:
Q. 56 And which party could do a better job of [INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMI ZE; OBSERVE FORM

SPLITS]? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Which party could do a better job of ITEM?]
a. Improving the job situation

Mar 7-11, 2012
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011
Jul 20-24, 2011
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011
Oct 13-18, 2010
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010
Apr 21-26, 2010
September, 2006
March, 1998
(VOL.)
J anuary, 1988
30
$24 \quad 25$
(VOL.)
9


ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=766$ ]:
C.F1 Dealing with health care Mar 7-11, 2012

| 35 | 49 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 38 | 49 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 40 | 42 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| 32 | 39 | 5 | 11 | 13 |
| 36 | 46 | 5 | 7 | 6 |

Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011
Oct 13-18, 2010
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010

## TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Reforming the U.S. health care system

| Feb 3-9,2010 | 32 | 45 | 6 | 10 | 7 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aug 27-30, 2009 | 27 | 46 | 4 | 14 | 9 |
| February, 2008 | 26 | 56 | 3 | 8 | 7 |
| October, 2006 | 25 | 46 | 4 | 8 | 17 |
| September, 2006 | 24 | 48 | 5 | 10 | 13 |
| February, 2006 | 27 | 49 | 6 | 9 | 9 |
| Mid-September, 2005 | 28 | 51 | 4 | 10 | 7 |

11
In January 1992 and August 1990, the item was worded, "Which political party - the Republican Party or the Democratic party do you think could do a better job of: representing your views on abortion?"

## Q. 56 CONTI NUED...



[^7]
## Q. 56 CONTI NUED...

|  | ( |  |  | (VOL.) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Republican | Democratic | Both | (VOL.) | (VOL.) |
|  |  | Party | Party | equally | Neither | DK/Ref |
| f.F2 | Dealing with the Medicare system |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mar 7-11, 2012 | 35 | 48 | 3 | 7 | 7 |
|  | May 25-30, 2011 | 34 | 44 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
|  | TREND FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Reforming the Medicare system Sep 16-19, 2010 | 33 | 38 | 7 | 9 | 12 |

NO QUESTI ON 57, 62-63, 70-71

## QUESTI ONS 58-61, 64-69 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

Next,
Q. 72 Do you approve or disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

| Mar 7-11 |  | Jan 5-9 | Nov 4-7 | Sep 9-12 | Sep 25- |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{2012}{47}$ | Approve | $\frac{2011^{13}}{}$ | $\frac{2010}{43}$ | $\frac{2010}{38}$ | $\frac{2010}{44}$ | $\frac{2010}{35}$ | $\frac{2010}{40}$ |
| 45 | Disapprove | 48 | 47 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 44 |
| 8 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 11 | 10 | 17 | 10 | 17 | 16 |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 73 What, if anything, do you think Congress should do with the health care law? [READ AND RANDOMI ZE]

| Mar 7-11 |  | Sep 22-Oct 4 | J an 5-9 | Nov 4-7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{2012}$ |  | $\underline{2011}{ }^{14}$ | $\underline{2011}$ | $\underline{2010}$ |
| 33 | Expand it | 31 | 35 | 30 |
| 20 | Leave it as is | 22 | 20 | 22 |
| 38 | Repeal it | 38 | 37 | 40 |
| 9 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 9 | 8 | 8 |

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.74F1 As you may know, by 2014 nearly all Americans will be required to have health insurance. People who do not buy insurance will pay a penalty while people who cannot afford it will receive financial help from the government. Do you approve or disapprove of this policy?

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.75F2 As you may know, by 2014 nearly all Americans will be required to have health insurance. People who cannot afford insurance will receive financial help from the government while people who do not buy it will pay a penalty. Do you approve or disapprove of this policy?

