

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
DECEMBER 2009 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
December 9-13, 2009
N=1504

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>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

IF APPROVE (1 IN Q.1) ASK:

Q.1a While you approve of Obama's performance overall, are there any things he has done that you have been disappointed or unhappy with, or can't you think of anything?

IF DISAPPOINTED/UNHAPPY (1 IN Q.1A) ASK:

Q.1b What have you been disappointed or unhappy with? [OPEN END – PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL ANSWER: "Anything else?"]

BASED ON THOSE WHO APPROVE OF THE WAY OBAMA IS HANDLING HIS JOB AS PRESIDENT [N=697]:

Dec 9-13

2009

30	Been disappointed or unhappy with things
9	Afghanistan/Troop increase
7	Health care
4	Not firm enough/No results
3	End war/Troops home
3	Economy/Spending/Deficit/Taxes/Jobs
3	Banks/Corporations/Bonuses/Bailouts/Wall Street
2	Iraq
2	Gay rights
1	Abortion
1	Other foreign policy
1	Other style
0	Other
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
15	DOMESTIC POLICY (NET)
14	FOREIGN POLICY (NET)
5	STYLE (NET)
66	Can't think of anything
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

IF DISAPPROVE (2 IN Q.1) ASK:

Q.1c While you disapprove of Obama's performance overall, are there any things he has done that you have been happy with, or can't you think of anything?

IF HAPPY WITH ANYTHING (1 IN Q.1c) ASK:

Q.1d What have you been happy with? [OPEN END – PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL ANSWER: "Anything else?"]

BASED ON THOSE WHO DISAPPROVE OF THE WAY OBAMA IS HANDLING HIS JOB AS PRESIDENT [N=655]:

Dec 9-13

2009

24	Been happy with things
7	Afghanistan
6	Economy/Stimulus/Taxes/Benefits
3	Health care
3	Other foreign policy
3	Speeches/Communication
1	Other domestic policy
1	Other style
1	Reaching out/Willing to talk/Uniting
1	Iraq
*	Effort/Trying
1	Other
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
11	FOREIGN POLICY (NET)
9	DOMESTIC POLICY (NET)
5	STYLE (NET)
73	Can't think of anything
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE Q.2 AND Q.3

ASK ALL:

Q.2 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- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	29	51	20	May, 1999	38	44	18
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	24	60	17	March, 1999	38	47	15
Jun 10-14, 2009	29	56	15	February, 1999	37	51	12
Mar 9-12, 2009	28	51	21	January, 1999	38	50	12
Feb 4-8, 2009	34	51	15	Early December, 1998	38	49	13
Early October, 2006	33	56	11	November, 1998	41	48	11
June, 2006	30	53	17	Early September, 1998	44	37	19
March, 2006	32	50	18	Early August, 1998	43	37	20
January, 2006	33	52	15	June, 1998	42	38	20
Early November, 2005	33	50	17	May, 1998	40	41	19
Early October, 2005	32	52	16	April, 1998	41	40	19
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15	March, 1998	43	39	18
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15	January, 1998	43	41	16
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17	November, 1997	41	43	16
Early February, 2004	41	42	17	August, 1997	42	44	14
January, 2003	48	37	15	June, 1997	33	50	17
June, 2002	50	34	16	May, 1997	40	44	16
May, 2002	49	34	17	April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 2002	56	24	20	February, 1997	44	42	14
Early September, 2001	43	39	18	January, 1997	38	47	15
June, 2001	40	40	20	November, 1996	40	43	17
May, 2001	45	36	19	July, 1996	38	48	14
April, 2001	45	30	25	June, 1996	36	50	14
January, 2001	43	36	21	April, 1996	39	46	15
July, 2000	36	46	18	March, 1996	35	51	14
May, 2000	40	42	18	February, 1996	33	53	14
March, 2000	38	43	19	January, 1996	36	54	10
February, 2000	40	43	17	October, 1995	36	51	13
January, 2000	39	41	20	September, 1995	36	50	14
December, 1999	38	42	20	August, 1995	38	45	17
October, 1999	34	50	16	June, 1995	41	45	14
Late September, 1999	34	46	20	April, 1995	44	43	13
August, 1999	40	44	16	March, 1995	43	39	18
July, 1999	36	45	19	December, 1994	52	28	20
June, 1999	37	46	17				

