

FOR RELEASE JULY 29, 2015

Negative Views of Supreme Court at Record High, Driven by Republican Dissatisfaction

*68% of Conservative Republicans See
Court as Liberal*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

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Negative Views of Supreme Court at Record High, Driven by Republican Dissatisfaction

68% of Conservative Republicans See Court as Liberal

Following major, end-of-term rulings on the Affordable Care Act and same-sex marriage, unfavorable opinions of the Supreme Court have reached a 30-year high. And opinions about the court and its ideology have never been more politically divided.

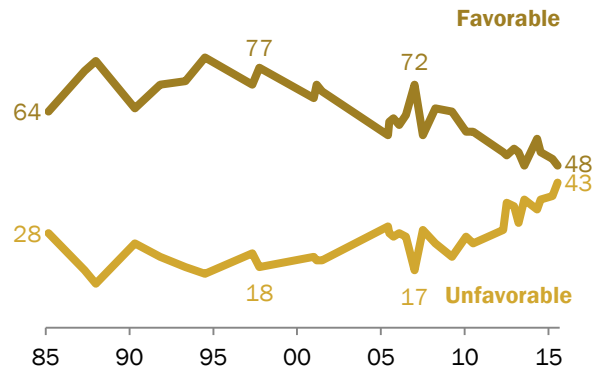
Currently, 48% of Americans have a favorable impression of the Supreme Court, while 43% view the court unfavorably. Unfavorable opinions of the court, while up only modestly since March (39%), are the highest recorded since 1985.

The latest national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted July 14-20 among 2,002 adults, finds that most of the increase in unfavorable views of the Supreme Court has come among Republicans.

Just 33% of Republicans have a favorable opinion of the court, while 61% have an unfavorable view. Since March, the share of Republicans viewing the court favorably has fallen 17 percentage points (from 50% to 33%), while the share with an unfavorable impression has jumped 21 percentage points (from 40% to 61%). Republicans' views of the Supreme Court are now more negative than at

Supreme Court's Image Declines

Overall opinion of the Supreme Court is ... (%)

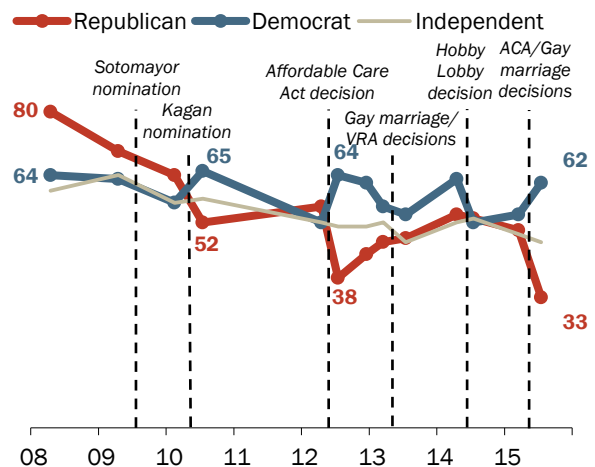


Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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After Momentous Term, Widening Partisan Gap in Views of the Court

% viewing Supreme Court favorably ...



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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any point in the past three decades.

In contrast, Democrats' views of the Supreme Court have become more positive since March, though the change has not been as dramatic. Currently, 62% of Democrats have a favorable impression of the court, up from 54% four months ago.

There also has been a major shift in how Americans, especially those at either end of the ideological spectrum, view the Supreme Court's ideology. The share of the public saying the current Supreme Court is liberal has doubled since March, driven by changing attitudes among Republicans, particularly conservative Republicans.

