Survey questions

2014 PEW RESEARCH CENTER’S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 9 NOVEMBER
TOPLINE
November 17 — December 15, 2014
TOTAL N=3,212
WEB RESPONDENTS N=2,856
MAIL RESPONDENTS N=356

ASK ALL:
Q.1 How much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live? Would you say...

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Level</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A big impact</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A moderate impact</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A small impact</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No impact at all</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ROTATE 2A, 2B, and 2C: FORM 1 ORDER IS 2A, 2B, 2C; FORM 2 ORDER IS 2C, 2B, 2A

ASK ALL:
Next, we have some questions about government including the federal, state, and local city or county government.

Q.2 How interested are you in keeping up with news and information about the activities of...?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest Level</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very interested</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat interested</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very interested</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest Level</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very interested</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat interested</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very interested</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Question wording in this topline is that from the web version of the survey. Question wording and format was adapted for the paper questionnaire delivered by mail; this questionnaire is available on request. All questions asked in both modes unless noted.
c. YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 37 | 46 | 12 | 5 | *

NO QUESTIONS 3-5

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q6A TO Q6F
ASK ALL:

Q.6 In the past 12 months have you... ?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes,</th>
<th></th>
<th>No,</th>
<th>No,</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>done this online</td>
<td>but not online</td>
<td>have not</td>
<td>answer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Learned about government-operated recreational activities, such as the hours of a public park

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 27 | 12 | 61 | 1

b. Paid a fine, such as parking ticket or toll

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 11 | 9 | 79 | 1

c. Used a service such as 311 to report a specific problem to your local government

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 2 | 5 | 92 | 1

d. Applied for or renewed a hunting or fishing license

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 4 | 10 | 85 | 1
e. Learned about or applied for government benefits, such as Social Security or health insurance
   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 13 11 75 1

f. Renewed your driver’s license or car registration
   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 18 35 46 1

ROTATE 7A, 7B, and 7C: FORM 1 ORDER IS 7A, 7B, 7C; FORM 2 ORDER IS 7C, 7B, 7A
ASK ALL:
Q.7 How easy do you feel it is for you to find out how [INSERT ITEM] is performing?

   Very easy Somewhat easy Not too easy Not at all easy No answer

   a. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

      Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 15 41 30 13 1

   b. YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT

      Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 12 49 30 9 1

   c. YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

      Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 15 47 28 10 1

For the next questions, think about all the DATA government agencies collect about things like the population, economy, schools, transportation, and pollution.
**Q.8** How effectively does [INSERT ITEM] share the data it collects with the general public?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very effectively</th>
<th>Somewhat effectively</th>
<th>Not very effectively</th>
<th>Not at all effectively</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a. **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014  
   5  39  39  15  1

b. **YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT**

   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014  
   5  44  38  10  1

c. **YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014  
   7  45  35  12  1

**Q.9** In the past 12 months, have you gone on the internet or used an app to access information or data provided by...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a. **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014  
   37  61  1

b. **YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT**

   Nov 17-Dec 15 2014  
   34  65  1
c. YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 32 67 1

NO QUESTIONS 10 TO 11

ASK ALL:
Q.12 Thinking about YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT over the past 12 months, would you say it has been providing...

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014

7 More information about the data it collects
14 Less information about the data it collects
39 About the same information about the data it collects
39 I don’t know
1 No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q13/Q13a BLOCK VS. Q14/Q14a BLOCK
ASK ALL:
Q.13 Can you think of an example where YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT does a good job of providing information to the public about the data it collects?

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014

19 Yes, can think of example
80 No, cannot think of example
1 No answer
RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q13/Q13a BLOCK VS. Q14/Q14a BLOCK
ASK ALL:
Q.14  Can you think of an example where YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT does NOT provide enough useful data and information to the public?

Nov 17-Dec 15

2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes, can think of example</th>
<th>No, cannot think of example</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASK ALL:
Q.15  Have you ever used GOVERNMENT SOURCES online to search for information about any of the following? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-F, with ITEM G ALWAYS LAST] [Check all that apply]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Used government sources online</th>
<th>Did not use government sources online</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Student or teacher performance at local schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The performance of hospitals or healthcare providers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Transportation issues, including road conditions or public transit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014 | 20 | 80 |

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014 | 17 | 83 |
Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014  38  62

d.  Crime reports in your area

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014  36  64

e.  Contracts between government agencies and outside firms

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014  7  93

f.  Climate, weather or pollution levels

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014  38  62

g.  None of these

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014  34  66

www.pewresearch.org
For the next questions, think about all the DATA government agencies collect about things like the population, economy, schools, transportation, and pollution.

**RANDOMIZE Q17-Q21**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17-Q.21  Do you think government efforts to make the data it collects available to the public ... ?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes, does</th>
<th>No, does not</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17. Improve the quality of government services</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Allow citizens such as yourself to have more impact on public affairs</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Make government officials more accountable to the public</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Result in better decisions by government officials</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Allow journalists to cover government activities more thoroughly</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NO QUESTION 22**
### RANDOMIZE Q24-Q28

**ASK ALL:**

Q.24-Q.28  
How do you feel about the government providing information about... ?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Comfortable</th>
<th>Uncomfortable</th>
<th>No answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24. Information about real estate transactions online</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Information about criminal records of individual citizens online</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Information about the performance of individual teachers at local schools online</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Information about mortgages of individual homeowners online</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Information about the health and safety records of local restaurants online</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASK ALL:
Q.29 How much, if at all, do you think the data the government provides to the general public helps businesses create new products and services?

Nov 17-Dec 15

2014

9 A lot
41 Somewhat
27 Not much
7 Not at all
15 Don’t know
1 No answer

ASK IF SMARTPHONE OWNER (SMARTPHONE=1-6 OR SMARTPHONE_W8=1-6) [N=2,181]:
Q.31 Have you ever used any of these applications on your smartphone? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-E WITH ITEM F ALWAYS LAST] [Check all that apply]

Did not use application/

Used application

on smartphone No answer

a. Map apps that let you navigate through a city or neighborhood

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014 81 19

b. Apps to inform you about public transportation, for example, when a bus or train is coming to a place at which you are waiting
Of all the apps you use on your smartphone, how many do you permit to know your location?

Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014

2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All of them</th>
<th>Some of them</th>
<th>A few of them</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17-Dec 15, 2014</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RANDOMIZE Q33A to Q33C
ASK IF SMARTPHONE OWNER (SMARTPHONE=1-6 OR SMARTPHONE_W8=1-6) [N=2,181]:
Q.33 Does this statement describe your view, or not?

Describes my views | Does not describe my views | No answer
--- | --- | ---

a. Allowing apps to use my location is worth it because of the services I get from the apps
Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 47 | 51 | 2

b. Sharing my location with apps created from government data sources improves how government provides services.
Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 20 | 79 | 1

c. I usually read the ‘terms of service’ statements of location apps before I agree to allow my location data to be collected.
Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 35 | 63 | 1

ROTATE 34A, 34B, and 34C: FORM 1 ORDER IS 34A, 34B, and 34C; FORM 2 ORDER IS 34A, 34B, and 34C
ASK ALL:
Q.34 How much of the time do you think you can trust [INSERT ITEM] to do what is right?

Just | Only
--- | ---
about | always
Most of | the time
some of | the time
None of | the time
No | answer

a. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 3 | 21 | 56 | 19 | 2

b. YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 3 | 29 | 53 | 13 | 2

c. YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Nov 17-Dec 15 2014 | 4 | 36 | 46 | 12 | 2