

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST
DECEMBER 1-4, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,008**

PEW.1-PEW.2, PEW.3-PEW.6 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PEWWP.1 As you've been learning more about the Republican candidates for president, is your overall impression of **[INSERET; RANDOMIZE]** getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	<u>Getting better</u>	<u>Getting worse</u>	<u>Staying about the same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The Republican field of candidates December 1-4, 2011	14	31	50	5
b. Barack Obama December 1-4, 2011	19	21	58	2

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted Dec. 1-4, 2011 among a national sample of 1,008 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (605 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 403 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 184 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. 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, 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	1,008	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	288	7.0 percentage points
Democrats	317	7.0 percentage points
Independents	336	6.5 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.