RANDOMIZE Q.2 AND Q.3

ASK ALL:

Q.3 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>Dis- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	36	47	17
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	33	53	15
Jun 10-14, 2009	42	45	13
Mar 9-12, 2009	47	35	18
Feb 4-8, 2009	48	38	14
August, 2008	31	58	11
January, 2008	31	53	16
November, 2007	35	50	15
October, 2007	31	54	15
July, 2007	33	54	13
June, 2007	34	49	17
April, 2007	36	43	21
March, 2007 ¹	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
Early October, 2006	35	53	12
June, 2006	32	50	18
March, 2006	34	46	20
January, 2006	34	48	18
Early November, 2005	36	44	20
Early October, 2005	32	48	20
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19
Early February, 2004	38	42	20
June, 2002	47	36	17
May, 2002	42	37	21
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early September, 2001	49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22

ASK ALL:

Q.4 How much confidence do you have in Barack Obama to do the right thing when it comes to **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? Would you say you have a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or no confidence at all?... How about when it comes to **[NEXT ITEM]**?

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. Fixing the economy					
Dec 9-13, 2009	20	32	17	27	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	21	38	18	21	2
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009 ²	32	38	13	13	4
Jan 7-11, 2009	33	42	14	7	4

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

2 Item asked in a list about confidence in Obama, Democratic leaders in Congress, and Republican leaders in Congress.

Q.4 CONTINUED...

		A great <u>deal</u>	A fair <u>amount</u>	Not too <u>much</u>	No confidence <u>at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
b.	Dealing with health care reform					
	Dec 9-13, 2009	19	25	19	32	5
	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	20	30	21	27	2
	Aug 20-27, 2009 ³	26	30	21	22	3
c.	The situation in Afghanistan					
	Dec 9-13, 2009	15	35	21	20	8
	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	16	34	24	21	6
d.	Reducing the federal budget deficit					
	Dec 9-13, 2009	14	27	20	33	5
e.	Global climate change					
	Dec 9-13, 2009	16	32	17	22	13

ASK ALL:

Q.5 Do you think that **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**:

		Sept 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Apr 14-21 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
53	Barack Obama has a new approach to politics in Washington [OR]	63	63	66
37	Barack Obama's approach to politics in Washington is 'business as usual'?	30	27	25
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	10	9

NO QUESTIONS 6 THROUGH 8

ASK ALL:

Q.9 Since taking office, have Barack Obama's economic policies made economic conditions better, worse, or not had an effect so far?

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>	Apr 14-21 <u>2009</u>	Mar 9-12 <u>2009</u>
30	Better	31	24	26	26	14
24	Worse	20	21	16	17	15
39	No effect so far	42	46	49	47	64
3	Too soon/early to tell (VOL.)	4	3	4	6	4
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	6	4	4	3

3 Item asked in a list about confidence in Obama, Democratic leaders in Congress, and Republican leaders in Congress.

ASK ALL:

Q.10 So far, do you think Barack Obama is... [READ AND RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 & 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]

Dec 9-13		Sep 30-Oct 4	Jul 22-26	Apr 14-21	Mar 9-12
<u>2009</u>		<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>
45	Trying to address too many issues at once	45	41	34	35
8	Focusing on too few issues [OR]	9	3	4	4
42	Doing about right	41	48	56	56
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	8	6	5

ASK ALL:

Q.11 When it comes to national policy, who do you think Barack Obama is listening to more... [READ, RANDOMIZE]

Dec 9-13		Sep 30-Oct 4	Jul 22-26	Jun 10-14	Apr 14-21	Mar 9-12	Jan 7-11
<u>2009</u>		<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>
43	Liberal members of his party [OR]	44	41	39	40	44	34
31	Moderate members of his party	32	31	35	33	30	44
25	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	24	27	26	27	26	22

ASK ALL:

Q.12 Would you say that Barack Obama has kept almost all of his campaign promises, most campaign promises, only a few campaign promises or almost none of his campaign promises?