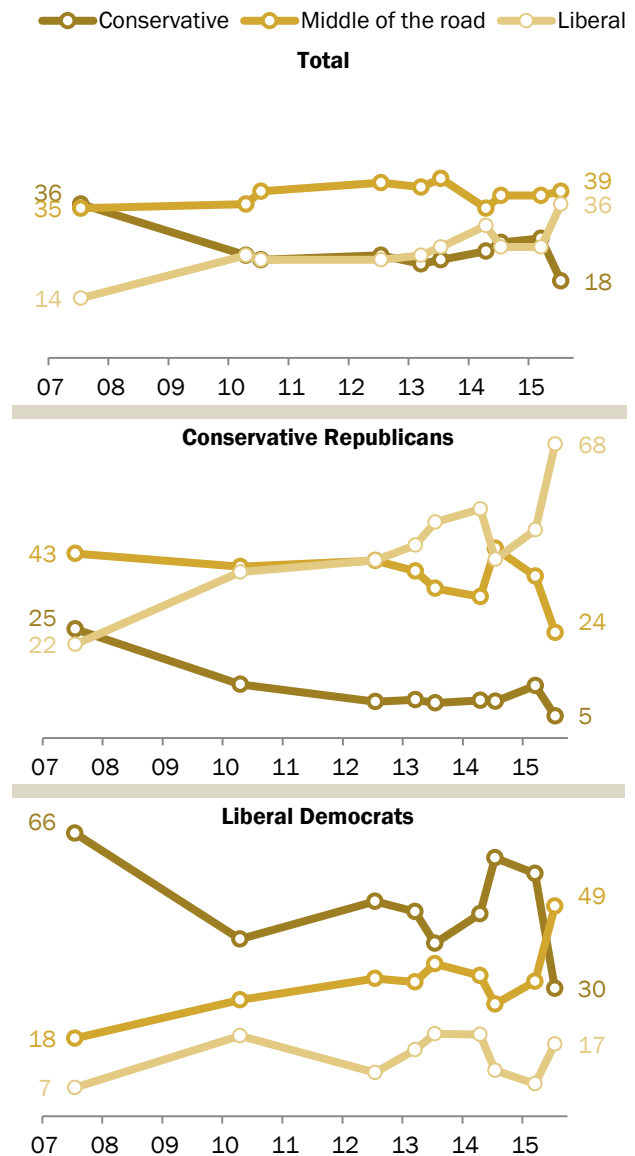
Overall, 39% of the public views the court as middle-of-the-road, 36% as liberal and 18% as conservative. The share saying the court is liberal has increased from 26% to 36% over the past few months and stands at its highest point in surveys dating to 2007. There has been a ten-point decline in the number saying the court is conservative (18% today, 28% in March), while the share saying it is middle-of-the-road is little changed (39% now, 38% then).

Currently, 68% of conservative Republicans say the current Supreme Court is liberal – up 20 points since March and by far the highest percentage since 2007. About a quarter of conservative Republicans (24%) say the court has a middle-of-the-road approach and 5% see it as conservative.

Liberal Democrats now generally view the current Supreme Court as middle-of-the-road; in March, most saw the court as conservative. Currently, 49% of liberal Democrats say it is middle-

Major Shift in Views of Court's Ideology

% saying the current Supreme Court is ...



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.

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of-the-road (up from 31% in March). Three-in-ten (30%) say it is conservative, down from 56% in March. And 17% say the court is liberal, about double the share who said this in March (8%).

Perceptions of the court's ideology have changed less among those closer to the middle of the ideological spectrum. Moderate and liberal Republicans' continue to be divided: 42% see the Supreme Court as middle-of-the-road; 40% say it is liberal and 13% say it is conservative. A plurality of conservative and moderate Democrats (43%) continue to say it is middle-of-the-road.

The change in independents' views of the Supreme Court's ideology mirrors the shift among the public: 41% say it is middle-of-the-road, little changed from 38% in March; 36% see it as liberal (up 11 points) and 18% say it is conservative (down 10 points). The share of Republican-leaning independents who say the court is liberal has risen from 38% to 54%. Just 23% of independents who lean toward the Democratic Party say the same, up a modest seven percentage points since March.

Other findings

Little Change in Views of Same-Sex Marriage, Affordable Care Act. In contrast to opinions about the Supreme Court, views on two issues that were the subject of its high-profile rulings – same-sex marriage and the 2010 health care law – have shown little change. Currently, 54% of Americans favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, while 39% are opposed. In [May](#), before the Court's ruling that made same-sex marriage legal nationwide, 57% favored and 39% opposed same-sex marriage. The public is divided over the 2010 health care law: 48% approve of the law and 49% disapprove. [In February](#), 45% approved of the health care law and 53% disapproved.

Few Think Supreme Court Justices Set Aside Their Political Views. Seven-in-ten Americans (70%) say that in deciding cases, the justices of the Supreme Court “are often influenced by their own political views.” Just 24% say they “generally put their political views aside” when deciding cases. The belief that justices are swayed by their own political views spans partisan and demographic groups. The survey also finds that a majority of the public (56%) says the court should consider the views of most Americans when deciding cases; 39% say they should not be influenced by public opinion.

