

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
JANUARY 2016 RELIGION AND POLITICS SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
JANUARY 7-14, 2016
N=2,009**

RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2F2/Q.3F1**ASK ALL:**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

	Approve	Dis- approve	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Approve	Dis- approve	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 7-14, 2016	46	48	6	Nov 9-14, 2011	46	46	8
Dec 8-13, 2015	46	49	4	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9
Sep 22-27, 2015	46	48	5	Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7
Jul 14-20, 2015	48	45	7	Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8
May 12-18, 2015	46	48	6	Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8
Mar 25-29, 2015	46	47	7	May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10
Feb 18-22, 2015	48	46	5	May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11
Jan 7-11, 2015	47	48	5	May 2, 2011 (WP)	56	38	6
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	42	51	6	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8
Nov 6-9, 2014	43	52	5	Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10
Oct 15-20, 2014	43	51	6	Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9
Sep 2-9, 2014	42	50	8	Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	42	50	8	Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13
Jul 8-14, 2014	44	49	6	Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	44	50	7	Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9
Feb 27-Mar 16, 2014	44	49	7	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9
Feb 14-23, 2014	44	48	8	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	43	49	8	Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	45	49	6	Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	41	53	6	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Oct 9-13, 2013	43	51	6	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	44	49	8	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
Jul 17-21, 2013	46	46	7	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
Jun 12-16, 2013	49	43	7	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
May 1-5, 2013	51	43	6	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Mar 13-17, 2013	47	46	8	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	51	41	7	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Jan 9-13, 2013	52	40	7	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	39	6	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	50	43	7	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Jun 7-17, 2012	47	45	8	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	46	42	11	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Apr 4-15, 2012	46	45	9	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Mar 7-11, 2012	50	41	9	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Feb 8-12, 2012	47	43	10	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Jan 11-16, 2012	44	48	8	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Dec 7-11, 2011	46	43	11	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

See past presidents' approval trends: [George W. Bush](#), [Bill Clinton](#)

RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2F2
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,012]:

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?
 Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009 25 67 7

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 7-14, 2016	25	70	5				
Dec 8-13, 2015	25	72	3				
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	27	67	5	Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7
Sep 22-27, 2015	27	69	4	Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7
Jul 14-20, 2015	31	64	4	Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7
May 12-18, 2015	29	67	4	Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6
Mar 25-29, 2015	31	64	5	Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5
Feb 18-22, 2015	33	62	5	Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8
Jan 7-11, 2015	31	66	4	Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	26	71	3	Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	68	4	December, 2008	13	83	4
Oct 15-20, 2014	29	65	6	Early October, 2008	11	86	3
Sep 2-9, 2014	25	71	4	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	72	4	August, 2008	21	74	5
Jul 8-14, 2014	29	68	4	July, 2008	19	74	7
Apr 23-27, 2014	29	65	6	June, 2008	19	76	5
Feb 12-26, 2014	28	66	6	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
Jan 15-19, 2014	26	69	5	March, 2008	22	72	6
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	21	75	3	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Oct 9-13, 2013	14	81	5	Late December, 2007	27	66	7
Jul 17-21, 2013	27	67	6	October, 2007	28	66	6
May 1-5, 2013	30	65	5	February, 2007	30	61	9
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	31	64	5	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	Early January, 2007	30	63	7
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	December, 2006	28	65	7
Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
Oct 18-21, 2012	32	61	8	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5	July, 2006	30	65	5
Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5	May, 2006*	29	65	6
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7	March, 2006	32	63	5
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6	January, 2006	34	61	5
Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	July, 2005	35	58	7
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	February, 2005	38	56	6
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	January, 2005	40	54	6
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	December, 2004	39	54	7
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	July, 2004	38	55	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	May, 2004	33	61	6
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	December, 2003	44	47	9
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	October, 2003	38	56	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	August, 2003	40	53	7
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	January, 2003	44	50	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	November, 2002	41	48	11
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	September, 2002	41	55	4
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6				
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4				
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7				