## BASED ON TOTAL

| Mar 7-11 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2012}{41}$ | Approve |
| 56 | Disapprove |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) |

QUESTI ON 76 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

[^8]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?

|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent | (VOL.) <br> No preference | (VOL.) <br> Other <br> party | (VOL.) DK/Ref | Lean Rep | Lean Dem |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar 7-11, 2012 | 24 | 34 | 36 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 17 |
| Feb 8-12, 2012 | 26 | 32 | 36 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 17 |
| Jan 11-16, 2012 | 22 | 31 | 42 | 3 | * | 2 | 17 | 16 |
| Jan 4-8, 2012 | 26 | 31 | 35 | 4 | * | 4 | 14 | 14 |
| Dec 7-11, 2011 | 23 | 33 | 38 | 3 | * | 2 | 12 | 17 |
| Nov 9-14, 2011 | 24 | 33 | 38 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 15 |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 | 23 | 33 | 38 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 18 | 16 |
| Aug 17-21, 2011 | 24 | 30 | 40 | 3 | * | 3 | 17 | 18 |
| Jul 20-24, 2011 | 24 | 32 | 38 | 4 | * | 2 | 16 | 14 |
| Jun 15-19, 2011 | 26 | 34 | 32 | 4 | * | 4 | 13 | 13 |
| May 25-30, 2011 | 24 | 33 | 38 | 3 | * | 2 | 15 | 17 |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 25 | 32 | 37 | 3 | * | 3 | 17 | 16 |
| Mar 8-14, 2011 | 24 | 33 | 38 | 3 | * | 2 | 17 | 15 |
| Yearly Totals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2011 | 24.3 | 32.3 | 37.4 | 3.1 | . 4 | 2.5 | 15.7 | 15.6 |
| 2010 | 25.2 | 32.7 | 35.2 | 3.6 | . 4 | 2.8 | 14.5 | 14.1 |
| 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 ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

Mar 7-11, 2012
Feb 8-12, 2012
Jan 11-16, 2012
J an 4-8, 2012
Dec 7-11, 2011
Nov 9-14, 2011

| Agree |  | Disagree |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | | No opinion |
| :---: |
| either way |

(VOL.)
Haven't heard of
2
2
2
2
2
1

Not
(VOL.) heard of/ Refused DK 2 $\begin{array}{ll}2 & -- \\ 2 & --\end{array}$

| 2 | -- |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | -- |

## TEAPARTY2 CONTI NUED...

Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011

| Agree | Disagree | No opinion <br> either way | Haven't <br> heard of | (VOL.) <br> Refused | heard of/ <br> RK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 19 | 27 | 51 | 2 | 1 | -- |
| 20 | 27 | 50 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| 20 | 24 | 53 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| 20 | 26 | 50 | 3 | 2 | -- |
| 18 | 23 | 54 | 2 | 2 | -- |
| 22 | 29 | 47 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| 19 | 25 | 54 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| 20 | 25 | 52 | 2 | 2 | -- |
| 22 | 22 | 53 | 2 | 2 | -- |
| 24 | 22 | 50 | 2 | 1 | -- |
| 22 | 26 | 49 | 2 | 2 | -- |
| 27 | 22 | 49 | 1 | 1 | -- |
| 29 | 25 | 32 | - | 1 | 13 |
| 28 | 24 | 30 | - | 1 | 16 |
| 29 | 26 | 32 | - | 1 | 13 |
| 22 | 18 | 37 | -- | 1 | 21 |
| 24 | 18 | 30 | - | $*$ | 27 |
| 25 | 18 | 31 | -- | 1 | 25 |
| 24 | 14 | 29 | - | 1 | 31 | movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER MARCH 8-11, 2012 OMNIBUS <br> FI NAL TOPLI NE <br> $\mathrm{N}=1,005$

## PEW.1-PEW. 2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

Now thinking about recent economic news...
PEW. 3 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?

