

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
August 16-19, 2012 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,005

PEW.1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Next,

PEW.2 How would you rate the job Joe Biden has done as vice president? Has he done an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job as vice president?

Aug 16-19

2012

7	Excellent
20	Good
31	Only fair
25	Poor
17	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the presidential campaign...

PEW.3 How much, if anything, have you heard about Mitt Romney's choice of a vice presidential running mate? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all?

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

Aug 16-19		<i>McCain's choice</i>	<i>Obama's choice</i>
<u>2012</u>		Aug 29-31	Aug 22-25
		<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>
42	A lot	56	58
37	A little	30	35
20	Nothing at all	13	7
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	*

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 As you may have heard Mitt Romney has named Paul Ryan as his running mate. How would you rate Paul Ryan? Do you think he is an excellent, good, only fair, or poor choice?

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

Aug 16-19		<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Gore</i>
<u>2012</u>		July	July
		<u>2004</u>	<u>1992</u>
14	Excellent	16	15
14	Good	33	25
23	Only fair	22	22
22	Poor	9	5
26	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	20	33

NO QUESTIONS PEW.5-PEW.6

Next,

ASK ALL:

PEW.7 What is more important, taking steps to reduce the budget deficit or keeping Social Security and Medicare benefits as they are?

Aug 16-19 <u>2012</u>		Sep 22-Oct 4 <u>2011</u>	Jun 15-19 <u>2011</u>	Feb <u>1995</u>
33	Taking steps to reduce the budget deficit	35	32	24
51	Keeping Social Security and Medicare benefits as they are	58	60	70
11	Both equally (VOL.)	2	4	2
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	5	4

PEJ.1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PEW.8 As you may know, Medicare is the government program that provides health care to seniors and people with permanent disabilities. How much, if anything, have you heard about a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

Aug 16-19 <u>2012</u>		May 25-30 <u>2011</u>
30	A lot	20
42	A little	50
28	Nothing at all	28
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1

ASK ALL:

PEW.9 Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal? [**REPEAT PROPOSAL AS NEEDED:** Would you favor or oppose a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage?]

ASK IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE (PEW.9=1,2):

PEW.9a Would you say you [Favor/Oppose] this proposal strongly, or not so strongly?

Aug 16-19 <u>2012</u>		May 25-30 <u>2011</u>
32	Favor	36
19	Strongly	22
12	Not so strongly	13
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1
44	Oppose	41
29	Strongly	30
13	Not so strongly	10
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1
24	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	23

ASK IF HEARD A LOT/A LITTLE (PEW.8=1,2) [N=780]:

PEW.10 Do you happen to know who proposed this change to Medicare? [**OPEN END; DO NOT READ PRECODES. DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES**]

Aug 16-19 <u>2012</u>	
23	Paul Ryan
13	Mitt Romney
17	Barack Obama
3	Other
44	Don't know/Refused

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?

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>			
Aug 16-19, 2012	20	33	39	4	1	4	15	16