

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST
APRIL 21-25, 2011¹ OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,001

PEW.1 AND PEW.2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 Which of these statements do you think best describes the federal budget deficit [READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]

Apr 21-25 <u>2011</u>		Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>
81	It is a major problem that the country must address now	70
14	It is a major problem that should be addressed when the economy is better	23
1	It is not much of a problem for the country	1
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 Looking ahead five years or so, do you think we will have made significant progress in reducing the federal budget deficit, or not?

Apr 21-25 <u>2011</u>		Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>	Feb <u>1989</u>
31	Yes	37	40
55	No	52	46
14	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	14

PEW.5 AND PEW.6 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted April 21 -22 and April 25, 2011, among a national sample of 1,001 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (671 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 330 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 140 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/detailed>.

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	1,001	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	276	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	288	7.0 percentage points
Independents	349	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.

About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors
Michael Remez, Senior Writer
Leah Christian and Jocelyn Kiley, Senior Researchers
Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, and Alec Tyson, Research Associates
Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst
Danielle Gewurz, Research Assistant