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For The People & The Press

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In GOP: Romney Leads, Attentive like Perry,
Bachmann Most Visible

Obama Loses Ground
in 2012 Reelection Bid

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In GOP: Romney Leads, Attentive Like Perry, Bachmann Most Visible Obama Loses Ground in 2012 Reelection Bid

The sizeable lead Barack Obama held over a generic Republican opponent in polls conducted earlier this year has vanished as his support among independent voters has fallen off. Currently, 41% of registered voters say they would like to see Barack Obama reelected, while 40% say they would prefer to see a Republican candidate win in 2012. In May, Obama held an 11-point lead.

This shift is driven by a steep drop-off in support for Obama among independents. The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 20-24 among 1,501 adults and 1,205 registered voters finds that just 31% of independent voters want to see Obama reelected, down from 42% in May and 40% in March. Where Obama held a slim 7-point edge among independent registered voters two months ago, a generic Republican holds an 8-point edge today.

This is consistent with a drop in Obama's approval among all independents. Currently, a majority (54%) disapprove of Obama's performance for the first time in his presidency. His approval among independents has slipped to 36% from 42% last month and 49% in late May. (See "[*Public Wants a Debt Ceiling Compromise, Expects a Deal Before Deadline.*](#)")

2012 Generic Ballot Now Split, as Fewer Independents Back Obama

	March 2011	May 2011	July 2011
All registered voters	%	%	%
Obama reelected	47	48	41
Prefer Republican	37	37	40
Other/DK (Vol.)	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>
	100	100	100
	Obama +10	Obama +11	Obama +1
Independent voters			
Obama reelected	40	42	31
Prefer Republican	34	35	39
Other/DK (Vol.)	<u>26</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>
	100	100	100
	Obama +6	Obama +7	Repub. +8

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Meanwhile, there is no greater clarity to the GOP nomination race. Only about a quarter of voters (24%) have given a lot of thought to their 2012 options. That rises to just 30% among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents. Overall, Romney continues to hold a significant lead among Republican voters: 21% say they would like to see him win the nomination. Rick Perry gets the support of 12%; 11% back Sarah Palin, 11% Michele Bachmann, 9% Ron Paul and 8% Herman Cain. No other candidate receives more than 3% of the support of Republican-oriented voters. Perry and Palin have not yet said whether they will run.

The race for the support of Tea Party backers is even more up-for-grabs, with five candidates (Romney, Perry, Bachman, Palin and Cain) all garnering the support of between 12% and 16%.

GOP Race Wide Open, Particularly Among Tea Party Supporters

<i>Who would you most like to see nominated?</i>	All Rep/ Lean R	Tea Party	Not Tea Party
	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	21	16	25
Rick Perry	12	16	8
Sarah Palin	11	12	10
Michele Bachmann	11	14	8
Ron Paul	9	9	8
Herman Cain	8	12	5
Newt Gingrich	3	2	4
Tim Pawlenty	3	2	3
Jon Huntsman	2	2	2
Rick Santorum	1	2	*
Other	1	1	1
None/DK/Too early	<u>20</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>25</u>
	100	100	100
N	546	285	251

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q20. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. First choice shown. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Perry Fares Well Among Most Attentive

While Texas governor Rick Perry is a relatively new name in discussions of the GOP race, he is drawing strong interest from highly attentive Republicans. Among Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters who say they have given a lot of thought to the candidates, 22% support Perry, 15% Romney, 13% Bachmann and 12% Cain.

And Perry's lead is substantial among highly attentive Tea Party supporters. Perry has the backing of 29% of Republicans and Republican-leaners who agree with the Tea Party. That is nearly double the backing for the next closest candidate, Herman Cain (16%). The overall frontrunner, Mitt Romney, receives the backing of 11% of highly engaged Tea Party voters.

