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Social Issues Rank as Lowest Priorities

With Voters Focused on Economy, Obama Lead Narrows

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut

President, Pew Research Center

Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock

Associate Directors

Scott Keeter

Director of Survey Research

1615 L St, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel (202) 419-4350

Fax (202) 419-4399

www.peoplepress.org

Social Issues Rank as Lowest Priorities With Voters Focused on Economy, Obama Lead Narrows

With voters continuing to focus on economic issues, Barack Obama holds a slim 49% to 45% advantage over Mitt Romney in the latest Pew Research Center survey of nearly 2,400 registered voters nationwide. Obama's lead has narrowed since last month, when he had a 12-point advantage, though it is comparable to margins from earlier this year.

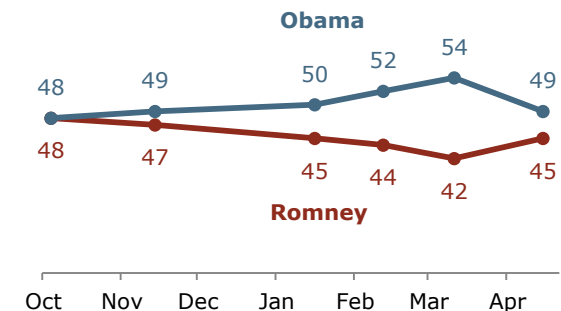
More than eight-in-ten voters say the economy (86%) and jobs (84%) are very important issues in deciding who to vote for this fall. Roughly three-quarters also cite the federal budget deficit (74%), health care (74%) and education (72%) as top voting priorities. Near the bottom of the list are some of the hot-button social issues. Just 28% say that gay marriage is a very important issue, and 34% rate birth control as a top issue.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted April 4-15, 2012 among 3,008 adults, including 2,373 registered voters, shows that Obama continues to owe his lead to support from women, college graduates, blacks, Latinos and lower income voters – all of whom support him over Romney by double-digits.

The gender gap remains comparable to those in previous surveys during the current campaign, as well as past election cycles; women favor Obama by a 53% to 40% margin;

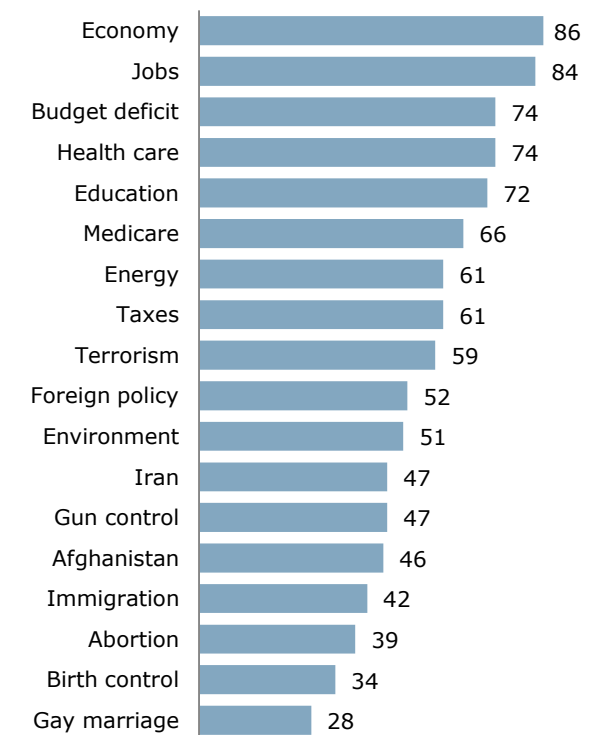
Obama's Electoral Lead Narrows

If 2012 election were today, would you vote for...



Economic Issues Top Voters' Agenda

Percent rating each as "very important" to their vote



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012.
Based on registered voters.

among men voters, 50% favor Romney, while 44% back Obama. Obama has lost ground among both men and women at about the same rate over the past month.

With nearly all voters concerned about the economy, neither candidate has a clear advantage on the issue. Those who say the economy and jobs will be very important to their vote divide their support almost evenly between Obama and Romney. But the candidates each have advantages on other top-tier issues. Health care and education voters favor Obama by double-digits. Those who rank the federal budget deficit as a top priority favor Romney by a 57% to 38% margin. Romney is also the preferred candidate among those who rank Iran as very important, while Obama leads among those who cite the environment.

While birth control is one of the lowest ranking issues, Obama holds a substantial 56% to 37% lead among voters who rate this as very important. Birth control is significantly more important to women (40% very important) than men (27%), but the gender gap is no greater than over issues like education and health care, which women also rate as more important voting concerns.

Issues and the Presidential Choice

	<i>Percent ranking issue as very important...</i>	<i>Candidate preference</i>		
		Obama %	Romney %	Adv
The economy	86% ⇨	48	44	O+4
Jobs	84% ⇨	47	48	R+1
Health care	74% ⇨	54	39	O+15
Budget deficit	74% ⇨	38	57	R+19
Education	72% ⇨	57	35	O+22
Medicare	66% ⇨	51	44	O+7
Taxes	61% ⇨	46	47	R+1
Energy	61% ⇨	47	49	R+2
Terrorism	59% ⇨	47	48	R+1
Foreign policy	52% ⇨	49	43	O+6
Environment	51% ⇨	68	29	O+39
Iran	47% ⇨	40	54	R+14
Gun control	47% ⇨	44	52	R+8
Afghanistan	46% ⇨	50	47	O+3
Immigration	42% ⇨	45	47	R+2
Abortion	39% ⇨	45	47	R+2
Birth control	34% ⇨	56	37	O+19
Gay marriage	28% ⇨	43	50	R+7

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q7/7a & Q8.
Based on registered voters.

The End of the GOP Primary

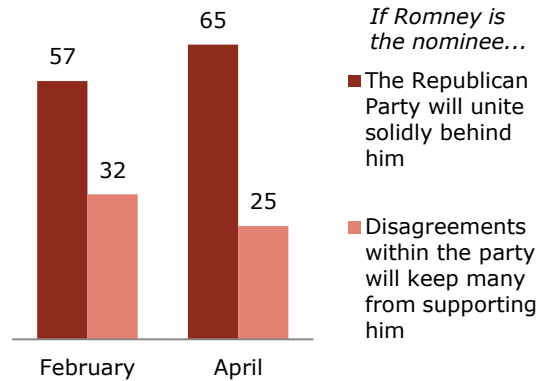
As the GOP primary winds down, the party base is getting behind Mitt Romney. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Republican and Republican-leaning voters now say that the party will unite solidly behind Romney as the nominee, up from 57% in February. This matches the 64% who said the party would unite behind McCain at a comparable point four years ago.

But GOP enthusiasm for Romney remains limited. Even after Rick Santorum announced the suspension of his campaign, 45% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters support Romney for the Republican nomination. About as many (46%) continue to say they would like to see Santorum, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul or someone else get the nomination.

While he may not be their preferred nominee, there is little doubt that an overwhelming proportion of Republicans will back Romney in the fall. Among Republican and Republican-leaning voters who favor another GOP nominee, 88% back Romney over Obama, and 78% say there is no chance they will change their mind. This is particularly the case among Santorum and Gingrich supporters. Republicans who favor Paul are less committed to a Romney candidacy.

To the extent that Romney has a base problem, it is not with the conservatives or white evangelical Protestants. Nine-in-ten conservative Republicans (90%) support

Most Republican Voters Say Party Will Unite Behind Romney



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q36. Based on 1,099 Republican and Republican leaning registered voters.

In GOP Base, Moderates Less Committed to Romney

2012 general election preference/certainty

	Support Romney	Certain support	Not certain
	%	%	%
All Rep/lean Rep	88	77	12
<i>Preferred nominee...</i>			
Romney	94	83	12
Other cand (NET)	88	78	10
Santorum	92	81	10
Gingrich	94	86	9
Paul	76	64	12
Conservative	90	82	8
Moderate/Liberal	84	66	18
Tea Party	95	89	6
Not Tea Party	82	65	17

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q36. Based on Republican and Republican leaning registered voters. Certain supporters are those who back Romney and say there is no chance they will support Obama. Not certain are those who only lean toward Romney or say there is still a chance they will support Obama.

Romney, and 82% are certain about their vote. Similarly, 91% of white evangelical Republican voters support Romney; 84% say there is no chance they will change their mind. And among Tea Party Republicans, 95% back Romney, and 89% say they will not change their mind.