Dec 9-13	
<u>2009</u>	
8	Almost all
28	Most
33	Only a few
24	Almost none
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.13 How much, if anything, have you read or heard about Barack Obama's decision to send an additional 30,000 U.S. troops to Afghanistan? [READ]

TREND FOR COMPARISON
G.W. BUSH SENDING ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO IRAQ

Dec 9-13		March ⁴	Feb	Jan
<u>2009</u>		<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>
53	A lot	52	42	43
36	A little	38	47	43
9	Nothing at all	9	10	13
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1

4 In March 2007 question read "How much, if anything, have you read or heard about George W. Bush's decision to send more U.S. troops to Iraq?" In January and February 2007, the question was worded: "How much, if anything, have you read or heard about George W. Bush's plan that will send an additional 21,000 U.S. troops to Iraq?"

ASK ALL:

Q.14 Do you favor or oppose Obama’s decision to send more U.S. troops to Afghanistan?

TREND FOR COMPARISON
G. W. BUSH SENDING ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO IRAQ

Dec 9-13		Feb ⁵	Jan
<u>2009</u>		<u>2007</u>	<u>2007</u>
51	Favor	31	31
39	Oppose	63	61
10	Don’t know/Refused (VOL.)	6	8

ASK ALL:

Q.15 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.]

Dec 9-13		Mar 9-12
<u>2009</u>		<u>2009</u>
9	John McCain	11
3	Rush Limbaugh	5
2	Sarah Palin	1
1	Mitch McConnell	1
1	Michael Steele	2
1	Dick Cheney	0
1	Mike Huckabee	*
1	Newt Gingrich	2
1	George W. Bush	*
1	Mitt Romney	1
4	Other	4
22	Nobody is	15
55	Don’t know/Refused	57

NO QUESTIONS 16 AND 17

RANDOMIZE Q.18-Q.19/Q.20-Q.21 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about the nation’s economy...

Q.18 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.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	1	7	41	50	1
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
Mar 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1

5 In February and January 2007 question read “Do you favor or oppose Bush’s plan to send more U.S. troops to Iraq?”

Q.18 CONTINUED...

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

RANDOMIZE Q.18-Q.19/Q.20-Q.21 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Q.19 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?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	42	17	38	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	39	19	39	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	45	15	38	3
Aug 11-17, 2009	45	19	33	3
Jun 10-14, 2009	48	16	34	2
Mar 9-12, 2009	41	19	37	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	40	18	38	4
December, 2008	43	17	36	4
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8
July, 2008	30	21	41	8
March, 2008	33	22	39	6
January, 2008	20	26	48	6
September, 2007	19	23	53	5
June, 2007	16	24	55	5
February, 2007	17	20	58	5
December, 2006	22	18	56	4
September, 2006	16	25	55	4
January, 2006	20	22	55	3

6 Earlier trends available from Gallup.

Q.19 CONTINUED...

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

RANDOMIZE Q.18-Q.19/Q.20-Q.21 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.20 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	7	28	39	24	2
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	5	30	40	25	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	6	32	38	22	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	6	31	36	26	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	5	33	41	20	1
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1

Q.20 CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1
January, 1993 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	33	46	16	1
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	34	40	19	1
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	5	30	47	17	1
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	35	45	15	1
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	32	45	18	1

RANDOMIZE Q.18-Q.19/Q.20-Q.21 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Q.21 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>Stay the same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	9	44	19	8	15	4
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	6	50	19	8	13	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	10	49	17	6	13	4
Aug 11-17, 2009	8	47	17	8	15	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8

Q.21 CONTINUED...

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) Stay the <u>same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	51	14	3	15	8
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	50	20	5	14	5
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	8	49	22	4	13	4
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	46	19	5	16	5

ASK ALL:

Q.21a Who do you think is more responsible for the current economic conditions [READ AND RANDOMIZE]?

*TREND FOR COMPARISON
CNN/Opinion Research Corporation Poll ⁷:*

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Nov 13-15 <u>2009</u>	Aug 28-31 <u>2009</u>	Jul 31-Aug 3 <u>2009</u>	May 14-17 <u>2009</u>	Jan 12-15 <u>2009</u>
39	The Republican Party	38	41	44	53	50
27	The Democratic Party	27	27	23	21	22
19	Both (VOL.)	27	26	24	22	20
6	Neither/Other (VOL.)	6	4	7	4	6
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	1	3	1	1

ASK ALL:

Q.22 And thinking about your personal finances, have you done any of the following lately? (First.) Have you [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] or not? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new home or make major home improvements			
Dec 9-13, 2009	38	62	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	36	63	1
Jun 10-14, 2009	40	58	2
Feb 4-8, 2009	37	62	1
December, 2008	36	63	1
b. Delayed or canceled plans to make a major purchase for your household, such as a computer or appliance			
Dec 9-13, 2009	43	56	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	42	58	*
Jun 10-14, 2009	40	59	1

7 CNN/Opinion Research Corporation question was worded "Do you think the Democrats or the Republicans are more responsible for the country's current economic problems?"

