



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**  
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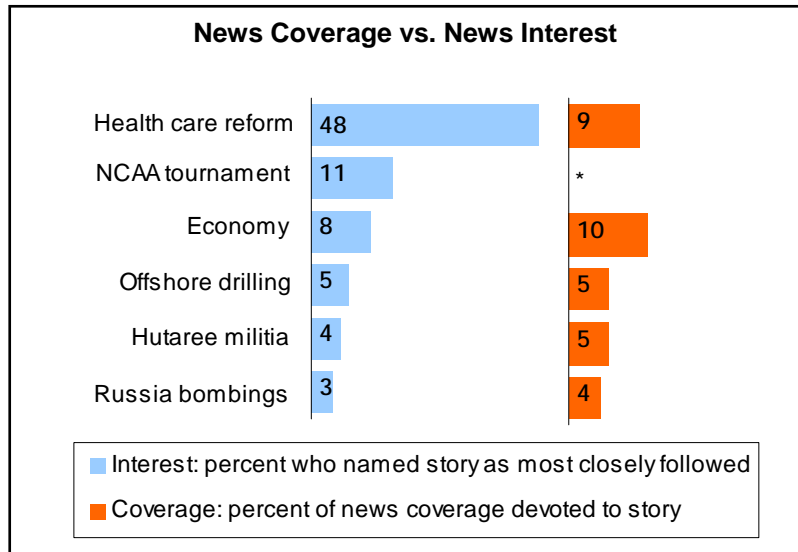
## **News on Jobs Still Seen as Mostly Bad**

### **PUBLIC REMAINS FOCUSED ON HEALTH CARE REFORM**

Americans say they tracked news about the newly enacted health care reform law more closely than other major news stories last week, though the health care debate did not dominate coverage as it had during the final votes in Congress late last month.

Close to half the public (48%) followed news about the new health care law most closely

last week, dwarfing the 8% following the other top policy story, the economy, that closely, according to the latest News Interest Index survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press among 1,016 adults April 1-5. In terms of coverage, economic news rivaled news about health care. The economy made up 10% of coverage, while health care news made up 9%.



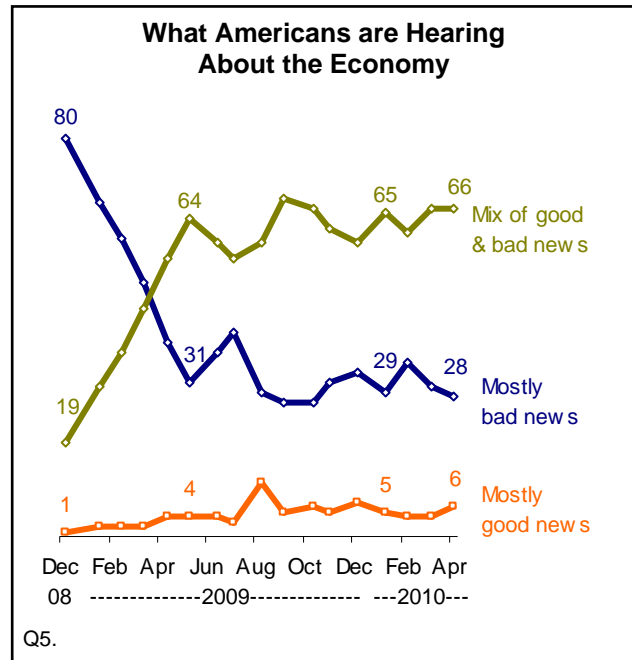
While most Americans say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the economy generally, a majority (56%) continues to say they are hearing mostly bad news about the job situation. That is despite the release of a federal employment report on April 2 that showed the creation of 162,000 new jobs last month. The percentage holding this view is comparable to last month (59%), but down 12 points from 68% at the start of November 2009. A third of the public (33%) says they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the job situation, while 9% say they are hearing mostly good news.

<b>Majority Still Hearing Bad News on Jobs</b>				
	Mostly <u>Good</u> %	Mostly <u>Bad</u> %	<u>Mixed</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
News about the economy these days	6	28	66	*=100
<i>News about...</i>				
The job situation	9	56	33	2=100
Real estate values	12	44	38	6=100
Prices for food and consumer goods	10	35	46	9=100
Financial markets	15	30	50	6=100

Q5. "Are you hearing most good news about the economy these days, mostly bad news about the economy or a mix of both good and bad news?"  
 Q6a-d. "Please tell me if you are hearing mostly good news, mostly bad news or a mix of both good and bad news about each of the following."  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

In contrast to news about jobs, two-thirds (66%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the economy generally, a number little changed in recent months. Close to three-in-ten (28%) say the economic news they have been hearing has been mostly bad, while 6% say it has been mostly good. Those numbers also are little changed.

