

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
SEPTEMBER 22-27, 2015  
N=1,502**

**QUESTIONS 1-2, 5, 7-9, 11, 20, 27-28, 33-36, 39, 45-47, 51-52, 54-57 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 3-4, 10, 12, 14-19, 21-26, 29-32, 37-38, 40-44, 48-50, 53**

**QUESTIONS 6, 13 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Next,

Q.58 Which comes closer to your view about how to handle undocumented immigrants who are now living in the U.S.? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]** [They should not be allowed to stay in this country legally] **[OR]** [There should be a way for them to stay in the country legally, if certain requirements are met]

**ASK IF ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE COUNTRY (Q.58=2) [N=1,113]:**

Q.59 And do you think immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally and meet the requirements should **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]** [Be able to apply for U.S. citizenship] **[OR]** [Be able to apply for permanent residency, but not U.S. citizenship]

	Allowed to stay <u>legally</u>	<i>Apply for citizenship</i>	<i>Permanent residency, not citizenship</i>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>	Not allowed to stay <u>legally</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Sep 22-27, 2015	74	47	24	2	24	3
May 12-18, 2015	72	42	26	4	27	2
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	70	43	24	3	27	3
Oct 15-20, 2014	71	42	25	4	25	3
Jul 8-14, 2014	68	40	24	3	30	3
Feb 14-23, 2014	73	46	24	3	24	3
Jun 12-16, 2013	71	--	--	--	27	2
May 1-5, 2013	73	44	25	4	25	3
Mar 13-17, 2013 <sup>1</sup>	71	43	24	4	27	2

**NO QUESTIONS 60-61**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.62 Were you aware that a child born to illegal immigrants in the U.S. is automatically a U.S. citizen, or weren't you aware of that?

Sep 22-27 <u>2015</u>		Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	March <u>2006</u>
90	Yes, aware	87	85	80
8	No, not aware	12	14	19
*	Constitution does not automatically allow newborns to be citizens <b>(VOL.)</b>	--	--	--
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	*	1

<sup>1</sup> In May 2013 and March 2013, question read "Which comes closer to your view about how to handle immigrants who are now living in the U.S. illegally?" and the second answer choice read "There should be a way for those who meet certain requirements to stay in the country legally."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.63 Would you favor changing the Constitution so that the parents must be legal residents of the U.S. in order for their newborn child to be a citizen, or should the Constitution be left as it is?

Sep 22-27 <u>2015</u>		Feb 2-6 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	March <u>2006</u>
37	Favor changing Constitution	39	41	42
60	Leave Constitution as is	57	56	54
1	Constitution does not automatically allow newborns to be citizens <b>(VOL.)</b>	--	--	--
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	4	4	4

**ASK ALL:**

Q.64 All in all, would you favor or oppose building a fence along the entire border with Mexico?

Sep 22-27 <u>2015</u>	
46	Favor
48	Oppose
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

*Building a fence along the entire border with Mexico*

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 <sup>2</sup>	46	47	6
January, 2007 <sup>3</sup>	46	48	6
CNN: September, 2006	54	44	2

**NO QUESTIONS 65-76**

<sup>2</sup> In Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011, January 2007, and September 2006 surveys, item was asked as part of a list.

<sup>3</sup> In January 2007, and September 2006 surveys, the item was worded: "Building a fence along 700 miles of the border with Mexico?"

**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
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No preference</u>	<u>Other party</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
Sep 22-27, 2015	26	30	40	2	*	2	15	16
Jul 14-20, 2015	22	32	41	4	*	1	15	19
May 12-18, 2015	24	32	38	3	1	2	15	18
Mar 25-29, 2015	25	30	39	4	*	2	15	17
Feb 18-22, 2015	24	31	38	4	1	1	18	17
Jan 7-11, 2015	21	30	44	3	1	1	19	18
Dec 3-7, 2014	24	31	39	3	1	2	17	17
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	32	36	2	*	1	15	16
Oct 15-20, 2014	24	33	38	4	*	1	13	17
Sep 2-9, 2014	24	33	38	3	1	2	15	15
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
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 REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):**

TEAPARTY3 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

**BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=406]:**

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
Sep 25-27, 2015 <sup>4</sup>	28	11	58	2	1	--
May 12-18, 2015	34	13	51	1	*	--
Mar 25-29, 2015	35	11	52	1	1	--
Feb 18-22, 2015	36	9	54	*	*	--
Jan 7-11, 2015	34	9	54	1	2	--
Dec 3-7, 2014	34	9	55	2	1	--
Nov 6-9, 2014	31	10	57	1	1	--
Oct 15-20, 2014	32	8	56	2	2	--
Sep 2-9, 2014	38	10	50	1	1	--
Aug 20-24, 2014	34	10	53	*	2	--
Jul 8-14, 2014	35	12	50	2	1	--
Apr 23-27, 2014	33	11	54	1	1	--
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	37	11	50	1	1	--
Feb 14-23, 2014	36	9	54	1	1	--
Jan 15-19, 2014	35	12	52	1	*	--
Dec 3-8, 2013	32	9	57	1	1	--
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	40	9	48	2	1	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	11	45	2	1	--
Sep 4-8, 2013	35	9	54	1	1	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	37	10	50	2	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	9	46	1	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	41	7	48	1	3	--
May 1-5, 2013	28	8	61	2	1	--
Mar 13-17, 2013	43	7	47	1	1	--
Feb 13-18, 2013	36	9	52	1	3	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	43	9	45	1	2	--
Jan 9-13, 2013	35	10	51	2	2	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	11	51	1	*	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	40	8	49	1	2	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	38	9	50	1	3	--
Sep 12-16, 2012	39	7	52	1	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	40	9	47	2	1	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	36	9	53	1	2	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	38	10	49	2	1	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	40	7	51	1	1	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	42	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	37	8	52	1	1	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	40	9	48	2	1	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	41	9	49	*	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	37	11	51	1	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	7	49	*	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	7	51	*	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	42	9	47	1	1	--
May 25-30, 2011	37	7	52	1	3	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	45	9	46	*	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	37	7	54	1	*	--

<sup>4</sup> Question asked September 25-27, N=406.

**TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	41	9	48	1	1	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>5</sup>	43	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	45	6	47	1	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	48	5	45	1	1	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	51	5	42	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	58	5	27	--	1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	54	5	30	--	1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	56	6	29	--	*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36	--	1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30	--	*	19
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25	--	1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26	--	1	21

**QUESTIONS 77-79 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:**


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(U)	Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
(WP)	Pew Research Center/Washington Post polls

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<sup>5</sup> In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." 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 2010 through October 2010, 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 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."