Q.22 CONTINUED...

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
	Feb 4-8, 2009	44	55	1
	December, 2008	44	56	*
c.	Cut back on planned spending for vacation travel			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	59	40	1
	Aug 11-17, 2009	59	40	*
	Jun 10-14, 2009	59	41	*
	Feb 4-8, 2009	59	41	*
	December, 2008	57	42	1
d.	Been eating out at restaurants less often			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	56	44	1
	Aug 11-17, 2009	55	44	1
	Jun 10-14, 2009	56	44	*
	Feb 4-8, 2009	55	44	1
	December, 2008	55	44	1
e.	Delayed or canceled plans to buy a new car			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	36	63	1
	Aug 11-17, 2009	38	62	*
	Jun 10-14, 2009	36	63	*
	Feb 4-8, 2009	37	62	1
	December, 2008	33	67	*
f.	Adjusted your plans for retirement			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	32	66	2
	Jun 10-14, 2009	30	69	1
	Feb 4-8, 2009	29	70	1
	December, 2008	27	72	1
g.	Changed the way your money is saved or invested			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	52	46	1
	Jun 10-14, 2009	57	42	1
	Feb 4-8, 2009	53	46	1
	December , 2008	48	51	1
h.	Cut back on how much you will spend on holiday gifts this year			
	Dec 9-13, 2009	70	29	1
	December, 2008	73	27	*

ASK IF CHANGED SPENDING HABITS (1 IN Q.22b, Q.22c, Q.22d or Q.22e or Q.22h) [N=1239]:

Q.23 You mentioned making some cutbacks in spending. Have you been cutting back because your financial situation has GOTTEN worse and made such cutbacks necessary, or because you worry that your financial situation MIGHT GET worse in the future?

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Aug 11-17 ⁸ <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>	Dec <u>2008</u>
30	Financial situation has gotten worse	34	36	30	28
49	Worry that it might get worse in the future	47	50	56	57
8	Both (VOL.)	6	5	5	4
8	Other (VOL.)	9	6	6	5
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3	3	5

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about health care...

Q.24 How much, if anything, have you heard about the bills in Congress to overhaul the health care system? Have you heard...[READ]

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Aug 20-27 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>
51	A lot	49	46	60	53	41
39	A little [OR]	42	43	34	40	47
9	Nothing at all	7	10	5	7	10
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1

ASK ALL:

Q.25 As of right now, do you generally favor or generally oppose the health care proposals being discussed in Congress?

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Nov 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Oct 28- Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Sep 30- Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Aug 20-27 <u>2009</u>	July 22-26 <u>2009</u>
35	Generally favor	42	38	34	42	39	38
48	Generally oppose	39	47	47	44	46	44
17	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	19	15	19	14	15	18

ASK ALL:

Q.26 If the health care bills being proposed by Barack Obama and Congress are passed into law, would you be [READ IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Aug 11-17 <u>2009</u>
12	Very happy	15
29	Pleased	29
25	Disappointed	22
20	Angry	18
14	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	16

8 "Cut back on how much you will spend on holiday gifts this year" item was not asked in August, June, and February 2009, and thus was not included as part of the filter for this question. In December 2008, the beginning of the question was worded: "In general, have you been cutting back on spending because...".

ASK THOSE WHO OPPOSE HEALTH CARE REFORM (Q.25=2) [N=773]

Q.27 As I read some reasons people have given for opposing health care reform, please tell me if each one is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why you oppose the health care reform proposals being discussed in Congress. First **[INSERT AND RANDOMIZE]**. Is this a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason (why you oppose health care reform)? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**.