Perry Draws Support from Engaged Republicans and Tea Party Backers

<i>Who would you most like to see nominated as GOP candidate?</i>	All Rep/Lean R	<i>Thought given to election</i>		Tea Party Rep/Lean R	<i>Thought given to election</i>	
		A lot	Less/None		A lot	Less/None
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	21	15	23	16	11	19
Rick Perry	12	22	7	16	29	7
Sarah Palin	11	9	11	12	8	14
Michele Bachmann	11	13	10	14	14	14
Ron Paul	9	7	10	9	7	11
Herman Cain	8	12	6	12	16	10
Newt Gingrich	3	3	3	2	1	2
Tim Pawlenty	3	3	2	2	3	1
Jon Huntsman	2	2	2	2	1	3
Rick Santorum	1	1	1	2	2	2
Other/None/DK	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>17</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	546	180	366	285	126	159

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 20-24, 2011. Q20. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. First choice shown. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Tea Party Intensity Continues

Early signs suggest that Tea Party supporters remain the most engaged and committed segment of the Republican base. Republicans and Republican-leaning independent voters who agree with the Tea Party are more than twice as likely as other Republicans to have given a lot of thought to the 2012 election (44% vs. 18%). They also are much more likely to say they are very closely following campaign news (36% vs. 16%), and significantly more committed to voting in their state's Republican primary or caucus next year (83% vs. 69%).

Some of these differences can be explained by the demographic profile of Tea Party Republicans. In particular, Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party movement are significantly older and more highly educated than those who do not (See table on page 9). But even when these demographic characteristics are taken into account, agreement with the Tea Party is strongly linked with campaign interest and commitment to voting.

Tea Party Republicans More Engaged in 2012 Election

	All Rep/ Lean Rep	Tea Party	Not Tea Party
	%	%	%
Given a lot of thought to 2012 election	30	44	18
Following news about 2012 candidates very closely	25	36	16
Very likely to vote in Republican primary	75	83	69

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. July 20-24, 2011. Q18 & Q64. Based on registered voters. Following campaign news very closely from July 14-17, 2011 omnibus. PEW1e. Based on general public.

Yet it is important to note that even among those who say they are very likely to vote in the 2012 primaries, only about half of Republican and Republican-leaning voters say they agree with the Tea Party movement. The other half either disagrees or has no opinion either way.

Bachmann the Most Visible Candidate

While not a clear frontrunner, Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann is currently the most visible candidate in the GOP field. When asked what possible candidate they've heard the most about in the news recently, almost a quarter of Americans (23%) offer Bachmann's name.

But candidate visibility has fluctuated widely over the past few months. In mid-June, Americans said they were hearing the most about former Romney (27%). Now, Romney rates second, with 13% saying they have heard the most about him recently. Just two months ago, Donald Trump and Newt Gingrich were the most visible candidates in the field.

Rick Perry has the support of many highly-engaged Republican voters, but his public visibility remains limited. Just 3% of Americans – and the same percentage of Republicans and Republican leaners – say he is the potential candidate they have been hearing the most about. Similarly, fewer than 1% cite Herman Cain as the candidate they have been hearing the most about recently.

Which Possible GOP Candidate Have You Heard Most About Recently?

	General Public			Republicans and Republican-leaners		
	May 12-15	June 16-19	July 21-24	May 12-15	June 16-19	July 21-24
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Michele Bachmann	1	5	23	1	7	25
Mitt Romney	7	27	13	9	36	16
Sarah Palin	2	8	7	3	10	7
Donald Trump	16	2	4	17	2	3
Rick Perry	*	*	3	*	*	3
Newt Gingrich	12	5	1	12	4	1
Ron Paul	2	1	1	3	1	2
Jon Huntsman	*	*	1	*	*	1
Tim Pawlenty	1	1	1	2	1	1
Other	--	--	3	--	--	4
Don't know	<u>50</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>40</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1,006	1,003	999	410	418	395

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-24, 2011 omnibus. PEW3. Other category from previous surveys not shown because of changes in candidates mentioned. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding and changes in other category.

Has Press Coverage Been Fair?

