

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
HOMEOWNERSHIP OMNIBUS SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
November 3-6, 2016 and November 17-20, 2016**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN .5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). COLUMNS/ROWS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.**

	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
U.S. adults	2,000	+/- 2.7% points
<i>Renters</i>	442	+/- 5.4% points

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.1 Which of the following do you think Americans need to be considered as part of the middle class? Do they need **[INSERT ITEM]** to be considered part of the middle class, or not? **[READ IN ORDER] [IF NECESSARY: Do they need [INSERT ITEM] to be considered part of the middle class, or not?]**

- a. To own a home

<u>Total</u>	
52	Yes, need
45	No, do not need
2	Not sure <b>(VOL.)</b>
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- b. A secure job

<u>Total</u>	
90	Yes, need
9	No, do not need
1	Not sure <b>(VOL.)</b>
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- c. A college education

<u>Total</u>	
27	Yes, need
70	No, do not need
3	Not sure <b>(VOL.)</b>
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- d. To be able to save money for the future

<u>Total</u>	
82	Yes, need
15	No, do not need
2	Not sure <b>(VOL.)</b>
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**PEW.1 CONTINUED ...****TREND:**

	<u>Yes, need</u>	<u>No, do not need</u>	<u>Not sure (VOL.)</u>	<u>DK/Ref (VOL.)</u>
a. To own a home				
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	52	45	2	1
Dec 8-13, 2015	41	57	1	1
Jul 16-26, 2012	45	53	1	2
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<i>Time/CNN/Yankelovich Clancy Shulman: December 17-22, 1991<sup>1</sup></i>	70	28	2	--
b. A secure job				
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	90	9	1	*
Dec 8-13, 2015	89	10	1	*
Jul 16-26, 2012	86	12	1	1
c. A college education				
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	27	70	3	*
Dec 8-13, 2015	30	69	1	*
Jul 16-26, 2012	37	61	1	1
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<i>Time/CNN/Yankelovich Clancy Shulman: December 17-22, 1991<sup>1</sup></i>	46	53	1	--
d. To be able to save money for the future				
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	82	15	2	1
Dec 8-13, 2015	86	12	1	1
<i>ABC News: Feb 26-Mar 2, 2010</i>	78	18	--	4

**NON-PEW CONTENT****ASK ALL:**

Now I have some questions about home ownership.

PEW.2 Some people say that buying a home is the best long-term investment in the United States. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?

<u>Total</u>	
39	Strongly agree
42	Somewhat agree
12	Somewhat disagree
4	Strongly disagree
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

<sup>1</sup> In December, 1991, this question was asked as a part of a different list of items, which included "homeownership," "Two or more cars," "A white collar job," "A college education" and "Stocks, bonds, or other investments." The items were asked in a similar order. "To own a home" was asked as "homeownership."

**PEW.2 CONTINUED ...****TREND:**

	Strongly <u>agree</u>	Somewhat <u>agree</u>	Somewhat <u>disagree</u>	Strongly <u>disagree</u>	DK/Ref <b>(VOL.)</b>
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	39	42	12	4	3
Mar 15-29, 2011	37	44	12	5	2
May 11-31, 2010	39	41	10	7	3
<i>CBS/New York Times: April 1-3, 1991</i>	49	35	9	4	3

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 Do you think home ownership is affordable for most young adults in their 20s and 30s these days, or not?

<u>Total</u>	
24	Yes, affordable
64	No, not affordable
10	Depends <b>(VOL.)</b>
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**TREND:**

	Yes, <u>affordable</u>	No, not <u>affordable</u>	Depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	DK/Ref <b>(VOL.)</b>
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	24	64	10	2
Mar 15-29, 2011	30	66	2	2

**ASK ALL:**

OWNRENT Do you own or rent your home [**IF AGE < 35:** or do you live in a dorm or live with your parents]?

<u>Total</u>	
56	Own
30	Rent
2	Live in a dorm
7	Live with parents
3	Other arrangement <b>(VOL.)</b>
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK RENTERS (OWNRENT=2) [n=442]:**

PEW.4 Do you rent more as a matter of choice—that is, you could buy a home, but choose to rent instead—OR more as a result of circumstances—that is, you cannot afford to own a home right now?

<u>Total</u>	
32	Rent as a matter of choice
65	Rent as a result of circumstances
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**TREND:**

	Matter of <u>choice</u>	Result of <u>circumstances</u>	DK/Ref <b>(VOL.)</b>
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	32	65	3
Mar 15-29, 2011	24	75	2

**ASK RENTERS (OWNRENT=2) [n=442]:**PEW.5 In the future, would you like to... **[READ AND ROTATE]?**

<u>Total</u>	
23	Continue to rent [OR]
72	Buy a house at some point
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**TREND:**

	<u>Continue to rent</u>	<u>Buy a house at some point</u>	<u>DK/Ref (VOL.)</u>
Nov 3-6 and 17-20, 2016	23	72	5
Mar 15-29, 2011	17	81	2

**ASK RENTERS (OWNRENT=2) [n=442]:**

PEW.6 Here are some reasons people may rent rather than own a home. For each, please tell me if this is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why you are currently renting your home. (First/How about) **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**. **[READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Is this a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason why you are currently renting your home?]**

- a. You can't afford a down payment

<u>Total</u>	
52	Major reason
19	Minor reason
28	Not a reason
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- b. You don't think you can qualify for a loan

<u>Total</u>	
38	Major reason
18	Minor reason
41	Not a reason
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- c. You want to pay down any debts you may have

<u>Total</u>	
42	Major reason
18	Minor reason
37	Not a reason
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- d. You don't want to be responsible for maintenance and repair

<u>Total</u>	
26	Major reason
21	Minor reason
51	Not a reason
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**PEW.6 CONTINUED ...**

- e. You like the flexibility of renting

<u>Total</u>	
31	Major reason
27	Minor reason
39	Not a reason
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- f. You can't afford the kind of home or neighborhood you would want

<u>Total</u>	
42	Major reason
21	Minor reason
35	Not a reason
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- g. You don't think a home is a good investment

<u>Total</u>	
11	Major reason
19	Minor reason
66	Not a reason
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

- h. You're waiting to get married or start a family

**BASED ON RENTERS WHO ARE UNMARRIED AND/OR DO NOT HAVE CHILDREN  
[n=380]:**

<u>Total</u>	
18	Major reason
15	Minor reason
64	Not a reason
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>