		<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	Too much government involvement in health care				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	84	11	4	1
	Nov 12-15, 2009	85	7	7	2
b.	Your own health care may suffer				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	70	16	12	2
	Nov 12-15, 2009	70	16	13	1
c.	Health care reform is too expensive for the country				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	75	15	8	2
	Nov 12-15, 2009	78	13	8	1
d.	Government money might pay for abortions				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	58	18	22	2
	Nov 12-15, 2009	56	21	22	1
e.	The plan might cover illegal immigrants				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	66	18	14	2
	Nov 12-15, 2009	67	20	14	*
f.	It could mean cuts in Medicare				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	70	20	8	2

IF MORE THAN ONE ITEM IN Q.27a-f IS GIVEN AS A “MAJOR REASON” ASK:

Q.28 And of the ones you mentioned as major reasons, which is the most important reason why you oppose the health care reform proposals **[READ ONLY THE ITEMS MENTIONED AS MAJOR REASON. READ IN SAME ORDER AS IN Q.27. DO NOT READ FULL LIST IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS A RESPONSE]**

BASED ON ALL THOSE WHO OPPOSE [N=773]

Dec 9-13
2009

- 33 Too much government involvement in health care
- 17 Health care reform is too expensive for the country
- 13 Your own health care may suffer
- 11 It could mean cuts in Medicare
- 10 The plan might cover illegal immigrants
- 8 Government money might pay for abortions
- 3 Other reason **(VOL.)**
- 2 None (*Oppose, but no major reason cited*)
- 3 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK THOSE WHO FAVOR HEALTH CARE REFORM (Q.25=1) [N=505]

Q.29 As I read some reasons people have given for supporting health care reform, please tell me if each one is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why you support the health care reform proposals being discussed in Congress. First **[INSERT AND RANDOMIZE]**. Is this a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason (why you support health care reform)? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**.

		<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.	Expanding health coverage to the uninsured Dec 9-13, 2009	86	9	5	1
b.	The current system costs too much Dec 9-13, 2009	72	16	9	2
c.	Insurance companies are doing a bad job Dec 9-13, 2009	64	23	10	3
d.	Creating a government provided “public option” Dec 9-13, 2009	52	31	14	3
e.	It will improve your own health care coverage Dec 9-13, 2009	46	27	25	2
f.	Assuring that no one is denied coverage because they have pre-existing conditions Dec 9-13, 2009	84	11	3	1

IF MORE THAN ONE ITEM IN Q.29a-f IS GIVEN AS A “MAJOR REASON” ASK:

Q.30 And of the ones you mentioned as major reasons, which is the most important reason why you support the health care reform proposals **[READ ONLY THE ITEMS MENTIONED AS MAJOR REASON. READ IN SAME ORDER AS IN Q.29. DO NOT READ FULL LIST IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS A RESPONSE]**

BASED ON ALL THOSE WHO FAVOR [N=505]

Dec 9-13

2009

37	Expanding health coverage to the uninsured
24	Assuring that no one is denied coverage because they have pre-existing conditions
14	The current system costs too much
7	Insurance companies are doing a bad job
6	Creating a government provided “public option”
5	It will improve your own health care coverage
1	Other reason (VOL.)
3	None (<i>Favor, but no major reason cited</i>)
2	Don’t know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.31 Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? [**READ IF NECESSARY:** A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid]

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>
83	Covered by health insurance	80	80	81	81
16	Not covered by health insurance	20	20	19	18
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*	*

NO QUESTIONS 32 AND 33

Thinking again about Afghanistan...

ASK ALL:

Q.34 How well is the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan going? [**READ IN ORDER**]

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Jan 7-11 <u>2009</u>	Feb <u>2008</u>
7	Very well	4	7	10
39	Fairly well	32	38	38
32	Not too well	41	34	31
11	Not at all well	16	11	10
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	10	11

ASK ALL:

Q.35 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Afghanistan, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Afghanistan?

Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>		Jan 7-11 <u>2009</u>
11	Definitely succeed	13
48	Probably succeed	49
25	Probably fail	23
7	Definitely fail	6
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	9

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:

Q.36F1 Do you think Barack Obama has a clear plan for bringing the situation in Afghanistan to a successful conclusion, or don't you think so?

	Has a clear <u>plan</u>	Doesn't have <u>a clear plan</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	36	51	13
TREND FOR COMPARISON GEORGE W. BUSH - IRAQ:⁹			
February, 2007	21	72	7
January, 2007	22	70	8
Mid-November, 2006	19	74	7
March, 2006	23	70	7

⁹ In February 2007 and before the question read "Do you think George W. Bush has a clear plan for bringing the situation in Iraq to a successful conclusion, or don't you think so?"

Q.36F1 CONTINUED...

	Has a clear <u>plan</u>	Doesn't have <u>a clear plan</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
December, 2005	28	66	6
Mid-September, 2005	30	63	7
July, 2005	27	64	9
February, 2005	32	61	7
Early October, 2004	35	55	10
Early September, 2004	36	55	9
August, 2004	36	58	6
July, 2004	34	59	7
June, 2004	37	55	8
Late April, 2004	36	54	10
Early April, 2004	32	57	11
December, 2003	44	45	11
October, 2003	35	54	11
September, 2003	32	58	10

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=725]:

Q.37F2 How important do you think success in Afghanistan is to preventing terrorist attacks against the United States? Is it **[READ]**

Dec 9-13

2009

52	Very important
30	Somewhat important
10	Not too important
6	Not at all important
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:

Now thinking about Iraq...

Q.38F1 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	10	45	24	12	8
Jan, 2009	16	43	26	10	5
Mid-October, 2008	17	40	26	12	5
September, 2008	19	39	24	13	5
June, 2008	10	34	31	21	4
April, 2008	10	34	28	24	4
Late February, 2008	12	36	25	23	4
Late December, 2007	11	30	31	23	5
November, 2007	11	37	29	19	4
October, 2007	10	34	29	22	5
September, 2007	9	32	30	24	5
July, 2007	8	28	34	25	5
June, 2007	7	27	33	28	5
April, 2007	7	31	34	25	3
March, 2007	10	30	32	24	4
February, 2007	5	25	38	29	3
Mid-January, 2007	7	28	32	30	3
December, 2006	4	28	37	27	4
Mid-November, 2006	6	26	34	30	4
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	7	30	32	27	4
Late October, 2006	5	30	34	25	6

Q.38F1 CONTINUED...	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early October, 2006	8	29	33	25	5
Early September, 2006	8	39	28	20	5
August, 2006	8	33	32	23	4
June, 2006	16	37	25	18	4
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6
September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:

Q.39F1 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Iraq?

	Definitely <u>succeed</u>	Probably <u>succeed</u>	Probably <u>fail</u>	Definitely <u>fail</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	11	52	22	7	8
Jan, 2009	15	46	22	7	10
September, 2008	18	40	24	10	8
June, 2008	12	38	31	11	8
April, 2008	12	35	30	16	7
Late February, 2008	13	40	26	13	8
Late December, 2007	10	35	31	14	10

Q.39F1 CONTINUED...

	Definitely <u>succeed</u>	Probably <u>succeed</u>	Probably <u>fail</u>	Definitely <u>fail</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November, 2007	11	37	33	13	6
October, 2007	11	35	31	13	10
September, 2007	8	34	32	15	11
July, 2007	9	34	32	17	8
April, 2007	9	36	30	16	9
February, 2007	7	40	34	12	7
November, 2006	12	41	28	13	6
Mid-September, 2006	13	44	26	9	8
August, 2006	14	40	28	12	6

On a different subject...

ASK ALL:

Q.N1 How do you get most of your news about national and international issues? From [READ AND RANDOMIZE]? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL: "Anything Else?"]

	Tele- <u>vision</u>	News- <u>papers</u>	Radio	Maga- <u>zines</u>	Internet	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 9-13, 2009	70	32	17	3	35	1	1
Jul, 2009	71	33	21	3	42	1	1
December, 2008	70	35	18	5	40	2	1
September, 2007	74	34	13	2	24	2	1
Late September, 2006	74	37	16	4	21	3	1
August, 2006	72	36	14	4	24	2	1
November, 2005	73	36	16	2	20	2	*
Early Sept, 2005¹⁰ (Hurricane Katrina)	89	35	17	*	21	3	*
June, 2005	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
March, 2003 (War in Iraq)	89	24	19	*	11	2	*
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)	90	11	14	*	5	1	1
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995	82	63	20	10	--	1	1
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991 (Persian Gulf)	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

Figures add to more than 100% because of multiple responses.

