

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
December 13-16, 2012, OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,006

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>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Disputes in Michigan about a law that puts new limits on labor unions					
December 13-16, 2012	16	18	18	47	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
March 10-13, 2011: <i>Disputes in Wisconsin and other states between state governments and public employee unions</i>	30	26	18	25	1
March 3-6, 2011	29	24	19	27	1
February 24-27, 2011	36	22	15	26	1
b. Political violence in Syria					
December 13-16, 2012	14	26	26	33	1
December 6-9, 2012	19	28	23	29	1
November 29-December 2, 2012	15	23	23	39	1
August 16-19, 2012	12	24	26	37	2
July 19-22, 2012	17	24	23	36	1
June 28-July 1, 2012	13	19	26	42	*
June 14-17, 2012	15	24	21	40	1
May 31-June 3, 2012	12	25	25	37	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
April 12-15, 2012: <i>International efforts to stop political violence in Syria</i>	14	23	25	37	1
April 5-8, 2012	15	21	27	37	1
March 15-28, 2012: <i>Political violence in Syria</i>	16	26	27	30	1
March 8-11, 2012	17	23	23	37	1
February 23-26, 2012	18	24	21	35	1
February 9-12, 2012	17	23	23	36	*
January 12-15, 2012	12	17	26	45	1
August 4-7, 2011: <i>Political violence following uprisings in Syria</i>	10	19	26	44	1
May 5-8, 2011	14	27	30	28	1
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
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	*

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c.1 A deadly shooting at an elementary school in Connecticut ¹					
December 14-16, 2012	57	26	10	5	2
c.2 The shooting at a shopping mall near Portland, Oregon					
December 13, 2012	19	28	33	20	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
August 9-12, 2012: <i>A deadly shooting at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin</i>	20	31	23	25	1
July 26-29, 2012: <i>The shooting at a movie theater near Denver, Colorado</i>	41	33	16	9	1
July 20-22, 2012	48	25	15	11	1
April 5-8, 2012: <i>A shooting at a small college in Oakland, California, that killed seven people</i>	21	28	25	25	2
March 1-4, 2012: <i>A deadly school shooting near Cleveland</i>	26	31	22	19	1
December 8-11, 2011: <i>Deadly shootings at Virginia Tech University</i>	20	27	29	24	1
August 7-10, 2011: <i>A shooting at a fitness club in Pennsylvania</i>	13	28	25	34	1
June 12-15, 2009: <i>A deadly shooting at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.</i>	26	34	17	23	*
January 13-16, 2011: <i>News about a Congresswoman and others shot in Tucson, Arizona</i>	49	28	12	11	1
April 3-6, 2009: <i>A shooter killing several people at an immigration services center in Binghamton, New York</i>	26	32	19	23	*
March 13-16, 2009: <i>A shooting spree in Alabama that resulted in the death of 11 people</i>	18	33	24	25	*
February 15-18, 2008: <i>The shootings at Northern Illinois University that resulted in the death of 7 people</i>	26	40	19	15	0
February 8-11, 2008: <i>A shooting at a city council meeting in Missouri where six people were killed</i>	13	28	25	33	1
December 14-17, 2007: <i>Shootings at two religious centers in Colorado</i>	17	31	24	27	1
December 7-10, 2007: <i>A shooting at a shopping mall in Omaha, Nebraska where eight people were killed</i>	30	36	18	15	1
October 12-15, 2007: <i>The shooting at a high school in Cleveland, Ohio</i>	22	32	25	20	1
April 20-23, 2007: <i>The shootings at Virginia Tech University that resulted in the death of 33 people</i>	45	37	13	5	*
October, 2006: <i>Recent shootings at schools in Pennsylvania and other states</i>	46	33	12	8	1
March, 2000: <i>The shooting of a 6-year-old girl at a Michigan school</i>	40	38	15	7	*
September, 1999: <i>The shootings in a Jewish community center in Los Angeles</i>	29	34	22	14	1

¹ The item about the Connecticut shooting was asked Friday, Dec. 14, through Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012 (N=752). The item about the Portland shooting was asked only on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012 (N=254).