Half of the public says they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about financial markets, 30% say they are hearing mostly bad news and 15% say they are hearing mostly good news about this. Almost four-in-ten (38%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about real estate values, while 44% say they are hearing mostly bad news and 12% say they are hearing mostly good news.



Close to half (46%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about prices for food and consumer goods; 35% say they are hearing mostly bad news and 10% say they are hearing mostly good news. On each question, the numbers have fluctuated only slightly in recent months.

With the health care legislation already signed into law, the media divided its attention last week among a number of breaking stories. None accounted for more than 10% of coverage, according to an analysis by the Pew Research Center’s Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ). Two weeks ago, the health care story accounted for 45% of the newshole – including reports about threats and vandalism directed at lawmakers. That week, 66% of the public said that the health care debate was the story they were following most closely.

### Differing Partisan Views on Economic News

Just as in March, Republicans are somewhat more likely than Democrats to say they are hearing mostly bad news about the economy (32% vs. 23%), a view shared by 26% of independents. Republicans also are more likely than Democrats to say they are hearing bad news about the job situation (62% vs. 49%); 56% of independents say job news is mostly negative. About four-in-ten Democrats (42%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about jobs, compared with 27% of Republicans and 33% of independents. Partisan differences are less pronounced in assessments of news about other aspects of the economy.

Pluralities say news organizations are giving the right amount of coverage to both the economy (46%) and the new health care law (46%). About a third (34%) say the media is giving too little coverage to the economy, about the same as the 30% that say this about the new health care law. Just 15% say news organizations are giving too much attention to the economy, while 17% say this about the health care law.

<b>Economy, Health Care Getting Right Amount of Coverage</b>				
	<u>Too much</u> %	<u>Right amount</u> %	<u>Too little</u> %	<u>Don't know</u> %
Economy	15	46	34	6=100
Health care law	17	46	30	7=100
Q4a,b. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.				

### The Week’s Top News

Just more than four-in-ten Americans (42%) say they followed news about the new health care reform law very closely last week. In the previous two weeks, about half said they were following the debate over health care reform very closely (49% March 26-29, 51% March 19-22). Still, 48% say this was the story they followed most closely. No other story came close. News about health care reform made up 9% of the newshole, according to PEJ.

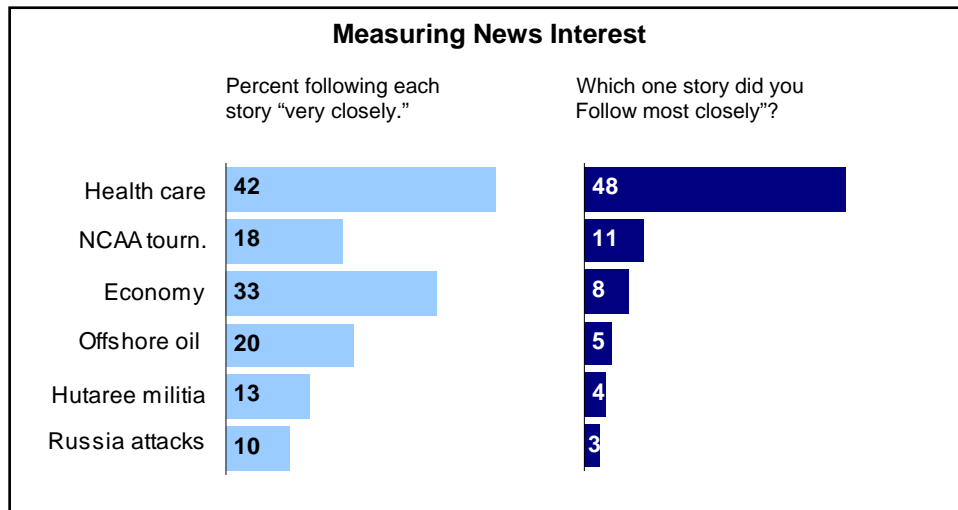
A third of the public (33%) says they followed news about the economy very closely, down from 41% the previous week; 8% say this was the story they followed most closely. The economy made up 10% of coverage.

Close to two-in-ten (18%) say they followed the NCAA basketball tournament very closely, while 11% say this was the story they followed most closely. The level of interest is comparable to the 15% that said they followed the tournament very closely in 2009.

