

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
May 16-19, 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>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
May 16-19, 2013	30	31	20	19	*
May 9-12, 2013	28	30	21	20	1
March 28-31, 2013	30	30	17	22	1
March 7-10, 2013	35	30	16	19	*
January 31-February 3, 2013	33	33	16	16	1
January 17-20, 2013	36	32	15	16	*
January 3-6, 2013	34	32	18	16	1
December 6-9, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
November 8-11, 2012	41	31	15	12	1
November 1-4, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
October 25-28, 2012	44	30	14	11	1
October 18-21, 2012	39	36	12	12	1
October 12-14, 2012	42	28	14	15	1
October 4-7, 2012	40	29	13	17	*
September 27-30, 2012	34	37	13	15	1
September 20-23, 2012	36	32	17	15	*
September 13-16, 2012	38	32	17	12	1
September 7-9, 2012	36	31	17	15	2
August 31-September 3, 2012	33	31	20	16	1
August 23-26, 2012	38	30	15	16	1
August 16-19, 2012	33	32	16	19	*
August 9-12, 2012	30	31	20	18	1
August 2-5, 2012	33	29	20	17	1
July 26-29, 2012	32	30	20	19	*
July 19-22, 2012	39	29	16	16	*
July 12-15, 2012	32	33	18	17	1
July 5-8, 2012	34	28	18	19	1
June 28-July 1, 2012	38	28	15	18	1
June 21-24, 2012	33	32	17	17	*
June 14-17, 2012	39	28	15	17	*
June 7-10, 2012	35	32	15	18	*
May 31-June 3, 2012	37	34	13	14	1
May 24-27, 2012	33	31	19	16	1
May 17-20, 2012	35	30	16	19	*
May 10-13, 2012	40	26	16	17	*
May 3-6, 2012	38	29	13	20	*
April 26-29, 2012	34	32	17	16	1
April 19-22, 2012	35	35	13	14	2
April 12-15, 2012	39	28	16	17	1
April 5-8, 2012	37	31	16	16	1
March 29-April 1, 2012	34	33	15	18	1
March 22-25, 2012	36	29	16	18	1
March 15-18, 2012	40	35	11	14	1
March 8-11, 2012	37	32	14	17	*
March 1-4, 2012	41	27	15	17	1
February 23-26, 2012	37	33	14	15	1
February 16-20, 2012	33	32	16	17	1

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
February 9-12, 2012	42	30	14	13	1
February 2-5, 2012	38	32	16	13	1
January 26-29, 2012	35	31	16	19	*
January 19-22, 2012	35	30	16	19	1
January 12-15, 2012	33	32	14	20	1
January 5-8, 2012	39	31	15	15	*
SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2013/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf					
b. Investigations into last fall's attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya					
May 16-19, 2013	25	21	24	29	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
May 9-12, 2013: <i>Congressional hearings about the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya</i>	23	21	24	32	1
January 24-27, 2013: <i>Hillary Clinton testifying about the attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi, Libya</i>	21	25	21	31	1
November 15-18, 2012: <i>Investigations into the September attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi, Libya</i>	28	26	21	24	2
October 18-21, 2012: <i>Investigations into last month's attack on the U.S. embassy in Libya</i>	31	30	19	20	1
October 12-14, 2012	28	28	19	23	1
October 4-7, 2012: <i>Investigations into the attack on the U.S. embassy in Libya earlier this month</i>	27	24	20	28	1
September 13-16, 2012: <i>Attacks on American embassies and consulates in the Middle East and the killing of the U.S. ambassador in Libya</i>	43	24	15	17	1
c. The Justice Department subpoenaing phone records of journalists working for the Associated Press, as part of an investigation into the disclosure of classified information involving a national security case					
May 16-19, 2013	16	19	26	37	1
d. Reports that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) targeted conservative groups, such as the Tea Party, for extra scrutiny					
May 16-19, 2013	26	24	22	28	1

RANDOMIZE PEW.2 AND PEW.3**ASK ALL:**

PEW.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the Justice Department's decision to subpoena the phone records of Associated Press journalists as part of an investigation into the disclosure of classified information?¹

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36	Approve
44	Disapprove
20	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE PEW.2 AND PEW.3**ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 Do you think the targeting of conservative groups by the Internal Revenue Service was a decision made by employees at the IRS or do you think the Obama administration was also involved?

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31	IRS employees
42	Obama administration also involved
27	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

¹ The original version of the topline mistakenly listed the question wording as "... the Justice Department obtaining the phone records ..." This mistake was corrected May 22, 2013.