Supreme Court Not Viewed as ‘Too Powerful.’ A majority (54%) says the Supreme Court has the right amount of power, while 36% think it has too much power; 7% say it has too little power. Republicans (45%) are more likely than Democrats (32%) or independents (33%) to view the court as too powerful.

Supreme Court Favorability

Partisanship, ideology and religious affiliation are all factors in views of the Supreme Court. In addition, supporters and opponents of same-sex marriage and the 2010 health care law have starkly different opinions about the Supreme Court.

By a 63% to 28% margin, those who favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally have a favorable opinion of the Supreme Court. By almost an identical margin (63% to 30%), those who oppose same-sex marriage have an unfavorable impression of the court. The association between views of the court and opinions on same-sex marriage is far stronger than in the past.

Opinions of the court among those who approve and disapprove of the 2010 health care law are similarly divided (61% of those who approve of the law have a favorable opinion of the court, compared with just 33% of those who disapprove). Supporters and opponents of the law were less divided last year, but were similarly split following the court's 2012 term, in which it ruled the law was constitutional.

Since March, the plunge in the Supreme Court's favorability among Republicans has largely come among conservatives. Just 27% of conservative Republicans have a favorable impression of the Supreme Court. Four months ago, nearly half (48%) did so. Among moderate and liberal Republicans, there has been a smaller, nine-point decline in positive views of the court (45% now, 54% then).

Views of the Supreme Court Strongly Linked to Opinions about SSM, ACA

Overall opinion of the Supreme Court is ...

	Favorable %	Unfavorable %	Other/Ref %
Total	48	43	9=100
Republican	33	61	6=100
Conserv	27	67	6=100
Mod/Liberal	45	48	7=100
Independent	47	42	11=100
Democrat	62	31	7=100
Conserv/Mod	57	36	7=100
Liberal	70	24	6=100
White evangelical	30	63	7=100
White mainline	51	39	10=100
Black Protestant	57	35	8=100
Catholic	48	43	9=100
White Catholic	46	48	6=100
Hispanic Catholic	51	37	12=100
Unaffiliated	57	33	10=100
<i>Same-sex marriage</i>			
Favor	63	28	9=100
Oppose	30	63	8=100
<i>2010 Health care law</i>			
Approve	61	32	7=100
Disapprove	33	58	9=100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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The court's more favorable image among Democrats is largely the result of changing views among the party's liberals. Seven-in-ten (70%) now have a favorable view of the Supreme Court, up 17 points since March. Opinions among conservative and moderate Democrats are largely unchanged (57% favorable now, 56% then).

By about a two-to-one margin (63% to 30%), white evangelical Protestants view the Supreme Court unfavorably. In March, opinion was divided: 49% viewed the court unfavorably, while 44% had a favorable opinion. Opinion of the Supreme Court among other religious groups has shown less change.

Views of Supreme Court's Power, Justices' Partisan Influences

Most Americans (54%) say that the Supreme Court has the right amount of power, while 36% say it is too powerful. Only about one-in-ten (7%) thinks the court has too little power.

Among partisan groups, conservative Republicans are most likely to view the court as too powerful. Nonetheless, nearly as many conservatives say the court has the right amount of power (43%) as say it has too much power (49%). Across other groups, half or more think the Supreme Court has the right amount of power.

Large majorities of those with post-graduate degrees (73%) and college graduates (69%) view the court's power as appropriate, as do 54% of those who have attended college but have not completed a degree. Adults with no more than a high school diploma are divided: 44% say the court has too much power, 42% think it has the right amount of power and 11% say it has too little power.

There is broad agreement among the public that in deciding cases, Supreme Court justices are often influenced by their own political views. Fully 70% express this view, compared with just 24%

Most Say Supreme Court Has 'Right Amount' of Power

How much power does Supreme Court have?

	Too much %	Too little %	Right amount %	Don't know %
Total	36	7	54	3=100
Post-grad	23	2	73	1=100
College grad	25	4	69	2=100
Some college	35	7	54	4=100
HS or less	44	11	42	4=100
Republican	45	7	46	2=100
Conserv	49	5	43	2=100
Mod/Liberal	36	12	51	1=100
Independent	33	8	55	3=100
Democrat	32	6	59	3=100
Conserv/Mod	40	6	52	3=100
Liberal	19	6	71	3=100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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who think that the justices generally put their own political views aside. Large majorities across most demographic and partisan groups say the justices are often influenced by their own political attitudes, though conservative Republicans (80%) are more likely to say this than are liberal Democrats (64%).

