

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
APRIL 2017 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
APRIL 5-11, 2017
N=1,501**

QUESTIONS 1-3, 19-20, 25-26, 30-31, 36 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 4-10, 14-18, 22-24, 27-29, 33-35, 38-40

QUESTIONS 11-13, 21, 32, 37 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Next,

Q.41 If you were making up the budget for the federal government this year, would you increase spending, decrease spending or keep spending the same for **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE, OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? What about for **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY, AT LEAST EVERY THIRD ITEM: Would you increase spending, decrease spending or keep spending the same for [ITEM]?**]

		<u>Increase spending</u>	<u>Decrease spending</u>	<u>Keep spending the same</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=746]:					
a.F1	Health care				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	50	18	29	3
	Feb 13-18, 2013	38	22	34	6
	Feb 2-7, 2011	41	24	30	5
	Jun 18-21, 2009	61	10	24	6
	February, 2002	69	4	24	3
	April, 2001	71	4	23	2
	May, 1997	57	7	34	2
	December, 1994	52	11	33	4
	August, 1990	74	6	18	2
	May, 1990	80	3	16	1
	May, 1987	72	3	23	2
b.F1	Anti-terrorism defenses in the U.S.				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	46	11	41	2
	Feb 13-18, 2013	32	19	45	3
	Feb 2-7, 2011	33	21	43	4
	Jun 18-21, 2009	35	17	41	7
	February, 2002	63	4	29	4
c.F1	Veterans benefits and services				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	75	3	21	2
	Feb 13-18, 2013	53	6	38	3
	Feb 2-7, 2011	51	6	40	3
	Jun 18-21, 2009	63	2	29	6
	April, 2001	58	3	34	5
d.F1	The State Department and American embassies				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	15	23	57	5
	Feb 13-18, 2013	14	34	46	6
	Jun 18-21, 2009	9	28	50	12
	April, 2001	11	26	55	8
e.F1	Social Security				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	46	6	45	3
	Feb 13-18, 2013	41	10	46	3

Q.41 CONTINUED...

		Increase spending	Decrease spending	Keep spending the same	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	Feb 2-7, 2011	41	12	43	3
	May, 1997	44	7	46	3
	December, 1994	46	7	45	2
	May, 1990	63	3	32	2
	May, 1987	64	3	31	2
f.F1	Rebuilding highways, bridges and roads				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	58	7	33	1
	Feb 13-18, 2013	38	17	43	2
	Feb 2-7, 2011	38	21	37	3
	May, 1990	54	5	40	1
g.F1	Economic assistance to needy people in the U.S.				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	45	21	33	1
	Feb 13-18, 2013	27	24	44	4
	Feb 2-7, 2011	42	20	34	3
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=755]:					
h.F2	Scientific research				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	48	12	38	2
	Feb 13-18, 2013	37	20	40	3
	Feb 2-7, 2011	36	23	37	4
	Jun 18-21, 2009	39	14	40	7
	April, 2001	41	10	46	3
	May, 1997	45	14	38	3
	December, 1994	37	15	44	4
	May, 1990	51	9	37	3
	May, 1987	45	9	42	4
i.F2	Military defense				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	46	20	32	1
	Feb 13-18, 2013	32	24	41	3
	Feb 2-7, 2011	31	30	36	3
	Jun 18-21, 2009	40	18	37	5
	February, 2002	60	5	31	4
	April, 2001	47	11	40	2
	May, 1997	21	30	46	3
	December, 1994	31	23	44	2
	August, 1990	23	43	31	3
	May, 1990	18	40	39	3
	May, 1987	24	29	44	3
j.F2	Government assistance for the unemployed				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	29	24	44	2
	Feb 13-18, 2013	24	32	41	3
	Feb 2-7, 2011	27	28	41	4
	Jun 18-21, 2009	44	15	36	6
	February, 2002	40	14	41	5
	May, 1997	20	33	44	3
	December, 1994	25	23	49	3
	February, 1989	26	14	57	3
	May, 1987	41	15	41	3
k.F2	Medicare				
	Apr 5-11, 2017	51	9	39	2
	Feb 13-18, 2013	36	15	46	3

Q.41 CONTINUED...

	<u>Increase spending</u>	<u>Decrease spending</u>	<u>Keep spending the same</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Feb 2-7, 2011	40	12	43	5
Jun 18-21, 2009	53	6	37	4
February, 2002	63	3	31	3
April, 2001	70	2	26	2
May, 1997	44	8	44	4
I.F2 Environmental protection				
Apr 5-11, 2017	46	19	34	1
Feb 13-18, 2013	33	22	43	3
Feb 2-7, 2011	36	26	36	3
Jun 18-21, 2009	43	16	34	6
February, 2002	43	9	45	3
April, 2001	48	9	40	3
May, 1997	46	14	38	2
December, 1994	40	17	40	3
May, 1990	71	3	24	2
May, 1987	59	4	34	3
m.F2 Economic assistance to needy people around the world				
Apr 5-11, 2017	29	31	38	2
Feb 13-18, 2013	21	48	28	3
Feb 2-7, 2011	21	45	29	4
Jun 18-21, 2009	26	34	33	7
n.F2 Education				
Apr 5-11, 2017	67	9	22	1
Feb 13-18, 2013	60	10	29	2
Feb 2-7, 2011	62	11	25	2
Jun 18-21, 2009	67	6	23	4
February, 2002	73	3	22	2
April, 2001	76	5	18	1

QUESTIONS 42-43 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 44-45, 51-54****QUESTIONS 46-50 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=755]:**

Q.55F2 If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?

	<u>Smaller government, fewer services</u>	<u>Bigger government, more services</u>	(VOL.) Depends	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Apr 5-11, 2017	45	48	2	4
Aug 23-Sep 2, 2016	50	41	4	5
Sep 22-27, 2015	53	38	3	6
Sep 2-9, 2014	50	42	3	5
Sep 4-8, 2013	51	40	2	7
Sep 12-16, 2012	51	40	4	6
Jan 4-8, 2012	52	39	2	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	48	41	2	8
Mar 8-14, 2011	50	42	3	5
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	42	3	5
Apr 1-5, 2010	50	39	4	8

Q.55F2 CONTINUED...

	Smaller government, fewer services	Bigger government, more services	(VOL.) Depends	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Feb 3-9, 2010	50	40	3	7
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	51	40	4	6
Mar 9-12, 2009	48	40	3	9
Late October 2008	42	43	4	11
November 2007	47	42	4	7
January 2007	45	43	4	8
<i>LA Times/Bloomberg</i> : January 2006	49	38	--	13
<i>LA Times</i> : January 2005	52	36	--	12
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : June 2004	50	46	--	4
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : November 2003	45	42	4	9
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : July 2003	48	40	5	7
<i>ABC</i> : November 2002 (<i>Likely voters</i>)	60	35	--	5
<i>Wash Post</i> : September 2002	54	39	--	7
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : July 2002	53	42	--	6
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : January 2002	54	41	--	5
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : January 2002	46	40	3	11
<i>LA Times</i> : November 2001	48	41	--	11
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 2001	48	39	3	11
<i>LA Times</i> : March 2001	59	29	--	12
<i>CBS</i> : January 2001	51	36	5	8
<i>CBS</i> : November 2000	54	31	5	10
<i>CBS</i> : October 2000	57	32	5	6
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : October 2000 (<i>RV</i>)	58	32	--	10
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : Early October 2000 (<i>RV</i>)	58	33	--	9
<i>LA Times</i> : September 2000 (<i>RV</i>)	59	26	--	15
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : July 2000	59	34	--	7
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : April 2000	56	38	--	7
<i>CBS</i> : September 1999	46	43	5	6
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : August 1998	59	35	--	6
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : August 1996	63	32	--	5
<i>LA Times</i> : April 1996	62	28	--	10
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : February 1996	61	30	4	5
<i>LA Times</i> : October 1995	68	23	--	9
<i>LA Times</i> : September 1995	62	27	--	11
<i>LA Times</i> : January 1995	63	27	--	10
<i>LA Times</i> : June 1993	60	29	--	11
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : February 1993	67	30	--	2
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : July 1992	55	38	--	7
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 1991	42	43	7	8
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : January 1989 ¹	41	48	4	7
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 1988 (<i>Likely voters</i>)	47	37	7	9
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : July 1988	49	45	--	6
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : May 1988	43	44	5	8
<i>ABC/Wash Post</i> : July 1984	49	43	--	7
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : March 1980	54	32	--	14
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : June 1978	53	36	--	11
<i>Wash Post</i> : January 1978	40	39	--	21
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : November 1976	42	45	--	13
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 1976 (<i>RV</i>)	49	37	--	14

¹. In 1989 and earlier, CBS/NYT question read, "In general, government grows bigger as it provides more services. If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing less services or a bigger government providing more services?"

Q.55F2 CONTINUED...

	Smaller government, fewer services	Bigger government, more services	(VOL.) Depends	(VOL.) DK/Ref
CBS/NYT: September 1976 (RV)	48	41	--	11
CBS/NYT: June 1976	42	43	--	15
CBS/NYT: May 1976	41	43	--	16
CBS/NYT: April 1976	40	44	--	16

QUESTIONS 56-57, 61-63, 65-67, 70, 82-84, 95-96 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 58-60, 64, 68-69, 73-79, 85-91, 93-94****QUESTIONS 71-72, 80-81, 92 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****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.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
Apr 5-11, 2017	24	31	42	2	1	*	17	20
Feb 7-12, 2017	23	34	37	3	1	2	15	18
Jan 4-9, 2017	25	28	41	4	*	1	18	19
Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016	24	33	35	5	1	3	15	16
Oct 20-25, 2016	26	33	36	3	*	2	15	17
Aug 23-Sep 2, 2016	27	32	33	5	*	3	11	16
Aug 9-16, 2016	27	32	35	2	1	2	13	16
Jun 15-26, 2016	24	33	37	4	1	2	16	16
Apr 12-19, 2016	25	32	37	3	1	2	16	17
Yearly Totals								
2016	25.4	32.0	36.5	3.4	.5	2.2	14.6	17.0
2015	23.7	30.4	40.1	3.6	.4	1.8	16.4	17.3
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

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
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	--	--	--	--	--

NO QUESTION 97**QUESTION 98 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTION 99**