While Bachmann has been in the news a great deal recently, there is no impression that news coverage of the Minnesota representative has been too tough. Nearly four-in-ten (37%) say recent press coverage of Bachmann has been fair, 16% say it has been too tough and 16% say it has been too easy. Roughly three-in-ten Republicans and Republican leaners (29%) say the press has been too tough on Bachmann, but about as many (34%) say it has been fair.

A larger plurality sees coverage of Mitt Romney as fair (45%). Just 9% say recent coverage has been too tough, while 16% say it has been too easy. Republicans express similar views: 48% of Republicans and Republican leaners say coverage of Romney has been fair, with about as many saying the press has been too easy on him (17%) as too tough (13%).

The public is more deeply divided in views of how the press covers Sarah Palin. Currently, only 32% say press coverage has been fair, but there is no consensus on what the bias is: 30% say it has been too tough and 22% say it has been too easy. As has been the case all the way back to the 2008 election, perceptions of how the press treats Palin are deeply polarized along partisan lines. Roughly half (52%) of Republicans and Republican leaners say news organizations are too tough on Palin, compared with just 15% of Democrats and Democratic leaners. Democrats are about three times as likely as Republicans (35% vs. 10%) to say the press is too easy on her.

Coverage of Visible GOP Candidates Generally Seen as Fair

<i>Press coverage of ____ has been...</i>	Total	Rep/ Lean Rep	Dem/ Lean Dem
Michele Bachmann	%	%	%
Too easy	16	9	22
Too tough	16	29	7
Fair	37	34	41
Don't know	<u>31</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>29</u>
	100	100	100
Mitt Romney			
Too easy	16	17	16
Too tough	9	13	8
Fair	45	48	47
Don't know	<u>30</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>30</u>
	100	100	100
Sarah Palin			
Too easy	22	10	35
Too tough	30	52	15
Fair	32	29	36
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-24, 2011 omnibus.
PEW14d,e,f. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Obama's Obstacles, Advantages

Obama's reelection support is well behind the 10-point lead George W. Bush held over a generic Democratic candidate at a comparable point in 2003. Bush enjoyed a substantially stronger approval rating in July 2003 (58% vs. 44% currently for Obama), yet his support was also slipping. By October of that year, a Pew Research Center survey found him running even against a generic Democratic candidate (42% to 42%), as Obama is today.

Bill Clinton was also running about even against a generic Republican candidate in the summer of 1995, though Pew Research Center polling in that year included the option of preferring an independent candidate. That was the choice of 23% of voters at that time. Obama's overall approval rating, at 44%, is comparable to Clinton's in the summer of 1995.

In late 1991 George H. W. Bush also ran even against a generic Democratic candidate, despite a fairly solid 55% approval rating at the time. With economic conditions in the nation quickly souring, his standing quickly fell. By February of 1992, as the Democratic primaries that would ultimately select Bill Clinton were

Presidential Reelection Scorecard

	George Bush <i>Nov 1991</i>	Bill Clinton <i>Aug 1995</i>	G.W. Bush <i>July 2003</i>	Barack Obama <i>July 2011</i>
2012 Election Preference (RVs)	%	%	%	%
Reelect president	41	33	47	41
Other party's candidate	44	36	37	40
Other/Independent*	<i>N/A</i>	23*	6	7
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100
President's job rating				
Approve	55	44	58	44
Disapprove	33	44	32	48
	<i>Nov 1991</i>	<i>Jun 1995</i>	<i>Aug 2003</i>	<i>July 2011</i>
State of nation				
Satisfied	34	25	40	17
Dissatisfied	61	73	53	79
	<i>Nov 1991</i>	<i>Aug 1995</i>	<i>July 2003</i>	<i>June 2011</i>
National economy**				
Excellent/Good	9	34	27	8
Only fair/Poor	91	66	73	91
	<i>Jan 1992</i>	<i>Feb 1995</i>	<i>Sep 2003</i>	<i>June 2011</i>
Personal finances				
Excellent/Good	36	47	48	38
Only fair/Poor	63	52	51	61
	<i>June 1991</i>	<i>June 1995</i>	<i>June 2003</i>	<i>June 2011</i>
Unemployment rate	6.9%	5.6%	6.3%	9.2%
Consumer sentiment***	78.9	91.5	89.3	71.9
Party affiliation (RVs)	<i>1991</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2011</i>
Republican	32	33	33	28
Democrat	33	33	34	34
Independent	32	30	28	34
Republican/Lean Rep.	46	47	45	43
Democrat/Lean Dem.	44	46	46	47

PEW RESEARCH CENTER. July 20-24, 2011. Generic ballot figures and party identification based on registered voters. Other measures based on general public. Party affiliation data based on all survey conducted in each year, Jan-Jun 2011.

* "Prefer an independent candidate" offered as a choice in 1995. "Other candidate" a volunteered category in 2003 and 2011.

** Nov 1991, Aug 1995 and July 2003 figures from ABC/Money surveys; answer categories were "Excellent, Good, Not so good, Poor".

***Based on second-quarter data from each year from the Reuters/University of Michigan Surveys of Consumers Index of Consumer Sentiment.

underway, Bush trailed a generic Democratic candidate by 10 points.

But by most measures Barack Obama faces a more somber public mood and a more troubled economy than did any of these previous presidents. With just 8% saying the national economy is in excellent or good shape and only 38% rating their personal finances positively, economic assessments are as negative as they were for George H. W. Bush as he entered his reelection campaign. However, the current unemployment rate is much higher, and overall satisfaction with the state of the nation much lower, than was the case in late 1991.

One factor still working in Obama's favor is a slightly wider advantage in party identification. Where registered voters were essentially divided between Republican and Democratic affiliations in 1991, 1995 and 2003, Democrats hold a six-point edge in party identification today, and a slightly slimmer four-point edge when the partisan leaning of independents is taken into account. Still, this lead is far slimmer than in 2008 when Obama won the presidency. At the end of George W. Bush's presidency, Democrats held a substantial 12-point advantage in leaned party identification, which is down to just four-points today. (See [*"GOP Makes Big Gains among White Voters"*](#) for more on long term trends in party affiliation.)

Demographic Profile of Tea Party Republicans

	All Rep/ Lean Rep	Tea Party	Not Tea Party	Tea/Not Tea Diff
	%	%	%	
Male	52	58	48	+10
Female	48	42	52	-10
White	85	89	82	+7
Black	3	1	4	-3
Hispanic	7	4	8	-4
18-29	20	12	26	-14
30-49	34	33	35	-2
50-64	27	32	23	+9
65+	19	22	16	+6
College grad+	30	35	26	+9
Some college	30	35	26	+9
HS or less	40	30	47	-17
<i>Family income</i>				
\$75,000 or more	30	35	26	+9
\$30,000-\$74,999	35	35	35	0
Less than \$30,000	25	17	31	-14
Protestant	58	63	55	+8
White evangelical	31	36	27	+9
White mainline	22	21	22	-1
Catholic	22	20	23	-3
White Catholic	17	17	18	-1
Unaffiliated	12	9	14	-5
Republican	62	61	61	0
Independent	35	36	35	+1
Conservative	62	78	50	+28
Moderate	30	19	38	-19
Liberal	7	2	10	-8
Registered voter	81	90	75	+15
N	4396	2049	2268	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER 2011. Based on merged date from Jan.-June, 2011.

About the Surveys

Most of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 20-24, 2011 among a national sample of 1,501 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (916 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 585 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 254 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, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. 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 2010 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	1,501	3.5 percentage points
Registered voters	1,205	3.5 percentage points
Republican and Republican-leaning RVs	546	5.5 percentage points
Independent RVs	434	6.0 percentage points
<i>Among Republicans and Republican leaning RVs:</i>		
Agree with Tea Party	285	7.0 percentage points
Disagree/No opinion	251	7.5 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.

Some of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 21-24, 2011, among a national sample of 999 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (602 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 397 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 169 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. 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.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status, based on extrapolations from the 2010 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	999	4.0 percentage points
Republicans/Lean Republican	395	6.0 percentage points
Democrats/Lean Democratic	439	6.0 percentage points

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

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

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JULY 2011 POLITICAL AND MEDIA SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
July 20-24, 2011
N=1,501

QUESTIONS 1-2, 4-5, 7 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

QUESTIONS 3, 8-9, 12-16 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 6, 10-11, 17

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the 2012 Presidential election...

