

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**AUGUST 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**August 17-21, 2011**  
**N=1509**

**NO QUESTION 1****ASK ALL:**

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	July, 2006	30	65	5
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	May, 2006*	29	65	6
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	March, 2006	32	63	5
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	January, 2006	34	61	5
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	July, 2005	35	58	7
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	February, 2005	38	56	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	January, 2005	40	54	6
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	December, 2004	39	54	7
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	July, 2004	38	55	7
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	May, 2004	33	61	6
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	December, 2003	44	47	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	October, 2003	38	56	6
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	August, 2003	40	53	7
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	<i>April 8, 2003</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>
Sep 10-15, 2009 <sup>1</sup>	30	64	7	January, 2003	44	50	6
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	November, 2002	41	48	11
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	September, 2002	41	55	4
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	May, 2002	44	44	12
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	March, 2002	50	40	10
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
December, 2008	13	83	4	June, 2001	43	52	5
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	March, 2001	47	45	8
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	February, 2001	46	43	11
August, 2008	21	74	5	January, 2001	55	41	4
July, 2008	19	74	7	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
June, 2008	19	76	5	September, 2000	51	41	8
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	June, 2000	47	45	8
March, 2008	22	72	6	April, 2000	48	43	9
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	August, 1999	56	39	5
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	January, 1999	53	41	6
October, 2007	28	66	6	November, 1998	46	44	10
February, 2007	30	61	9	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
December, 2006	28	65	7	February, 1998	59	37	4
				January, 1998	46	50	4
				September, 1997	45	49	6
				August, 1997	49	46	5
				January, 1997	38	58	4

<sup>1</sup> In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July, 1996	29	67	4	May, 1993	22	71	7
March, 1996	28	70	2	January, 1993	39	50	11
October, 1995	23	73	4	January, 1992	28	68	4
June, 1995	25	73	2	November, 1991	34	61	5
April, 1995	23	74	3	<i>Gallup: Late Feb, 1991</i>	66	31	3
July, 1994	24	73	3	August, 1990	47	48	5
March, 1994	24	71	5	May, 1990	41	54	5
October, 1993	22	73	5	January, 1989	45	50	5
September, 1993	20	75	5	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 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]**

	Approve	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Approve	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
May 2, 2011	56	38	6	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19
May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11				

**ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (Q.3=1,2):**

Q.3a Do you [approve/disapprove] very strongly, or not so strongly?

**BASED ON TOTAL:**

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Feb 22- Mar 1 <u>2011</u>	Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Aug 25- Sep 6 <u>2010</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Apr 14-21 <u>2009</u>
43	Approve	51	46	47	48	49	63
26	Very strongly	32	27	28	29	30	45
15	Not so strongly	18	16	17	17	15	13
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	3	5
49	Disapprove	39	44	44	43	42	26
38	Very strongly	29	30	32	31	30	18
11	Not so strongly	10	13	11	11	11	8
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	*
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	10	10	9	9	10	11

**NO QUESTION 4**

**ASK ALL:**

Now, thinking about how Barack Obama is handling some issues...

Q.5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]? [REPEAT INTRODUCTION AS NECESSARY]**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	The economy			
	Aug 17-21, 2011	34	60	6
	May 2, 2011	40	55	4
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	56	6
	Jan 6-9, 2011	42	51	7
	Jun 16-20, 2010	43	51	5
	May 6-9, 2010	41	51	8
	Apr 21-26, 2010	38	54	8
	Mar 10-14, 2010	41	52	7
	Jan 6-10, 2010	42	51	7
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	52	5
	Jul 22-26, 2009	38	53	9
	Jun 10-14, 2009	52	40	8
	Apr 14-21, 2009	60	33	7
	Feb 4-8, 2009	56	24	20
b.	The federal budget deficit			
	Aug 17-21, 2011	32	60	9
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	33	59	8
	Jan 6-9, 2011	35	53	12
	Jun 16-20, 2010	35	56	9
	Jan 6-10, 2010	32	58	11
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	58	11
	Jul 22-26, 2009	32	53	15
	April 14-21, 2009	50	38	12
c.	The threat of terrorism			
	Aug 17-21, 2011	56	33	12
	May 2, 2011	69	21	10
	Jan 6-9, 2011	55	33	12
	Jan 6-10, 2010	51	39	10
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 <sup>2</sup>	52	34	14
	Apr 14-21, 2009	57	26	17
	Feb 4-8, 2009	50	21	29

