



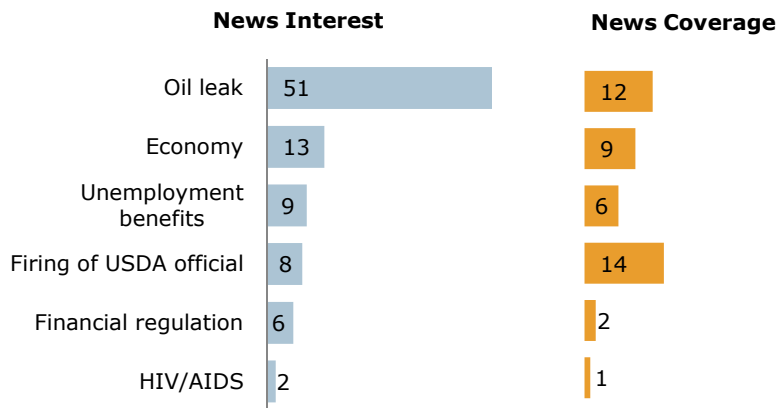
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**Wednesday, July 28, 2010**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**  
**Andrew Kohut, Director**  
**Michael Remez, Senior Writer**

More See “Too Much” Oil Leak Coverage  
**Sherrod Case Draws Heavy Coverage, Modest Interest**

The controversy surrounding the firing of U.S. Department of Agriculture official Shirley Sherrod attracted widespread attention from the news media last week and was the dominant story on cable news networks. The public, however, showed modest interest in the Sherrod affair and, as has been the case since early May, the oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico was by far the public’s most closely followed news story.

**Comparing News Interest and News Coverage**



News interest shows the percentage of people who say they followed this story most closely, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, July 22-25, 2010. News coverage shows the percentage of news coverage devoted to each story, Pew Research Center’s Project for Excellence in Journalism, July 19-25, 2010.

Moreover, as many Americans say the news media gave the Sherrod story too much coverage (34%) as the right amount of coverage (34%); just 22% say the story received too little coverage. Sherrod was fired from her USDA position after a conservative blogger posted edited video of comments she made about race.

The latest News Interest Index survey, conducted July 22-25 among 1,004 adults by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, finds that 51% say the oil leak was the story they followed most closely last week, compared with just 8% who cited news reports about the Sherrod controversy. News about the economy – at 13% most closely – also drew more interest than the Sherrod story.

A separate analysis by Pew Research’s Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ) finds that reports on Sherrod’s firing accounted for 14% of all coverage last week, but as much as 28% of coverage on July 21, after it became clear that the video posted by conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart took Sherrod’s comments about race out of context. The White House subsequently apologized to Sherrod, as did many news commentators.

For the week, the Sherrod story accounted for 33% of the cable newshole, more than double the amount of coverage devoted to the oil leak, the next biggest story, according to PEJ. *(For a day-by-day account of how news organizations covered the story, see PEJ’s [“The Reconstruction of a Media Mess”](#)).*

### Most See HIV/AIDS Progress as Undercovered

While 34% say there has been too much coverage of the Sherrod story, and 31% say that about coverage of the oil leak, far fewer (13%) say that news about the economy has been overcovered. And just 5% say that reports about advancements in methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS have received too much coverage; most people (61%) say these advancements have received too little coverage.

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#### Public Sees Too Little Coverage of Advancements in Preventing HIV/AIDS

	Too much	Right amount	Too little	DK
	%	%	%	%
Firing of USDA official	34	34	22	11=100
Major oil leak	31	49	18	2=100
Reports about economy	13	43	41	3=100
HIV/AIDS prevention	5	25	61	9=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 22-25, 2010.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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That story received little coverage and attracted scant public interest. Just 1% of all news coverage was devoted to advancements in preventing HIV/AIDS; 2% of the public cited it as their top story of the week.

While the amount of coverage of the oil leak has declined sharply since mid-June, when it accounted for 44% of the newshole, the proportion of Americans saying there has been too much coverage of the leak has increased. Currently, 31% say there has been too much coverage of the oil leak, up from 15% in the July 8-11 survey and 19% in the June 17-20 poll.