Two-in-ten say they followed very closely the announcement of an Obama proposal to allow new offshore oil and gas drilling; 5% say this was the story they followed most closely. The drilling proposal accounted for 5% of coverage.

Just more than one-in-ten (13%) say they followed reports about the arrest of members of a Christian militia group in Michigan who were allegedly planning to kill a police officer; 4% say this was the story they followed most closely. News about the arrests made up 5% of the newshole.

And 10% say they very closely followed news about a series of suicide bombings in Russia; 3% say this was the news they followed most closely. The stories accounted for 4% of coverage.



## Few Heard About Republican Party's Tab at Racy L.A. Night Club

Four-in-ten Americans heard at least a little about the controversy last week over the Republican National Committee paying a roughly \$1,900 tab for young party donors at a sexually-oriented night club in Los Angeles. Still, six-in-ten say they heard nothing at all about this.

While 16% say they heard a lot about this story, the percentage of Democrats (21%) who say this is twice the percentage of Republicans (10%). Among independents, 15% say they heard a lot about this story. In March 2009, 14%

	A lot %	A little %	Nothing at all %	DK %
Major flooding in New England	32	34	33	*=100
Major changes in federal student loans	26	40	34	*=100
RNC pays for visit to sexually oriented club	16	24	60	*=100
News about the Large Hadron Collider	6	17	76	*=100

Q.3a-d. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

said they had heard a lot about controversial comments made by GOP Chairman Michael Steele. At that point, there was little difference among partisans (16% of Republicans and 17% of Democrats had heard a lot about this). Just 10% of independents heard a lot about that story.

About a third of the public (32%) says they heard a lot about major flooding in New England, while another 34% says they heard a little about this story. Another third (33%) says they heard nothing at all.

About a quarter (26%) say they heard a lot about President Obama signing into law major changes in the federal student loan program. Four-in-ten say they heard a little about this, while 34% say they heard nothing at all.

Just 6% say they heard a lot about the success of the Large Hadron Collider last week in smashing sub-atomic particles. Another 17% heard a little about the workings of the collider near Geneva, Switzerland, but 76% say they heard nothing at all about this.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly News Interest Index, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's coverage. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage were collected March 29-April 4, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week

were collected April 1-5, from a nationally representative sample of 1,016 adults. Because of Easter, polling was not conducted on Sunday, April 4.

## About the News Interest Index

The *News Interest Index* is a weekly survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press aimed at gauging the public's interest in and reaction to major news events.

This project has been undertaken in conjunction with the Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, an ongoing content analysis of the news. The News Coverage Index catalogues the news from top news organizations across five major sectors of the media: newspapers, network television, cable television, radio and the internet. Each week (from Monday through Sunday) PEJ compiles this data to identify the top stories for the week. (For more information about the Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, go to [www.journalism.org](http://www.journalism.org).) The News Interest Index survey collects data from Friday through Monday to gauge public interest in the most covered stories of the week.

Results for the weekly surveys are based on landline telephone interviews among a nationwide sample of approximately 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, under the direction of Infogroup/ORC (Opinion Research Corporation). The sample is produced by ORC from data provided by Marketing Systems Group. Interviews are conducted in English. Data are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population survey. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting.

The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the current survey, conducted April 1-5, 2010 (with no polling conducted Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010):

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus...</b>
Total sample	1,016	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	245	8.0 percentage points
Democrats	322	7.0 percentage points
Independents	371	6.5 percentage points

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.

## **About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press**

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director  
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research  
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors  
Michael Remez, Senior Writer  
Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, Leah Christian, Jocelyn Kiley and Alec Tyson, Research Associates  
Jacob Poushter, Research Assistant

For more information about the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press' weekly News Interest Index, go to [www.people-press.org](http://www.people-press.org).



**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**April 1-5, 2010<sup>1</sup> NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**N=1,016**