Instead, commitment to Romney is substantially weaker among moderate and liberal Republicans and those who do not agree with the Tea Party. While at least eight-in-ten in each group say they prefer Romney to Obama, only about two-thirds of each say they firmly back Romney and will definitely not change their mind.

The soft spots in Obama's support within the Democratic base mirror this pattern. Fully 94% of liberal Democrats say they will vote for Obama, and 85% are certain they won't change their minds. But among moderate and conservative Democrats, 89% support Obama, with just 71% certain that they won't change their minds.

One-in-Four Are Swing Voters

Overall, 23% of registered voters today are swing voters, in that they are either undecided, only lean toward a candidate, or favor a candidate but say there is still a chance they will change their minds.

This compares with 33% in June of 2008 after both the Democratic and Republican primaries were largely concluded. The swing vote is somewhat smaller in elections when incumbents are running for reelection.

Size of Swing Vote Comparable to 2004

	May 1992	Jul 1996	Jun 2000	Jun 2004	Jun 2008	Apr 2012
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Certain Democrat	34	39	33	39	38	39
Certain Republican	35	34	35	40	29	37
Swing voter	<u>31</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>23</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q7a,b,c. Based on registered voters. **Certain voters** are those who back Romney or Obama and say there is no chance they will support the other. **Swing voters** are undecided, only lean toward a candidate or say there is still a chance they will support the other. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Views of 2012 Primaries

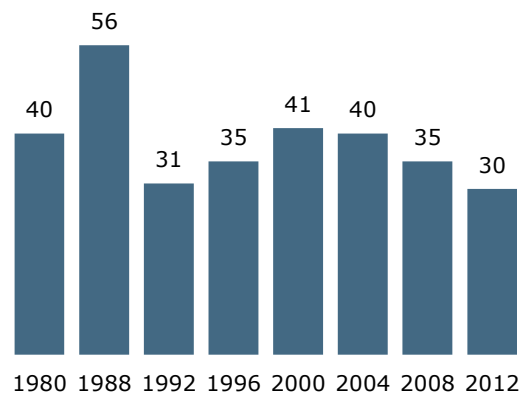
As previous Pew Research Center surveys have shown, neither the public nor Republicans themselves have been very impressed with the field of GOP candidates. A separate survey, conducted April 12-15 among 1,002 adults finds negative views of the primary process itself: Just 30% of Americans say the presidential primaries have been a good way of determining the best-qualified nominees, while 57% say they have not.

These views are comparable to opinions about the primaries in early June 2008, when 35% said the primary system had been a good way of determining the best-qualified nominees and 60% disagreed.

Currently, 51% of Republicans say the primaries have not been a good way of determining the best qualified nominees; just 39% say they have. Republicans' views of the primary process were even more negative four years ago; in early June 2008, 65% said the primaries were not a good system for picking the best qualified nominees.

Fewer Satisfied with 2012 Primaries

Have the primaries been a good way of determining who the best qualified nominee is?



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 12-15, 2012 Omnibus. Based on general public. 1980 data from Newsweek.

SECTION 1: GENERAL ELECTION PREFERENCES

As the general election campaign gets underway, Obama's slim 49% to 45% edge over Mitt Romney is based on his continued support among women, college graduates, blacks, Latinos and lower-income voters. Obama leads Romney by 13 points among women, which is identical to his victory margin over McCain among women four years ago, according to National Election Pool exit polls. Men, who split their vote between Obama (49%) and McCain (48%), are leaning slightly toward Romney today, by a 50% to 44% margin.

Young voters backed Obama over McCain by a 66% to 32% margin in 2008, and continue to support him over Romney by 61% to 33%. However, whites under 30 are now divided (48% Obama, 46% Romney). In 2008, they supported Obama over McCain by 10 points, (54% to 44%).

Fully 95% of blacks back Obama for reelection – identical to the black vote for Obama in 2008. Hispanic registered voters back Obama by a 67% to 27% margin. The Hispanic vote was 67% Obama, 31% McCain four years ago. These figures also are consistent with a Pew Hispanic Center survey of 557 Latino registered voters in December, in which 68% backed Obama and 23% Romney despite widespread dissatisfaction with Obama's immigration policies. (*For more see "As Deportations Rise to Record Levels, Most Latinos Oppose Obama's Policy," Dec. 28, 2011.*)

Comparing 2008 and 2012

	2008 Exit Poll		2012 Reg Voter		2012 N
	Oba- ma %	Mc- Cain %	Oba- ma %	Rom- ney %	
Total	53	46	49	45	2,373
Men	49	48	44	50	1,093
Women	56	43	53	40	1,280
18-29	66	32	61	33	222
30-44	52	46	49	45	418
45-64	50	49	47	46	953
65+	45	53	44	50	741
White	43	55	39	54	1,821
Black	95	4	95	2	221
Hispanic	67	31	67	27	153
College grad+	53	45	53	42	967
Some college	51	47	44	51	702
HS or less	54	44	49	43	698
\$100,000+	49	49	49	45	441
\$50k-\$99,999	49	49	47	47	642
Less than \$50k	60	38	51	42	948
Republican	9	90	7	90	695
Democrat	89	10	92	6	774
Independent	52	44	42	48	821
<i>Among whites</i>					
Men	41	57	34	60	826
Women	46	53	44	49	995
18-29	54	44	48	46	138
30-44	41	57	38	55	285
45-64	42	56	38	55	739
65+	40	58	38	57	630
College grad+	47	51	47	48	778
Some coll/less	40	58	35	58	1040
\$50,000+	43	56	41	53	861
Less than \$50k	47	51	38	54	698
Republican	8	91	5	91	641
Democrat	85	14	88	9	475
Independent	47	49	37	53	646

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q7/7a.
Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks are non-Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

Obama has lost support among several groups: Obama carried the independent vote by a margin of 52% to 44% in 2008. Today, 42% of independents favor him, while 48% back Romney. Obama also is faring worse among lower-income voters and those with less education than he did in 2008.

Obama trails Romney by a wide margin among white voters (54% Romney, 39% Obama), though that is little changed from 2008. But Obama has lost ground among certain groups of white voters. In 2008, whites with household incomes under \$50,000 favored McCain over Obama by a slim 51% to 47% margin. Today, lower-income whites favor Romney over Obama by a 16-point margin (54% to 38%).

By contrast, Obama is running about the same as he did in 2008 among whites with higher incomes and college degrees. He trails Romney by 12 points among whites with family incomes of \$50,000 or more and runs about even among white college graduates.

There is a greater gap between white men and white women today, not because white women have moved toward Obama, but because white men have moved away from him. White men gave McCain a 16-point edge four years ago (57% McCain vs. 41% Obama). This has widened to a 26-point lead for Romney today, 60% to 34%.

White independent voters, who favored McCain slightly in 2008 (49% McCain vs. 47% Obama), are leaning more Republican this year. About half of white independent voters (53%) support Romney, while just 37% favor Obama; 10% are undecided.

2012 Campaign Dynamics

Obama's lead over Romney has narrowed since last month, when he had a 12-point advantage, though it is comparable to margins from earlier this year. While Obama's advantage has declined since March, there is little to suggest a specific problem or campaign event as having a critical effect.

While there have been debates over issues related to gender, the rise and fall in Obama's support has largely crossed gender lines, with a fairly consistent gender gap over time. For example, since March, Obama's support among both men and women has slipped five percentage points.

Independent voters remain up for grabs. In the current survey, 48% favor Romney while 42% back Obama. A month ago, it was 47% Obama, 44% Romney.

2012 Presidential Preference

	March 7-11		April 4-15		Change in Obama
	Oba- ma	Rom- ney	Oba- ma	Rom- ney	
	%	%	%	%	
Total	54	42	49	45	-5
Republican	8	91	7	90	-1
Democrat	93	5	92	6	-1
Independent	47	44	42	48	-5
Men	49	46	44	50	-5
Women	58	38	53	40	-5
18-29	63	35	61	33	-2
30-49	54	42	47	46	-7
50-64	55	41	47	46	-8
65+	48	48	44	50	-4
White	44	52	39	54	-5
Black	99	1	95	2	-4
Hispanic	--	--	67	27	--
College grad+	59	39	53	42	-6
Some college	53	43	44	51	-9
HS or less	51	44	49	43	-2
\$75,000+	50	48	48	46	-2
\$30k-\$74,999	55	41	47	47	-8
Less than \$30k	60	34	56	37	-4
Protestant	48	49	43	51	-5
White evang	25	72	20	73	-5
White mainline	42	52	42	50	0
Catholic	53	44	45	50	-8
White Cath	45	51	37	57	-8
Unaffiliated	75	22	67	26	-8
<i>Among whites</i>					
Men	40	55	34	60	-6
Women	48	48	44	49	-4
College grad+	53	44	47	48	-6
Some coll/less	39	56	35	58	-4
Republican	6	93	5	91	-1
Democrat	89	9	88	9	-1
Independent	41	51	37	53	-4

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q7/7a.
Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks are non-Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

Swing Voters

With more than six months to go until the election, many independents have yet to commit to either Obama or Romney. While 90% of independents express a preference, only 66% say they are certain about how they will vote.

