

PEW SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS
MAY 2010 ECONOMIC SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
MAY 11-MAY 31, 2010
TOTAL N=2,967

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN 0.5 % ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). COLUMNS/ROWS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL TRENDS REFERENCE SURVEYS FROM SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS.

OWNRENT Do you own or rent your home?

63	Own
31	Rent
6	Other arrangement (VOL.)
*	Don't know/refused (VOL.)

ASK IF HOMEOWNER (OWNRENT=1): [n=1,937]

Q29 And have you paid off all, more than half, about half or less than half of the money you owe on your home?

May 2010		Jan/Feb 2008
33	All	30
17	More than half	18
13	About half	10
35	Less than half	38
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4

ASK ALL:

Q30 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?

May 2010		CBS/New York Times April 1991
39	Strongly agree	49
41	Somewhat agree	35
10	Somewhat disagree	9
7	Strongly disagree	4
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3

ASK IF HOMEOWNER (OWNRENT=1): [n=1,937]

Q31 Since the recession began in December 2007, has the value of your home gone up, gone down, or stayed about the same? [IF GONE UP/DOWN: Has it gone (INSERT RESPONSE: up/down) a lot, or just a little?]

13	Gone up
4	Gone up a lot
8	Gone up a little
48	Gone down
22	Gone down a little
26	Gone down a lot
33	Stayed same
1	Bought home recently/Too soon to tell (VOL.)
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK THOSE WHO SAY GONE DOWN (Q31 = 3,4): [n=934]

Q32 Considering everything, how long do you think it will take for the value of your home to recover from the effects of the recession? Would you say it will take less than a year, one to two years, three to five years, six to ten years, or longer than ten years? (DO NOT NEED TO CONTINUE READING CATEGORIES IF R GIVES ANSWER)

10	Two years or less
1	Less than a year
8	One to two years
47	Three to five years
39	Six years or longer
29	Six to ten years
10	Longer than ten years
1	Never (VOL.)
*	Recession not over/depends on how long recession continues (VOL.)
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK HOMEOWNERS WITH A MORTGAGE (Q29=2-9): [n=1,307]

Q33a Now I'd like you to think about how much you could sell your home for today and how much you still owe on your home. Do you currently owe more on your home than you could sell it for today, or not?

21	Yes, owe more
73	No
1	No mortgage (VOL.)
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

No Q33b

ASK ALL:

Q33c As you may know, some people decide to stop repaying their home loan and 'walk away from their mortgage,' letting the bank or lending institution foreclose on their homes. Do you think it is acceptable or unacceptable for people to walk away from their mortgages?

19	Acceptable
59	Unacceptable
17	Depends on circumstances/sometimes (VOL.)
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)