¹ In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

March, 2002 50 40 10

Q.2 CONTINUED

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Late September, 2001	57	34	9	January, 1997	38	58	4
Early September, 2001	41	53	6	July, 1996	29	67	4
June, 2001	43	52	5	March, 1996	28	70	2
March, 2001	47	45	8	October, 1995	23	73	4
February, 2001	46	43	11	June, 1995	25	73	2
January, 2001	55	41	4	April, 1995	23	74	3
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7	July, 1994	24	73	3
September, 2000	51	41	8	March, 1994	24	71	5
June, 2000	47	45	8	October, 1993	22	73	5
April, 2000	48	43	9	September, 1993	20	75	5
August, 1999	56	39	5	May, 1993	22	71	7
January, 1999	53	41	6	January, 1993	39	50	11
November, 1998	46	44	10	January, 1992	28	68	4
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	November, 1991	34	61	5
Late August, 1998	55	41	4	<i>Gallup</i> : Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
Early August, 1998	50	44	6	August, 1990	47	48	5
February, 1998	59	37	4	May, 1990	41	54	5
January, 1998	46	50	4	January, 1989	45	50	5
September, 1997	45	49	6	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5
August, 1997	49	46	5				

RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.3F1**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=997]:**

Q.3F1 Looking ahead, so far as you are concerned, do you think that 2016 will be better or worse than 2015?

	Better	Worse	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 7-14, 2016	56	30	14
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	49	42	9
Jan 15-19, 2014	56	35	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	36	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	57	29	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	55	31	14
Jan 6-10, 2010	67	26	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	52	37	11
December, 2007	50	34	16
December, 2006	57	28	15
December, 1999	66	19	15
December, 1998	59	25	16
December, 1994	59	28	13
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1993	64	20	16
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1992	61	11	28
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1991	61	31	8
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1990	48	42	10
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1986	53	25	22
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1985	64	20	17
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1984	61	20	19
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1982	50	32	18
<i>Gallup</i> :December, 1981	41	44	15

NO QUESTIONS 4-7

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=997]:

Q.8F1 In the long run, do you think Barack Obama will be a successful or unsuccessful president, or do you think it is too early to tell?

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Too early to tell</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama				
Jan 7-14, 2016	37	34	26	3
Jan 7-11, 2015	32	38	29	2
Jan 15-19, 2014	28	34	35	3
Jun 12-16, 2013	34	31	33	2
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	26	39	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	27	32	39	2
Jan 5-9, 2011	25	26	47	2
Jan 6-10, 2010	24	21	52	3
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	27	18	54	2
Jan 7-11, 2009	30	4	65	1
Bush				
January, 2007	24	45	27	4
January, 2006	27	37	32	4
Early October, 2005	26	41	30	3
January, 2005	36	27	35	2
December, 2003	39	20	38	3
Early October, 2002	40	15	44	1
January, 2001	26	15	58	1
Clinton				
January, 1999	44	24	29	3
Early September, 1998	38	24	35	3
February, 1995	18	34	43	5
October, 1994	14	35	48	3
May, 1994	21	26	52	1
January, 1994	21	19	57	3
October, 1993	18	25	56	1
September, 1993	22	22	54	2
August, 1993	13	25	60	2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,012]:

Q.9F2 In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Obama Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

	<u>Accomplishments will outweigh failures</u>	<u>Failures will outweigh accomplishments</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama			
Jan 7-14, 2016	39	51	10
Jan 7-11, 2015	44	50	7
Jan 15-19, 2014	39	47	14
Jan 9-13, 2013	46	39	15
Jan 11-16, 2012	43	44	12
Bush			
December, 2008	24	64	12
January, 2008	28	59	13
January, 2007	31	53	16
January, 2004	49	36	15
Clinton			
January, 2001	60	27	13
January, 2000	51	37	12
August, 1999	56	38	6
January, 1999	50	34	16
Early September, 1998	52	35	13

Q.9F2 CONTINUED...

	Accomplishments will <u>outweigh failures</u>	Failures will outweigh <u>accomplishments</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Reagan			
<i>Newsweek</i> : May 1987	46	41	13
<i>Newsweek</i> Feb 1987	52	38	10

NO QUESTIONS 10-18**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=997]:**

Q.19F1 How much do you think that Barack Obama will be able to accomplish in the remaining year of his presidency? Do you think he will be able to accomplish a great deal of what he would like to do over the next year, some of it, not much, or do you think he will not be able to accomplish anything at all?