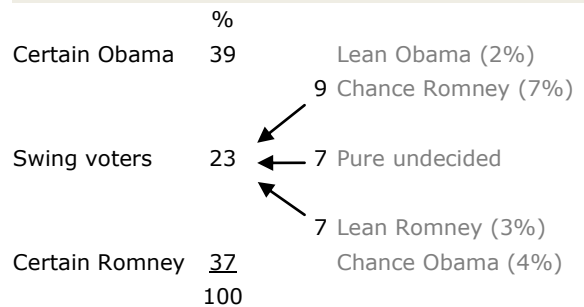
More specifically, of the 48% of independents who favor Romney, some say they only lean toward him (5%) or say there is still a chance they might vote for Obama this year (6%). Similarly, of the 42% who favor Obama, some either just lean toward him (3%) or say there is still a chance they might vote for Romney (10%). Added together with the 10% of independents who have no preference between the two, fully a third (33%) of independents are still uncommitted or “swing” voters.

This is a significantly smaller swing vote than was the case at the end of the primary season four years ago. In June 2008, 33% of all registered voters, and fully 46% of independent voters, remained uncommitted. Today, just 23% of voters, and 33% of independent voters, are swing voters.

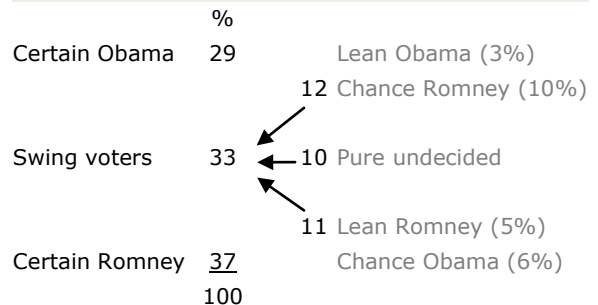
This is not uncommon when an incumbent is up for reelection and voters feel they have a clearer sense of the options before them. In June 2004, just 21% of registered voters were swing voters, including only 28% of independents.

Measuring the Swing Vote

All registered voters



Among independents



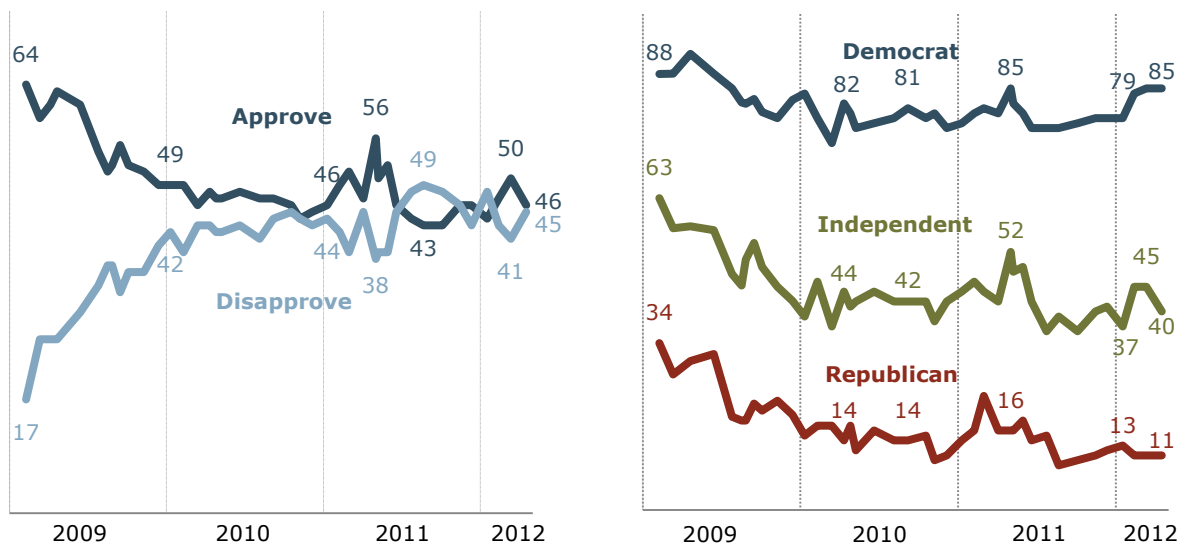
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q7a-c.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Obama Approval Little Changed

Currently, 46% approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president while about as many (45%) disapprove. In March, 50% approved of Obama’s job performance; 41% disapproved. In February, 47% approved and 43% disapproved.

Obama continues to draw overwhelming support from Democrats (85% approve). Just 11% of Republicans approve of the way he is handling his job as president, while 85% disapprove. More independents disapprove (50%) than approve (40%) of Obama’s job performance. That represents a change from March and February, when Obama’s job rating among independents was almost evenly divided. In March, 45% of independents approved of Obama’s job performance, while 42% disapproved.

Obama Job Approval



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q1. Based on general public.

SECTION 2: ISSUES OF THE 2012 CAMPAIGN

Fully 86% of registered voters say that the economy will be very important to their vote in the fall; 84% say that jobs will be very important. Both issues have ranked at or near the top of voters' priorities in campaigns dating back to 2004.

The federal budget deficit is now viewed as more important than in the past. Nearly three-quarters of voters (74%) say the deficit will be very important, compared with 69% in 2010 and 2008, and just 55% in 2004.

By contrast, terrorism is viewed as much less important than during those campaigns. Currently, 59% say that terrorism will be very important to their vote, down from 71% in 2010 and 68% in 2008.

Immigration also has lost ground as a voting issue. Currently, 42% of voters rate immigration as very important, down 16 points since August 2010. Fewer voters also rate Afghanistan as very important today (46%) than did so during the midterm campaign two years ago (59% in August 2010).

As in recent campaigns, social issues rank relatively low in importance. About four-in-ten (39%) say that abortion will be very important to their vote, 34% rate birth control as very important, and just 28% say the same about gay marriage – the lowest percentage for any issue.

Immigration, Afghanistan, Terrorism Decline as Voting Issues

<i>% of voters saying each is "very important" to vote</i>	Aug 2004	May 2008	Aug 2010	Apr 2012	10-12 Change
	%	%	%	%	
Economy	76	88	90	86	-4
Jobs*	76	78	88	84	-4
Budget deficit	55	69	69	74	+5
Health care	72	78	78	74	-4
Education	70	78	--	72	--
Medicare	--	--	--	66	--
Energy	53	77	62	61	-1
Taxes*	59	68	68	61	-7
Terrorism	75	68	71	59	-12
Foreign policy	-	--	--	52	--
Environment	55	62	57	51	-6
Iran	--	--	--	47	--
Gun control	45	--	--	47	--
Afghanistan	--	--	59	46	-13
Immigration	--	54	58	42	-16
Abortion	--	40	43	39	-4
Birth control	--	--	--	34	--
Gay marriage	34	28	31	28	-3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q8. Based on registered voters.
* 2004 data from mid-October.

Dueling Partisan Agendas

Overwhelming percentages of Republicans, Democrats and independents rate the economy and jobs as very important voting issues. However, there are substantial partisan differences over the importance of other issues – including the environment, the federal budget deficit, education, Medicare and birth control.

Nearly three-quarters of Democratic voters (74%) say that the environment will be very important to their vote this fall. Just 43% of independents and 26% of Republicans rate the environment as very important. The environment ranks near the top of the Democrats' agenda; for Republicans, it ranks last among 18 issues tested.

Democratic voters also are more likely than Republicans to view education (by 23 points), birth control (16 points), Medicare (15 points) and health care (10 points) as very important issues.

By contrast, the federal budget deficit is viewed as very important by larger percentages of Republican (86%) and independent voters (76%), than Democrats (63%). Republicans also are more likely than Democrats to rate taxes (by 14 points) and abortion (11 points) as very important. There also is a modest gap over the economy, with 92% of GOP voters and 83% of Democrats rating it as very important.

The partisan differences in views of the importance of issues among voters are comparable to the gaps found among the general public in the [Pew Research Center's annual policy priorities survey](#), conducted in January.