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Late April, 1999: <i>The shooting of students and teachers by two students at a Colorado high school</i>	68	24	6	2	*
June, 1998: <i>The shooting at a high school in Springfield, Oregon</i>	46	36	14	4	*
March, 1998: <i>The shooting at a middle school in Jonesboro, Arkansas</i>	49	33	12	5	1
d. The debate in Washington over automatic spending cuts and tax increases that would take effect in January unless the President and Congress act					
December 13-16, 2012	37	28	16	18	1
December 6-9, 2012	37	26	17	20	1
November 29-December 2, 2012	40	26	14	20	1
November 15-18, 2012	33	24	16	25	1
November 8-11, 2012	38	20	20	20	*
July 19-22, 2012	23	21	22	33	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
February 16-20, 2012: <i>Congress passing a bill to extend payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits²</i>	24	27	21	27	1
August 4-7, 2011: <i>Congress and the president agreeing to cut federal spending and raise the debt limit</i>	46	25	13	14	1
December 16-19, 2010 ³ : <i>The extension of tax cuts and unemployment benefits approved by Congress and signed by President Obama</i>	37	27	15	19	1
December 9-12, 2010: <i>The agreement reached between Barack Obama and Congressional Republicans to extend tax cuts and unemployment benefits</i>	37	29	15	17	1
December 2-5, 2010: <i>The debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president</i>	39	26	17	17	1
September 16-19, 2010: <i>The debate in Washington over competing Democratic and Republican tax plans</i>	21	24	21	34	*
September 9-12, 2010	16	19	22	42	1
May 8-11, 2009: <i>The debate in Washington over the federal budget</i>	22	28	19	31	*
March 27-30, 2009: <i>Debate over Barack Obama's budget proposal</i>	28	34	18	19	1
February 27-March 2, 2009: <i>Barack Obama's budget proposal for next year that raises taxes on wealthy Americans and increases spending on health care, education and other programs</i>	47	34	9	10	*
May, 2003: <i>George W. Bush's tax cut and economic stimulus plan</i>	25	36	22	15	2
February, 2003	26	33	23	16	2

² The wording of item PEW.1d was changed after the first night of interviewing (February 16, 2012) to reflect Congress passing this legislation. On February 16, 2012, the item wording was "Negotiations in Congress to extend payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits."

³ The wording of item PEW.1c was changed after the first night of interviewing (December 16, 2010), to reflect Congress passing and Obama signing this legislation. On December 16, 2010 the item read "The debate in Washington over extending tax cuts and unemployment benefits."

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January, 2003	28	34	21	15	2
February, 2002: <i>Debate in Congress over G.W. Bush's budget and tax cut plan</i>	17	31	28	23	1
April, 2001	24	38	20	18	*
February, 2001: <i>G.W. Bush's tax cut plan</i>	31	35	19	14	1
September, 1999: <i>The debate in Washington over how much to cut taxes</i>	18	30	28	23	1
July, 1999	14	34	21	31	*
June, 1997: <i>Competing proposals on ways to cut taxes as part of the recent bipartisan budget agreement</i>	11	27	28	33	1
September, 1992 (RVs): <i>George Bush's plan to improve the economy by cutting government spending and cutting taxes</i>	28	44	18	9	1

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the shooting in Connecticut on Friday...

PEW.A Do you think this shooting reflects broader problems in American society, or are things like this just the isolated acts of troubled individuals?⁴

Dec 14-16	TRENDS FOR COMPARISON		
	<u>Jul 26-29 2012</u>	<u>Jan 13-16 2011</u>	<u>Apr 18-22 2007</u>
47 Broader problems	24	31	46
44 Isolated acts	67	58	47
9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	12	7

QUESTIONS PEW.2 AND PEW.3 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE.

⁴ This question was asked Friday, Dec. 14, through Sunday, Dec 16, 2012 (N=746).

⁵ July 2012 question asked about the shooting in Colorado. January 2011 question asked about the shooting in Tucson, Arizona. April 2007 question was asked after the shooting at Virginia Tech and asked about "this shooting and others like it."

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
December 14-17, 2012 Google Consumer Surveys
FINAL TOPLINE

ASK ALL:

S.1 Do you have any children living in your household who are attending school?

[Dec 14-17](#)2012

25	Yes, have children attending school
10	In kindergarten through 5 th grade
9	In 6 th through 12 th grade
6	In both
75	No children in household attending school
<i>N=4,635</i>	

ASK IF HAVE CHILD/CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL (S.1=1-3):

Q.1 Thinking about the recent shootings at a school in Connecticut, have you been trying to restrict how much coverage of the shootings your child/children watch?

TREND FOR COMPARISON*Virginia Tech Shootings*

April 18-22

[Dec 14-17](#)2012

53	Yes	<u>2007</u>
47	No	40
--	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	58
<i>N=795</i>		2

ASK ALL:

S.1 Do you have any children living in your household who are attending school?

[Dec 14-17](#)2012

27	Yes, have children attending school
10	In kindergarten through 5 th grade
10	In 6 th through 12 th grade
7	In both
73	No children in household attending school
<i>N=4,442</i>	

ASK IF HAVE CHILD/CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL (S.1=1-3):

Q.2 Thinking about the recent shootings at a school in Connecticut, how much have you talked about the shootings with your child/children?

TREND FOR COMPARISON*Virginia Tech Shootings*

April 18-22

[Dec 14-17](#)2012

20	A lot	<u>2007</u>
42	Some	19
16	Not much	39
23	Not at all	17
--	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	24
<i>N=815</i>		1