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

		<i>LA Times/Bloomberg:</i>		<i>ABC News/Washington Post:</i>	
		<i>George W. Bush</i>		<i>Reagan administration</i>	
Jan 7-14 <u>2016</u>		Nov 6-9 <u>2014</u>	Dec <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>1987²</u>	
11	A great deal	6	4	7	
40	Some	33	37	46	
28	Not much	38	41	37	
18	Nothing at all	21	16	8	
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	1	1	

QUESTIONS 20-22 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 23-24, 29-30, 33, 39-42****QUESTIONS 25-28, 31-32, 34-38 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

On another subject,

Q.43 I'd like to ask you about priorities for President Obama and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think each should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important or should it not be done. (First,) should **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? What about... **[INSERT ITEM]?** **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY TO BE SURE RESPONDENT UNDERSTANDS SCALE: should this be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?]**

<u>SUMMARY TABLE</u>		Top <u>priority</u>	Important but lower <u>priority</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Should not <u>be done</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
o.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy	75	22	2	1	1
g.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks	75	20	4	1	1
p.F2	Improving the educational system	66	26	4	3	1
a.F1	Improving the job situation	64	29	5	1	1
q.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	62	31	5	1	1
f.F1	Reducing health care costs	61	29	5	4	1
u.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	58	34	5	2	1
c.F1	Reducing crime	58	33	6	2	1
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit	56	33	6	2	3
r.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	54	36	8	1	1
m.F2	Dealing with the issue of immigration	51	35	10	3	1
t.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military	49	29	14	7	1

² In January 1987, question was worded: "In general, how much do you think the Reagan administration will accomplish between now and the end of its term: a great deal, some, not much or nothing at all?"

Q.43 SUMMARY TABLE CONTINUED...

		Top	Important	Not too	Should not	(VOL.)
		priority	but lower	important	be done	DK/Ref
<u>SUMMARY TABLE</u>			priority			
e.F1	Protecting the environment	47	40	9	3	1
n.F2	Reforming the nation's tax system	45	39	10	2	4
s.F2	Reforming the criminal justice system	44	37	14	2	2
j.F1	Dealing with global climate change	38	32	17	10	2
i.F1	Dealing with gun policy	37	27	16	17	3
h.F1	Dealing with global trade issues	31	49	13	3	4

FULL TREND:

		Top	Important	Not too	Should not	(VOL.)
		priority	but lower	important	be done	DK/Ref
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=997]:			priority			
a.F1	Improving the job situation					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	64	29	5	1	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	67	28	3	1	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	74	21	1	2	1
	Jan 9-13, 2013	79	16	2	3	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	82	14	1	2	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	84	13	*	1	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	81	15	1	1	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	82	15	1	1	1
	January, 2008	61	31	4	2	2
	January, 2007	57	30	10	1	2
	January, 2006	65	28	4	1	2
	January, 2005	68	28	2	1	1
	January, 2004	67	28	3	1	1
	January, 2003	62	32	4	1	1
	January, 2002	67	27	4	1	1
	January, 2001	60	30	6	2	2
	January, 2000	41	35	16	4	4
	July, 1999	54	30	10	3	3
	January, 1999	50	34	10	2	4
	January, 1998	54	32	10	3	1
	January, 1997	66	26	5	2	1
	December, 1994	64	27	5	2	2
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	56	33	6	2	3
	Jan 7-11, 2015	64	28	4	1	3
	Jan 15-19, 2014	63	27	5	1	4
	Jan 9-13, 2013	72	20	3	2	3
	Jan 11-16, 2012	69	21	5	2	3
	Jan 5-9, 2011	64	27	3	2	4
	Jan 6-10, 2010	60	29	5	2	4
	Jan 7-11, 2009	53	33	7	2	4
	January, 2008	58	33	5	1	3
	January, 2007	53	34	7	2	4
	January, 2006	55	35	5	1	4
	January, 2005	56	34	5	2	3
	January, 2004	51	38	6	3	2
	January, 2003	40	44	11	2	3
	January, 2002	35	44	13	3	5
	January, 1997	60	30	5	2	3
	December, 1994	65	26	5	1	3
TREND FOR COMPARISON:						
<i>Paying off the national debt</i>						
	January, 2001	54	32	8	2	4