Wide Partisan Gaps over Environment, Deficit, Education

% of voters saying each is "very important" to vote	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D diff
	%	%	%	%	
Budget deficit	74	86	63	76	R+23
Taxes	61	74	60	53	R+14
Abortion	39	51	40	29	R+11
Economy	86	92	83	86	R+9
Foreign policy	52	58	49	50	R+9
Iran	47	56	47	43	R+9
Gay marriage	28	36	27	24	R+9
Terrorism	59	66	60	52	R+6
Immigration	42	47	42	37	R+5
Gun control	47	51	50	41	R+1
Jobs	84	85	86	81	D+1
Afghanistan	46	45	49	43	D+4
Energy	61	59	68	57	D+9
Health care	74	74	84	66	D+10
Medicare	66	62	77	58	D+15
Birth control	34	31	47	25	D+16
Education	72	63	86	65	D+23
Environment	51	26	74	43	D+48

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q8.
Based on registered voters.

Shifting Voter Concerns

In August 2004, just 36% of Republican voters rated the budget deficit as a very important issue to their vote. Among 11 issues tested, it ranked at the bottom, along with the environment (38%).

The percentage of GOP voters saying the deficit is very important increased 25 points between August 2004 and May 2008 – and has risen another 25 points since then (to 86%). In the current survey, only the economy ranks higher among Republican voters (92% very important).

The deficit rose in importance among Democrats from 2004 to 2008, before falling in 2010. Currently, 63% of Democrats say the budget deficit will be very important to their vote, which is largely unchanged from 2010 (62%), but down from 2008 (80%).

Republican Priorities Shift: Deficit Rises in Importance; Gay Marriage, Immigration Decline

% of voters saying each is "very important" to vote

	Aug 2004	May 2008	Aug 2010	Apr 2012	04-12 Change
Budget deficit	%	%	%	%	
All voters	55	69	69	74	+19
Republican	36	61	74	86	+50
Democrat	70	80	62	63	-7
Independent	57	65	68	76	+19
Rep-Dem diff	-34	-19	+12	+23	
Terrorism					
All voters	75	68	71	59	-16
Republican	78	81	79	66	-12
Democrat	76	62	68	60	-16
Independent	73	64	71	52	-19
Rep-Dem diff	+2	+19	+11	+6	
Immigration*					
All voters	--	54	58	42	-12
Republican	--	63	64	47	-16
Democrat	--	48	49	42	-6
Independent	--	53	60	37	-16
Rep-Dem diff		+15	+15	+5	
Gay Marriage					
All voters	34	28	31	28	-6
Republican	49	41	37	36	-13
Democrat	25	22	28	27	+2
Independent	28	23	26	24	-4
Rep-Dem diff	+24	+19	+9	+9	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Based on registered voters.
* 2004 data not available for immigration, 2008-2012 change shown.

Immigration and gay marriage have slipped as voting priorities among Republican voters. About half of Republican voters (47%) say the issue of immigration will be very important to their vote; in 2010, 64% rated immigration as very important and in 2008 63% did so. Immigration also has fallen in importance among independents. Only about four-in-ten (37%) independent voters now view the issue as very important, down 23 points from August 2010.

The percentage of GOP voters viewing gay marriage as very important has fallen 13 points, from 49% to 36%, since August 2004. There has been far less change in opinions among Democrats and independents, who have consistently rated this lower in importance than have Republicans.

Terrorism also has declined in importance as a voting issue, though in this case the change has occurred among Republicans, Democrats and independents. As recently as August 2010, 79% of Republicans and 71% of independents said the issue of terrorism would be very important to their vote in that fall's midterm election. Today, 66% of Republicans and 52% of independents rate terrorism as very important. Democrats also view terrorism as somewhat less important than in previous campaigns (60% today, 68% in 2010).

Gender Gap in Issue Importance

There are several issues, including education, birth control, health care and abortion, that rate as more important for women than men. Nearly eight-in-ten women (79%) say that education will be very important to their vote this fall, compared with 65% of men.

Birth control ranks relatively low in importance among both female and male voters. Still, more women than men say birth control will be very important to their vote (40% vs. 27%). Among voters younger than 50, nearly twice as many women (46%) as men (25%) rate this as very important.

Women also are more likely than men to view health care (by 11 points), abortion (10 points), the environment (nine points) and Medicare (nine points) as very important voting issues.

Energy is the only issue that more men than women voters view as very important (66% vs. 58%). On most issues, including the economy, jobs, foreign policy and terrorism, there are no significant gender differences.

Women More Likely to Prioritize Education, Birth Control

<i>% of voters saying each is "very important" to vote</i>	Total	Men	Women	M-W diff
	%	%	%	
Education	72	65	79	W+14
Birth control	34	27	40	W+13
Health care	74	69	80	W+11
Abortion	39	34	44	W+10
Environment	51	46	55	W+9
Medicare	66	61	70	W+9
Gun control	47	44	50	W+6
Gay marriage	28	26	31	W+5
Jobs	84	82	86	W+4
Economy	86	85	88	W+3
Terrorism	59	57	60	W+3
Afghanistan	46	44	47	W+3
Foreign policy	52	51	52	W+1
Immigration	42	42	42	0
Taxes	61	62	60	M+2
Iran	47	49	46	M+3
Budget deficit	74	77	72	M+5
Energy	61	66	58	M+8

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Apr. 4-15, 2012. Q8.
Based on registered voters.

About the Surveys

Most of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted April 4-15, 2012, among a national sample of 3,008 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (1,805 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,203 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 603 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://people-press.org/methodology/>

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 March 2011 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2011 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 within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the 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	Sample Size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	3,008	2.1 percentage points
Form A	1,494	3.0 percentage points
Form B	1,514	2.9 percentage points
Republicans	787	4.1 percentage points
Democrats	928	3.8 percentage points
Independents	1,126	3.4 percentage points
Registered voters	2,373	2.3 percentage points
Male voters	1,093	3.5 percentage points
Female voters	1,280	3.2 percentage points
Rep/Rep-leaning voters	1,099	3.4 percentage points

Some of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted April 12-15, 2012, among a national sample of 1,002 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (601 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 401 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 198 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted 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. 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://people-press.org/methodology/>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and region to parameters from the March 2011 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status, based on extrapolations from the 2011 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 within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the 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	Sample Size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,002	3.6 percentage points
Republicans	247	7.3 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.

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEAT

Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, Apr. 4-15, 2012

Q.7 Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today and you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.7a As of today, who do you lean more to?

	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>	<u>N</u>
	%	%	%	
ALL VOTERS	49	45	7	2373
SEX				
Men	44	50	6	1093
Women	53	40	7	1280
AGE				
18-49	52	42	6	817
50+	46	48	6	1517
DETAILED AGE				
18-29	61	33	6	222
30-49	47	46	7	595
50-64	47	46	7	776
65+	44	50	5	741
SEX BY AGE				
Men 18-49	47	46	7	408
Men 50+	42	53	5	673
Women 18-49	56	38	6	409
Women 50+	50	43	7	844
RACE				
White, non-Hispanic	39	54	7	1821
Black, non-Hispanic	95	2	3	221
Hispanic	67	27	5	153
EDUCATION				
College grad+	53	42	5	967
Some college	44	51	6	702
High school or less	49	43	8	698
FAMILY INCOME				
\$75,000+	48	46	6	714
\$30,000-\$74,999	47	47	6	801
Less than \$30,000	56	37	8	516
DETAILED INCOME				
\$100,000+	49	45	6	441
\$75,000-\$99,000	46	48	6	273
\$50,000-\$74,990	48	47	5	369
\$30,000-\$49,999	46	48	6	432
Less than \$30,000	56	37	8	516
REGION				
Northeast	54	41	6	426
Midwest	47	46	7	596
South	44	50	7	847
West	54	40	6	504

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEAT (CONT.)

Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, Apr. 4-15, 2012

Q.7 Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today and you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.7a As of today, who do you lean more to?

