

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX  
AUGUST 4-7, 2011 OMNIBUS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
N=1001**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.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>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a. Severe food shortages in Somalia					
August 4-7, 2011	12	21	26	40	1
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
April 25-28, 2008: <i>Reports about a worldwide food shortage</i>	24	33	12	11	1
April 18-21, 2008	14	25	25	34	2
October, 1993: <i>The situation in Somalia</i>	34	41	16	8	1
September, 1993	20	42	26	12	*
February, 1993: <i>Accounts about U.S. troops in Somalia</i>	28	42	22	8	*
January, 1993: <i>The deployment of U.S. forces to Somalia</i>	52	37	8	3	*
September, 1992: <i>The civil war and famine in Somalia</i>	11	24	31	33	1
b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
August 4-7, 2011	46	30	11	13	1
July 28-31, 2011	43	30	13	13	*
July 21-24, 2011	41	32	13	13	1
July 14-17, 2011	41	30	14	14	1
July 7-10, 2011	36	30	15	18	1
June 30-July 3, 2011	38	32	13	16	1
June 23-26, 2011	37	29	15	19	*
June 16-19, 2011	39	33	14	13	*
June 9-12, 2011	39	30	15	16	1
June 2-5, 2011	35	34	17	14	*
May 19-22, 2011	33	34	17	16	*
May 12-15, 2011	32	32	17	18	2
May 5-8, 2011	40	35	15	9	1
April 21-25, 2011	41	33	12	14	*
April 14-17, 2011	44	30	14	12	1
April 7-10, 2011	46	30	14	10	*
March 31-April 3, 2011	42	31	16	11	0
March 24-27, 2011	36	32	17	15	*
March 17-20, 2011	38	32	17	13	*
March 10-13, 2011	40	30	16	13	*
March 3-6, 2011	37	31	17	13	1
February 24-27, 2011	49	29	11	10	*
February 17-20, 2011	35	33	14	17	*
February 10-13, 2011	36	34	13	16	*
February 3-6, 2011	35	37	14	14	*
January 20-23, 2011	37	33	14	15	1
January 13-16, 2011	37	29	15	18	1
January 6-9, 2011	39	37	11	12	1
December 16-19, 2010	39	31	14	15	2
December 9-12, 2010	39	30	14	16	1
December 2-5, 2010	52	28	11	9	*

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
November 18-21, 2010	46	31	11	11	*
November 11-14, 2010	38	30	15	16	1
November 4-7, 2010	44	32	11	13	*
October 28-November 1, 2010	39	34	11	15	1
October 21-24, 2010	41	29	14	14	1
October 14-17, 2010	42	33	12	13	*
October 7-10, 2010	36	33	15	15	1
September 30-October 3, 2010	43	35	10	11	1
September 23-26, 2010	43	34	13	9	1
September 16-19, 2010	37	30	16	16	1
September 2-6, 2010	43	31	13	12	*
August 19-22, 2010	39	31	14	15	1
August 5-8, 2010	39	33	14	13	1
July 29-August 1, 2010	51	33	11	5	*
July 22-25, 2010	46	33	14	6	1
July 15-18, 2010	37	33	14	15	1
July 8-11, 2010	36	33	15	16	*
July 1-5, 2010	48	30	13	8	*
June 24-27, 2010	37	37	15	11	1
June 17-20, 2010	38	34	15	13	*
June 10-13, 2010	39	35	17	9	*
June 3-6, 2010	35	33	16	14	1
May 27-30, 2010	43	29	13	15	*
May 20-23, 2010	40	35	13	11	*
May 13-16, 2010	49	32	11	8	1
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	*

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
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
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	*

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
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
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
c. The partial shutdown of the Federal Aviation Administration due to disagreements in Congress					
August 4-7, 2011	17	24	22	36	1
d. Political violence following uprisings in Syria					
August 4-7, 2011	10	19	26	44	1
May 5-8, 2011	14	27	30	28	1
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
June 9-12, 2011: <i>The current situation and events in Libya</i>	14	27	25	33	1