**ASK ALL:**

Q.6 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the [ITEM] are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]. [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: REPEAT FULL QUESTION FOR NEXT ITEM]**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a.	Republican leaders in Congress			
	Aug 17-21, 2011	22	69	9
	Jul 20-24, 2011	25	66	10
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	30	61	9
	Feb 24-27, 2011	36	45	19
	Jan 5-9, 2011 <sup>3</sup>	34	43	22
	Nov 4-7, 2010	41	37	22
	Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	24	60	16

<sup>2</sup> In surveys conducted October 28-November 8, 2009 and before, the item was worded "Terrorist threats."

<sup>3</sup> Question wording for Nov. 4-7, 2010, and Jan. 5-9, 2011, was: "Do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?"

**Q.6 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 22-25, 2010	33	53	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	55	14
Apr 8-11, 2010	30	56	14
Mar 10-14, 2010	25	59	16
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	57	16
Dec 9-13, 2009	29	51	20
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	24	60	17
Jun 10-14, 2009	29	56	15
Mar 9-12, 2009	28	51	21
Feb 4-8, 2009	34	51	15
Early October, 2006	33	56	11
June, 2006	30	53	17
March, 2006	32	50	18
January, 2006	33	52	15
Early November, 2005	33	50	17
Early October, 2005	32	52	16
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17
Early February, 2004	41	42	17
January, 2003	48	37	15
June, 2002	50	34	16
May, 2002	49	34	17
February, 2002	56	24	20
Early September, 2001	43	39	18
June, 2001	40	40	20
May, 2001	45	36	19
April, 2001	45	30	25
January, 2001	43	36	21
July, 2000	36	46	18
May, 2000	40	42	18
March, 2000	38	43	19
February, 2000	40	43	17
January, 2000	39	41	20
December, 1999	38	42	20
October, 1999	34	50	16
Late September, 1999	34	46	20
August, 1999	40	44	16
July, 1999	36	45	19
June, 1999	37	46	17
May, 1999	38	44	18
March, 1999	38	47	15
February, 1999	37	51	12
January, 1999	38	50	12
Early December, 1998	38	49	13
November, 1998	41	48	11
Early September, 1998	44	37	19
Early August, 1998	43	37	20
June, 1998	42	38	20
May, 1998	40	41	19
April, 1998	41	40	19
March, 1998	43	39	18
January, 1998	43	41	16
November, 1997	41	43	16
August, 1997	42	44	14
June, 1997	33	50	17
May, 1997	40	44	16
April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 1997	44	42	14
January, 1997	38	47	15

**Q.6 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
December, 1996 <sup>4</sup>	40	43	17
July, 1996	38	48	14
June, 1996	36	50	14
April, 1996	39	46	15
March, 1996	35	51	14
February, 1996	33	53	14
January, 1996	36	54	10
October, 1995	36	51	13
September, 1995	36	50	14
August, 1995	38	45	17
June, 1995	41	45	14
April, 1995	44	43	13
March, 1995	43	39	18
December, 1994	52	28	20
b. Democratic leaders in Congress			
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	63	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	60	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	31	60	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	33	48	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	30	53	17
Jul 22-25, 2010	35	56	10
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	53	12
Apr 8-11, 2010	38	51	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	31	57	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	35	53	11
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 <sup>5</sup>	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
November, 2006 <sup>6</sup>	50	21	29
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

<sup>4</sup> From December, 1994, through December, 1996, the question was worded: "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress?".

<sup>5</sup> In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?".