	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>	<u>N</u>
	%	%	%	
PARTY ID				
Republican	7	90	3	695
Democrat	92	6	3	774
Independent	42	48	10	821
PARTY WITH LEANERS				
Rep/Lean Rep	8	88	4	1099
Dem/Lean Dem	91	6	3	1048
IDEOLOGY				
Conservative	24	70	6	963
Moderate	55	38	7	869
Liberal	83	13	4	475
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY				
Conservative Republican	5	92	4	526
Mod/Lib Republican	13	84	3	158
Mod/Cons Democrat	89	8	3	442
Liberal Democrat	95	4	2	318
TEA PARTY (REP/LEAN REP)				
Agree	2	95	3	527
Disagree/No opinion	13	82	5	553
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE				
Total Protestants	43	51	7	1270
White NH evang. Prot.	20	73	7	517
White NH mainline Prot.	42	50	7	451
Black Prot.	96	0	4	169
Total Catholic	45	50	6	530
White NH Cath.	37	57	6	415
Unaffiliated	67	26	7	359
ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES				
Weekly or more	38	56	6	1000
Less than weekly	56	37	7	1357
RELIGION BY ATTENDANCE				
<i>White NH evang. Prot.</i>				
Weekly or more	16	80	5	355
Less than weekly	31	58	11	160
<i>White NH mainline Prot.</i>				
Weekly or more	34	55	11	143
Less than weekly	46	48	6	308
<i>White NH Cath.</i>				
Weekly or more	31	64	6	200
Less than weekly	43	51	6	213

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEAT-AMONG WHITES

Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, Apr. 4-15, 2012

Q.7 Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today and you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.7a As of today, who do you lean more to?

	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>	<u>N</u>
	%	%	%	
ALL WHITE NH VOTERS	39	54	7	1821
SEX				
Men	34	60	6	826
Women	44	49	7	995
AGE				
18-49	40	53	7	559
50+	39	55	6	1233
DETAILED AGE				
18-29	48	46	6	138
30-49	37	56	7	421
50-64	39	54	7	603
65+	38	57	5	630
SEX BY AGE				
Men 18-49	35	58	7	277
Men 50+	34	61	5	541
Women 18-49	45	48	7	282
Women 50+	43	50	7	692
EDUCATION				
College grad+	47	48	5	778
Some college	34	61	6	528
High school or less	36	55	9	512
FAMILY INCOME				
\$75,000+	42	53	5	575
\$30,000-\$74,999	37	57	6	619
Less than \$30,000	41	50	8	365
DETAILED INCOME				
\$100,000+	42	53	5	347
\$75,000-\$99,000	42	52	6	228
\$50,000-\$74,990	41	54	6	286
\$30,000-\$49,999	35	59	6	333
Less than \$30,000	41	50	8	365
REGION				
Northeast	46	48	6	349
Midwest	41	51	8	502
South	29	64	7	615
West	47	49	5	355
PARTY ID				
Republican	5	91	4	641
Democrat	88	9	3	475
Independent	37	53	10	646
PARTY WITH LEANERS				
Rep/Lean Rep	6	89	4	977
Dem/Lean Dem	89	8	3	676
IDEOLOGY				
Conservative	16	78	6	799
Moderate	46	46	8	642
Liberal	79	16	5	338
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY				
Conservative Republican	4	92	4	487
Mod/Lib Republican	10	86	4	144
Mod/Cons Democrat	84	13	3	247
Liberal Democrat	93	5	2	224

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEAT BY GENDER

Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, Apr. 4-15, 2012

Q.7 Now suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held today and you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.7a As of today, who do you lean more to?

	-----AMONG MEN-----				-----AMONG WOMEN-----			
	Obama	Romney	Other/ DK/Ref	N	Obama	Romney	Other/ DK/Ref	N
	%	%	%		%	%	%	
ALL VOTERS	44	50	6	1093	53	40	7	1280
AGE								
18-49	47	46	7	408	56	38	6	409
50+	42	53	5	673	50	43	7	844
DETAILED AGE								
18-29	52	41	7	113	70	25	4	109
30-49	45	49	7	295	50	43	7	300
50-64	41	52	6	360	53	40	7	416
65+	42	55	3	313	46	47	7	428
RACE								
White, non-Hispanic	34	60	6	826	44	49	7	995
Black, non-Hispanic	93	3	4	98	98	0	2	123
Hispanic	-	-	-	71	-	-	-	82
EDUCATION								
College grad+	43	51	6	487	61	33	5	480
Some college	41	53	6	298	46	49	5	404
High school or less	48	46	6	308	50	39	10	390
FAMILY INCOME								
\$75,000+	42	50	8	398	55	42	3	316
\$30,000-\$74,999	41	55	3	377	53	40	8	424
Less than \$30,000	59	33	8	197	53	40	7	319
PARTY ID								
Republican	8	90	3	318	6	90	4	377
Democrat	90	9	2	286	93	4	3	488
Independent	40	50	10	451	44	46	10	370
PARTY WITH LEANERS								
Rep/Lean Rep	8	88	4	560	8	88	4	539
Dem/Lean Dem	90	7	3	423	92	5	3	625
IDEOLOGY								
Conservative	24	71	5	486	23	69	8	477
Moderate	50	43	7	397	59	33	7	472
Liberal	81	14	4	180	85	11	4	295
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE								
Total Protestants	39	54	6	561	46	47	7	709
White NH evang. Prot.	18	75	7	224	22	71	6	293
White NH mainline Prot.	35	58	7	198	48	44	8	253
Total Catholic	37	59	5	237	51	43	7	293
White NH Cath.	28	67	5	180	44	50	7	235
Unaffiliated	63	30	8	179	70	23	7	180
ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES								
Weekly or more	33	62	5	414	41	52	6	586
Less than weekly	50	43	7	669	61	32	7	688
PARENT								
Parent	43	50	7	282	53	42	6	305
Not a parent	45	50	6	809	53	40	7	973
MARITAL STATUS								
Married	39	55	6	690	48	45	7	694
Not married	52	42	6	400	59	35	7	580

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
2012 VALUES SURVEY
April 4-15, 2012
N=3008

ASK FORM B ONLY [N=1514]:

Q.1FB 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]**

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

ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (Q.1FB=1,2):

Q.1aFB Do you [approve/disapprove] very strongly, or not so strongly?

BASED ON TOTAL

		Jan <u>2012</u>	Sep 22- <u>2011</u>	Aug <u>2011</u>	Feb 22- <u>2011</u>	Jan <u>2011</u>	Aug 25- <u>2010</u>	Jun <u>2010</u>	Jan <u>2010</u>	Apr <u>2009</u>
Apr 4-15 <u>2011</u>										
46	Approve	44	43	43	51	46	47	48	49	63
30	Very strongly	27	26	26	32	27	28	29	30	45
15	Not so strongly	15	15	15	18	16	17	17	15	13
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	5
45	Disapprove	48	48	49	39	44	44	43	42	26
36	Very strongly	35	34	38	29	30	32	31	30	18
8	Not so strongly	12	13	11	10	13	11	11	11	8
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	*
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	9	7	10	10	9	9	10	11

ASK FORM A ONLY [N=1494]:

Q.2FA All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6	March, 2006	32	63	5
Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6	January, 2006	34	61	5
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	July, 2005	35	58	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	February, 2005	38	56	6
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	January, 2005	40	54	6
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	December, 2004	39	54	7
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	July, 2004	38	55	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	May, 2004	33	61	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	December, 2003	44	47	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	October, 2003	38	56	6
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	August, 2003	40	53	7
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	January, 2003	44	50	6
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	November, 2002	41	48	11
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	September, 2002	41	55	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	May, 2002	44	44	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	March, 2002	50	40	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	June, 2001	43	52	5
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	February, 2001	46	43	11
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	January, 2001	55	41	4
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	September, 2000	51	41	8
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	April, 2000	48	43	9
December, 2008	13	83	4	August, 1999	56	39	5
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	January, 1999	53	41	6
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	November, 1998	46	44	10
August, 2008	21	74	5	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
July, 2008	19	74	7	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
June, 2008	19	76	5	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
March, 2008	22	72	6	January, 1998	46	50	4
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	September, 1997	45	49	6
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	August, 1997	49	46	5
October, 2007	28	66	6	January, 1997	38	58	4
February, 2007	30	61	9	July, 1996	29	67	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	March, 1996	28	70	2
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	October, 1995	23	73	4
December, 2006	28	65	7	June, 1995	25	73	2
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	April, 1995	23	74	3
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	July, 1994	24	73	3
July, 2006	30	65	5	March, 1994	24	71	5
May, 2006*	29	65	6	October, 1993	22	73	5
				September, 1993	20	75	5
				May, 1993	22	71	7
				January, 1993	39	50	11
				January, 1992	28	68	4

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?"

