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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
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News About Economy Remains Mixed
PUBLIC TRACKS OIL SPILL, MEDIA FOCUSES MORE ON TIMES SQUARE

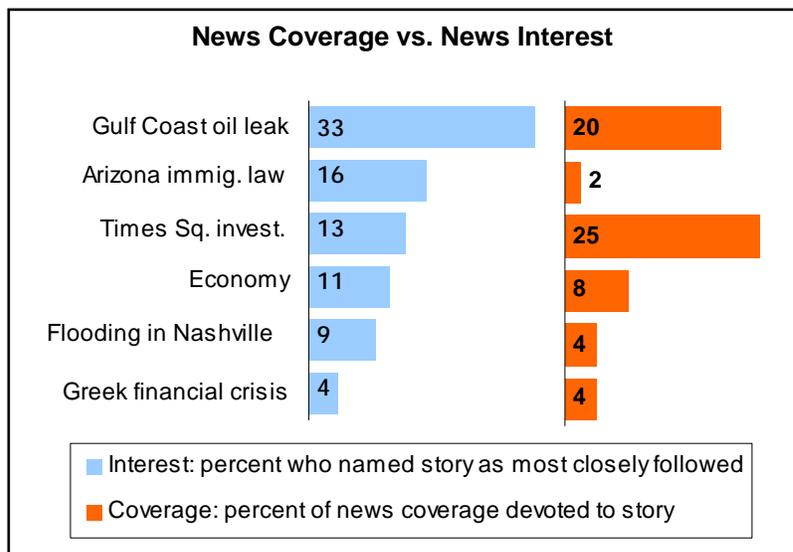
Americans tracked the worsening oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico more closely than other major news stories last week, while the media focused on both the underwater oil leak and the investigation into the attempted car bombing in New York’s Times Square.

A third of the public (33%) says they most closely followed news about the oil leak

now threatening the coasts of several southeastern states. Fewer say they followed news about the Times Square investigation (13%) or the new Arizona immigration law (16%) more closely than any other story, according to the latest News Interest Index survey, conducted May 7-10 among 1,006 adults by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press.

In terms of coverage, the media devoted 25% of the newshole to the Times Square investigation and 20% to the Gulf Coast oil leak, according to a separate analysis by the Pew Research Center’s Project for Excellence in Journalism (PEJ).

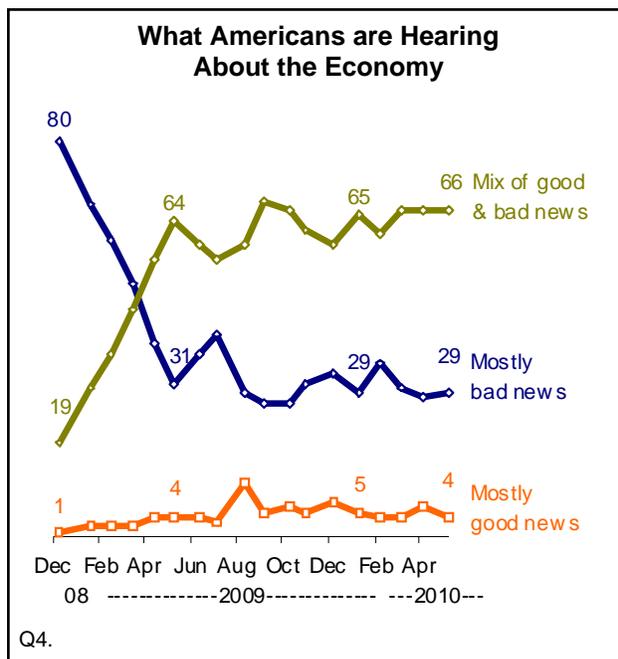
When it comes to the economy, the public sees little change in the tenor of recent news. Two-thirds (66%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the economy, matching the numbers from early April and early March.



Americans give generally high marks to the press for its handling of the ongoing oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico (66% rate coverage as excellent or good) and the investigation into the Times Square bomb attempt (63% excellent or good). Opinions are more measured about press performance covering the new Arizona law that gives police more authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants (48% excellent or good).

Rating News About the Economy

Public views about the mix of economic news have changed little since the start of 2010. Currently, 66% say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about the economy, about the same as the 65% recorded Jan. 8-11. About three-in-ten (29%) say they are hearing mostly bad news, while 4% say they are hearing mostly good news. Those numbers also are little changed this year.



Among partisans, Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say they are hearing mostly bad news (35% vs. 21%). Independents fall in the middle (28% mostly bad). Close to seven-in-ten Democrats (72%) and independents (68%) say they are hearing

a mix of good and bad economic news, compared with 61% of Republicans. Few in any group report hearing mostly good news (7% of Democrats, 4% of independents and 2% of Republicans).

Perceptions of news about the job situation show a slight improvement over last month and a larger improvement since the start of the year. Close to four-in-ten (38%) say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about jobs, compared with 33% in April and 31% in January. That is the highest percentage saying this since the question was first asked in June 2009 (27%). Just more than half (52%) say they are hearing mostly bad news about the job situation, not statistically different from 56% last month but down from 61% in January. That number stood at 71% last June.

	Jan 8-11	Mar 5-8	April 1-5	May 7-10
<i>Hearing about the job situation:</i>	%	%	%	%
Mostly good news	6	5	9	9
Mostly bad news	61	59	56	52
Mix of good and bad	31	35	33	38
Don't know	2	1	2	2
	100	100	100	100

Pew Research Center May 7-10 Q5d.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

On the other hand, perceptions of news about the financial markets have become more negative following last week's dramatic drop in stock prices worldwide. Most of the survey was completed before the markets surged upwards on Monday.

About four-in-ten (41%) say they have been hearing mostly bad news about the markets, up 11 points from 30% one month earlier. In early April, 15% said they were hearing mostly good news about the financial markets. Now, 6% say that. The percent that says they have been hearing a mix of good and bad is essentially unchanged (49%).

	April	May
<i>Hearing about financial markets:</i>	<u>1-5</u>	<u>7-10</u>
	%	%
Mostly good news	15	6
Mostly bad news	30	41
Mix of good and bad	50	49
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100

Pew Research Center May 7-10 Q5a.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The public perceives no real change in news about real estate values or prices for food and consumer goods. Currently, 42% say they are hearing a mix of good and bad news about real estate values, 41% say they are hearing mostly bad news and 12% say they are hearing mostly good news. Fully 46% say they are hearing a mix of news about prices for food and consumer goods, 37% say they are hearing mostly bad news and 8% say they are hearing mostly good news about this.

High Interest in News About Gulf Oil Spill

As coverage of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico changed from a story about a deadly oil rig explosion to one about a potentially catastrophic threat to the Gulf Coast, public interest grew and has stayed high. Shortly after the April 20 explosion, 21% said they were they were following the story very closely.

One week later, as the oil slick spread, 44% said they were following the story very closely. Interest had doubled across most demographic and political groups. Now, 46% say they followed the story very closely last week as the slick approached land and oil continued to flow from the underwater well. A third (33%) say this was the story they followed most closely, much more than any other news story in the survey.

Coverage of the story ramped up as well. The

	April	April 30-	May
<i>% following very closely:</i>	<u>23-26</u>	<u>May 3</u>	<u>7-10</u>
	%	%	%
Total	21	44	46
Men	21	45	48
Women	20	43	44
18-39	12	28	40
40-64	24	49	46
65+	32	60	59
College grad+	20	52	51
Some college	22	38	48
HS or less	20	41	41
Republican	22	39	44
Democrat	22	49	52
Independent	21	45	44

Pew Research Center May 7-10. Q1b.
 April 30-May 3 asked about "oil leaking into the ocean near the Louisiana coast after an off-shore oil rig explosion." April 23-26 asked about "an explosion on an off-shore oil rig near the coast of Louisiana."

week the story broke (April 19-25), it accounted for 5% of the newshole measured by PEJ. The following week that had grown to 16%. Last week it accounted for 20% of coverage.

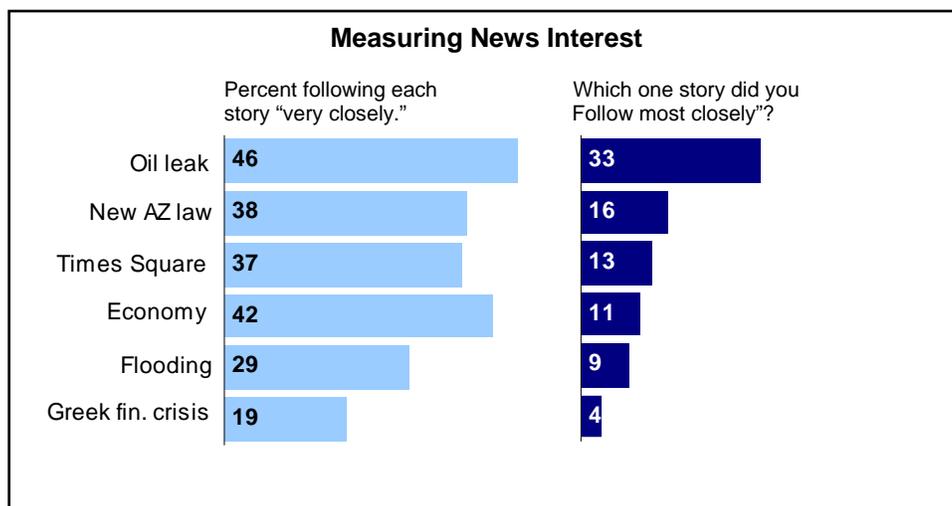
The public also continued to track news about the new Arizona law that gives police greater authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants. Close to four-in-ten (38%) say they followed this story very closely; 16% say this was the story they followed most closely. Coverage, on the other hand, fell off significantly. News about the immigration law made up 2% of coverage, down from 16% one week earlier.

Interest in the investigation and arrests following the attempted car bombing in Times Square was similar: 37% say they followed this story very closely, while 13% say this was the story they followed most closely. News about the arrest of Faisal Shahzad, reports about potential links to the Taliban in Pakistan and the implications on U.S. anti-terror policies accounted for 25% of the newshole, higher than any other story last week.

The public also continued to keep a watch on economic news, with 42% saying they followed reports about the condition of the U.S. economy very closely. Just over one-in-ten (11%) say this was the news they followed most closely. News about the economy – separating out news about the Greek financial crisis – accounted for 8% of coverage.

About three-in-ten (29%) say they very closely followed news about flooding in Nashville, Tenn., and other parts of the Southeast; 11% say this was the story they followed most closely. News about the flooding accounted for 4% of coverage, according to PEJ.

About two-in-ten (19%) say they very closely followed news about the financial crisis in Greece and violent protests there. Just 4% say this was the story they followed most closely, while news about the crisis made up 4% of coverage.



Looking at Coverage

The public gives generally good marks to the press for its coverage of both the oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico and the investigation into the attempted car bombing in Times Square. Perceptions of coverage of the contentious fight over Arizona's new immigration law are not as positive.

In all three cases, those who say they were following the stories very closely are more likely to rate the coverage positively than those following less closely.

About a quarter of the public rate coverage of the oil leak as excellent (23%), while another 43% rate it as good. About two-in-ten (18%) rate it as only fair; 12% say it has been poor. Among those following very closely, 32% rate coverage as excellent. That drops to 16% among those following less closely.

A similar pattern is evident in ratings of coverage of the Times Square bomb attempt. About two-in-ten (21%) say coverage has been excellent, 42% say good, 21% say only fair and 10% say poor. Among those following very closely, 34% rate the coverage as excellent; fewer (13%) among those following less closely rate the coverage that highly.

Fewer rate coverage of the debate over the Arizona immigration law as excellent (13%), while 41% say it has been good. A quarter (25%) rate press coverage as only fair and 19% rate it as poor. Among those following very closely, 20% rate the coverage as excellent, compared with 8% of those following less closely.

Attentiveness and Press Evaluations					
	<u>Excellent</u> %	<u>Good</u> %	<u>Only fair</u> %	<u>Poor</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Oil leak					
Total	23	43	18	12	4=100
<i>Followed:</i>					
Very closely	32	44	12	11	1=100
Less Closely	16	42	23	13	6=100
Times Square					
Total	21	42	21	10	6=100
<i>Followed:</i>					
Very closely	34	43	13	9	1=100
Less Closely	13	41	26	11	9=100
Arizona law					
Total	13	35	25	19	8=100
<i>Followed:</i>					
Very closely	20	41	17	21	1=100
Less Closely	8	31	31	17	13=100
Pew Research Center May 7-10 Q6a-c. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.					

Many Aware of Recall of Children’s Medicines

Most Americans say they heard at least a little about a recall of many children’s medicines, including Tylenol and Motrin (29% a lot, 40% a little). About as many say they heard at least a little about plans for a merger of United Airlines and Continental Airlines (19% a lot, 47% a little).

What the Public’s Hearing About ...				
	A <u>lot</u> %	A <u>little</u> %	Nothing <u>at all</u> %	DK %
Recall of children’s medicines	29	40	30	*=100
United-Continental plan to merge	19	47	34	*=100
Elections in Britain	12	35	54	*=100
Soldiers remake Lady Gaga video	7	27	66	*=100
Pew Research Center May 7-10 Q3a-d. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.				