<sup>6</sup> Question wording in November, 2006, and December, 1994, was: "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Democratic congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?".

**Q.6 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early September, 2001	49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22
December, 1994	52	28	20

**ASK ALL:**

Q.7 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**?

	Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		May 25-30 <u>2011</u>	Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
a.	59	Trustworthy	62	58	58	61	64	76
	37	Not trustworthy	31	36	37	31	30	15
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	1	2	2	1
	3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	4	3	5	5	8
b.	44	Able to get things done	55	54	55	57	58	70
	50	Not able to get things done	38	38	39	35	31	15
	2	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	3	2	3	3	2
	4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5	4	5	8	13
c.	49	A strong leader	58	53	53	62	65	77
	47	Not a strong leader	37	41	42	32	29	13
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	2	2	2	1
	3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	4	3	3	5	9
d.	71	Stands up for what he believes in	75	77	--	--	--	--
	22	Doesn't stand up for what he believes in	18	16	--	--	--	--
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1	--	--	--	--
	5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5	--	--	--	--

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:**

e.F1	70	Warm and friendly	73	70	68	77	78	87
	22	Cold and aloof	20	23	26	16	16	8
	3	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	4	3	2	2
	5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5	2	4	4	3
f.F1	63	Well informed	67	64	67	69	70	79
	33	Not well informed	27	31	30	26	23	15
	2	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	2	1	2	1
	3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	4	4	2	4	4	5

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:**

g.F2	75	A good communicator	75	75	77	83	83	92
	22	Not a good communicator	20	21	20	14	13	6
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1	2	1	1	*
	2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	4	1	2	3	2
h.F2	63	Someone who cares about people like me	64	60	60	64	68	81
	31	Someone who doesn't care about people like me	30	34	35	30	25	14
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	*	1	2	1	1	1
	5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5	3	4	6	4

**ASK ALL:**

Q.8 In dealing with Congress, do you think President Obama...**[RANDOMIZE: Should go along with the Republicans more often [OR] Should challenge the Republicans more often]** or is he handling this about right?

Aug 17-21 2011		Mar 30-Apr 3 2011	<i>Bush and Democrats</i>	<i>Clinton and Republicans</i>		
			Mar 2007 <sup>7</sup>	Mar 1996	Aug 1995	Apr 1995
25	Should go along with the Republicans more often	29	43	30	26	25
37	Should challenge the Republicans more often	27	18	23	27	27
26	Is he handling this about right	34	27	41	38	41
4	Neither <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	3	2	2	2
9	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9	9	4	7	5

**QUESTION 9 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTIONS 10-15****ASK ALL:**

Q.16 Would you say your overall opinion of... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS a-c FOLLOWED BY RANDOMIZED ITEMS e,f WITH ITEM g LAST]** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY: do you have a very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly Unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of [ITEM]?**

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	heard of	
a. The Republican Party								
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	5	29	59	27	32	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	42	9	32	51	22	28	1	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	43	8	35	48	19	29	*	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	8	35	49	21	28	*	8
July 1-5, 2010	39	10	29	49	24	25	*	12
April 1-5, 2010	37	8	29	53	26	27	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	37	5	32	51	20	31	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	5	41	46	14	32	0	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	40	6	34	50	19	31	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	40	7	33	50	18	32	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	40	7	33	51	17	34	0	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	55	21	34	*	5
Late October, 2008	40	10	30	50	23	27	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	47	11	36	46	22	24	*	7
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9

<sup>7</sup> In March 2007 and before, answer choices were not randomized, and the third answer choice read "...or is handling the situation about right?"