When it comes to the role that public opinion should play in the court's decisions, most Americans think that it should be a factor. A majority (56%) says that in deciding cases, the justices of the Supreme Court should consider what most Americans think. About four-in-ten (39%) say the justices should not be influenced by what most Americans think.

Education is a bigger factor than partisanship in opinions on this measure. Among those with a post-graduate degree, 60% say justices should not be influenced by what most Americans think when they make their decisions; just 35% of post-grads say public opinion should be a factor. Opinion is the almost the reverse among those with no more than a high school diploma: 64% say the justices should consider Americans' views, while 28% say they should not be a factor.

Highly Educated Adults Think Justices Should Not Be Swayed by Public Opinion

In deciding cases, Supreme Court justices should ...

	Consider what most Americans think	Not be influenced by what most Americans think	Other/ DK
	%	%	%
Total	56	39	6=100
18-29	65	31	4=100
30-49	53	42	5=100
50-64	54	40	6=100
65+	53	38	9=100
Post-grad	35	60	5=100
College grad	43	52	5=100
Some college	59	37	4=100
HS or less	64	28	8=100
Republican	56	39	5=100
Conserv	56	40	5=100
Mod/Liberal	56	39	5=100
Independent	51	44	5=100
Democrat	61	33	7=100
Conserv/Mod	68	26	6=100
Liberal	50	43	7=100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Views of Same-Sex Marriage, Health Care Law Following Court Decisions

Public opinion about the legalization of same-sex marriage and the 2010 health care law has changed little following the Supreme Court's decisions on those issues. Currently, 54% of Americans say they favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, with 39% opposed. In May, 57% favored legalizing same-sex marriage, while 39% opposed.

As was the case in May, more Americans strongly support same-sex marriage (28%), than strongly oppose it (18%).

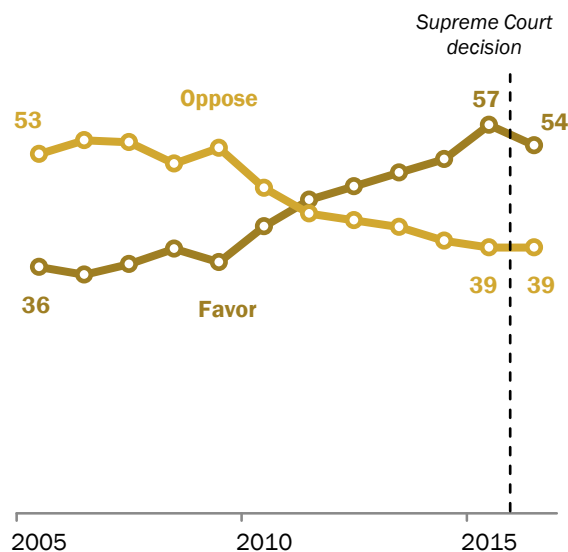
The demographic and partisan differences on same-sex marriage also largely mirror those seen in the May survey. (See the [“Detailed Tables”](#) in that report for a comprehensive look at opinion on this issue).

Same-sex marriage continues to draw strong support from young people. Nearly three-quarters (72%) of those under 30 favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, with 49% strongly favoring this; both are the highest percentages for any age group. In contrast, only 39% of Americans 65 and older say they are in favor, while 52% express opposition.

Conservative Republicans remain staunchly opposed to allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally. Fully 72% oppose same-sex marriage, with 37% strongly opposed. Liberal Democrats are overwhelmingly in favor of allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally; 85% express this view and two-thirds (67%) say they are strongly in favor.

Little Change in Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage

% who say they ___ allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015. Data for 2005-2014 based on merged Pew Research Center surveys conducted in each year. Don't know responses not shown.