Q.2FA CONTINUED...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November, 1991	34	61	5	May, 1990	41	54	5
<i>Gallup</i> : Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3	January, 1989	45	50	5
August, 1990	47	48	5	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

QUESTIONS 3FA TO 5FB HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election . . . Quite a lot or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2373]:

	Quite <u>a lot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Some</u>	Only a <u>little</u>	(VOL.) <u>None</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
2012 Election					
Apr 4-15, 2012	64	2	30	4	1
Mar 7-11, 2012	66	2	30	1	1
2008 Election					
November, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Late October, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Mid-October, 2008	81	3	13	3	*
Early October, 2008	81	2	14	2	1
Late September, 2008	80	3	14	2	1
Mid-September, 2008	78	4	14	3	1
August, 2008	74	6	17	2	1
July, 2008	74	2	20	3	1
June, 2008	72	2	23	2	1
Late May, 2008	75	4	17	3	1
April, 2008	77	7	13	2	1
March, 2008	78	3	15	3	1
Late February, 2008	74	3	19	2	2
2004 Election					
November, 2004	82	3	12	2	1
Mid-October, 2004	76	5	15	3	1
Early October, 2004	74	4	19	2	1
September, 2004	71	3	22	3	1
August, 2004	69	2	26	2	1
July, 2004	67	2	28	2	1
June, 2004	58	3	36	2	1
May, 2004	59	6	30	4	1
Late March, 2004	60	4	31	4	1
Mid-March, 2004	65	2	31	2	*
2000 Election					
November, 2000	72	6	19	2	1
Late October, 2000	66	6	24	4	*
Mid-October, 2000	67	9	19	4	1
Early October, 2000	60	8	27	4	1
September, 2000	59	8	29	3	1
July, 2000	46	6	45	3	*
June, 2000	46	6	43	5	*
May, 2000	48	4	42	5	1
April, 2000	45	7	41	7	*
1996 Election					
November, 1996	67	8	22	3	*
October, 1996	65	7	26	1	1
Late September, 1996	61	7	29	2	1
Early September, 1996	56	3	36	4	1
July, 1996	55	3	41	1	*
June, 1996	50	5	41	3	1

THOUGHT CONTINUED...

	Quite a lot	(VOL.) Some	Only a little	(VOL.) None	(VOL.) DK/Ref
1992 Election					
Early October, 1992	77	5	16	1	1
September, 1992	69	3	26	1	1
August, 1992	72	4	23	1	*
June, 1992	63	6	29	1	1
1988 Election					
<i>Gallup:</i> November, 1988	73	8	17	2	0
<i>Gallup:</i> October, 1988	69	9	20	2	0
<i>Gallup:</i> August, 1988	61	10	27	2	0
<i>Gallup:</i> September, 1988	57	18	23	2	0

ASK FORM 1A/2B ONLY [N=1460]:

REG Which of these statements best describes you? **[READ IN ORDER] [INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1]**

Apr 4-15

2012

- 71 Are you ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address [OR]
 4 Are you PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed [OR]
 25 Are you NOT registered to vote at your current address
 * Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 1B/2A ONLY [N=1548]:

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?
[INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1 FOR REGIST AND REGICERT]

ASK IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN REGIST:

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

Apr 4-15

2012

- 77 Yes, registered
 73 Absolutely certain
 3 Chance registration has lapsed
 1 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 22 No, not registered
 * Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION 6

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1) OR (REG=1):

Q.7 Now, suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between [READ AND RANDOMIZE] who would you vote for?

ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.7=3,9):

Q.7a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.7]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2373]:

	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Obama</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Apr 4-15, 2012	45	49	2	4
Mar 7-11, 2012	42	54	1	3
Feb 8-12, 2012	44	52	1	3
Jan 11-16, 2012	45	50	2	4
Nov 9-14, 2011	47	49	1	3
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	48	48	1	4

TREND FOR COMPARISON:**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Barr</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
November, 2008	39	50	1	1	9
Late October, 2008	36	52	3	1	8
Mid-October, 2008	38	52	n/a	n/a	10
Early October, 2008	40	50	n/a	n/a	10
Late September, 2008	42	49	n/a	n/a	9
Mid-September, 2008 ²	44	46	n/a	n/a	10
August, 2008	43	46	n/a	n/a	11
July, 2008	42	47	n/a	n/a	11
June, 2008	40	48	n/a	n/a	12
Late May, 2008	44	47	n/a	n/a	9
April, 2008	44	50	n/a	n/a	6
March, 2008	43	49	n/a	n/a	8
Late February, 2008	43	50	n/a	n/a	7

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Kerry</u>	<u>Nader</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
November, 2004	45	46	1	8
Mid-October, 2004	45	45	1	9
Early October, 2004	48	41	2	9
September, 2004	49	43	1	7
August, 2004	45	47	2	6
July, 2004	44	46	3	7
June, 2004	46	42	6	6
May, 2004	43	46	6	5
Late March, 2004	44	43	6	7
Mid-March, 2004	42	49	4	5
Two-way trial heats:				
June, 2004	48	46	n/a	6
May, 2004	45	50	n/a	5
Late March, 2004	46	47	n/a	7
Mid-March, 2004	43	52	n/a	5
Late February, 2004	44	48	n/a	8
Early February, 2004	47	47	n/a	6
Early January, 2004	52	41	n/a	7
October, 2003	50	42	n/a	8

² After August 2008, June 2004, July 2000, July 1996, June 1992 and June 1988 the question specified vice presidential candidates.

Q.7/7a TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Buchanan</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
November, 2000	41	45	4	1	9
Late October, 2000	45	43	4	1	7
Mid-October, 2000	43	45	4	1	7
Early October, 2000	43	44	5	*	8
September, 2000	41	47	2	1	9
July, 2000	42	41	6	2	9
Late June, 2000	42	35	2	2	19
Mid-June, 2000	41	42	4	3	10
January, 2000	51	39	n/a	4	6
September, 1999	49	35	n/a	10	6
Two-way trial heats:					
July, 2000	48	46	n/a	n/a	6
Mid-June, 2000	45	46	n/a	n/a	9
May, 2000	46	45	n/a	n/a	9
March, 2000	43	49	n/a	n/a	8
February, 2000	46	45	n/a	n/a	9
December, 1999	55	40	n/a	n/a	5
October, 1999	54	39	n/a	n/a	7
September, 1999	54	39	n/a	n/a	7
July, 1999	53	42	n/a	n/a	5
March, 1999	54	41	n/a	n/a	5
January, 1999	50	44	n/a	n/a	6
Early September, 1998	53	40	n/a	n/a	7

	<u>Dole</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Perot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
November, 1996	32	51	9	8
October, 1996	34	51	8	7
Late September, 1996	35	51	7	7
Early September, 1996	34	52	8	6
July, 1996	34	44	16	6
March, 1996	35	44	16	5
September, 1995	36	42	19	3
July, 1994	36	39	20	5
Two-way trial heats:				
July, 1996	42	53	n/a	5
June, 1996	40	55	n/a	5
April, 1996	40	54		6
March, 1996	41	53		6
February, 1996	44	52		4
January, 1996	41	53		6
July, 1994	49	46		5

	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Perot</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
Late October, 1992	34	44	19	3
Early October, 1992	35	48	8	9
June, 1992	31	27	36	6
Two-way trial heats:				
September, 1992	38	53	n/a	9
August, 1992	37	57	n/a	6
June, 1992	46	41	n/a	13
May, 1992	46	43	n/a	11
Late March, 1992	50	43	n/a	7

Q.7/7a TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<u>Dukakis</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
October, 1988	50	42	8
September, 1988	50	44	6
May, 1988	40	53	7

**ASK IF RESPONDENT DID NOT CHOOSE ROMNEY IN Q.7/7a (Q.7=1 OR Q.7a=1,3,9):
RANDOMIZE Q.7b AND Q.7c**

Q.7b Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for Mitt Romney in November, or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2373]:

	<u>Chance might vote for</u>	<u>Decided not to vote for</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Romney			
Apr 4-15, 2012	10	40	5=55%
McCain			
November, 2008	7	47	7=61%
Late October, 2008	7	51	6=64%
Mid-October, 2008	9	47	6=62%
Early October, 2008	10	45	5=60%
Late September, 2008	10	42	6=58%
Mid-September, 2008	9	40	7=56%
August, 2008	14	37	6=57%
July, 2008	13	38	7=58%
June, 2008	12	41	7=60%
Bush			
November, 2004	6	44	5=55%
Mid-October, 2004	5	43	7=55%
Early October, 2004	9	39	4=52%
September, 2004	9	38	4=51%
August, 2004	10	42	3=55%
July, 2004	10	41	5=56%
June, 2004 ³	9	41	2=52%
May, 2004	9	42	4=55%
Late March, 2004	11	40	3=54%
Mid-March, 2004	11	44	2=57%
Late February, 2004	10	43	3=56%
Early February, 2004	10	41	2=53%
November, 2000	8	44	7=59%
Late October, 2000	10	41	4=55%
Mid-October, 2000	12	40	5=57%
Early October, 2000	11	39	7=57%
September, 2000	15	38	6=59%
Mid-June, 2000	15	33	6=54%
Dole			
November, 1996	8	54	6=68%
October, 1996	11	51	4=66%
Late September, 1996	16	44	5=65%
Early September, 1996	14	47	5=66%
July, 1996	15	40	3=58%
Bush Sr.			
Late October, 1992	11	53	2=66%
Early October, 1992	13	46	6=65%
September, 1992	12	44	6=62%
August, 1992	15	45	4=64%
May, 1992	8	40	5=53%

³ In June 2004, May 2004, Late March 2004, Mid-March 2004, Mid-June 2000 and July 1996 the head-to-head match-up was asked both as a three-way and a two-way trial heat. In those surveys, this question followed the two-way trial heat.