## Q.16 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6
b. The Democratic Party								
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	9	34	50	21	29	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	48	14	34	45	18	27	*	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	47	13	35	46	17	29	*	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	13	36	44	20	24	*	7
July 1-5, 2010	44	12	31	45	22	23	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	38	9	29	52	27	25	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	40	8	32	49	25	24	*	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	9	39	44	17	27	*	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	48	11	37	43	19	24	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	49	12	37	40	16	25	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	59	15	44	34	13	21	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	19	43	32	12	20	*	6
Late October, 2008	57	19	38	33	15	18	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	55	18	37	39	14	25	*	6
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4

## Q.16 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6
c. Congress								
Aug 17-21, 2011	25	4	21	70	30	40	4	6
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	34	4	30	57	21	36	1	8
July 1-5, 2010	33	6	27	56	23	33	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	25	3	22	65	30	36	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	26	3	23	62	23	39	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	41	3	38	50	17	34	0	9
Aug 20-27, 2009	37	4	33	52	20	32	*	11
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	50	10	40	43	15	28	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	52	20	32	*	8
Late May, 2008	41	6	35	51	17	34	0	8
July, 2007	41	6	35	51	16	35	0	8
Early January, 2007	53	11	42	38	9	29	1	8
Late October, 2006	41	5	36	46	15	31	*	13
February, 2006	44	6	38	47	14	33	0	9
Late October, 2005	45	7	38	45	13	32	*	10
July, 2005	49	6	43	40	11	29	*	11
June, 2005	49	6	43	40	10	30	*	11
June, 2004	56	7	49	33	7	26	*	11
July, 2001	57	7	50	32	8	24	*	11
March, 2001	56	6	50	36	10	26	1	7
January, 2001	64	10	54	23	5	18	1	12
September, 2000 (RVs)	61	8	53	32	5	27	*	7
August, 1999	63	8	55	34	7	27	*	3
June, 1999	56	9	47	39	9	30	*	5
February, 1999	52	4	48	44	8	36	0	4
January, 1999	48	7	41	45	15	30	0	7
Early December, 1998	52	11	41	41	12	29	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	62	7	55	33	8	25	0	5
Early September, 1998	66	7	59	27	5	22	0	7
October, 1997	53	5	48	44	11	33	0	3
August, 1997	50	6	44	44	11	33	0	6
June, 1997	52	4	48	42	8	34	0	6
May, 1997	49	5	44	42	10	32	*	9
February, 1997	52	6	46	40	9	31	*	8
January, 1997	56	6	50	40	8	32	*	4
June, 1996	45	6	39	50	12	38	*	5
April, 1996	45	6	39	50	13	37	0	5
January, 1996	42	4	38	54	16	38	*	4
October, 1995	42	4	38	55	13	42	0	3
August, 1995	45	5	40	47	13	34	*	7
June, 1995	53	8	45	42	11	31	*	5
February, 1995	54	10	44	37	10	27	0	9
July, 1994	53	7	46	43	9	34	*	4

**Q.16 CONTINUED...**

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
May, 1993	43	8	35	48	13	35	0	9
November, 1991	51	7	44	43	9	34	0	6
March, 1991	66	16	50	26	7	19	0	8
May, 1990	59	6	53	34	9	25	1	6
May, 1988	64	8	56	28	5	23	0	8
January, 1988	64	6	58	29	4	25	0	7
May, 1987	74	10	64	20	4	16	*	6
January, 1987	59	7	52	31	8	23	0	10
July, 1985	67	9	58	26	5	21	*	7

**NO ITEM d.**

## e. Labor unions

Aug 17-21, 2011	41	11	30	46	21	26	1	12
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	47	18	29	39	17	23	2	12
Feb 2-7, 2011	45	11	34	41	17	25	1	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	41	11	30	42	16	26	1	16
January, 2007	58	18	40	31	11	20	2	9
Late March, 2005	56	17	39	33	9	24	1	9
March, 2002	59	15	44	32	9	23	1	8
July, 2001	51	12	39	36	10	26	1	12
March, 2001	63	16	47	28	7	21	1	8
August, 1999	59	12	47	36	9	27	*	5
Early September, 1998	52	12	40	38	13	25	*	10
June, 1997	58	15	43	35	10	25	*	7
May, 1997	49	15	34	39	13	26	*	12
April, 1996	47	10	37	45	17	28	*	8
February, 1996	54	17	37	41	14	27	*	5
July, 1994	57	14	43	38	10	28	*	5
January, 1988	52	10	42	39	10	29	*	9
July, 1985	46	9	37	47	17	30	*	7

