

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**  
**April 18-21, 2013, OMNIBUS**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**N=1,002**

**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. A terrorist bombing at the Boston Marathon April 18-21, 2013	63	22	10	5	*
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
November 4-7, 2010: <i>News about recent plots in the United States and Europe</i>	29	31	19	20	*
October 28-November 1, 2010	28	33	17	21	1
June 24-27, 2010: <i>The man who attempted to bomb Times Square pleading guilty</i>	18	28	26	27	1
May 7-10, 2010: <i>The investigation and arrests following an attempted car bombing in Times Square in New York</i>	37	32	16	15	*
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	*
November 13-16, 2009: <i>The investigations into the shootings at Fort Hood Army post in Texas</i>	35	37	16	11	1
November 6-9, 2009: <i>A shooter killing 13 people at Fort Hood Army post in Texas</i>	44	34	14	8	*
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
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

**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. Debate over gun control in the U.S.					
April 18-21, 2013	39	27	16	18	*
April 4-7, 2013	37	28	17	18	*
February 14-17, 2013	37	29	15	19	*
January 31-February 3, 2013	42	32	13	12	1
January 3-6, 2013	34	30	18	16	1
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
January 17-20, 2013: <i>President Obama announcing proposals for strengthening gun laws</i>	43	29	15	13	1
June, 1999: <i>Debates about gun control legislation in Congress and state legislatures</i>	28	37	22	12	1
c. A fatal explosion at a fertilizer plant in Texas					
April 18-21, 2013	27	32	22	19	*
d. Debate over immigration policy in the U.S.					
April 18-21, 2013	21	22	25	31	1
April 4-7, 2013	23	22	22	32	*
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
January 31-February 3, 2013: <i>Debate in Washington over immigration policy</i>	23	25	22	29	1
June 28-July 1, 2012: <i>The Supreme Court decision on Arizona's immigration law</i>	29	21	19	30	1
April 26-29, 2012: <i>The issue of immigration</i>	21	24	26	27	1
May 12-15, 2011	18	22	27	32	1
September 2-6, 2010	30	31	19	20	1
August 12-15, 2010	27	31	19	21	1
July 29-August 1, 2010: <i>A court ruling that stops most of Arizona's immigration law from going into effect</i>	40	32	17	10	1
July 8-11, 2010: <i>The U.S. Justice Department challenging the legality of Arizona's recent immigration law</i>	30	27	19	23	1
July 1-5, 2010: <i>The issue of immigration</i>	34	30	20	14	1
May 7-10, 2010: <i>A new Arizona law that gives police more authority to question people they suspect might be illegal immigrants</i>	38	27	13	21	1
April 30-May 3, 2010	36	31	13	20	*
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

**PEW.1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
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	*
e. The arrest of a Mississippi man for allegedly sending poisoned letters to President Obama and a U.S. senator April 18-21, 2013	19	26	26	29	1
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
February 11-16, 2004: <i>The poison Ricin found in a Senate office building</i>	12	30	28	29	1
Mid-November, 2001: <i>Reports of Anthrax cases around the country</i>	41	41	12	5	1
Early November, 2001	47	35	13	4	1

**PEW.2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTIONS PEW.3-PEW.6****ASK ALL:**

PEW.7 How have you been keeping up with news and information about the bombing at the Boston Marathon? Have you been following it **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, or not? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**, or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. On television April 18-21, 2013	80	20	*
b. Online or on a mobile device, such as a cell phone or tablet computer April 18-21, 2013	49	51	*
c. In newspapers April 18-21, 2013	29	71	*
d. On the radio April 18-21, 2013	38	62	*
e. On social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter April 18-21, 2013	26	73	*

**ASK IF FOLLOWING ON SOCIAL NETWORKS (PEW.7e=1) [N=213]:**

PEW.8 What's the main reason you have been using social networks like Facebook and Twitter to follow news about the Boston Marathon bombing? **[OPEN END: RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

April 18-21

2013

18	It's just there/Already on computer/social networks/Can't avoid it
13	Keeping up with the news/More information
12	Easy/Convenient
11	Fast/Up-to-date
8	It's where people post
7	Accessible/Alternative to television
7	General enjoyment of sites/networking
6	Friends or family in Boston
6	Variety of perspectives/Uncensored
3	To share own opinion
2	Is a Boston/New England resident
1	Professional reasons
10	Other
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.9 In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the Boston Marathon bombing **[READ]**

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32	Excellent
40	Good
14	Only fair
8	Poor
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**NO QUESTIONS PEW.10-PEW.12****ASK ALL:**

PEW.13 How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? **[READ]**

	Very <u>worried</u>	Somewhat <u>worried</u>	Not too <u>worried</u>	Not at all <u>worried</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref
April 18-21, 2013	23	35	27	14	1
November 4-7, 2010	21	38	24	14	3
July, 2007	20	42	25	11	2
August, 2006	23	44	21	10	2
July, 2005	26	42	19	12	1
Mid-October, 2004	17	43	27	12	1
August, 2004	20	44	25	10	1
July, 2004	17	41	26	15	1
June, 2004	25	42	20	12	1
Mid-March, 2004	20	42	25	12	1
Early February, 2004	13	42	28	16	1
Mid-January, 2004	20	45	24	10	1
August, 2003	13	45	29	12	1
March, 2003	22	42	20	14	2
February, 2003	34	41	17	7	1
January, 2003	18	50	23	8	1
December, 2002	31	42	18	8	1
Early October, 2002	20	46	22	11	1
Late August, 2002	16	46	25	12	1
June, 2002	32	44	17	7	*

**PEW.13 CONTINUED ...**

	Very <u>worried</u>	Somewhat <u>worried</u>	Not too <u>worried</u>	Not at all <u>worried</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
January, 2002	20	42	28	9	1
December, 2001	13	39	27	19	2
October 15-21, 2001	29	42	18	10	1
October 10-14, 2001	27	40	19	12	2
Early October, 2001	28	45	15	11	1

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.14 Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement. Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree that occasional acts of terrorism in the U.S. will be part of life in the future?

	-----AGREE-----			-----DISAGREE-----			<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Net</u>	<u>Com- pletely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Com- pletely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	
Apr 18-21, 2013	75	23	52	22	5	17	3
Apr 4-15, 2012	64	23	41	31	11	20	5
April, 2009	62	18	44	32	10	22	6
January, 2007	70	21	49	24	8	16	6
August, 2003	74	25	49	22	7	15	4

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.15 Do you think there is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** to prevent attacks like the one in Boston, or is there **[INSERT]** to prevent this type of attack?

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49	More the government can do
45	Not much more the government can do
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.16 All things considered, do you think the steps the government has taken since September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 have made the country safer from terrorism, or have they not had much of an effect?

Apr 18-21

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60	Made the country safer
35	Not had much of an effect
5	Don't know/refused <b>(VOL.)</b>