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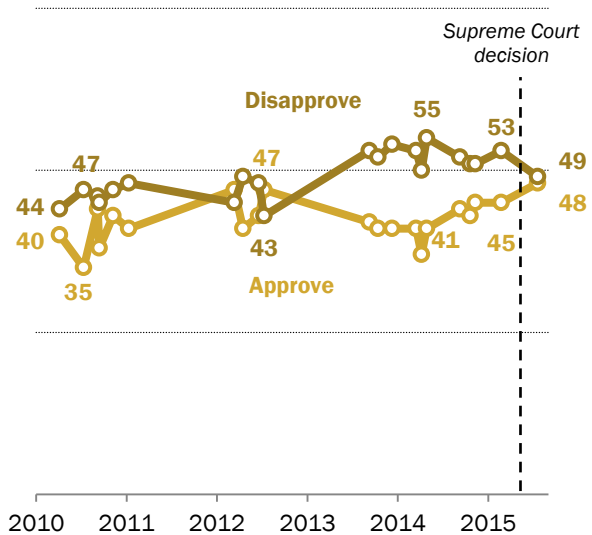
Opinions of the health care law remain divided after the Supreme Court upheld the federal government’s ability to provide insurance subsidies via federal exchanges. Roughly equal shares of Americans say they approve (48%) of the law as say they disapprove (49%).

Partisan differences remain stark over views of the Affordable Care Act. Compared to February, support among Republicans has ticked up slightly but eight-in-ten Republicans (81%) still disapprove of the law while only 18% approve of it. Democrats express approval of the law by a wide 77%-21% margin, little changed from February. Among independents 45% approve of the health care law, while 53% disapprove.

Public views of the law’s future have not changed significantly. About half of Americans (51%) say the law’s major provisions are probably here to stay, while 43% say they will probably be eliminated. That is almost identical to opinion in February.

Most Democrats (60%) think the law’s major elements are here to stay, while 37% say they are likely to be eliminated. Republicans, by a 53% to 42% margin, expect they will be eliminated. There has been little movement since February among both Democrats and Republicans in views of the law’s future.

Public Divided Over 2010 Health Care Law



Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.
Don't know responses not shown.

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ACA Remains Deeply Partisan; Public Divided Over Future of the Law

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
View of 2010 health care law	%	%	%	%
Approve	48	18	77	45
Disapprove	49	81	21	53
Don't know	3	2	2	2
	100	100	100	100
<i>Regardless of your view of ACA, its major provisions...</i>				
Are probably here to stay	51	42	60	49
Will probably be eliminated	43	53	37	43
Don't know	6	5	4	7
	100	100	100	100

Survey conducted July 14-20, 2015.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 14-20, 2015 among a national sample of 2,002 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (700 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,302 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 758 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the 2013 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2014 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	2,002	2.5 percentage points
Republican	462	5.2 percentage points
Democrat	643	4.4 percentage points
Independent	796	4.0 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Pew Research Center is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and a subsidiary of The Pew Charitable Trusts, its primary funder.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
JULY 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
JULY 14-20, 2015
N=2,002**

QUESTIONS 1-2, 9-10, 11a-b PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 3-8****ASK ALL:**

Q.11 Would you say your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS]** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [ITEM] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

	----- Favorable -----			---- Unfavorable ----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
c. The Supreme Court								
Jul 14-20, 2015	48	9	39	43	17	26	*	9
Mar 25-29, 2015	50	8	42	39	12	26	1	11
Jul 8-14, 2014	52	8	44	38	14	24	1	9
Apr 23-27, 2014	56	11	44	35	12	23	*	9
Jul 17-21, 2013	48	7	41	38	14	24	1	13
Mar 13-17, 2013	52	7	45	31	10	21	2	15
Dec 5-9, 2012	53	8	45	36	12	24	1	10
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	51	10	41	37	14	23	1	11
Apr 4-15, 2012	52	11	41	29	10	20	*	18
July 1-5, 2010	58	9	49	25	8	17	1	16
Feb 3-9, 2010	58	8	50	27	8	19	*	15
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	64	8	56	21	6	15	0	15
April, 2008	65	15	50	25	7	18	*	10
July, 2007	57	12	45	29	9	20	0	14
January, 2007	72	18	54	17	3	14	2	9
July, 2006	63	7	56	27	8	19	1	9
February, 2006	60	16	44	28	10	18	*	12
Late October, 2005	62	12	50	27	10	17	*	11
July, 2005	61	12	49	28	10	18	*	11
June, 2005	57	8	49	30	8	22	*	13
July, 2001	70	15	55	20	6	14	*	10
March, 2001	72	15	57	20	5	15	*	8
January, 2001	68	18	50	21	8	13	1	10
October, 1997	77	13	64	18	6	12	*	5
May, 1997	72	16	56	22	5	17	0	6
July, 1994	80	18	62	16	3	13	*	4
May, 1993	73	17	56	18	4	14	0	9
November, 1991	72	18	54	21	5	16	0	7
May, 1990	65	10	55	25	7	18	1	9
January, 1988	79	14	65	13	2	11	*	8
May, 1987	76	13	63	17	2	15	*	7
Roper: March 1985	64	17	47	28	7	21	--	8

ITEM d PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

Q.12 In your view, do you think the current Supreme Court is conservative, middle of the road, or liberal?