Q.1 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?”]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
April 1-5, 2010	33	34	14	19	*
March 19-22, 2010	41	32	14	13	*
March 12-15, 2010	41	35	12	12	*
March 5-8, 2010	40	34	12	13	*
February 26-March 1, 2010	31	33	17	19	*
February 19-22, 2010	38	34	15	12	*
February 12-15, 2010	35	34	15	16	*
February 5-8, 2010	43	36	13	9	*
January 29-February 1, 2010	45	32	13	10	*
January 22-25, 2010	41	34	14	10	*
January 15-18, 2010	37	38	14	11	*
January 8-11, 2010	39	33	15	12	*
December 18-21, 2009	45	31	14	10	0
December 11-14, 2009	42	31	14	13	*
December 4-7, 2009	41	36	13	9	1
November 13-16, 2009	38	33	14	15	*
October 30-November 2, 2009	34	32	17	16	*
October 23-26, 2009	44	30	15	10	1
October 9-12, 2009	41	29	16	13	*
October 2-5, 2009	44	30	15	11	0
September 25-28, 2009	44	37	10	10	*
September 18-21, 2009	44	34	15	7	*
September 11-14, 2009	45	32	14	9	*
September 3-6, 2009	41	31	15	13	*
August 28-31, 2009	45	30	13	12	1
August 21-24, 2009	50	27	13	10	1
August 14-17, 2009	41	37	11	12	*
August 7-10, 2009	42	34	13	10	*
July 31-August 3, 2009	46	34	11	8	*
July 24-27, 2009	45	35	12	8	*
July 17-20, 2009	43	35	11	11	1
July 10-13, 2009	37	38	13	11	*
July 2-5, 2009	38	35	15	12	*
June 19-22, 2009	42	33	15	10	*
June 12-15, 2009	41	35	12	12	*
June 5-8, 2009	41	34	11	14	*
May 29-June 1, 2009	43	37	11	8	*
May 21-24, 2009	44	35	13	9	*
May 15-18, 2009	44	35	12	8	*
May 8-11, 2009	42	34	12	12	*
May 1-4, 2009	47	36	11	5	1

<sup>1</sup> Polling was not conducted on Sunday, April 4, 2010, which was Easter.

**Q.1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
April 17-20, 2009	52	30	10	7	1
April 9-13, 2009	48	29	13	10	0
March 27-30, 2009	48	32	10	10	*
March 20-23, 2009	52	34	8	6	*
March 13-16, 2009	48	33	9	10	*
February 27-March 2, 2009	56	30	8	6	*
February 13-16, 2009	55	29	10	6	*
January 30-February 2, 2009	52	31	12	5	*
January 23-26, 2009	57	30	8	5	0
January 16-19, 2009	43	35	13	9	*
January 2-4, 2009	42	36	15	7	*
December 12-15, 2008	51	33	9	7	*
December 5-8, 2008	42	38	13	7	*
November 21-24, 2008	59	24	9	8	*
November 14-17, 2008	56	29	9	6	*
November 7-10, 2008	54	31	8	7	*
October 31-November 3, 2008	63	27	6	4	*
October 24-27, 2008	52	35	7	5	1
October 17-20, 2008	62	29	6	3	*
October 10-13, 2008	65	25	7	3	*
October 3-6, 2008	69	23	5	3	*
September 26-29, 2008	70	22	5	3	*
September 19-22, 2008	56	27	12	5	*
September 5-8, 2008	44	33	16	7	*
August 29-31, 2008	41	34	13	11	1
August 15-18, 2008	39	36	15	10	*
August 8-11, 2008	39	35	16	10	*
August 1-4, 2008	47	34	11	8	0
July 25-28, 2008	46	32	10	12	*
July 18-21, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
July 11-14, 2008	44	33	12	10	1
June 27-30, 2008	49	31	12	7	1
June 13-16, 2008	42	33	14	11	*
May 9-12, 2008	45	31	13	11	*
May 2-5, 2008	43	31	15	10	1
April 18-21, 2008	41	35	13	10	1
April 4-7, 2008	39	37	12	12	*
March 28-31, 2008	42	36	14	8	*
March 20-24, 2008	45	33	13	9	*
February 29-March 3, 2008	38	35	15	11	1
February 15-18, 2008	37	36	11	16	8
February 1-4, 2008	40	37	14	8	1
January 18-21, 2008	42	31	16	11	*
January 11-14, 2008	36	32	15	16	1
November 2-5, 2007	27	37	16	19	1
October 19-22, 2007	25	34	20	21	*
August 10-13, 2007	28	36	18	18	*
Mid-November, 2006	31	40	17	11	1
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1

**Q.1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1
b. Suicide bombings in Russia					
April 1-5, 2010	10	26	24	40	*
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
July 17-20, 2009: <i>The bombing of two hotels in Indonesia</i>	13	26	23	36	2
December 5-8, 2008: <i>The terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India</i>	29	37	20	14	*
July 6-9, 2007: <i>The investigation into who was responsible for car bombs that were discovered in London and a car bomb that went off at an airport in Scotland</i>	34	30	19	16	1