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
June 9-12, 2011: <i>Anti-government unrest and violence in Yemen</i>	9	20	26	44	2
June 2-5, 2011: <i>Anti-government protests and violence in some Middle Eastern countries</i>	18	25	25	32	*
April 28-May 1, 2011	18	29	25	27	1
April 21-25, 2011: <i>The current situation and events in Libya</i>	21	35	20	22	1
April 14-17, 2011	21	30	25	23	1
April 7-10, 2011	28	35	21	16	*
March 31-April 3, 2011: <i>Military air strikes in Libya by the U.S. and its allies</i>	37	31	17	14	1
March 24-27, 2011	33	34	17	15	*
March 17-20, 2011: <i>The conflict between rebels and government forces in Libya</i>	26	28	21	23	1
March 10-13, 2011: <i>Growing violence in Libya</i>	29	29	21	20	*
March 3-6, 2011	31	31	18	19	1
February 24-27, 2011	38	30	15	16	*
February 17-20, 2011: <i>News about the situation in Egypt</i>	34	32	17	16	1
February 17-20, 2011: <i>Anti-government protests in other Middle Eastern and North African nations</i>	20	30	22	28	1
February 10-13, 2011: <i>Anti-government protests in Egypt and the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak</i>	39	31	14	15	1
February 3-6, 2011: <i>Anti-government protests in Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries</i>	32	35	16	18	*
January 27-30, 2011	17	26	21	35	*
January 20-23, 2011: <i>Political instability in Tunisia following the collapse of the government</i>	7	15	25	53	1
January, 2007: <i>The U.S. air strikes on suspected terrorist sites in Somalia</i>	17	32	27	23	1
May, 1999: <i>NATO air strikes against Serbian forces</i>	32	38	19	10	1
Late April, 1999	41	39	13	7	*
April, 1999	41	37	16	6	0
March, 1999: <i>NATO air strikes against Serbian forces in Kosovo</i>	43	32	15	9	1
August, 1998: <i>U.S. military strikes against sites linked to terrorists in Afghanistan and Sudan</i>	44	35	13	8	*
July 10-24, 1986: <i>The U.S. air strike against Libya</i>	58	27	11	3	1
e. News about candidates for the 2012 presidential elections					
August 4-7, 2011	18	21	22	37	1
July 28-31, 2011	17	27	21	35	1
July 21-24, 2011	17	22	28	32	*
July 14-17, 2011	18	26	27	28	1
July 7-10, 2011	16	23	27	33	1
June 30-July 3, 2011	21	28	24	25	2
June 23-26, 2011	19	26	24	31	*
June 16-19, 2011	23	29	23	25	*
June 9-12, 2011	18	30	22	30	1

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
June 2-5, 2011	21	31	22	26	*
May 26-29, 2011	20	27	24	28	*
May 19-22, 2011	15	27	24	32	1
May 12-15, 2011	15	22	26	35	1
May 5-8, 2011	16	24	27	32	1
April 21-25, 2011	18	26	23	32	1
April 14-17, 2011	20	23	29	27	1
March 24-27, 2011	13	19	26	41	1
March 10-13, 2011	15	21	26	38	0
February 10-13, 2011	16	19	24	40	*
February 3-6, 2011	15	20	23	42	*
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<b>2008 Election</b>					
October 31-November 3, 2008: <i>News about the presidential election</i>	57	29	9	5	*
October 24-27, 2008: <i>News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election</i>	44	36	11	8	1
October 17-20, 2008	61	28	7	4	*
October 10-13, 2008	52	31	12	5	*
October 3-6, 2008	57	31	8	4	*
September 26-29, 2008	56	29	10	5	*
September 19-22, 2008	47	33	14	6	*
September 12-15, 2008	40	38	14	7	1
September 5-8, 2008	45	39	12	4	*
August 29-31, 2008	45	32	15	8	*
August 22-25, 2008	31	36	22	11	*
August 15-18, 2008	25	41	19	14	1
August 8-11, 2008	27	38	22	13	*
August 1-4, 2008	30	42	19	9	*
July 25-28, 2008	30	34	21	15	*
July 18-21, 2008	30	35	21	14	*
July 11-14, 2008	28	34	22	15	1
July 3-7, 2008	25	35	23	17	*
June 27-30, 2008	39	33	18	10	*
June 20-23, 2008	28	38	22	12	*
June 13-16, 2008	35	35	20	10	*
June 6-9, 2008	38	35	17	10	*
May 30-June 2, 2008	30	35	21	14	*
May 22-25, 2008	32	37	20	11	*
May 16-19, 2008	33	37	19	10	1
May 9-12, 2008	35	36	18	11	*
May 2-5, 2008	27	35	23	14	1
April 25-28, 2008	34	37	18	11	*
April 18-21, 2008	29	41	19	10	1
April 11-14, 2008	31	37	22	10	*
April 4-7, 2008	33	36	17	14	*
March 28-31, 2008	31	41	18	10	*
March 20-24, 2008	34	37	18	11	*
March 14-17, 2008	40	37	16	7	*
March 7-10, 2008	39	36	15	9	1
February 29-March 3, 2008	43	34	14	9	*
February 22-25, 2008	42	37	13	8	*
February 15-18, 2008	44	36	10	10	*
February 8-11, 2008	39	37	15	9	0
February 1-4, 2008	37	35	16	12	*
January 25-28, 2008	36	37	14	12	1
January 18-21, 2008	36	34	18	12	*