Q.43 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	January, 2000	44	38	11	3	4
	July, 1999	45	41	10	2	2
	January, 1999	42	43	10	1	4
	January, 1998	46	40	9	3	2
c.F1	Reducing crime					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	58	33	6	2	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	57	32	8	2	2
	Jan 15-19, 2014	55	35	7	2	1
	Jan 9-13, 2013	55	33	9	2	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	48	37	11	2	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	44	43	10	2	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	39	8	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	46	41	9	2	2
	January, 2008	54	36	7	1	2
	January, 2007	62	31	5	1	1
	January, 2006	62	29	6	1	2
	January, 2005	53	39	5	2	1
	January, 2004	53	34	9	2	2
	January, 2003	47	42	8	2	2
	January, 2002	53	39	6	*	2
	January, 2001	76	19	3	2	*
	January, 2000	69	24	4	1	2
	July, 1999	76	20	2	1	1
	January, 1999	70	24	3	1	2
	January, 1998	71	25	2	1	1
	January, 1997	70	25	3	2	*
	December, 1994	78	17	2	1	2
NO ITEM d						
e.F1	Protecting the environment					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	47	40	9	3	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	51	37	9	2	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	49	40	7	3	1
	Jan 9-13, 2013	52	33	10	3	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	43	39	15	3	*
	Jan 5-9, 2011	40	44	12	3	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	44	42	11	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	41	42	12	3	2
	January, 2008	56	34	8	1	1
	January, 2007	57	32	9	1	1
	January, 2006	57	35	6	1	1
	January, 2005	49	42	8	1	*
	January, 2004	49	40	10	1	*
	January, 2003	39	50	9	1	1
	January, 2002	44	42	12	1	1
	January, 2001	63	30	3	3	1
	January, 2000	54	37	6	2	1
	July, 1999	59	32	7	1	1
	January, 1999	52	39	7	1	1
	January, 1998	53	37	8	1	1
	January, 1997	54	35	8	2	1
f.F1	Reducing health care costs					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	61	29	5	4	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	64	26	4	5	1

Q.43 CONTINUED...

	Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 15-19, 2014	59	31	4	6	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	63	26	4	5	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	60	30	4	5	1
Jan 5-9, 2011	61	28	4	4	2
Jan 6-10, 2010	57	31	5	4	2
Jan 7-11, 2009	59	30	5	4	2
January, 2008	69	24	3	3	1
January, 2007	68	24	4	3	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>					
January, 2006	60	28	6	3	3
January, 2005	54	33	7	4	2
January, 2004	50	35	8	4	3
January, 2003	48	38	7	3	4
January, 2002	50	37	7	4	2
Early September, 2001	54	34	5	5	2
January, 2001	66	22	4	5	3
January, 2000	56	30	7	3	4
July, 1999	57	29	7	4	3
g.F1 Defending the country from future terrorist attacks					
Jan 7-14, 2016	75	20	4	1	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	76	19	4	1	*
Jan 15-19, 2014	73	23	3	1	*
Jan 9-13, 2013	71	22	5	1	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	69	25	5	1	*
Jan 5-9, 2011	73	22	3	1	1
Jan 6-10, 2010	80	17	2	*	1
Jan 7-11, 2009	76	18	3	1	2
January, 2008	74	22	2	*	2
January, 2007	80	16	2	1	1
January, 2006	80	18	1	*	1
January, 2005	75	21	2	1	1
January, 2004	78	18	2	1	1
January, 2003	81	16	2	1	0
January, 2002	83	15	1	*	1
h.F1 Dealing with global trade issues					
Jan 7-14, 2016	31	49	13	3	4
Jan 7-11, 2015	30	50	12	3	4
Jan 15-19, 2014	28	50	15	3	5
Jan 9-13, 2013	31	47	15	2	6
Jan 11-16, 2012	38	40	14	4	4
Jan 5-9, 2011	34	44	13	3	5
Jan 6-10, 2010	32	46	12	4	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	31	49	11	2	7
January, 2008	37	45	11	2	5
January, 2007	34	46	12	2	6
January, 2006	30	46	11	5	8
January, 2005	32	47	13	2	6
January, 2004	32	47	14	3	4
January, 2002	25	55	13	2	5
January, 2001	37	46	8	3	6
January, 2000	30	48	14	1	7

Q.43 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
i.F1	Dealing with gun policy Jan 7-14, 2016	37	27	16	17	3
j.F1	Dealing with global climate change Jan 7-14, 2016	38	32	17	10	2
	Jan 7-11, 2015	34	33	17	13	3
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: <i>Dealing with global warming</i>					
	Jan 7-11, 2015	38	29	17	14	2
	Jan 15-19, 2014	29	31	20	15	5
	Jan 9-13, 2013	28	36	18	14	4
	Jan 11-16, 2012	25	35	20	16	4
	Jan 5-9, 2011	26	35	21	14	4
	Jan 6-10, 2010	28	36	20	14	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	30	37	19	10	4
	January, 2008	35	38	15	7	5
	January, 2007	38	34	16	8	4
NO ITEMS k, l						
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,012]:						
m.F2	Dealing with the issue of immigration Jan 7-14, 2016	51	35	10	3	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	52	34	8	4	2
	Jan 15-19, 2014	40	40	14	5	2
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: <i>Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration</i>					
	Jan 15-19, 2014	41	36	16	4	3
	Jan 9-13, 2013	39	40	13	4	3
	Jan 11-16, 2012	39	38	17	4	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	46	38	12	3	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	40	41	14	2	3
	Jan 7-11, 2009	41	36	18	3	2
	January, 2008	51	32	11	3	3
	January, 2007	55	29	11	3	2
n.F2	Reforming the nation's tax system Jan 7-14, 2016	45	39	10	2	4
	Jan 7-11, 2015	48	37	9	3	3
	Jan 15-19, 2014	55	33	6	2	4
	Jan 9-13, 2013	52	32	7	3	6
o.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy Jan 7-14, 2016	75	22	2	1	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	75	22	1	1	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	80	15	2	2	1
	Jan 9-13, 2013	86	11	1	1	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	86	11	1	1	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	87	11	1	1	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	83	14	1	1	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	85	12	*	1	1
	January, 2008	75	20	2	1	2
	January, 2007	68	25	4	2	1
	January, 2006	66	26	5	1	2
	January, 2005	75	22	2	*	1
	January, 2004	79	16	2	1	2
	January, 2003	73	23	2	1	1

Q.43 CONTINUED...

	Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January, 2002	71	26	2	*	1
Early September, 2001 ³	80	18	1	*	1
January, 2001	81	15	2	1	1
January, 2000	70	25	3	1	1
p.F2 Improving the educational system					
Jan 7-14, 2016	66	26	4	3	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	67	27	3	3	1
Jan 15-19, 2014	69	24	3	2	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	70	22	4	2	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	65	27	4	3	1
Jan 5-9, 2011	66	26	5	2	1
Jan 6-10, 2010	65	28	4	2	1
Jan 7-11, 2009	61	30	5	2	2
January, 2008	66	26	4	2	2
January, 2007	69	25	4	1	1
January, 2006	67	26	4	2	1
January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1
Mid-January, 2004	71	23	4	1	1
January, 2003	62	31	4	1	2
January, 2002	66	27	4	1	2
Early September, 2001	76	19	3	1	1
January, 2001	78	17	1	3	1
January, 2000	77	18	3	1	1
July, 1999	74	19	4	1	2
January, 1999	74	22	2	1	1
January, 1998	78	17	3	2	*
January, 1997	75	20	3	2	*
q.F2 Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound					
Jan 7-14, 2016	62	31	5	1	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	66	27	4	1	1
Jan 15-19, 2014	66	28	4	1	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	70	24	2	1	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	68	26	2	2	1
Jan 5-9, 2011	66	26	4	1	2
Jan 6-10, 2010	66	28	3	2	1
Jan 7-11, 2009	63	31	3	1	2
January, 2008	64	28	4	2	2
January, 2007	64	28	5	2	1
January, 2006	64	28	4	2	2
January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1
January, 2004	65	28	4	2	1
January, 2003	59	34	4	1	2
January, 2002	62	32	3	1	2
Early September, 2001	74	22	2	1	1
January, 2001	74	21	1	2	2
January, 2000	69	27	2	1	1
July, 1999	73	23	3	*	1
January, 1999	71	24	3	1	1
January, 1998	71	24	4	1	*
January, 1997	75	20	2	2	1

³ In Early September 2001, January 2001 and January 2000 the item was worded: "Keeping the economy strong."