**Q.1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
June 29-July 2, 2007: <i>British police finding and defusing a car bomb in London</i>	34	31	16	18	1
August, 2006: <i>British officials stopping a terrorist plot to blow up planes flying to the U.S.</i>	54	26	9	9	2
October, 2005: <i>The recent terrorist bombings in Bali, Indonesia</i>	13	31	26	29	1
July, 2005: <i>The terrorist bombings in London, England</i>	48	37	11	4	*
September, 2004: <i>The killing of Russian school children by Chechen rebels</i>	48	30	11	10	1
March, 2004: <i>The terrorist bombings in Madrid, Spain</i>	34	35	18	12	1
Late October, 2002: <i>The terrorist bombing of a nightclub in Bali, Indonesia</i>	20	34	25	20	1
January 2000: <i>The conflict between the Russian military and the rebels in Chechnya</i>	10	25	30	34	1
December, 1999	11	22	31	34	2
February, 1995: <i>Russia's fighting in Chechnya</i>	10	27	27	35	1
c. The arrest of Christian militia group members allegedly planning to kill a police officer					
April 1-5, 2010	13	21	21	45	*
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
September 25-28, 2009: <i>News about recent terrorist plots in the United States</i>	32	38	17	14	0
May 11-14, 2007: <i>The arrest of six men charged with plotting an attack on the Fort Dix army base</i>	19	29	20	31	1
d. News about the new health care reform law					
April 1-5, 2010	42	27	14	16	*
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
March 26-29, 2010: <i>Debate over health care reform</i>	49	29	12	10	*
March 19-22, 2010	51	24	11	14	*
March 12-15, 2010	40	31	16	13	*
March 5-8, 2010	42	27	17	15	*
February 26-March 1, 2010	29	29	19	22	*
February 19-22, 2010	33	28	19	19	*
January 29-February 1, 2010	39	27	16	17	*
January 22-25, 2010	41	32	15	11	*
January 15-18, 2010	37	27	19	18	*
January 8-11, 2010	39	26	20	15	*
December 18-21, 2009	42	27	16	14	*
December 11-14, 2009	42	30	15	14	*
December 4-7, 2009	42	28	15	14	1
November 20-23, 2009	42	29	14	15	*
November 13-16, 2009	38	26	17	17	1
November 6-9, 2009	35	28	15	22	1
October 30-November 2, 2009	32	26	19	23	*
October 23-26, 2009	40	27	16	17	1
October 16-19, 2009	36	28	15	21	*

**Q.1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
October 9-12, 2009	37	29	14	19	1
October 2-5, 2009	39	29	16	16	*
September 25-28, 2009	45	31	12	12	0
September 18-21, 2009	44	26	19	11	*
September 11-14, 2009	44	27	14	15	*
September 3-6, 2009	40	26	16	17	0
August 28-31, 2009	40	28	17	14	1
August 21-24, 2009	49	24	12	15	1
August 14-17, 2009	39	31	15	15	1
August 7-10, 2009: <i>Debate in Washington over health care reform</i>	40	27	17	15	1
July 31-August 3, 2009	47	26	14	13	1
July 24-27, 2009	44	28	15	13	*
July 17-20, 2009	33	31	13	21	2
July 10-13, 2009	24	29	20	27	*
June 26-29, 2009	29	26	20	25	1
June 19-22, 2009	28	28	20	23	*
June 12-15, 2009	29	26	18	26	*
May 15-18, 2009: <i>Debate over Barack Obama's health care plans</i>	25	30	20	24	*
March 6-9, 2009: <i>Obama proposing a \$630 billion fund for overhauling health care</i>	41	32	13	14	*
September, 1994: <i>The Clinton administration's health care reform proposals</i>	32	41	18	9	*
June, 1994	34	40	19	7	*
May, 1994	37	37	16	9	1
January, 1994	38	38	15	9	*
Early January, 1994	40	40	14	6	*
December, 1993	45	35	12	7	1
October, 1993	44	32	17	6	1
September, 1993	49	34	11	6	*
August, 1993: <i>Reports about the White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton</i>	27	32	25	15	1
June, 1993	28	38	19	15	*
May, 1993	30	30	25	14	1
e. President Obama's proposal to allow offshore oil and gas drilling April 1-5, 2010	20	24	21	33	1
f. The NCAA basketball tournament					
April 1-5, 2010	18	13	13	56	*
April 3-6, 2009	15	12	15	58	*
March 28-31, 2008	13	14	13	59	1
March, 1998	20	13	19	47	1
April, 1990	24	16	14	46	*