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### More Now Say “Too Much” Oil Leak Coverage

	<b>May 20-23</b>	<b>June 17-20</b>	<b>July 8-11</b>	<b>July 22-25</b>
	%	%	%	%
Too much	14	19	15	31
Right amount	59	53	53	49
Too little	24	21	27	18
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

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 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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### News Media Still Trusted on Oil Leak

More Americans continue to say they trust information about the Gulf Coast oil leak from news organizations than from the federal government or BP.

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### Most Trust News Media for Oil Leak Information

<i>Trust information about oil leak from ...</i>	<b>A lot/ Some</b>	<b>Not too much/ Not at all</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%
News organizations	64	33	3=100
Federal government	52	47	2=100
BP	34	64	3=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 22-25, 2010.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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About two-thirds (64%) say they have a lot (15%) or some (49%) trust in the information about the leak coming from news organizations. This compares with 52% who have at least some trust in information from the federal government and just 34% who say they trust BP for news about the Gulf Coast spill. These figures have changed little since early June.

As many Republicans say they have a lot or some trust in information about the Gulf Coast oil leak coming from BP (39%) as from federal government (40%). Democrats, by a margin of more than two-to-one (70% to 34%), trust information about the oil leak coming from the federal government more than from BP. Independents are also more likely to trust the government than BP for spill information; still, fewer than half of independents (47%) say they have a lot or some trust in the information provided by the federal government.

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### As Many Republicans Trust BP as the Government for Oil Leak Information

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>
<i>Trust a lot/some:</i>	%	%	%	%
News organizations	64	60	69	66
Federal government	52	40	70	47
BP	34	39	34	28

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 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Majorities of Democrats (69%), independents (66%) and Republicans (60%) say they have a lot or some trust in information from news organizations on the oil leak. These opinions also are little changed from early June.

### Tone of Recent Gulf News

With a cap successfully stopping the flow of oil in the Gulf, most say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. About six-in-ten (59%) say they've been hearing a mix of good and bad news; 28% say they've been hearing mostly bad news and fewer (11%) say they've been hearing mostly good news about the situation in the Gulf.

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### More Hearing "Mix of Good and Bad News" about Gulf Spill

	<b>July 15-18</b>	<b>July 22-25</b>
	%	%
Mix of good and bad news	48	59
Mostly bad news	31	28
Mostly good news	18	11
Don't know	3	2
	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 22-25, 2010.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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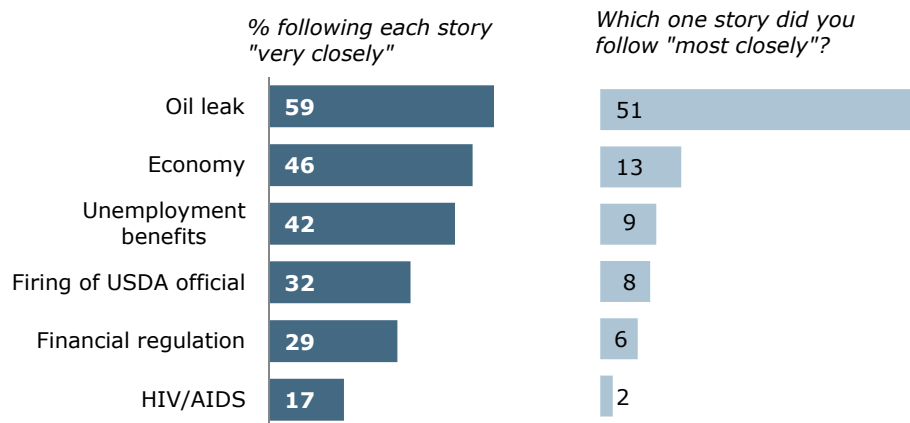
Despite apparent progress in closing the well, the public is no more likely than they were one week ago to say they've been hearing mostly good news about the situation in the Gulf. In fact, the percentage saying they've been hearing mostly positive news has dipped slightly from 18% to 11%. At the same time, the percentage hearing a mix of good and bad news has climbed 11 points (from 48% to 59%).

## The Week's News

Interest in the Gulf oil leak remained strong with 59% following news about the spill very closely and 51% saying it was the story they followed more closely than any other. Coverage, however, was down somewhat when compared with recent weeks; stories about the Gulf Coast oil leak accounting for 12% of coverage, according to PEJ. Last week, coverage of the oil spill filled 20% of the newshole.