10 In Early September 2005, the question was worded "news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina." In March 2003, the question was worded "news about the war in Iraq," and in Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "news about the terrorist attacks." In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

IF '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.N1 ASK:

Q.N2 On television, do you get most of your news about national and international issues from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 7 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON TOTAL:

	<u>Local</u>	<u>ABC</u>	<u>CBS</u>	<u>NBC</u>	<u>CNN</u>	<u>MSNBC</u>	<u>FNC</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>TV not a main source</i>
Dec 9-13, 2009	16	12	8	10	19	6	19	3	2	(30)
Jul, 2009	18	11	10	13	22	6	19	3	1	(29)
December, 2008	15	12	9	10	23	8	17	4	2	(30)
September, 2007	18	11	8	13	22	7	16	3	2	(26)
August, 2006	13	10	9	12	24	6	20	6	1	(28)
November, 2005	16	14	12	15	24	8	22	5	3	(27)
Early Sept, 2005¹¹ <i>(Hurricane Katrina)</i>	19	14	8	12	31	9	22	3	3	(11)
June, 2005	13	12	9	12	18	5	16	2	4	(26)
December, 2004	15	11	9	14	20	6	19	3	3	(26)
October, 2003	17	12	8	13	20	6	17	--	4	(20)
August, 2003	17	12	10	15	26	7	18	3	4	(21)
Early July, 2003	17	12	11	14	27	9	22	3	3	(21)
January, 2002	16	11	11	15	28	8	16	4	2	(18)

Figures add to more than 100% because of multiple responses.

11 In early September 2005, the question was worded: "Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from ..."

IF '5' INTERNET AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.N1 ASK [N=527]:

Q.N3 What web sites do you use to get news and information? Just name a few of the web sites that you go to the MOST often. [OPEN END; CODE UP TO THREE RESPONSES; DO NOT NEED TO TYPE “.com” EXTENSION; PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL: “Anything Else?”]

Dec 9-13

2009

29	CNN
27	Yahoo
15	MSN
13	Google
11	Fox
8	New York Times
7	MSNBC
5	AOL
2	Washington Post
2	BBC
2	ABC
2	Local news websites
2	Comcast
2	Drudge Report
1	NPR
1	USA Today
1	Huffington Post
1	Associated Press
1	New York Post
1	Other Internet service providers
1	Wall Street Journal
18	Other websites
7	DK/Refused

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:

Q.40F1 Now a different kind of question, we're interested in how people think about the last decade, that is, from 2000 through 2009. Just from your own perspective, what one word or phrase best describes your impression of the last decade? [**OPEN END; PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE.**]

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

NOTE: The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.

Dec 9-13

2009

36	Downhill	6	Mess/Messed Up
35	Change	6	Sad
24	Good	5	Challenging
18	Poor	5	Crazy
17	Decline	5	Difficult
16	Disappointing	5	Excess
16	Turbulent/Turmoil	5	Hard
14	Chaos/Chaotic	5	Hopeful
13	Not Good	5	Lost
11	Bad	5	Struggle
11	Fair	5	Successful
10	Disaster	5	Wow!
10	Greed	4	9/11
10	Rollercoaster	4	Better
10	Scary	4	Horrible
9	Depressing	4	Mediocre
9	Tumultuous	4	Not Bad
9	Worse/Worsening	4	Prosperous
8	Bush	4	Recession
8	Interesting	4	Rough
8	Terrible	4	Stressful
7	Confusing	4	Troubled
7	Ok	4	Unsettling
7	Sucks		

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:

Q.40AF1 Looking ahead, what's your best guess... For the country as a whole, do you think that the next decade will be better or worse than the current decade?

Dec 9-13

2009

59	Better
32	Worse
4	Same/No different (VOL.)
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=725]:

Q.41F2 We're interested in your general impression of recent decades in American history. First, is your impression of the [INSERT; DO NOT RANDOMIZE] generally positive, generally negative, or neither in particular? [IF R SAYS THEY WERE NOT ALIVE AT THE TIME, PROMPT WITH "Just your general impression of the [INSERT ITEM]"] How about the [NEXT ITEM]?