Q.2 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? [DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]

April 1-5

2010

- 48 News about the new health care reform law
- 11 The NCAA basketball tournament
- 8 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
- 5 President Obama's proposal to allow offshore oil and gas drilling
- The arrest of members of a militia group allegedly planning to kill a police officer
- 4
- 3 Suicide bombings in Russia
- 7 Some other story (VOL.)
- 15 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Q.3 How much if anything, have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
a. Republican National Committee funds being used to pay for a visit to a sexually oriented nightclub in Los Angeles				
April 1-5, 2010	16	24	60	*
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
March 13-16, 2009: <i>Controversy over the leadership of Michael Steele, chairman of the Republican National Committee</i>	14	32	54	*
October 24-27, 2008: <i>The Republican National Committee spending over \$150,000 on new clothes for Sarah Palin and her family members</i>	52	27	20	1
b. News about the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland				
April 1-5, 2010	6	17	76	*
c. President Obama signing into law major changes in the federal student loan program				
April 1-5, 2010	26	40	34	*
d. Major flooding in New England				
April 1-5, 2010	32	34	33	*
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
September 25-28, 2009: <i>Recent flooding in the Southeast</i>	44	36	20	0

Q.4 Do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage, too little coverage, or the right amount of coverage to each of the following?  
**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy				
April 1-5, 2010	15	34	46	6
February 12-15, 2010	16	34	46	4
January 22-25, 2010	9	38	52	2
October 2-5, 2009	22	32	44	2
July 17-20, 2009	16	30	51	4
March 20-23, 2009	21	26	51	2
January 18-21, 2008	11	32	52	5
February, 2001: <i>Signs of an economic slowdown</i>	21	25	46	8
b. News about the new health care reform law				
April 1-5, 2010	17	30	46	7
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
March 12-15, 2010: <i>Debate over health care reform</i>	14	36	46	4
January 22-25, 2010	11	38	47	3
October 16-19, 2009	16	36	46	2
October 2-5, 2009	21	35	40	4
July 17-20, 2009: <i>Debate in Washington over health care reform</i>	6	45	44	6

Thinking about recent economic news ...

Q.5 Are you hearing mostly good news about the economy these days, mostly bad news about the economy or a mix of both good and bad news?

	<u>Hearing mostly good news</u>	<u>Hearing mostly bad news</u>	<u>A mix of good and bad news</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
April 1-5, 2010	6	28	66	*
March 5-8, 2010	4	30	66	1
February 5-8, 2010	4	35	61	*
January 8-11, 2010	5	29	65	1
December 4-7, 2009	7	33	59	1
October 30-November 2, 2009	5	31	62	2
October 9-12, 2009	6	27	66	1
September 3-6, 2009	5	27	68	1
August 7-10, 2009	11	29	59	1
July 2-5, 2009	3	41	56	*
June 12-15, 2009	4	37	59	*
May 8-11, 2009	4	31	64	1
April 9-13, 2009	4	39	56	1
March 13-16, 2009	2	51	46	1
February 13-16, 2009	2	60	37	1
January 16-19, 2009	2	67	30	1
December 5-8, 2008	1	80	19	*

Q.6 Thinking about some specific aspects of the nation's economy... Please tell me if you are hearing mostly good news, mostly bad news or a mix of both good and bad news about each of the following. **[READ and RANDOMIZE]**

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
a. The financial markets				
April 1-5, 2010	15	30	50	6
March 5-8, 2010	11	26	59	4
January 8-11, 2010	16	32	47	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	33	48	7
August 7-10, 2009	20	31	43	6
June 12-15, 2009	9	43	45	3
b. Real estate values				
April 1-5, 2010	12	44	38	6
March 5-8, 2010	8	45	42	5
January 8-11, 2010	11	43	40	5
October 30-November 2, 2009	13	43	37	6
August 7-10, 2009	11	40	41	7
June 12-15, 2009	11	45	40	3
c. Prices for food and consumer goods				
April 1-5, 2010	10	35	46	9
March 5-8, 2010	9	34	50	7
January 8-11, 2010	12	37	45	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	39	42	7
August 7-10, 2009	10	36	46	9
June 12-15, 2009	9	39	46	6
d. The job situation				
April 1-5, 2010	9	56	33	2
March 5-8, 2010	5	59	35	1
January 8-11, 2010	6	61	31	2
October 30-November 2, 2009	3	68	27	2
August 7-10, 2009	6	61	32	1
June 12-15, 2009	1	71	27	1