

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MARCH 2009 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
 March 9-12, 2009  
 N=1308

**ASK ALL:**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2009	59	26	15=100
February, 2009	64	17	19=100

**NO QUESTION 2**

**RANDOMIZE Q.3 AND Q.4**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2009	28	51	21=100	July, 1999	36	45	19=100
February, 2009	34	51	15=100	June, 1999	37	46	17=100
Early October, 2006	33	56	11=100	May, 1999	38	44	18=100
June, 2006	30	53	17=100	March, 1999	38	47	15=100
March, 2006	32	50	18=100	February, 1999	37	51	12=100
January, 2006	33	52	15=100	January, 1999	38	50	12=100
Early November, 2005	33	50	17=100	Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100
Early October, 2005	32	52	16=100	November, 1998	41	48	11=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15=100	Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15=100	Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17=100	June, 1998	42	38	20=100
Early February, 2004	41	42	17=100	May, 1998	40	41	19=100
January, 2003	48	37	15=100	April, 1998	41	40	19=100
June, 2002	50	34	16=100	March, 1998	43	39	18=100
May, 2002	49	34	17=100	January, 1998	43	41	16=100
February, 2002	56	24	20=100	November, 1997	41	43	16=100
Early September, 2001	43	39	18=100	August, 1997	42	44	14=100
June, 2001	40	40	20=100	June, 1997	33	50	17=100
May, 2001	45	36	19=100	May, 1997	40	44	16=100
April, 2001	45	30	25=100	April, 1997	40	44	16=100
January, 2001	43	36	21=100	February, 1997	44	42	14=100
July, 2000	36	46	18=100	January, 1997	38	47	15=100
May, 2000	40	42	18=100	November, 1996	40	43	17=100
March, 2000	38	43	19=100	July, 1996	38	48	14=100
February, 2000	40	43	17=100	June, 1996	36	50	14=100
January, 2000	39	41	20=100	April, 1996	39	46	15=100
December, 1999	38	42	20=100	March, 1996	35	51	14=100
October, 1999	34	50	16=100	February, 1996	33	53	14=100
Late September, 1999	34	46	20=100	January, 1996	36	54	10=100
August, 1999	40	44	16=100	October, 1995	36	51	13=100

**Q.3 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
September, 1995	36	50	14=100
August, 1995	38	45	17=100
June, 1995	41	45	14=100
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March, 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

**RANDOMIZE Q.3 AND Q.4**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.4 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
March, 2009	47	35	18=100
February, 2009	48	38	14=100
August, 2008	31	58	11=100
January, 2008	31	53	16=100
November, 2007	35	50	15=100
October, 2007	31	54	15=100
July, 2007	33	54	13=100
June, 2007	34	49	17=100
April, 2007	36	43	21=100
March, 2007 <sup>1</sup>	37	42	21=100
February, 2007	41	36	23=100
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27=100
Early October, 2006	35	53	12=100
June, 2006	32	50	18=100
March, 2006	34	46	20=100
January, 2006	34	48	18=100
Early November, 2005	36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 2001	49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100

<sup>1</sup> In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=640]:**

Q.5F1 From what you've read and heard, would you say Barack Obama is very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?

	Very <u>Conservative</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	Very <u>Liberal</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2009	3	14	26	25	19	13=100
Mid-October, 2008	5	11	23	33	19	9=100
April, 2008	4	11	21	33	20	11=100
January, 2008	4	10	23	33	13	17=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=668]:**

Q.6F2 When it comes to national policy, who do you think Barack Obama is listening to more... **[READ, RANDOMIZE]**

	Jan <u>2009</u>
44 Liberal members of his party OR	34
30 Moderate members of his party	44
<u>26</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>22</u>
100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.7 Thinking about the Republican Party, who do YOU think of as the leader of the Republican Party these days... **[SINGLE RESPONSE, DO NOT READ OPTIONS. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE; ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]**

11	John McCain
5	Rush Limbaugh
2	Newt Gingrich
2	Michael Steele
1	John Boehner
1	Bobby Jindal
1	Mitch McConnell
1	Sarah Palin
1	Mitt Romney
3	Other
15	Nobody is
<u>57</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.8 In terms of influence, do you think Rush Limbaugh has [READ AND RANDOMIZE] over the Republican Party?

- 39 Too much influence
- 13 Too little influence [OR]
- 23 The right amount of influence
- 4 Don't know who he is (VOL.)
- 21 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

**NO QUESTIONS 9 AND 10**

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about some issues...

**RANDOMIZE Q.11 AND Q.12**

Q.11 Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's plan to withdraw most combat troops from Iraq by the end of August two-thousand-ten (2010)?

- 76 Approve
- 18 Disapprove
- 6 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

**ASK ALL:**

**RANDOMIZE Q.11 AND Q.12**

Q.12 Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's decision to send an additional 17,000 troops to Afghanistan?

- 53 Approve
- 38 Disapprove
- 9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

Q.13 If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?

	Late-			-----CBS/New York Time-----					
	Oct	Nov	Jan	Nov	July	Jan	Jan	Sept	Feb
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1996</u>
48 Smaller government, fewer services	42	47	45	45	48	46	51	46	61
40 Bigger government, more services	43	42	43	42	40	40	36	43	30
3 Depends (VOL.)	4	4	4	4	5	3	5	5	4
<u>9</u> Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.14 Is it now a good idea or a bad idea for the government to exert more control over the economy than it has in recent years?

- 54 Good idea
- 37 Bad idea
- 9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.15 Generally, do you think people are better off in a free market economy, even though there may be severe ups and downs from time to time, or don't you think so?

70 Yes, think so  
 20 No, don't think so  
10 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)  
 100

**NO QUESTIONS 16 THROUGH 19****ASK ALL:**

Q.20 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2009	*	6	25	68	1=100
February, 2009	*	4	24	71	1=100
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1=100
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1=100
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1=100
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1=100
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1=100
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1=100
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*=100
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1=100
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2=100
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1=100
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1=100
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2=100
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2=100
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1=100
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2=100
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2=100
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2=100
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2=100
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1=100
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2=100
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1=100
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1=100
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1=100
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1=100
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1=100
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2=100
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1=100
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2=100
Late February, 2004 <sup>1</sup>	2	29	42	26	1=100

<sup>1</sup> Earlier trends available from Gallup.

**ASK IF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS ONLY FAIR OR POOR (3,4 IN Q.20):**

Q.21 Do you think the U.S. economy is just having a few problems, is in a recession, or is in a depression?

**BASED ON TOTAL:**

		Feb 2009	Dec 2008	Nov 2008	Late Oct 2008	Early Oct 2008	Late Sept 2008	July 2008	March 2008
6	Excellent/Good	4	7	7	7	9	7	10	11
93	Only fair/Poor	95	92	92	92	90	92	89	88
5	Just having a few problems	5	6	11	12	11	12	14	14
59	In a recession	57	64	58	58	54	56	54	56
27	In a depression	30	20	18	19	22	21	18	15
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	2	5	3	3	3	3	3
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.22 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

	Better	Worse	Same	(VOL.) DK/Ref
March, 2009	41	19	37	3=100
February, 2009	40	18	38	4=100
December, 2008	43	17	36	4=100
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8=100
July, 2008	30	21	41	8=100
March, 2008	33	22	39	6=100
January, 2008	20	26	48	6=100
September, 2007	19	23	53	5=100
June, 2007	16	24	55	5=100
February, 2007	17	20	58	5=100
December, 2006	22	18	56	4=100
September, 2006	16	25	55	4=100
January, 2006	20	22	55	3=100
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3=100
January, 2005	27	18	52	3=100
August, 2004	36	9	47	8=100
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8=100
September, 2003	37	17	43	3=100
May, 2003	43	19	35	3=100
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7=100
January, 2003	30	20	44	6=100
January, 2002	44	17	36	3=100
January, 2001 <i>Newsweek</i>	18	33	44	5=100
June, 2000	15	24	55	6=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5=100
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4=100
May, 1990	18	31	45	6=100
February, 1989	25	22	49	4=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9=100
May, 1988	24	20	46	10=100
January, 1988	22	26	45	7=100
January, 1984 <i>Newsweek</i> (RVs)	35	13	49	3=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.23 As you think about your OWN financial situation, which of the following economic issues worries you MOST right now? [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]

		Feb <u>2009</u>	Dec <u>2008</u>	Early Oct <u>2008</u>	March <u>2008</u>
42	The job situation	45	26	18	19
22	Rising prices	21	31	38	49
21	Problems in the financial markets	21	29	31	14
10	Declining real estate values	9	9	8	12
1	Other (VOL.)	1	1	2	2
2	None / not worried about any (VOL.)	1	2	1	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**QUESTION 24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.25 How much thought have you given to how Barack Obama's economic plans and policies will affect the economy? [**READ**]

37	A great deal of thought
39	A fair amount
16	Not too much
6	No thought at all
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.26 In your opinion, is President Obama doing as much as he can to improve economic conditions or do you think he could be doing more?