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
January 11-14, 2008: <i>News about the New Hampshire primaries and the presidential campaign</i>	32	31	19	17	1
January 4-7, 2008: <i>News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election</i>	33	36	19	11	1
December 14-17, 2007	25	34	22	19	*
December 7-10, 2007	24	35	22	19	*
November 30 – December 3, 2007	23	35	23	19	*
November 23-26, 2007	20	33	26	20	1
November 16-19, 2007	26	33	21	19	1
November 9-12, 2007	21	33	25	21	*
November 2-5, 2007	27	30	21	21	1
October 26-29, 2007	21	34	26	19	*
October 19-22, 2007	23	32	22	23	*
October 12-15, 2007	13	31	26	30	*
October 5-8, 2007	22	30	24	24	*
September 28 – October 1, 2007	21	34	25	20	*
September 21-24, 2007	24	31	22	23	*
September 14-17, 2007	22	31	24	23	*
September 7-10, 2007	18	34	26	22	*
August 30-September 2, 2007	19	35	21	25	*
August 24-27, 2007	22	28	24	26	*
August 17-20, 2007	19	27	24	30	*
August 10-13, 2007	23	32	21	24	*
August 3-6, 2007	19	31	25	25	*
July 27-30, 2007	19	32	22	26	1
July 20-23, 2007	16	26	30	27	1
July 13-16, 2007	17	29	27	27	*
July 6-9, 2007	24	29	24	22	1
June 29-July 2, 2007	20	32	25	23	*
June 22-25, 2007	18	31	21	30	*
June 15-18, 2007	17	32	26	25	*
June 8-11, 2007	19	30	24	26	1
June 1-4, 2007	16	27	32	24	1
May 24-27, 2007	22	33	23	22	*
May 18-21, 2007	18	31	24	27	*
May 11-14, 2007	18	30	23	28	1
May 4-7, 2007	23	34	21	21	1
April 27-30, 2007	14	30	29	26	1
April 20-23, 2007	18	28	27	27	*
April 12-16, 2007	18	28	27	27	*
April 5-9, 2007	25	30	26	19	*
March 30-April 2, 2007	20	29	27	23	1
March 23-26, 2007	20	32	22	26	*
March 16-19, 2007	15	28	29	27	1
March 9-12, 2007	24	30	23	23	*
March 2-5, 2007	19	31	26	23	1
February 23-26, 2007	22	33	24	21	*
February 16-19, 2007	18	32	22	27	1
February 9-12, 2007	24	30	24	21	1
February 2-5, 2007	24	36	22	18	*
January 26-29, 2007	24	33	23	20	*
January 19-22, 2007: <i>Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2008</i>	24	27	22	26	1
<b>2004 Election</b>					
November, 2004: <i>News about the presidential election</i>	47	35	10	7	1

## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mid-October, 2004: <i>News about candidates for the 2004 presidential election</i>	46	30	12	11	1
September, 2004	40	34	14	11	1
August, 2004	32	38	16	14	*
July, 2004	29	37	18	15	1
June, 2004	28	34	19	18	1
April, 2004	31	33	19	16	1
Mid-March, 2004	35	34	18	13	*
Late February, 2004 <b>(GAP)</b>	24	40	23	12	1
Early February, 2004: <i>The race for the Democratic presidential nomination</i>	29	37	20	13	1
Mid-January, 2004	16	30	27	26	1
Early January, 2004	14	32	30	23	1
December, 2003	16	26	27	30	1
November, 2003	11	26	34	28	1
October, 2003	12	27	28	32	1
September, 2003	17	25	30	27	1
Mid-August, 2003	12	27	27	33	1
May, 2003	8	19	31	41	1
January, 2003: <i>Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2004</i>	14	28	29	28	1
<b>2000 Election</b>					
Early November, 2000: <i>News about the presidential election</i>	33	41	15	10	1
Mid-October, 2000: <i>News about the presidential election campaign</i>	36	35	17	11	1
Early October, 2000	35	35	19	10	1
September, 2000	22	42	21	15	1
July, 2000: <i>News about candidates for the 2000 presidential election</i>	21	38	20	20	1
June, 2000	23	32	23	21	1
May, 2000	18	33	26	23	*
April, 2000	18	39	22	20	1
Early April, 2000					
March, 2000	26	41	19	13	1
February, 2000	26	36	21	17	*
January, 2000	19	34	28	18	1
December, 1999	16	36	24	23	1
October, 1999	17	32	28	22	1
September, 1999	15	31	33	20	1
July, 1999	15	38	24	22	1
June, 1999	11	25	29	34	1
<b>1996 Election</b>					
November, 1996: <i>News about the presidential election</i>	28	42	19	10	*
October, 1996: <i>News about the presidential election campaign</i>	31	39	18	12	*
Early September, 1996	24	36	23	17	*
July, 1996	22	40	23	14	1
April, 1996	23	35	25	17	*
March, 1996 <i>News about the Republican presidential candidates</i>	26	41	20	13	*
January, 1996	10	34	31	24	1
October, 1995	12	36	30	22	*
August, 1995	13	34	28	25	*
June, 1995	11	31	31	26	1



## PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
<b>1992 Election</b>					
October, 1992: <i>News about the presidential election (RVs)</i>	55	36	8	2	0
September, 1992: <i>News about the presidential election campaign</i>	42	37	13	8	*
August, 1992: <i>News about the presidential election (RVs)</i>	36	51	11	2	0
July, 1992: <i>News about the presidential campaign</i>	20	45	26	9	*
May, 1992: <i>The presidential election campaign</i>	32	44	16	8	*
March, 1992: <i>The race for the Democratic presidential nomination</i>	35	40	16	9	*
March, 1992: <i>The race for the Republican presidential nomination</i>	25	40	22	13	1
February 1992: <i>The Democratic primary in New Hampshire</i>	19	31	26	24	*
February, 1992: <i>The Republican primary in New Hampshire</i>	19	31	26	23	1
January, 1992: <i>News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination</i>	11	25	36	27	1
December, 1991	10	28	32	30	*
October, 1991	12	26	31	29	2
<b>1988 Election</b>					
October, 1988: <i>News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (RVs)</i>	43	44	11	2	*
August, 1988 (RVs)	39	45	13	3	*
May, 1988 (RVs)	22	46	23	6	3
November, 1987: <i>News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination</i>	15	28	35	21	1
November, 1987: <i>News about the Republican candidates for the presidential nomination</i>	13	28	36	22	1
September, 1987: <i>Coverage of the Democratic and Republican candidates for the presidential nomination</i>	14	34	37	14	1
f. Congress and the President agreeing to cut federal spending and raise the debt limit					
August 4-7, 2011	46	25	13	14	1
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
July 28-31, 2011: <i>Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit and national debt</i>	41	27	15	17	*
July 21-24, 2011	38	28	17	17	*
July 14-17, 2011	34	29	18	19	*
July 7-10, 2011	25	30	21	23	*
June 30-July 3, 2011	29	30	15	25	2
June 16-19, 2011: <i>Debate in Washington over whether to raise the federal debt limit</i>	24	26	22	28	*
June 2-5, 2011	23	24	22	31	*
May 26-29, 2011: <i>Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit</i>	25	26	20	29	*
May 12-15, 2011	21	26	24	28	1
May 5-8, 2011: <i>Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit and national debt</i>	29	28	22	20	1