## f. Business corporations

Aug 17-21, 2011	38	7	31	52	21	31	1	9
Feb 2-7, 2011	47	7	40	45	15	31	1	7
April, 2008	47	10	37	45	15	30	*	8
January, 2007	57	9	48	30	8	22	2	11
December, 2005	57	9	48	35	10	25	*	8
Late October, 2005	45	8	37	45	16	29	*	10
July, 2005	49	9	40	40	11	29	*	11
March, 2002	62	10	52	29	6	23	1	8
July, 2001	59	9	50	27	6	21	*	14
March, 2001	65	9	56	25	6	19	1	9
August, 1999	73	8	65	22	3	19	0	5
Early September, 1998	64	9	55	26	5	21	*	10
October, 1997	66	11	55	28	5	23	*	6
June, 1997	68	8	60	25	7	18	*	7
May, 1997	59	9	50	28	7	21	1	12
June, 1996	62	10	52	31	6	25	*	7
February, 1996	59	9	50	34	10	24	1	6
October, 1995	60	6	54	36	7	29	0	4
July, 1994	70	8	62	24	5	19	*	6
November, 1991	65	8	57	28	6	22	0	7
January, 1988	59	6	53	32	5	27	*	9
June, 1985	58	8	50	31	7	24	1	10

## g. The Tea Party movement

Aug 17-21, 2011	36	11	25	43	23	20	5	15
Feb 3-9, 2010	33	10	23	25	10	14	19	23

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17 Some people say they are basically content with the federal government, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?

	<u>Basically content</u>	<u>Frustrated</u>	<u>Angry</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Aug 17-21, 2011	11	60	26	3
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	22	59	14	5
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	21	52	23	4
Apr 1-5, 2010	23	52	21	4
Mar 11-21, 2010	19	56	21	5
Early Jan, 2007	21	58	16	5
Early Oct, 2006	21	54	20	5
March, 2004	32	52	13	3
Mid Nov, 2001	53	34	8	5
Jun, 2000	28	53	13	6
Feb, 2000	33	54	10	3
Oct, 1997	29	56	12	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.18 How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

	<u>Just about always</u>	<u>Most of the time</u>	<u>Only sometimes</u>	<b>(VOL.) Never</b>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Aug 17-21, 2011	3	16	72	8	1
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	4	25	65	4	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	3	21	65	10	1
Apr 1-5, 2010	5	20	61	13	1
Mar 11-21, 2010	3	19	65	11	2
January, 2007	3	28	63	5	1
February, 2006	4	30	59	6	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	63	4	2
Mid-March, 2004	4	32	59	4	1
February, 2000	5	35	56	3	1
May, 1999	3	28	62	5	2
February, 1999	4	27	64	4	1
November, 1998 <sup>8</sup>	4	22	61	11	2
February, 1998	5	29	61	4	1
October, 1997	3	36	59	2	*

**NO QUESTIONS 19-24****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the 2012 Presidential election...

Q.25 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2012?  
**[READ IN ORDER]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>None at all</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Aug 17-21, 2011	27	30	23	18	1
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	29	27	23	1
May 25-30, 2011	23	30	27	19	1
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON: 2008 Presidential Election</b>					
December, 2007	35	33	13	18	1
November, 2007	34	35	16	14	1
October, 2007	30	37	17	14	2
September, 2007	27	33	21	17	2

<sup>8</sup> The November, 1998 survey was conducted Oct. 26-Dec. 1, 1998. The question asked, "How much of the time do you trust the government in Washington to do the right thing? Just about always, most the time, or only some of the time?"