	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Middle of the road</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 14-20, 2015	18	39	36	6
Mar 25-29, 2015	28	38	26	8
Jul 8-14, 2014	27	38	26	8
Apr 23-27, 2014	25	35	31	8
Jul 17-21, 2013	23	42	26	9
Mar 13-17, 2013	22	40	24	14
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	41	23	12
Jul 1-5, 2010	23	39	23	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	24	36	24	16
July, 2007	36	35	14	15

ASK ALL:

Q.13 Thinking about how the Supreme Court justices decide cases. Which comes closer to your view — even if neither is exactly right? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE PAIRS AND RANDOMIZE STATEMENTS WITHIN EACH PAIR].** Next **[NEXT ITEM]. [IF NECESSARY, READ: Which comes closer to your view about how the Supreme Court justices decide cases?]**

a.	Jul 14-20, 2015	They should consider what most <u>Americans think</u> 56	They should not be influenced by what most <u>Americans think</u> 39	(VOL.) <u>Depends/Neither/ both equally</u> 3	(VOL.) <u>Don't know/ Refused</u> 3
b.	Jul 14-20, 2015	They are often influenced by their <u>own political views</u> 70	They generally put their political <u>views aside</u> 24	(VOL.) <u>Depends/Neither/ both equally</u> 2	(VOL.) <u>Don't know/ Refused</u> 4

ASK ALL:

Q.14 Do you think the U.S. Supreme Court has **[RANDOMIZE: too much power, too little power]** or the right amount of power?

Jul 14-20 <u>2015</u>	36	Too much power
	7	Too little power
	54	Right amount of power
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS 15-20, 21a, 22-24, 26-33, 39-44

QUESTIONS 21b, 25, 47F1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 21c, 34-38, 45-46 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK FORM 2 [N=1,026]:

Next,

Q.48F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the health care law passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 14-20, 2015	48	49	3
Feb 18-22, 2015	45	53	3
Nov 6-9, 2014	45	51	4
Oct 15-20, 2014	43	51	5

Q.48F2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Sep 2-9, 2014	44	52	4
Apr 23-27, 2014	41	55	4
Apr 3-6, 2014 (U)	37	50	12
Feb 27-Mar 16, 2014	41	53	5
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	41	54	5
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	52	7
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	42	53	5
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012 ¹	47	43	9
Jun 7-17, 2012	43	48	9
Apr 4-15, 2012	41	49	10
Mar 7-11, 2012	47	45	8
Jan 5-9, 2011	41	48	11
Nov 4-7, 2010	43	47	10
Sep 9-12, 2010	38	45	17
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	44	46	10
Jul 8-11, 2010	35	47	17
Apr 1-5, 2010	40	44	16

ASK ALL:

Q.49 Regardless of your opinion of the health care law, do you think the major provisions of the law are probably here to stay, or do you think they will probably be eliminated? **[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: If necessary, probe to clarify that this is what respondent *thinks* will happen, not what they *want* to see happen]**

**BASED ON
FORM 2 [N=1,026]²:**

<u>Jul 14-20</u> <u>2015</u>		<u>Feb 18-22</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>Apr 23-27</u> <u>2014</u> (U)
51	Probably here to stay	50	49
43	Will probably be eliminated	45	43
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	8

ASK ALL:

Next,

Q.50 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

	-----Favor-----			-----Oppose-----			(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Strongly</u> <u>favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Strongly</u> <u>oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 14-20, 2015	54	28	26	39	18	20	7
May 12-18, 2015	57	28	28	39	21	18	5
Sep 2-9, 2014	49	24	25	41	20	22	10
Feb 12-26, 2014	54	24	30	39	19	20	7
May 1-5, 2013 ³	51	21	30	42	19	22	8
Mar 13-17, 2013	49	22	27	44	22	21	8
Oct 24-28, 2012	49	22	27	40	19	21	11
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	48	23	25	44	24	20	8

¹ Prior to September 2013, the question asked about "the health care legislation." In addition, the reference to when the law was passed has changed over time: January 2011 referenced the legislation passed "last year," November 2010 used "earlier this year," September through July, 2010 used "in March," and April 2010 used "last month."

² Due to a significant order effect, results are shown for Q.49 based only on those respondents who were asked Q.48F2.

³ In May 1-5, 2013, Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012, Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011, July 21-Aug 5, 2010, Aug 11-17, 2009, August 2008, August 2007, Early January 2007, Early November 2006, March 2006, July 2005, December 2004, Early February 2004, November 2003, Mid-July 2003, March 2001 and June 1996 the question was asked as part of a list of items. In Jun 7-17, 2012, Apr 4-15, 2012, August 2009, April 2009, May 2008 and June 2008, the question read "allowing gay and lesbian couples;" all other instances read "allowing gays and lesbians."

Q.50 CONTINUED...

	-----Favor-----			-----Oppose-----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	<u>Total</u>	<u>favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	
Jun 7-17, 2012	48	23	25	44	23	21	9
Apr 4-15, 2012	47	22	25	43	22	21	11
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	--	--	44	--	--	9
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	45	20	25	46	25	21	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	16	27	47	26	22	10
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	41	17	24	48	24	24	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	39	14	25	53	31	22	8
Mid-April, 2009	35	14	21	54	31	23	11
August, 2008	39	13	26	52	30	22	9
June, 2008	40	15	25	52	31	21	8
Late May, 2008	38	15	23	49	29	20	13
November, 2007	36	12	24	54	29	25	10
August, 2007	36	13	23	55	31	24	9
Early January, 2007	37	13	24	55	33	22	8
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	10	20	57	31	26	13
July, 2006	35	12	23	56	31	25	9
June, 2006	33	13	20	55	32	23	12
March, 2006	39	10	29	51	28	23	10
July, 2005	36	13	23	53	31	22	11
December, 2004	32	14	18	61	38	23	7
August, 2004	29	8	21	60	35	25	11
July, 2004	32	10	22	56	33	23	12
Mid-March, 2004	32	10	22	59	35	24	9
Early February, 2004	30	9	21	63	42	21	7
November, 2003	30	10	20	62	41	21	8
October, 2003	30	9	21	58	33	25	12
Mid-July, 2003	38	10	28	53	30	23	9
March, 2001	35	8	27	57	34	23	8
June, 1996	27	6	21	65	41	24	8

NO QUESTIONS 51-53, 57a, 60, 66-74, 78-80

QUESTIONS 54-56, 57b-e, 58-59, 81-84 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 61-65, 75-77 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
				No <u>preference</u>	Other <u>party</u>	DK/Ref		
Jul 14-20, 2015	22	32	41	4	*	1	15	19
May 12-18, 2015	24	32	38	3	1	2	15	18
Mar 25-29, 2015	25	30	39	4	*	2	15	17
Feb 18-22, 2015	24	31	38	4	1	1	18	17
Jan 7-11, 2015	21	30	44	3	1	1	19	18
Dec 3-7, 2014	24	31	39	3	1	2	17	17
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	32	36	2	*	1	15	16
Oct 15-20, 2014	24	33	38	4	*	1	13	17
Sep 2-9, 2014	24	33	38	3	1	2	15	15
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	31	37	4	1	4	15	16
Jul 8-14, 2014	25	34	37	2	1	1	16	15
Yearly Totals								
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

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

ASK ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/DK
Jul 14-20, 2015	15	27	55	2	1	--
Jan 7-11, 2015	17	27	52	2	1	--
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	18	28	51	1	2	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	19	32	46	2	2	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	18	25	52	4	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	22	29	46	2	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	17	20	56	3	4	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	19	26	52	2	1	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	18	29	50	2	1	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	19	29	47	1	3	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	19	25	52	2	2	--
Sep 12-16, 2012	18	26	53	2	2	--
Jul 16-26, 2012	16	27	54	2	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	19	27	49	3	2	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	21	25	52	2	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	16	25	54	2	3	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	20	26	50	3	2	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	19	29	48	2	2	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	18	25	53	2	2	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	20	24	52	2	2	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	18	25	52	2	3	--

TEAPARTY2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	(VOL.) No opinion either way	Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	<i>Not heard of/ DK</i>
Dec 7-11, 2011	19	27	50	2	2	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	20	27	51	1	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	19	27	51	2	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	20	27	50	1	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	24	53	1	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	20	26	50	3	2	--
May 25-30, 2011	18	23	54	2	2	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ⁴	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls

⁴ In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May 2010 through October 2010, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."