**PEW.1 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
April 21-25, 2011	30	31	18	21	*
April 14-17, 2011	36	27	18	19	1
April 7-10, 2011: <i>The threat of a government shutdown because of budget disagreements in Washington</i>	47	26	15	12	*
March 31-April 3, 2011: <i>Discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit</i>	30	27	21	22	*
March 17-20, 2011	24	25	24	26	1
March 3-6, 2011	26	29	19	26	1
February 17-20, 2011	27	30	17	25	1
December 2-5, 2010	35	25	21	17	2
November 11-14, 2010: <i>Proposals made by leaders of the federal budget deficit commission</i>	15	21	21	41	1
January 9-12, 2009: <i>Projections of a record high federal budget deficit this year</i>	35	30	19	16	*
November, 1990: <i>Congressional and administration efforts to reach a budget deficit agreement</i>	34	33	20	11	2
October, 1990: <i>Attempts by Congress and the administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit</i>	34	37	17	12	*

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.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.**]

Aug 4-7

2011

45	Congress and the President agreeing to cut federal spending and raise the debt limit
19	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
3	News about candidates for the 2012 presidential elections
3	Severe food shortages in Somalia
3	The partial shutdown of the Federal Aviation Administration due to disagreements in Congress
1	Political violence following uprisings in Syria
10	Some other story (VOL.)
16	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**PEWWP.1-PEWWP.2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

Thinking about recent economic news...

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 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/Ref
August 4-7, 2011	1	67	30	2
July 7-10, 2011	3	49	46	2
June 2-5, 2011	2	46	50	1
May 12-15, 2011	6	35	56	2
March 31-April 3, 2011	5	33	60	2
March 3-6, 2011	7	38	53	2
February 3-6, 2011	6	29	64	1
January 6-9, 2011	7	24	68	1

## PEW.3 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
December 2-5, 2010	4	39	55	1
November 11-14, 2010	5	41	53	2
October 7-10, 2010	6	39	53	2
September 2-6, 2010	3	41	54	2
August 5-8, 2010	4	38	55	3
July 1-5, 2010	3	42	54	1
June 10-13, 2010	4	30	65	1
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	*

## ASK ALL:

PEW.4 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.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The financial markets				
August 4-7, 2011	2	69	25	4
June 2-5, 2011	5	40	45	9
May 12-15, 2011	11	33	45	11
March 31-April 3, 2011	13	30	51	6
March 3-6, 2011	12	33	47	8
February 3-6, 2011	17	31	46	6
December 2-5, 2010	13	38	44	4
September 2-6, 2010	9	43	40	8
July 1-5, 2010	4	46	44	6
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				
August 4-7, 2011	4	63	27	6
June 2-5, 2011	7	56	28	9
May 12-15, 2011	9	45	35	11
March 31-April 3, 2011	6	48	38	8
March 3-6, 2011	8	46	36	10

**PEW.4 CONTINUED...**

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
February 3-6, 2011	8	51	34	7
December 2-5, 2010	6	62	28	4
September 2-6, 2010	6	57	32	5
July 1-5, 2010	9	49	35	7
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
c. Prices for food and consumer goods				
August 4-7, 2011	4	62	28	5
June 2-5, 2011	5	58	30	6
May 12-15, 2011	3	58	32	6
March 31-April 3, 2011	3	59	34	4
March 3-6, 2011	7	62	26	5
February 3-6, 2011	7	49	39	5
December 2-5, 2010	16	41	39	5
September 2-6, 2010	12	35	42	10
July 1-5, 2010	9	32	48	10
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				
August 4-7, 2011	4	74	21	2
June 2-5, 2011	5	58	34	3
May 12-15, 2011	9	51	37	3
March 31-April 3, 2011	12	43	42	2
March 3-6, 2011	10	50	37	3
February 3-6, 2011	9	52	37	2
December 2-5, 2010	6	66	27	1
September 2-6, 2010	5	65	28	2
July 1-5, 2010	5	64	30	1
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
e. Gas prices				
August 4-7, 2011	4	66	26	4
June 2-5, 2011	8	68	23	2
May 12-15, 2011	1	84	14	1
March 31-April 3, 2011	1	88	10	1
March 3-6, 2011	1	90	7	2
February 3-6, 2011	2	77	18	3

**PEW.5 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**