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### Measuring News Interest



PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 22-25, 2010.

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Close to half (46%) say they have been following reports about the condition of the U.S. economy very closely; 13% say this was the one story they followed more closely than any other. Coverage of the economy – excluding reports on the financial regulation bill and unemployment benefits – made up 9% of the newshole.

About four-in-ten (42%) followed news about Congress voting to extend unemployment benefits very closely, while 9% say this was their top story of the week. The national media devoted 6% of its overall coverage to stories about unemployment benefits.

The financial regulation bill passed by Congress and signed by President Obama captured the very close interest of 29% of the public and 6% followed the story more closely than any other. Coverage was modest, filling 2% of the newshole.

News about advancements in methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS received relatively little public attention: 17% followed this story very closely and just 2% called it their top story of the week. News stories about HIV/AIDS prevention accounted for only 1% of coverage.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on

the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected July 19-25, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected July 22-25, from a nationally representative sample of 1,004 adults.

## About the News Interest Index

The *News Interest Index* is a weekly survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press aimed at gauging the public's interest in and reaction to major news events. This project has been undertaken in conjunction with the Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, an ongoing content analysis of the news. The News Coverage Index catalogues the news from top news organizations across five major sectors of the media: newspapers, network television, cable television, radio and the internet. Each week (from Monday through Sunday) PEJ compiles this data to identify the top stories for the week. (For more information about the Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, go to [www.journalism.org](http://www.journalism.org).) The News Interest Index survey collects data from Friday through Monday to gauge public interest in the most covered stories of the week.

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a national sample of 1,004 adults living in the continental United States, 18 years of age or older, from July 22-25, 2010 (672 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 332 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 127 who had no landline telephone). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also weighted to match current patterns of telephone status based on extrapolations from the 2009 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1,004	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	300	7.0 percentage points
Democrats	306	7.0 percentage points
Independents	336	6.5 percentage points

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## **About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press**

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director

Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research

Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors

Michael Remez, Senior Writer

Leah Christian and Jocelyn Kiley, Senior Researchers

Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, and Alec Tyson, Research Associates

Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst

For more information about the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press' weekly News Interest Index, go to [www.people-press.org](http://www.people-press.org).

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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX  
JULY 22-25, 2010 OMNIBUS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
N=1004**

**PEW.1 - PEW.4 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.5 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>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
July 22-25, 2010	46	33	14	6	1
July 15-18, 2010	37	33	14	15	1
July 8-11, 2010	36	33	15	16	*
July 1-5, 2010	48	30	13	8	*
June 24-27, 2010	37	37	15	11	1
June 17-20, 2010	38	34	15	13	*
June 10-13, 2010	39	35	17	9	*
June 3-6, 2010	35	33	16	14	1
May 27-30, 2010	43	29	13	15	*
May 20-23, 2010	40	35	13	11	*
May 13-16, 2010	49	32	11	8	1
May 7-10, 2010	42	34	11	12	*
April 30-May 3, 2010	32	37	17	14	1
April 23-26, 2010	42	31	13	14	*
April 16-19, 2010	40	32	14	14	0
April 9-12, 2010	40	32	15	13	*
April 1-5, 2010	33	34	14	19	*
March 19-22, 2010	41	32	14	13	*
March 12-15, 2010	41	35	12	12	*
March 5-8, 2010	40	34	12	13	*
February 26-March 1, 2010	31	33	17	19	*
February 19-22, 2010	38	34	15	12	*
February 12-15, 2010	35	34	15	16	*
February 5-8, 2010	43	36	13	9	*
January 29-February 1, 2010	45	32	13	10	*
January 22-25, 2010	41	34	14	10	*
January 15-18, 2010	37	38	14	11	*
January 8-11, 2010	39	33	15	12	*
December 18-21, 2009	45	31	14	10	0
December 11-14, 2009	42	31	14	13	*
December 4-7, 2009	41	36	13	9	1
November 13-16, 2009	38	33	14	15	*
October 30-November 2, 2009	34	32	17	16	*
October 23-26, 2009	44	30	15	10	1
October 9-12, 2009	41	29	16	13	*
October 2-5, 2009	44	30	15	11	0
September 25-28, 2009	44	37	10	10	*
September 18-21, 2009	44	34	15	7	*
September 11-14, 2009	45	32	14	9	*
September 3-6, 2009	41	31	15	13	*
August 28-31, 2009	45	30	13	12	1
August 21-24, 2009	50	27	13	10	1
August 14-17, 2009	41	37	11	12	*
August 7-10, 2009	42	34	13	10	*
July 31-August 3, 2009	46	34	11	8	*

**PEW.5 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
July 24-27, 2009	45	35	12	8	*
July 17-20, 2009	43	35	11	11	1
July 10-13, 2009	37	38	13	11	*
July 2-5, 2009	38	35	15	12	*
June 19-22, 2009	42	33	15	10	*
June 12-15, 2009	41	35	12	12	*
June 5-8, 2009	41	34	11	14	*
May 29-June 1, 2009	43	37	11	8	*
May 21-24, 2009	44	35	13	9	*
May 15-18, 2009	44	35	12	8	*
May 8-11, 2009	42	34	12	12	*
May 1-4, 2009	47	36	11	5	1
April 17-20, 2009	52	30	10	7	1
April 9-13, 2009	48	29	13	10	0
March 27-30, 2009	48	32	10	10	*
March 20-23, 2009	52	34	8	6	*
March 13-16, 2009	48	33	9	10	*
February 27-March 2, 2009	56	30	8	6	*
February 13-16, 2009	55	29	10	6	*
January 30-February 2, 2009	52	31	12	5	*
January 23-26, 2009	57	30	8	5	0
January 16-19, 2009	43	35	13	9	*
January 2-4, 2009	42	36	15	7	*
December 12-15, 2008	51	33	9	7	*
December 5-8, 2008	42	38	13	7	*
November 21-24, 2008	59	24	9	8	*
November 14-17, 2008	56	29	9	6	*
November 7-10, 2008	54	31	8	7	*
October 31-November 3, 2008	63	27	6	4	*
October 24-27, 2008	52	35	7	5	1
October 17-20, 2008	62	29	6	3	*
October 10-13, 2008	65	25	7	3	*
October 3-6, 2008	69	23	5	3	*
September 26-29, 2008	70	22	5	3	*
September 19-22, 2008	56	27	12	5	*
September 5-8, 2008	44	33	16	7	*
August 29-31, 2008	41	34	13	11	1
August 15-18, 2008	39	36	15	10	*
August 8-11, 2008	39	35	16	10	*
August 1-4, 2008	47	34	11	8	0
July 25-28, 2008	46	32	10	12	*
July 18-21, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
July 11-14, 2008	44	33	12	10	1
June 27-30, 2008	49	31	12	7	1
June 13-16, 2008	42	33	14	11	*
May 9-12, 2008	45	31	13	11	*
May 2-5, 2008	43	31	15	10	1
April 18-21, 2008	41	35	13	10	1
April 4-7, 2008	39	37	12	12	*
March 28-31, 2008	42	36	14	8	*
March 20-24, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
February 29-March 3, 2008	38	35	15	11	1
February 15-18, 2008	37	36	11	16	8
February 1-4, 2008	40	37	14	8	1
January 18-21, 2008	42	31	16	11	*
January 11-14, 2008	36	32	15	16	1
November 2-5, 2007	27	37	16	19	1
October 19-22, 2007	25	34	20	21	*
August 10-13, 2007	28	36	18	18	*

**PEW.5 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Mid-November, 2006	31	40	17	11	1
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1
b. The major oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico					
July 22-25, 2010	59	29	8	3	*
July 15-18, 2010	50	32	10	7	*
July 8-11, 2010	43	40	10	6	1
July 1-5, 2010	57	29	9	5	*
June 24-27, 2010	56	31	8	5	*
June 17-20, 2010	55	32	6	6	*
June 10-13, 2010	55	31	9	5	*
June 3-6, 2010	57	27	9	6	*
May 27-30, 2010	55	26	11	7	*

**PEW.5 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
May 20-23, 2010: <i>An oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states</i>	47	35	11	7	*
May 13-16, 2010	58	29	9	4	*
May 7-10, 2010	46	33	11	10	*
April 30-May 3, 2010: <i>Oil leaking into the ocean near the Louisiana coast after an off-shore oil rig explosion</i>	44	35	11	10	*
April 23-26, 2010: <i>An explosion on an off-shore oil rig near the coast of Louisiana</i>	21	35	22	23	*
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
April 1-5, 2010: <i>President Obama's proposal to allow offshore oil and gas drilling</i>	20	24	21	33	1
July 25-28, 2008: <i>A major oil spill into the Mississippi River</i>	14	19	25	41	1
December 4-8, 2002: <i>The large oil spill polluting the coast of Spain</i>	15	29	28	27	1
May 4-7, 1989: <i>The Alaska oil spill</i>	52	37	7	4	--
c. The new financial regulation bill passed by Congress and signed by President Obama July 22-25, 2010					
	29	29	20	20	2
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
July 15-18, 2010: <i>Congress passing legislation to overhaul the nation's financial regulatory system</i>	23	25	19	31	2
May 20-23, 2010: <i>Proposals for stricter regulation of banks and financial institutions</i>	22	29	21	28	1
April 30-May 3, 2010	19	28	19	33	1
April 23-26, 2010	27	26	20	27	*
June 19-22, 2009: <i>The Obama administration's plans to expand regulations of financial institutions</i>	27	28	26	19	*
March 27-30, 2009: <i>The Obama administration's plans to expand regulations over financial institutions</i>	36	29	19	16	*
d. The firing of a U.S. Department of Agriculture official after a conservative blogger posted edited video of comments she made about race July 22-25, 2010					
	32	25	21	21	2
e. Congress voting to extend unemployment benefits July 22-25, 2010					
	42	33	15	10	1
f. Advancements in methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS July 22-25, 2010					
	17	20	28	33	2

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.6 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.**]

- 51 The major oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico
- 13 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
- 9 Congress voting to extend unemployment benefits
- 8 The firing of a US Department of Agriculture official after a conservative blogger posted edited video of comments she made about race
- 6 The new financial regulation bill passed by Congress and signed by President Obama
- 2 Advancements in methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS
- 5 Some other story **(VOL.)**
- 8 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.7 Do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage, too little coverage, or the right amount of coverage to each of the following? [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	<u><b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref</u>
a. The major oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico				
July 22-25, 2010	31	18	49	2
July 8-11, 2010	15	27	53	5
June 17-20, 2010	19	21	53	6
May 20-23, 2010 <sup>1</sup>	14	24	59	3
b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy				
July 22-25, 2010	13	41	43	3
July 8-11, 2010	8	45	42	5
April 1-5, 2010	15	34	46	6
February 12-15, 2010	16	34	46	4
January 22-25, 2010	9	38	52	2
October 2-5, 2009	22	32	44	2
July 17-20, 2009	16	30	51	4
March 20-23, 2009	21	26	51	2
January 18-21, 2008	11	32	52	5
February, 2001: <i>Signs of an economic slowdown</i>	21	25	46	8
c. The firing of a US Department of Agriculture official after a conservative blogger posted edited video of comments she made about race				
July 22-25, 2010	34	22	34	11
d. Advancements in methods to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS				
July 22-25, 2010	5	61	25	9

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.8 Now thinking about the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, are you hearing mostly good news, mostly bad news or a mix of good and bad news about the situation in the Gulf of Mexico?

<u>Jul 22-25 2010</u>		<u>Jul 15-18 2010</u>
11	Mostly good news	18
28	Mostly bad news <b>[OR]</b>	31
59	A mix of good and bad	48
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3

<sup>1</sup> For May 20-23, 2010, the question asked about "an oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states."

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.9 How much do you trust information about the Gulf Coast oil leak that comes from **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**: A lot, some, not too much or none at all?

		<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	BP <b>[IF NECESSARY:</b> The oil company]					
	July 22-25, 2010	7	27	32	32	3
	June 3-6, 2010	8	31	29	28	4
b.	The federal government					
	July 22-25, 2010	13	39	27	20	2
	June 3-6, 2010	12	39	25	21	2
c.	News organizations covering the oil leak					
	July 22-25, 2010	15	49	23	10	3
	June 3-6, 2010	20	47	20	11	2

**PEW.10 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**