Q.18 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2012? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>None at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	29	27	23	1
May 25-30, 2011	23	30	27	19	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
2008 Presidential Election					
December, 2007	35	33	13	18	1
November, 2007	34	35	16	14	1
October, 2007	30	37	17	14	2
September, 2007	27	33	21	17	2
July, 2007	30	38	16	15	1
June, 2007	29	34	20	16	1
April, 2007	26	34	21	17	2
March, 2007	24	36	20	18	2
February, 2007	24	34	22	18	2
December, 2006	23	36	20	20	1

ASK ALL:

Q.19 Looking ahead, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected president in 2012 or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election? **[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election?"]**

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	<u>Obama re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>	<u>Obama re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
Jul 20-24, 2011	42	37	20	41	40	19
May 25-30, 2011	48	35	18	48	37	15
Mar 8-14, 2011	48	35	17	47	37	16

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Looking ahead to the general election in November, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected president in 2004 or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?
[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?"]

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	<u>Bush re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>	<u>Bush re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
Mid-January, 2004	44	40	16	48	38	14
Early January, 2004	43	43	14	44	42	14
December, 2003	47	38	15	49	37	14
October, 2003	40	44	16	42	42	16
September, 2003	44	43	13	45	43	12

Q.19 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>	Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
August, 2003	40	39	21	43	38	19
Mid-July, 2003	45	37	18	47	37	16
April, 2003	46	35	19	48	34	18

Looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate or an Independent candidate be elected President?¹

	-----Total-----				-----Registered Voters-----			
	Clinton <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Republican</u>	Prefer <u>ind.</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Clinton <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Republican</u>	Prefer <u>ind.</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 1995	34	33	26	7	35	35	24	7
August, 1995	32	35	26	7	33	36	23	8
March, 1995	31	38	23	8	--	--	--	--
December, 1994	33	40	18	9	33	43	16	9

Would you like to see George Bush re-elected President in November or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	G.H.W. Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>	G.H.W. Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
February, 1992	40	48	12	39	49	12
January, 1992	42	42	16	41	45	14
November, 1991	41	43	16	41	44	15

ASK ALL:

Q.20 As I name some possible Republican candidates for president in 2012, 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?]**

Jul 20-24 <u>2011</u>		Mar 8-14 <u>2011</u>	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u> ²
16	Mitt Romney	14	13
10	Sarah Palin	13	15
8	Michele Bachmann	--	--
8	Ron Paul	8	9
6	Rick Perry	--	--
4	Herman Cain	--	--
3	Newt Gingrich	6	6
2	Jon Huntsman	--	--
2	Tim Pawlenty	2	4
1	Rick Santorum	2	2
n/a	Mike Huckabee	13	15
n/a	Mitch Daniels	2	--
n/a	Haley Barbour	2	3
n/a	Chris Christie (VOL.)	1	--
1	Other (VOL.)	1	4
21	None (VOL.)	21	14
5	Too early to tell (VOL.)	2	--
13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12	14

¹ For 1993-1995 Clinton trends, if respondent did not answer, they were prompted to say who they leaned towards. Percentages shown include leaners in each answer category.

² In November 2010, the question read, "Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the Republican nomination for President in 2012. After I read all the names, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for President or if there is someone else you support."