**ASK IF RESPONDENT DID NOT CHOOSE OBAMA IN Q.7/7a (Q.7=2 OR Q.7a=2,3,9):
RANDOMIZE Q.7b AND Q.7c**

Q.7c Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for Barack Obama in November, or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2373]:

	Chance might <u>vote for</u>	Decided not <u>to vote for</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama			
Apr 4-15, 2012	6	42	3=51%
November, 2008	6	38	6=50%
Late October, 2008	7	35	6=48%
Mid-October, 2008	8	35	5=48%
Early October, 2008	7	38	5=50%
Late September, 2008	8	37	6=51%
Mid-September, 2008	11	38	5=54%
August, 2008	12	36	6=54%
July, 2008	12	34	7=53%
June, 2008	14	32	6=52%
Kerry			
November, 2004	6	43	5=54%
Mid-October, 2004	6	42	7=55%
Early October, 2004	9	45	5=59%
September, 2004	11	42	4=57%
August, 2004	11	39	3=53%
July, 2004	13	36	5=54%
June, 2004 ⁴	10	41	3=54%
May, 2004	11	35	4=50%
Late March, 2004	13	37	3=53%
Mid-March, 2004	13	32	3=48%
Late February, 2004	13	36	3=52%
Early February, 2004	15	33	5=53%
Gore			
November, 2000	8	41	6=55%
Late October, 2000	9	44	4=57%
Mid-October, 2000	10	40	5=55%
Early October, 2000	11	38	7=56%
September, 2000	13	35	5=53%
June, 2000	14	34	6=54%
Clinton			
November, 1996	6	37	6=49%
October, 1996	10	35	4=49%
Late September, 1996	11	35	3=49%
Early September, 1996	10	34	4=48%
July, 1996	8	36	4=48%
Late October, 1992	11	43	2=56%
Early October, 1992	14	32	6=52%
September, 1992	12	28	6=46%
August, 1992	14	26	3=43%
May, 1992	11	38	6=55%

⁴ In June 2004, May 2004, Late March 2004, Mid-March 2004, Mid-June 2000 and July 1996 the head-to-head match-up was asked both as a three-way and a two-way trial heat. In those surveys, this question followed the two-way trial heat.

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1) OR (REG=1):

Now I'd like to ask about how important some issues are to you...

Q.8 In making your decision about who to vote for this fall, will the issue of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How important will the issue of [ITEM] be to you in making your decision about who to vote for this fall?] [INTERVIEWER: PLEASE RE-READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NECESSARY TO REMIND RESPONDENTS OF OPTIONS. IF RESPONDENT VOICES THEIR SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION TO AN ISSUE, CLARIFY: "this question is not about your position on each issue, just how important each issue will be to your vote."]**

		Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK ITEMS a-d OF FORM A ONLY [N=1164]:						
a.FA	The economy					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	86	11	1	1	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 ⁵	90	9	1	*	*
	Mid-October, 2008	91	7	2	*	*
	August, 2008	87	12	1	*	*
	Late May, 2008	88	9	1	1	1
	October, 2007	79	18	1	1	1
	June, 2007	74	22	2	1	1
	Mid-October, 2004	78	18	3	1	*
	August, 2004	76	22	1	1	*
b.FA	Immigration					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	42	35	15	6	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	58	29	8	4	1
	Mid-October, 2008	49	32	13	5	1
	August, 2008	52	33	10	4	1
	Late May, 2008	54	32	9	3	2
	October, 2007	56	31	7	4	2
	June, 2007	54	34	7	3	2
c.FA	Health care					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	74	19	5	2	*
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	78	17	3	1	*
	Mid-October, 2008	77	19	2	1	1
	August, 2008	73	21	5	1	*
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	2	*
	October, 2007	76	18	4	1	1
	June, 2007	71	23	4	2	*
	Mid-October, 2004	73	22	4	1	*
	August, 2004	72	21	5	2	*
d.FA	Abortion					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	39	25	14	18	4
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	43	24	13	17	3
	Mid-October, 2008	41	29	16	12	2
	August, 2008	39	26	17	15	3
	Late May, 2008	40	27	15	15	3
	October, 2007	39	26	17	13	5
	June, 2007	40	30	13	14	3

⁵ In all 2010 trends, the question read "As you think about the elections for Congress this November, how important are each of the following issues to you. Is the issue of **[INSERT ITEM]** very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: As you think about the elections for Congress this November, is the issue of [ITEM] very, somewhat, not too, or not at all important to you?]**"

Q.8 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mid-October, 2004	47	27	12	11	3
August, 2004	45	25	13	14	3

ASK ITEMS e-i OF FORM B ONLY [N=1209]:

e.FB	Jobs					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	84	13	1	1	*
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	88	9	1	1	*
	Mid-October, 2008	80	15	2	2	1
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	1	1
	October, 2007	71	23	3	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	76	19	4	1	*
f.FB	The federal budget deficit					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	74	19	4	2	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	69	22	5	2	2
	Late May, 2008	69	21	4	3	3
	October, 2007	61	28	8	1	2
	Mid-October, 2004	57	32	7	3	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*
g.FB	Medicare					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	66	24	7	2	*
h.FB	Gay marriage					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	28	20	18	30	3
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 ⁶	31	20	17	31	2
	Mid-October, 2008	28	21	21	27	3
	August, 2008	28	20	18	32	2
	Late May, 2008	28	21	19	29	3
	October, 2007	22	21	21	32	4
	Mid-October, 2004	32	22	19	24	3
	August, 2004	34	19	15	30	2
i.FB	Gun control					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	47	23	15	13	1
	Mid-October, 2004	45	31	14	8	2

ASK ITEMS j-i OF FORM 2A ONLY [N=622]:

j.F2A	Education					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	72	21	5	2	*
	Mid-October, 2008	73	21	4	2	*
	August, 2008	73	20	5	1	1
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	1	1
	October, 2007	75	21	2	1	1
	Mid-October, 2004	75	20	3	2	*
	August, 2004	70	26	3	1	*
k.F2A	Foreign policy					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	52	38	6	2	2
l.F2A	Birth control					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	34	23	18	22	3

⁶ In July 2010 an experiment was conducted comparing the results of "Gay marriage" and "Same-sex marriage" and found no significant differences. The 2010 figures reflect the total of both items.

Q.8 CONTINUED...

		Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK ITEMS m-n OF FORM 2B ONLY [N=592]:						
m.F2B	Afghanistan					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	46	34	13	5	2
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	59	28	6	4	3
n.F2B	The environment					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	51	32	10	6	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	57	33	7	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	57	31	8	3	1
	August, 2008	59	31	6	3	1
	Late May, 2008	62	27	8	3	*
	October, 2007	58	31	8	2	1
	June, 2007	55	36	6	3	*
	Mid-October, 2004	53	37	7	2	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*
ASK ITEMS o-p OF FORM 1A ONLY [N=542]:						
o.F1A	Taxes					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	61	28	8	2	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	68	24	6	2	1
	Mid-October, 2008	71	24	3	1	1
	Late May, 2008	68	24	5	2	1
	October, 2007	63	28	6	1	2
	June, 2007	62	29	7	2	*
	Mid-October, 2004	59	31	7	2	1
p.F1A	Terrorism					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	59	25	9	5	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	71	18	6	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	69	20	7	3	1
	August, 2008	72	20	5	2	1
	Late May, 2008	68	23	6	2	1
	October, 2007	69	22	5	3	1
	June, 2007	69	24	4	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	77	17	3	2	1
	August, 2004	75	19	3	2	1
ASK ITEMS q-r OF FORM 1B ONLY [N=617]:						
q.F1B	Energy					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	61	30	6	1	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	62	30	5	2	1
	Mid-October, 2008	78	18	3	1	*
	August, 2008	77	19	2	1	1
	Late May, 2008	77	20	2	*	1
	October, 2007	65	28	3	2	2
	June, 2007	61	32	4	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	54	37	6	2	1
	August, 2004	53	40	6	*	1
r.F1B	Iran					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	47	34	13	4	2

QUESTIONS 9FA-30 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?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
Jan 11-16, 2012	22	31	42	3	*	2	17	16
Jan 4-8, 2012	26	31	35	4	*	4	14	14
Dec 7-11, 2011	23	33	38	3	*	2	12	17
Nov 9-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	1	2	16	15
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	23	33	38	2	1	3	18	16
Aug 17-21, 2011	24	30	40	3	*	3	17	18
Jul 20-24, 2011	24	32	38	4	*	2	16	14
Jun 15-19, 2011	26	34	32	4	*	4	13	13
May 25-30, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	15	17
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	25	32	37	3	*	3	17	16
Yearly Totals								
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 IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT (PARTY=1,2)

PARTYSTR Do you consider yourself a STRONG [Republican/Democrat] or NOT a strong [Republican/Democrat]?

	Strong Republican	Not strong/DK	Strong Democrat	Not strong/DK
Apr 4-15, 2012	14	10=24%	20	11=31%
Mar 8-14, 2011	12	12=24%	20	13=33%
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	14	10=24%	18	15=33%
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	14	10=24%	19	13=32%
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	13	12=25%	20	11=32%

PARTYSTR CONTINUED...

	<u>Strong Republican</u>	<u>Not strong/ DK</u>	<u>Strong Democrat</u>	<u>Not strong/ DK</u>
April, 2009	12	10=22%	20	13=33%
October, 2007 ⁷	13	12=25%	19	14=33%
August, 2007	14	12=26%	18	14=32%
July, 2007	16	11=27%	19	13=32%
June, 2007	13	12=25%	19	15=34%
April, 2007	14	11=25%	15	13=28%
January, 2007	12	11=23%	17	14=31%
Mid-November, 2006	14	11=25%	22	14=36%
Late October, 2006	14	12=26%	18	14=32%
Early October, 2006	15	12=27%	19	15=34%
September, 2006	17	13=30%	18	16=34%
December, 2005	16	13=29%	20	14=34%
December, 2004	18	13=31%	19	15=34%
July, 2004	17	12=29%	20	13=33%
August, 2003	14	13=27%	15	16=31%
September, 2000	14	13=27%	19	15=34%
Late September, 1999	10	14=24%	15	16=31%
August, 1999	11	14=25%	15	18=33%
November, 1997	11	14=25%	14	18=32%
October, 1995	11	19=30%	14	16=30%
April, 1995	15	15=30%	14	15=29%
October, 1994	16	15=31%	18	14=32%
July, 1994	13	16=29%	15	18=33%
June, 1992	11	17=28%	14	18=32%
May, 1990	13	15=28%	16	17=33%
February, 1989	15	16=31%	17	21=38%
May, 1988	13	15=28%	19	19=38%
January, 1988	12	15=27%	19	20=39%
May, 1987	11	14=25%	18	19=37%

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?

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
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	--
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 ⁸	22	22	53	2	2	--

⁷ Data from Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends.

⁸ 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."

TEAPARTY2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
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

NO QUESTIONS 31-34

ASK REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS ((REGICERT=1 OR REG=1) AND (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1)):

Q.35 As I name some Republican candidates for president, please tell me which one, if any, you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**
[PROBE IF NECESSARY: As of today, who would you say you LEAN toward?]

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1099]:

<u>Apr⁹ 4-15 2012</u>		<u>Mar 7-11 2012</u>	<u>Feb 8-12 2012</u>	<u>Jan 11-16 2012</u>	<u>Jan 4-8 2012</u>	<u>Dec 7-11 2011</u>	<u>Nov 9-14 2011</u>	<u>Sep 22- Oct 4 2011</u>	<u>Jul 20-24 2011</u>	<u>Mar 8-14 2011</u>	<u>Nov 4-7 2010</u>
42	Mitt Romney	33	28	31	27	21	23	21	21	21	17
21	Rick Santorum	24	30	14	16	3	2	2	1	2	2
13	Newt Gingrich	20	17	16	16	33	16	7	3	11	9
13	Ron Paul	14	12	15	12	8	8	11	9	8	10
2	Other (VOL.) ¹⁰	*	1	2	1	*	*	1	1	1	5
--	Rick Perry	--	--	5	6	4	8	16	12	--	--
--	Jon Huntsman	--	--	2	2	3	1	1	2	--	--
--	Michele Bachmann	--	--	--	--	6	5	4	11	--	--
--	Herman Cain	--	--	--	--	--	22	12	8	--	--
--	Sarah Palin	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	11	13	16
--	Tim Pawlenty	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	5
--	Mike Huckabee	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20	19
--	Mitch Daniels	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
--	Haley Barbour	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2
--	Chris Christie	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
4	None (VOL.)	4	4	4	4	10	4	5	5	5	4
2	Too early to tell (VOL.)	3	3	6	5	4	5	5	7	3	--
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	5	6	10	7	5	5	8	7	10

⁹ On April 10, 2012 Santorum announced the end of his campaign. Question wording for April 10-15, 2012 was changed to "Thinking about the Republican presidential primary, please tell me who, if anyone, you would most like to see nominated..."

¹⁰ Perry, Huntsman, Bachmann, Cain, Palin, Pawlenty, Huckabee, Daniels and Barbour were explicitly asked in some previous surveys. Chris Christie was never asked in any surveys. In surveys in which they received less than 1% support, these responses are included in other. Dashes indicate that candidates were not explicitly asked about and received less than 1% support.

ASK REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS ((REGICERT=1 OR REG=1) AND (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1)):

Q.36 If Mitt Romney is the Republican candidate, do you think the Republican Party will unite solidly behind him or do you think disagreements within the party will keep many Republicans from supporting Romney?

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1099]:

Apr 4-15 <u>2012</u>		Feb 8-12 <u>2012</u>
65	Solidly unite	57
25	Keep many from supporting	32
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

	Rep/Rep Leaning Registered Voters			
	<i>John McCain</i>		<i>Bob Dole</i>	
	May	Mar	Late Feb	Jul
	<u>2008</u> ¹¹	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>1996</u>
Solidly unite	63	64	58	46
Keep many from supporting	26	22	32	39
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	14	10	15

	Dem/Dem Leaning Registered Voters			
	<i>Barack Obama</i>		<i>John Kerry</i>	<i>Bill Clinton</i>
	May	Mar	Jul	Jul
	<u>2008</u> ¹²	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>1992</u>
Solidly unite	61	66	71	45
Keep many from supporting	31	25	15	38
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	9	14	17

NO QUESTIONS 37-39

QUESTIONS 40F1-59 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

¹¹ From February-May 2008 the question read: "Do you think the Republican Party will unite solidly behind John McCain or do you think that differences and disagreements within the party will keep many Republicans from supporting McCain." This question was asked about Bob Dole after the Republican nomination had been settled.

¹² In May 2008, the question read: "If Barack Obama is the Democratic candidate, do you think the Democratic Party will solidly unite behind him or do you think that differences and disagreements within the party will keep many Democrats from supporting Obama." In March 2008, the question began: "If Barack Obama wins the Democratic nomination..." but otherwise has the same language as May 2008. These questions were asked about John Kerry and Bill Clinton after the Democratic nominations had been settled.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
APRIL 12-15, 2012 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,002**

PEW.1 AND PEW.2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 Thinking about the presidential primaries so far, generally do you think they have been a good way of determining who the best qualified nominees are or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
April 12-15, 2012	30	57	13
May 30-June 2, 2008	35	60	5
February 8-11, 2008	43	52	5
February 2004	40	46	14
March 2000	41	50	9
March 1996	35	58	7
March 1992	31	59	10
January 1992	51	41	8
<i>Gallup</i> : June 1988	48	37	15
May 1988	56	31	13
January 1988	61	23	16
<i>Newsweek</i> : March 1980	40	48	12

NO QUESTIONS PEW.4-PEW.6

PEW.7-PEW.10 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE