

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX
MARCH 17-20, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,004**

PEW.1-PEW.5 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS PEW.6-PEW.10

Next I'd like to ask about some things that have been in the news. Please answer as best you can. If you don't know the answer just tell me and we'll move to the next question.

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PEW.11-PEW.23

ASK ALL:

PEW.11 Do you happen to know if the national unemployment rate as reported by the government is currently closer to **[READ IN ORDER]**?

Mar 17-20 <u>2011</u>		Nov 11-14 <u>2010</u>	Jul 1-5 <u>2010</u>	Jan 14-17 <u>2010</u> ¹	Oct 1-4 <u>2009</u>		Mar 26-29 <u>2009</u>	
3	5%	3	3	2	4	5%	3	4%
57	9% <i>(Correct)</i>	53	54	55	53	10% <i>(Correct)</i>	53	8% <i>(Correct)</i>
14	15%	16	16	15	15	15%	24	12%
11	21%	11	10	15	18	20%	18	16%
14	DK/Ref (VOL.)	17	18	12	10	DK/Ref (VOL.)	2	DK/Ref (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.12 The Obama administration is proposing revisions to the "No Child Left Behind" Act. That legislation deals with which of the following issues. Is it... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20 <u>2011</u>	
80	Education <i>(Correct)</i>
2	Adoption
1	Transportation
6	Nutrition
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.13 On which of these activities does the U.S. government currently spend the most money? Is it....**[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20 <u>2011</u>		Nov 11-14 <u>2010</u>	
29	Medicare <i>(Correct)</i>	39	National defense <i>(Correct)</i>
7	Education	4	Education
7	Scientific research	15	Medicare
36	Interest on the national debt	23	Interest on the national debt
22	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	19	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION PEW.14

¹ For January 14-17, 2010 and before the question did not include the phrase: "... as reported by the government..."

ASK ALL:

PEW.15 Do you happen to know the name of the current Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives? Is it
[READ AND RANDOMIZE]

Mar 17-20 <u>2011</u>		Dec 4-7 <u>2008</u>		Aug 16-19 <u>2007</u>	
43	John Boehner (<i>Correct</i>)	72	Nancy Pelosi (<i>Correct</i>)	74	Nancy Pelosi (<i>Correct</i>)
19	Nancy Pelosi	3	Dennis Hastert	5	Dennis Hastert
3	Newt Gingrich	3	Barbara Boxer	7	Barbara Boxer
5	Mitch McConnell	3	Eric Holder	5	Scooter Libby
30	DK/Refused (VOL.)	19	DK/Refused (VOL.)	9	DK/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Nov 11-14

2010²

38	John Boehner (<i>Correct</i>)
13	Nancy Pelosi
4	Newt Gingrich
7	Mitch McConnell
38	DK/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.16 Which of the following sources of energy provides the most electricity in the U.S. ... Is it **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20

2011

40	Coal (<i>Correct</i>)
18	Nuclear
21	Hydroelectric
3	Wind
19	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.17 Thinking about Congress, do Republicans currently have a majority in... **[READ IN ORDER]**

Mar 17-20

2011

38	The House of Representatives (<i>Correct</i>)
11	The Senate
18	Both the House and Senate
6	Neither the House nor the Senate
27	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Nov 11-14

2010³

46
8
14
5
27

NO QUESTION PEW.18**ASK ALL:**

PEW.19 According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, what percentage of Americans are considered to be obese? Is it closer to... **[READ IN ORDER]**

Mar 17-20

2011

2	5%
6	10%
39	25% (<i>Correct</i>)
43	50%
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

² For November 11-14, 2010 the question read: "Who is likely to be the next Speaker of the House when the new Congress convenes in January?"

³ For November 11-14, 2010, the question read: "When the new Congress convenes in January, will Republicans have a majority in..."

ASK ALL:PEW.20 What job does Hillary Clinton currently hold? Is she **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20 <u>2011</u>		Mar 26-29 <u>2009</u>		Dec 4-7 <u>2008</u> ⁴	
73	Secretary of State (<i>Correct</i>)	85	Secretary of State (<i>Correct</i>)	87	Secretary of State (<i>Correct</i>)
10	A senator	8	Senator from New York	3	Secretary of the Treasury
3	An ambassador	2	Ambassador to the U.N.	2	Ambassador to the U.N.
3	A governor	2	Secretary of H.H.S.	3	Or something else
10	DK/Refused (VOL.)	3	DK/Refused (VOL.)	5	DK/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:PEW.21 What issue was the main focus of recent protests and political debates in Wisconsin...**[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20

<u>2011</u>	
63	Union rights for public employees (<i>Correct</i>)
1	The death penalty
2	Agricultural subsidies
7	Same-sex marriage
27	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

PEW.22 Moammar Gadhafi is the leader of which of the following countries? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20

<u>2011</u>	
71	Libya (<i>Correct</i>)
7	Egypt
5	Saudi Arabia
*	China
16	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:PEW.23 Who founded the social networking site called Facebook? Is it... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 17-20

<u>2011</u>	
55	Mark Zuckerberg (<i>Correct</i>)
3	Steve Jobs
4	Bill Gates
3	Jon Stewart
35	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS PEW.24-PEW.26**PEW.27-PEW.28 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

⁴ For December 4-7, 2008 the question asked: "To what cabinet position has Barack Obama recently nominated Hillary Clinton? Is it..." The order of the first three responses was randomized and "something else" was always read last.