Fewer than half say they heard that much about elections in Great Britain that ousted the Labor Party after 13 years of controlling Parliament (12% a lot, 35% a little); 54% say they heard nothing at all about this. Fewer still had heard at least a little about a parody video made by soldiers in Afghanistan that had gotten media attention as it spread on the internet. Just 7% say they heard a lot about the video of soldiers dancing to the Lady Gaga song “Telephone;” 27% say they heard a little about this. Two-thirds (66%) heard nothing at all.

There are few differences by demographics or partisanship when it comes to familiarity with these news stories. Women are more likely than men to have heard a lot about the recall of children’s medicines. Still, just 34% of women and 24% of men heard a lot about this. College graduates are more likely than those without a college degree to say they heard a lot about the British elections (24% versus 6%).

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 May 3-9, and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week were collected May 7-10, from a nationally representative sample of 1,006 adults.

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.) 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 May 7-10, 2010:

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	1,006	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	278	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	292	7.0 percentage points
Independents	349	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
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Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
Michael Remez, Senior Writer
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Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst

For more information about the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press' weekly News Interest Index, go to www.people-press.org.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
May 7-10, 2010 NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,006

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					
May 7-10, 2010	42	34	11	12	*
April 30-May 3, 2010	32	37	17	14	1
April 23-26, 2010	42	31	13	14	*
April 16-19, 2010	40	32	14	14	0
April 9-12, 2010	40	32	15	13	*
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	*

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>
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
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	*

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>
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1
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. An oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states

May 7-10, 2010	46	33	11	10	*
April 30-May 3, 2010: <i>Oil leaking into the ocean near the Louisiana coast after an off-shore oil rig explosion</i>	44	35	11	10	*
April 23-26, 2010: <i>An explosion on an off-shore oil rig near the coast of Louisiana</i>	21	35	22	23	*

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>
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
April 1-5, 2010: <i>President Obama's proposal to allow offshore oil and gas drilling</i>	20	24	21	33	1
July 25-28, 2008: <i>A major oil spill into the Mississippi River</i>	14	19	25	41	1
December 4-8, 2002: <i>The large oil spill polluting the coast of Spain</i>	15	29	28	27	1
May 4-7, 1989: <i>The Alaska oil spill</i>	52	37	7	4	--
c. Flooding in Nashville, Tennessee, and other parts of the Southeast					
May 7-10, 2010	29	30	22	18	*
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
March 27-30, 2009: <i>Floods in and around Fargo, North Dakota</i>	24	33	19	24	*
June 20-23, 2008: <i>Floods in the Midwest</i>	39	36	14	11	*
June 13-16, 2008	34	34	18	14	*
August 24-27, 2007: <i>Floods in the Midwest and the plain states</i>	27	35	20	18	*
July 6-9, 2007: <i>Floods in Texas and the plains states</i>	21	29	24	26	*
May 11-14, 2007: <i>Tornadoes and floods in the Midwest</i>	22	35	23	19	1
January, 2006: <i>Floods in California</i>	20	31	28	20	1
April, 2001: <i>Floods in the Midwest</i>	20	34	24	22	*
January, 1997: <i>Floods in the Pacific Northwest</i>	34	37	14	14	1
March, 1995: <i>Floods in California</i>	37	40	18	5	*
August, 1993: <i>Floods in the Midwest</i>	65	27	6	2	*
June, 1990: <i>Flooding in Texas and other Southwestern states</i>	34	39	17	10	*
d. The investigation and arrests following an attempted car bombing in Times Square in New York					
May 7-10, 2010	37	32	16	15	*
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
January 8-11, 2010: <i>The government's response to an attempted terrorist attack on a Detroit-bound plane on Christmas</i>	37	36	14	12	*
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
July, 2002: <i>Defending against terrorist attacks in the U.S.</i>	51	33	9	6	1
June, 2002: <i>The arrest of a man for planning a "dirty bomb" attack on the U.S.</i>	30	30	24	15	1
June, 2002: <i>Defending against terrorist attacks in the U.S.</i>	45	35	12	7	1
April, 2002	46	36	10	7	1
Early April, 2002	49	35	10	5	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>
January 2002: <i>Reports on the failed suicide bombing of an American Airlines jet coming from Paris</i>	20	34	22	23	1
December, 2001: <i>Terrorism attacks on the United States</i>	60	29	7	3	1
Mid-November, 2001	66	25	6	2	1
Early November, 2001	63	26	6	3	2
Mid-October, 2001	78	16	4	1	1
Early October, 2001: <i>News about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington</i>	73	22	4	1	*
Mid-September, 2001	74	22	3	1	*
January, 2000: <i>The recent arrests of suspected terrorists in the U.S.</i>	23	36	23	17	1
e. A new Arizona law that gives police more authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants					
May 7-10, 2010	38	27	13	21	1
April 30-May 3, 2010	36	31	13	20	*
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
October 12-15, 2007: <i>The issue of immigration</i>	23	29	19	29	*
June 29-July 2, 2007: <i>The debate in Congress over new immigration policy</i>	26	30	21	23	*
June 22-25, 2007	24	28	22	26	*
June 15-18, 2007	22	32	21	25	*
June 8-11, 2007	24	29	20	26	1
May 24-27, 2007	27	31	22	19	1
April 12-16, 2007: <i>The issue of immigration</i>	21	29	24	26	*
August, 2006	34	40	16	9	1
June, 2006	36	41	15	7	1
May, 2006	44	33	13	9	1
April, 2006	39	34	16	10	1
December, 1994: <i>Passage of Proposition 187, the California law that bars education, health and welfare benefits from illegal immigrants and their children</i>	26	32	22	20	*
f. The financial crisis in Greece and violent protests there					
May 7-10, 2010	19	23	26	31	*
April 30-May 3, 2010: <i>The financial crisis in Greece</i>	6	15	28	51	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
October, 1998: <i>Financial instability around the world</i>	32	40	19	9	*
September, 1998: <i>Economic and political instability in Russia</i>	18	30	28	24	*
Late August, 1998: <i>Economic problems in Russia</i>	8	22	29	41	*
January, 1998: <i>The deepening financial crisis in many Asian countries</i>	15	25	27	33	*