Q.43 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
r.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	54	36	8	1	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	55	35	7	2	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	49	39	8	2	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	57	32	6	3	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	52	36	8	2	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	52	36	8	2	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	53	38	6	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	50	39	6	3	2
	January, 2008	51	37	7	2	3
	January, 2007	55	36	6	2	1
	January, 2006	55	36	6	1	2
	January, 2005	59	34	5	1	1
	January, 2004	50	42	6	1	1
	January, 2003	48	45	5	1	1
	January, 2002	44	46	7	2	1
	January, 2001	63	28	6	1	2
	January, 2000	55	38	4	1	2
	July, 1999	60	33	5	1	1
	January, 1999	57	37	4	1	1
	January, 1998	57	34	6	2	1
	January, 1997	57	35	6	2	2
s.F2	Reforming the criminal justice system					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	44	37	14	2	2
t.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	49	29	14	7	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	52	31	9	6	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	43	36	14	6	1
	Jan 9-13, 2013	41	36	14	7	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	39	36	15	8	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	43	35	14	6	3
	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	35	10	5	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	44	39	8	4	5
	January, 2008	42	38	12	5	3
	January, 2007	46	35	10	5	4
	January, 2006	42	36	13	6	3
	January, 2005	52	35	8	3	2
	January, 2004	48	31	15	5	1
	January, 2003	48	34	11	4	3
	January, 2002	52	37	7	2	2
	January, 2001	48	37	8	5	2
u.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound					
	Jan 7-14, 2016	58	34	5	2	1
	Jan 7-11, 2015	61	33	3	2	1
	Jan 15-19, 2014	61	30	6	2	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	65	29	3	2	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	61	31	5	1	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	61	31	4	2	3
	Jan 6-10, 2010	63	30	4	1	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	60	32	5	1	2
	January, 2008	60	33	4	1	2
	January, 2007	63	31	3	1	2
	January, 2006	62	30	4	2	2

Q.43 CONTINUED...

	Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January, 2005	67	29	3	1	*
January, 2004	62	32	4	1	1
January, 2003	56	39	4	*	1
January, 2002	55	38	5	1	1
January, 2001	71	24	2	1	2
January, 2000	64	30	3	1	2
July, 1999	71	24	3	1	1
January, 1999	62	33	2	1	2
January, 1998	64	31	3	1	1
January, 1997	64	31	3	1	1

NO QUESTIONS 44-62, 64-71, 73**QUESTIONS 63, 72, 74-76a 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
Jan 7-14, 2016	24	30	38	5	1	2	14	17
Dec 8-13, 2015	26	31	37	4	*	2	16	15
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	24	29	41	4	*	2	17	17
Sep 22-27, 2015	26	30	40	2	*	2	15	16
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
Yearly Totals								
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

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
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 REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1) [N=849]:

Q.77 Would you like to see Republican leaders in Washington move in a more conservative direction or a more moderate direction?

	More conservative	More moderate	(VOL.) No change	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 7-14, 2016	52	39	2	7
Nov 6-9, 2014	57	39	1	4
Jul 8-14, 2014	53	42	1	4
Jul 17-21, 2013	54	41	2	4
Nov 8-11, 2012 ⁴	57	35	3	5
Nov 4-7, 2010	56	38	2	5
Jun 16-20, 2010	57	37	2	5
Jan 6-10, 2010	51	42	2	5
November, 2008	60	35	1	4

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2) [N=914]:

Q.78 Would you like to see Democratic leaders in Washington move in a more liberal direction or a more moderate direction?

	More liberal	More moderate	(VOL.) No change	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 7-14, 2016	39	52	3	6
Nov 6-9, 2014	41	52	2	5
Jul 8-14, 2014	37	53	3	8
Jul 17-21, 2013	36	57	2	5
Nov 8-11, 2012 ⁵	33	57	4	7
Nov 4-7, 2010	34	54	3	10
Jun 16-20, 2010	34	54	4	8
Jan 6-10, 2010	35	53	2	9
November, 2008	33	57	2	8

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U)	Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
(WP)	Pew Research Center/Washington Post polls

⁴ In Nov 8-11, 2012 and November, 2008 surveys, question was asked of self-reported voters in that presidential election.
⁵ In Nov 8-11, 2012 and November, 2008 surveys, question was asked of self-reported voters in that presidential election.