		Generally <u>positive</u>	Generally <u>negative</u>	Neither in <u>particular</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F2	1960s Dec 9-13, 2009	34	15	42	8
b.F2	1970s Dec 9-13, 2009	40	16	37	7
c.F2	1980s Dec 9-13, 2009	56	12	27	5
d.F2	1990s Dec 9-13, 2009	57	19	22	3
e.F2	Current decade, from 2000 through 2009 Dec 9-13, 2009	27	50	21	2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.42F2 Which of the following events would you say was the MOST important of the last decade? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

IF ANSWER GIVEN (Q42F2 = 1-7) ASK:

Q.43F2 And which would you say was the SECOND most important event? [READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.42F2, OMITTING SELECTION IN Q.42F2]

BASED ON TOTAL FORM 2:

<u>1st</u> <u>Choice</u>	<u>2nd</u> <u>Choice</u>	<u>Com-</u> <u>bined</u>	
53	20	73	The nine-eleven terrorist attacks
16	15	30	Barack Obama's election as president
12	20	33	The 2008 financial crisis
6	6	12	George W. Bush's election as president
5	17	22	The war in Iraq
3	15	18	Hurricane Katrina
1	1	1	Other (VOL. DO NOT READ)
3	3		Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
<u>=</u>	<u>3</u>		<i>No first choice</i>
100	100		

ASK ALL:

Q.44 As I read a list of changes that have taken place, please tell me if you think each one has been a change for the better, a change for the worse, or hasn't made much difference. (First,) Has [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] been a change for the better, a change for the worse, or hasn't this made much difference? How about... [NEXT ITEM]¹²

		Change for <u>the better</u>	Change for <u>the worse</u>	Hasn't made <u>much difference</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=779]:					
a.F1	The internet				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	65	16	11	8
	May, 1999	69	18	7	6
b.F1	Handheld devices such as Blackberries and iPhones				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	56	25	12	7
c.F1	Genetic testing				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	53	13	22	13
d.F1	Reality TV shows				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	8	63	22	7
e.F1	Cable news talk and opinion shows				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	34	30	31	5
f.F1	More people getting tattoos				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	7	40	45	8
g.F1	More people having money in the stock market				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	31	34	26	9
h.F1	Increasing racial and ethnic diversity				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	61	9	25	5
i.F1	Increasing surveillance and security measures				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	58	17	21	3

NO ITEM j.

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=725]:

k.F2	Email				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	65	7	19	9
	May, 1999	71	9	12	8
l.F2	Cellphones				
	Dec 9-13, 2009	69	14	11	5
	May, 1999 ¹³	66	22	10	2

¹² In May, 1999 the introduction to this question read: "Now thinking just about the last 10 years or so," and followed a list item about changes that have taken place over the last 100 years.

¹³ In May, 1999 the item asked about: "Cellular phones."

Q.44 CONTINUED...

		<u>Change for the better</u>	<u>Change for the worse</u>	<u>Hasn't made much difference</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
m.F2	Social networking sites such as Facebook Dec 9-13, 2009	35	21	31	12
n.F2	Internet blogs Dec 9-13, 2009	29	21	36	14
o.F2	Online shopping Dec 9-13, 2009	54	15	24	8
p.F2	More choices in news and entertainment Dec 9-13, 2009	54	16	27	3
q.F2	Increasing acceptance of gays and lesbians Dec 9-13, 2009	38	28	28	6
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: May, 1999: <i>Gay rights movement</i>	39	29	22	10
r.F2	Environmentally conscious or "green" products Dec 9-13, 2009	68	7	22	3

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean <i>Rep</i>	Lean <i>Dem</i>
Dec 9-13, 2009	25	32	38	2	*	2	14	15
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	25	32	33	5	*	5	13	13
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	27	35	32	3	*	2	13	13
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	23	34	37	3	1	3	16	14
Sep 10-15, 2009	23	34	34	4	*	5	13	17
Aug 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
Aug 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
Jun 10-14, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
Mar 9-12, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
Feb 4-8, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
Jan 7-11, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
Yearly Totals								
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2) [N=667]:

Q.50 Would you say Barack Obama is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job in standing up for the traditional positions of the Democratic Party?

Dec 9-13

2009

24	Excellent
45	Good
23	Only fair
5	Poor
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)