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>
March, 1995: <i>The financial and political instability in Mexico</i>	12	28	30	29	1

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.]**

May 7-10
2010

- 33 An oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states
- 16 A new Arizona law that gives police more authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants
- 13 The investigation and arrests following an attempted car bombing in Times Square in New York
- 11 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
- 9 Flooding in Nashville, Tennessee, and other parts of the Southeast
- 4 The financial crisis in Greece and violent protests there
- 4 Some other story (VOL. SPECIFY)
- 9 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>Don't know</u> (VOL.)
a. United Airlines and Continental Airlines planning to merge May 7-10, 2010	19	47	34	*
b. The recall of many children's medicines, including children's Tylenol and Motrin May 7-10, 2010	29	40	30	*
TREND FOR COMPARISON: April 3-6, 2009: <i>The recall of pistachio nuts due to potential salmonella contamination</i>	33	47	20	*
c. Soldiers in Afghanistan making a video to a Lady Gaga song and posting it online May 7-10, 2010	7	27	66	*
d. Elections in Britain May 7-10, 2010	12	35	54	*
April 30-May 3, 2010: <i>Upcoming elections in Britain</i>	6	31	63	*

Thinking about recent economic news ...

Q.4 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?

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Refused</u>
May 7-10, 2010	4	29	66	1
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.5 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>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Refused</u>
a. The financial markets				
May 7-10, 2010	6	41	49	3
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				
May 7-10, 2010	12	41	42	5
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

Q.5 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) DK/ <u>Refused</u>
c. Prices for food and consumer goods				
May 7-10, 2010	8	37	46	9
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				
May 7-10, 2010	9	52	38	2
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

Q.6 In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE][READ]**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) Don't <u>know</u>
a. An oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico threatening the coast of several states					
May 7-10, 2010	23	43	18	12	4
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
October 26-29, 2007: <i>The wildfires in California</i>	31	47	14	3	5
August 3-6, 2007: <i>The bridge that collapsed in Minnesota</i>	28	48	14	6	4
September 8-11, 2005: <i>The impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast</i>	26	37	18	18	1
September 6-7, 2005	28	37	18	15	2
b. The investigation and arrests following an attempted car bombing in Times Square in New York					
May 7-10, 2010	21	42	21	10	6
c. A new Arizona law that gives police more authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants					
May 7-10, 2010	13	35	25	19	8
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
July 8-16, 2002: <i>The Supreme Court ruling allowing vouchers to be used at private and religious schools</i>	12	35	34	14	5