March 8-11, 2012
February 2-5, 2012
January 5-8, 2012
December 1-4, 2011
November 10-13, 2011
October 6-9, 2011
September 1-4, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
July 7-10, 2011
June 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011
January 6-9, 2011
December 2-5, 2010
November 11-14, 2010
October 7-10, 2010

| Hearing mostly | Hearing mostly | A mix of good and | (VOL.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| good news | bad news | bad news | DK/Ref |
| 11 | 24 | 62 | 2 |
| 8 | 30 | 59 | 3 |
| 9 | 30 | 60 | 1 |
| 6 | 36 | 56 | 1 |
| 3 | 48 | 48 | 1 |
| 1 | 58 | 39 | 2 |
| 2 | 61 | 35 | 1 |
| 1 | 67 | 30 | 2 |
| 3 | 49 | 46 | 2 |
| 2 | 46 | 50 | 1 |
| 6 | 35 | 56 | 2 |
| 5 | 33 | 60 | 2 |
| 7 | 38 | 53 | 2 |
| 6 | 29 | 64 | 1 |
| 7 | 24 | 68 | 1 |
| 4 | 39 | 55 | 1 |
| 5 | 41 | 53 | 2 |
| 6 | 39 | 53 | 2 |
| 3 | 41 | 54 | 2 |
| 4 | 38 | 55 | 3 |
| 3 | 42 | 54 | 1 |
| 4 | 30 | 65 | 1 |
| 4 | 29 | 66 | 1 |
| 6 | 28 | 66 | * |
| 4 | 30 | 66 | 1 |
| 4 | 35 | 61 | * |
| 5 | 29 | 65 | 1 |
| 7 | 33 | 59 | 1 |
| 5 | 31 | 62 | 2 |
| 6 | 27 | 66 | 1 |
| 5 | 27 | 68 | 1 |
| 11 | 29 | 59 | 1 |
| 3 | 41 | 56 | * |
| 4 | 37 | 59 | * |
| 4 | 31 | 64 | 1 |
| 4 | 39 | 56 | 1 |
| 2 | 51 | 46 | 1 |
| 2 | 60 | 37 | 1 |
| 2 | 67 | 30 | 1 |
| 1 | 80 | 19 | * |

## ASK ALL:

PEW. 4 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 RANDOMI ZE]
a. The financial markets

March 8-11, 2012
November 10-13, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
June 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011
December 2-5, 2010

| Hearing <br> mostly <br> good news | Hearing <br> mostly <br> bad news | A mix of <br> good and <br> bad news | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

September 2-6, 2010
July 1-5, 2010
May 7-10, 2010
April 1-5, 2010
March 5-8, 2010
J anuary 8-11, 2010
October 30-November 2, 2009
August 7-10, 2009
June 12-15, 2009
b. Real estate values

March 8-11, 2012
November 10-13, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
J une 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011
December 2-5, 2010

| 15 | 29 | 48 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4 | 50 | 41 | 5 |
| 2 | 69 | 25 | 4 |
| 5 | 40 | 45 | 9 |
| 11 | 33 | 45 | 11 |
| 13 | 30 | 51 | 6 |
| 12 | 33 | 47 | 8 |
| 17 | 31 | 46 | 6 |
| 13 | 38 | 44 | 4 |
| 9 | 43 | 40 | 8 |
| 4 | 46 | 44 | 6 |
| 6 | 41 | 49 | 3 |
| 15 | 30 | 50 | 6 |
| 11 | 26 | 59 | 4 |
| 16 | 32 | 47 | 6 |
| 12 | 33 | 48 | 7 |
| 20 | 31 | 43 | 6 |
| 9 | 43 | 45 | 3 |

September 2-6, 2010
July 1-5, 2010
May 7-10, 2010
April 1-5, 2010
March 5-8, 2010
J anuary 8-11, 2010
October 30-November 2, 2009
August 7-10, 2009
June 12-15, 2009

| 9 | 39 | 42 | 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 55 | 32 | 7 |
| 4 | 63 | 27 | 6 |
| 7 | 56 | 28 | 9 |
| 9 | 45 | 35 | 11 |
| 6 | 48 | 38 | 8 |
| 8 | 46 | 36 | 10 |
| 8 | 51 | 34 | 7 |
| 6 | 62 | 28 | 4 |
| 6 | 57 | 32 | 5 |
| 9 | 49 | 35 | 7 |
| 12 | 41 | 42 | 5 |
| 12 | 44 | 38 | 6 |
| 8 | 45 | 42 | 5 |
| 11 | 43 | 40 | 5 |
| 13 | 43 | 37 | 6 |
| 11 | 40 | 41 | 7 |
| 11 | 45 | 40 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |
| 7 | 50 | 38 | 6 |
| 7 | 52 | 36 | 7 |
| 5 | 62 | 28 | 5 |
| 4 | 58 | 30 | 6 |
| 5 | 58 | 32 | 6 |
| 3 | 59 | 34 | 4 |
| 3 | 62 | 26 | 5 |
| 7 | 49 | 39 | 5 |
| 7 | 41 | 39 | 5 |
| 16 | 35 | 42 | 10 |
| 12 | 32 | 48 | 10 |
| 9 | 37 | 46 | 9 |
| 8 | 35 | 46 | 9 |
| 10 |  |  |  |