	Doing as much as he can	Could be doing more	(VOL.) Can't say/ DK/Ref
March, 2009	60	30	10=100
<b>G. W. Bush</b>			
February, 2004	30	65	5=100
September, 2003	26	70	4=100
Early July, 2003	33	62	5=100
May 2003	42	53	5=100
Late March 2003	41	52	7=100
January 2003	33	61	6=100
Early October 2002	31	63	6=100
June 2002	33	62	5=100
January 2002	48	46	6=100
<b>Bush, Sr.</b>			
March, 1992	21	76	3=100
January, 1992	21	76	3=100

**NO QUESTION 27**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.28 Do you think Barack Obama has proposed spending [READ AND RANDOMIZE] to address the economic situation?

- 39 Too much money
- 13 Not enough money [OR]
- 34 About the right amount
- 14 Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
- 100

**NO QUESTION 29**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.30 Since taking office, have Barack Obama's economic policies and proposals made economic conditions better, worse, or not had an effect so far?

- 14 Better
- 15 Worse
- 64 No effect so far
- 4 Too soon/early to tell (VOL.)
- 3 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.31 So far, do you think Barack Obama is [READ AND RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 & 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]

- 35 Trying to address too many issues at once
- 4 Focusing on too few issues [OR]
- 56 Doing about right
- 5 Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
- 100

**QUESTIONS 32 THROUGH 39 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 38 THROUGH 42**



Thinking now about economic policies....

**ASK ALL:**

Q.43 From what you've read and heard, do you think Barack Obama's roughly 800 billion dollar economic stimulus plan passed by Congress last month is a good idea or a bad idea?

56	Good idea
35	Bad idea
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

How much, if anything, have you heard about the economic stimulus plan being proposed by President Obama that may cost about \$800 billion? [READ]

	Feb	Jan <sup>2</sup>
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>
A lot/little	91	86
Nothing at all/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100

**IF HEARD 'A LOT' OR 'A LITTLE' ASK:**

From what you've read and heard, do you think this plan is a good idea or a bad idea?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO HEARD A LOT/A LITTLE**

	Feb	Jan <sup>3</sup>
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>
Good idea	51	57
Bad idea	34	22
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>15</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.44 In addition to the economic stimulus program Congress recently passed, the government is investing roughly 700 billion dollars to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?

		-NII-			-NII-	
	Dec	Nov 14-17	Mid Oct	Late Sept	Sept 19-22	
	<u>2008<sup>4</sup></u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>	
48	Right thing	47	40	47	45	57
40	Wrong thing	43	43	37	38	30
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

<sup>2</sup> In January 2009, the question referred to the "economic stimulus package being proposed by President-elect Obama."

<sup>3</sup> In January 2009, the question referred to "this proposal."

<sup>4</sup> In December 2008 the question was worded: "As you may know, the government is investing billions of dollars to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?" November and October surveys did not include the phrase "of dollars" after "billions." In Late September 2008 and in the September 19-22 News Interest Index (NII) the question was worded, "As you may know, the government is potentially investing billions to try to keep financial institutions and markets secure. Do you think this is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to be doing?" In Late September 2008, an experiment testing the word "committing" instead of "investing" showed no difference in the results. Results for the two versions have been combined.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.45 As you may know, the government has taken or is considering other steps to address economic problems facing the nation. Do you think it is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to spend billions of dollars [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]?<sup>5</sup>

		Right <u>thing</u>	Wrong <u>thing</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	To substantially increase spending on roads, bridges, and other public works projects			
	March, 2009	77	19	4=100
	December, 2008	70	24	6=100
b.	To help homeowners facing foreclosure on mortgages they cannot afford			
	March, 2009	46	46	8=100
	December, 2008	49	43	8=100
c.	In loans to General Motors and Chrysler to keep them in business			
	March, 2009	30	63	7=100
	December, 2008 <sup>6</sup>	39	54	7=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.46 As you may know, Barack Obama recently put forward his federal budget plan. I'd like to ask you about a few of the proposals he has made. First, do you think it is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]? What about [NEXT ITEM]?

		Right <u>thing</u>	Wrong <u>thing</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Raise taxes on people with household incomes of at least \$200,000			
	March, 2009	61	34	5=100
b.	Reduce taxes for middle and lower income households			
	March, 2009	82	14	4=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=640]:**

c.F1	Limit the tax deductions upper income people can take for charitable contributions			
	March, 2009	55	36	9=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=668]:**

d.F2	Change the Medicare prescription drug plan so that upper income retirees will pay more for prescription drug coverage			
	March, 2009	41	52	7=100

**ASK ALL:**

e.	Reduce agricultural subsidies for many farms			
	March, 2009	40	47	13=100

<sup>5</sup> In December 2008, question was worded "As you may know, the government is considering several other proposals to address economic problems facing the nation. Do you think it is the right thing or the wrong thing for the government to spend billions of dollars...?"

<sup>6</sup> In December 2008, item asked about "General Motors, Ford and Chrysler."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.47 Please tell me if each of the following is something that makes you angry, something that bothers you but doesn't make you angry, or is this something that does not bother you. (First,) Does [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] make you angry, bother you but not make you angry, or does this not bother you? How about [NEXT ITEM]?

		<u>Angry</u>	<u>Bothers, but not angry</u>	<u>Doesn't bother</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	The growing federal budget deficit March, 2009	37	46	14	3=100
b.	Government money being spent on special interest projects March, 2009	34	39	20	7=100
c.	Bailing out homeowners who took out mortgages they could not afford March, 2009	39	44	15	2=100
d.	Bailing out banks and financial institutions that made poor financial decisions March, 2009	48	39	12	1=100

**ASK ALL:**

OWNRENT Do you own or rent your home?

66	Own
29	Rent
5	Other arrangement (VOL.)
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

**IF 'OWN' (1 IN OWNRENT) ASK [N=986]:**

MORTGAGE Do you pay money on a mortgage or other home loan, or is your home paid for?

67	Pay a mortgage
33	Paid for
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

**ASK ALL:**

INVEST Which of the following best describes your own level of investment in the stock market? [READ IN ORDER ON FORM 1, REVERSE ORDER OF OPTIONS ON FORM 2]

		<u>Early-Oct 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Sept 2007</u>
7	I trade stocks and other funds pretty regularly I have some long-term investments like	6	6	6	7
45	retirement accounts, but don't trade stocks regularly	46	46	43	45
46	I don't have any money in the stock market	46	46	47	44
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

**RANDOMIZE Q.48 AND Q.49**

Q.48 Do you think now is a very good, good, bad, or very bad time to invest in the stock market?

		Feb <u>2008</u>	Sept <u>2007</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Mid-May <u>2005</u>
7	Very good	5	3	5	3
32	Good	26	37	41	42
38	Bad	35	35	27	32
16	Very bad	18	7	7	8
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

**RANDOMIZE Q.48 AND Q.49**

Q.49 Do you think now is a very good, good, bad, or very bad time to buy a home?

18	Very good
57	Good
17	Bad
4	Very bad
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

Do you feel this is a good time or a bad time to buy a home?

----- NBC/WSJ -----

	Sept <u>1993</u>	Sept <u>1991</u>	Sept <u>1990</u>	April <sup>7</sup> <u>1986</u>
Good time	73	62	52	81
Bad time	21	30	38	15
Not sure	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100

**QUESTION 50 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

**IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No Preference	(VOL.) Other Party	(VOL.) DK/ Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2=100	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2=100	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2=100	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3=100	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3=100	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3=100	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3=100	11	15
Late September, 2008	25	35	34	3	1	2=100	13	15

<sup>7</sup>

In April 1986 question was worded: "Generally speaking, do you think now is a good time or a bad time to buy a house?"

**PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...**

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	DK/	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
Mid-September, 2008	28	35	32	3	*	2=100	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2=100	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3=100	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2=100	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3=100	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2=100	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4=100	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3=100	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3=100	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2=100	12	18
<b><i>Yearly Totals</i></b>								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1=100	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1=100	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8=100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9=100	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5=100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7=100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7=100	11.7	11.4
<i>2001 Post-Sept 11</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>27.9</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>.6</i>	<i>3.6=100</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>9.4</i>
<i>2001 Pre-Sept 11</i>	<i>28.2</i>	<i>34.6</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>.5</i>	<i>2.1=100</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>12.5</i>
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0=100	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9=100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4=100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3=100	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100			12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4=100			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100			14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8=100			11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100			13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5=100			14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8=100			12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100					
1987	26	35	39=100					