ASK IF HAS FIRST CHOICE (Q.20=1-11):

Q.21 Who, if anyone, would be your second choice for the Republican nomination in 2012? **[READ OPTIONS IF NECESSARY, ELIMINATING NAME CHOSEN IN Q.20]**

Jul 20-24, 2011			Mar 8-14, 2011		
First choice	Second choice	Total	First choice	Second choice	Total
16	10	26	14	9	23
10	6	17	13	8	21
8	8	16	--	--	--
8	4	12	8	7	15
6	4	9	--	--	--
4	3	7	--	--	--
3	3	6	6	7	13
2	2	4	--	--	--
2	2	4	2	3	5
1	2	2	2	2	4
n/a	n/a	n/a	13	12	25
n/a	n/a	n/a	2	2	4
n/a	n/a	n/a	2	2	3
n/a	n/a	n/a	1	*	1
1	2	3	1	2	3
21	13	13	21	8	21
5	*	*	2	1	2
13	4	4	12	4	12
--	39	39	--	35	35

NO QUESTIONS 22-23, 29-30, 43-44, 50-51, 55, 58-59

QUESTIONS 24-28, 31- 36 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

QUESTIONS 37-42, 45-49, 52-54, 56-57, 60-63 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
				No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
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
Mar 8-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	17	15
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	16
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	31	39	3	*	2	16	16
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Yearly Totals								
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

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.64 How likely are you to vote in the REPUBLICAN presidential primary or caucus in your state next year? **[READ]**

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,032]:

Jul 21-24

2011

45	Very likely
15	Somewhat likely
10	Not too likely
27	Not at all likely
1	No primary (VOL.)
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

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

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
Jul 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 ³	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--

³ 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 through October, 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 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>	No opinion <u>either way</u>	(VOL.) Haven't <u>heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	<i>Not heard of/ DK</i>
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

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
July 21-24, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=999

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 Thinking about possible Republican candidates for president in 2012... Regardless of whom you might prefer, which Republican candidate have you heard the most about in the news recently?

[OPEN END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY.] [PLEASE BE CERTAIN TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "JOHN MCCAIN" AND "HERMAN CAIN".]

Jul 21-24 2011		Jun 16-19 2011	Jun 2-5 2011	May 12-15 2011	Apr 14-17 2011
23	Michele Bachmann	5	1	1	*
13	Mitt Romney	27	22	7	9
7	Sarah Palin	8	20	2	4
4	Donald Trump	2	5	16	26
3	Rick Perry	*	*	*	*
1	Newt Gingrich	5	2	12	1
1	Ron Paul	1	1	2	*
1	Jon Huntsman	*	*	*	*
1	Tim Pawlenty	1	1	1	1
*	Mike Huckabee	*	*	2	2
3	Other				
44	None/Don't know/Refused	45	41	50	53

ASK ALL:

PEW.14 Thinking about recent news coverage of some people and groups, would you say the press has been too easy, too tough or fair in the way it has covered **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-C AND D-F IN SEPARATE RANDOMIZED BLOCKS]**?

	<u>Too easy</u>	<u>Too tough</u>	<u>Fair</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Barack Obama				
July 21-24, 2011	27	23	41	9
November 18-21, 2010 ⁴	23	21	46	9
September 9-12, 2010	27	23	37	13
July 15-18, 2010	27	24	39	10
April 9-12, 2010	29	21	42	8
October 3-6, 2008	31	7	60	2
April 25-28, 2008	26	17	52	5
March 20-24, 2008	23	15	55	7
February 29-March 3, 2008	28	8	58	6
February 1-4, 2008	23	8	61	8
b. Republican leaders in Congress				
July 21-24, 2011	28	21	38	13
September 9-12, 2010	24	16	40	20
July 15-18, 2010	22	15	45	18
c. Democratic leaders in Congress				
July 21-24, 2011	33	14	40	13
September 9-12, 2010	26	12	43	18
July 15-18, 2010	27	12	44	17

⁴ For November 18-21, 2010 this question was not asked in a list. For all previous trends this was a list item.

PEW.14 CONTINUED...

	<u>Too easy</u>	<u>Too tough</u>	<u>Fair</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
d. Sarah Palin				
July 21-24, 2011	22	30	32	15
July 15-18, 2010	18	30	32	21
July 10-13, 2009	12	36	41	11
October 3-6, 2008	21	38	38	3
e. Mitt Romney				
July 21-24, 2011	16	9	45	30
f. Michele Bachmann				
July 21-24, 2011	16	16	37	31