March 8-11, 2012
November 10-13, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
June 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011
December 2-5, 2010
September 2-6, 2010
July 1-5, 2010
May 7-10, 2010
April 1-5, 2010

PEW. 4 CONTI NUED...

March 5-8, 2010
J anuary 8-11, 2010
October 30-November 2, 2009
August 7-10, 2009
June 12-15, 2009
d. The job situation

March 8-11, 2012
December 1-4, 2011
November 10-13, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
J une 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011
December 2-5, 2010
September 2-6, 2010
July 1-5, 2010
May 7-10, 2010
April 1-5, 2010
March 5-8, 2010
J anuary 8-11, 2010
October 30-November 2, 2009
August 7-10, 2009
June 12-15, 2009

| Hearing <br> mostly <br> good news | Hearing <br> mostly <br> bad news | A mix of <br> good and <br> bad news | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 12 | 34 | 50 | 7 |
| 12 | 37 | 45 | 6 |
| 10 | 39 | 42 | 7 |
| 9 | 36 | 46 | 9 |
| 9 | 39 | 46 | 6 |

e. Gas prices

March 8-11, 2012
November 10-13, 2011
August 4-7, 2011
June 2-5, 2011
May 12-15, 2011
March 31-April 3, 2011
March 3-6, 2011
February 3-6, 2011

| 85 | 12 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 47 | 36 | 8 |
| 66 | 26 | 4 |
| 68 | 23 | 2 |
| 84 | 14 | 1 |
| 88 | 10 | 1 |
| 90 | 7 | 2 |
| 77 | 18 | 3 |

PEW.5-PEW. 8 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE


[^0]:    $1 \quad$ Complete trend for Q2F1 not shown; trends available to 1987.

[^1]:    2 Before October 2007, answer choice read "Fair" not "Only fair." In October 2007 the question was asked both ways and no difference was found. As a result, October 2007 numbers combine both versions of the question. In 1988, 1991 and 1993 question asked about "men running for the [party] presidential nomination."

[^2]:    3 Perry, Huntsman, Bachmann, Cain, Palin, Pawlenty, Huckabee, Daniels and Barbour were explicitly asked in some previous surveys. Chris Christie was never asked in any surveys. In surveys in which they received less than $1 \%$ support these responses are included in other. Dashes indicate that candidates were not explicitly asked about and received less than 1\% support.

[^3]:    4 Those who lean to a candidate are included in "Only moderately."
    Includes those who say they lean to the Republican or Democratic candidate.
    After August 2008, June 2004, July 2000, July 1996, June 1992, and June 1988 the question specified vice presidential candidates.

[^4]:    $7 \quad$ In March and April 2008, this question was asked both about John McCain/Barack Obama and John McCain/Hillary Clinton, and read: "Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between..."

[^5]:    8 In 1996 and October 1992, the question also asked about Ross Perot. Results here are included in the "Other/DK" category.

[^6]:    10 In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Able to manage the federal government well."

[^7]:    12 From February 2006 to May 2011 item read "Reducing the federal budget deficit;" and the experiment conducted in July 2011 showed no significant difference between the current wording and this wording. In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

[^8]:    13
    In January 2011 the question asked about legislation passed "last year," and in November 2010 it read "earlier this year." In September, August and July the question asked about legislation passed "in March." In April, the question asked about the legislation passed "last month."
    14 In October 2011, question did not follow the approval question and began: "Thinking about the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress last year..."