**Q.25 TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>None at all</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
July, 2007	30	38	16	15	1
June, 2007	29	34	20	16	1
April, 2007	26	34	21	17	2
March, 2007	24	36	20	18	2
February, 2007	24	34	22	18	2
December, 2006	23	36	20	20	1

**ASK ALL:**

Q.26 Looking ahead, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected president in 2012 or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election? **[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election?"]**

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	<u>Obama re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Other/DK</u>	<u>Obama re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Other/DK</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	38	19	43	40	17
Jul 20-24, 2011	42	37	20	41	40	19
May 25-30, 2011	48	35	18	48	37	15
Mar 8-14, 2011	48	35	17	47	37	16

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

Looking ahead to the general election in November, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected president in 2004 or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election? **[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?"]**

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	<u>Bush re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Democrat</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Other/DK</u>	<u>Bush re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Democrat</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Other/DK</u>
Mid-January, 2004	44	40	16	48	38	14
Early January, 2004	43	43	14	44	42	14
December, 2003	47	38	15	49	37	14
October, 2003	40	44	16	42	42	16
September, 2003	44	43	13	45	43	12
August, 2003	40	39	21	43	38	19
Mid-July, 2003	45	37	18	47	37	16
April, 2003	46	35	19	48	34	18

Looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate or an Independent candidate be elected President?<sup>9</sup>

	-----Total-----				-----Registered Voters-----			
	<u>Clinton re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	<u>Prefer ind.</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Clinton re-elected</u>	<u>Prefer Republican</u>	<u>Prefer ind.</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 1995	34	33	26	7	35	35	24	7
August, 1995	32	35	26	7	33	36	23	8
March, 1995	31	38	23	8	--	--	--	--
December, 1994	33	40	18	9	33	43	16	9

<sup>9</sup> For 1993-1995 Clinton trends, if respondent did not answer, they were prompted to say who they leaned towards. Percentages shown include leaners in each answer category.

**Q.26 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...**

*Would you like to see George Bush re-elected President in November or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?*

	-----Total-----			-----Registered Voters-----		
	G.H.W. Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>	G.H.W. Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
February, 1992	40	48	12	39	49	12
January, 1992	42	42	16	41	45	14
November, 1991	41	43	16	41	44	15

**ASK ALL:**

Q.27 Overall, what's your impression of the possible candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

		<b>SELECTED TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>									
		May 25-30 2011		Oct 2007		Sep 2003		Oct 1995		Oct 1991	
		Rep	Dem	Rep	Dem	Rep	Dem	Rep	Dem	Rep	Dem
		<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>
Aug 17-21 2011	4	Excellent	3	4	8	3	3	2	3	3	3
22	Good	22	28	35	27	29	18	34	27		
39	Only fair	36	39	34	39	46	38	42	44		
23	Poor	23	18	15	15	18	15	11	17		
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	15	11	8	16	4	27	10	9		

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

*Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?*

**BASED ON REPUBLICAN AND REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=561]:**

	<b>(VOL.)</b>				
	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	9	40	38	6	7
May 25-30, 2011	5	39	36	7	13
February, 2008	10	50	31	7	2
January, 2008	10	57	28	3	1
November, 2007	9	47	34	7	3
October, 2007	6	46	36	7	6
September, 2007	8	41	36	8	6
October, 1995	5	46	40	6	3
January, 1988 (GP)	6	50	35	4	5

*Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the DEMOCRATIC presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?*

**BASED ON DEMOCRATIC AND DEMOCRATIC-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS:**

	<b>(VOL.)</b>				
	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
February, 2008	30	50	16	2	2
January, 2008	28	50	18	2	2
November, 2007	16	51	28	2	3
October, 2007	16	48	26	5	5
September, 2007	15	49	29	2	5
January, 2004	8	39	41	6	8
December, 2003	5	40	39	7	9
September, 2003	4	40	39	5	12
February, 1992	6	39	47	4	5
October, 1991	3	24	38	11	23
January, 1988 (GP)	4	33	45	11	7

**ASK ALL:**

Q.28 Next, I'm going to read you a list of possible Republican presidential candidates. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. First, **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES]**, have you heard of **[REPEAT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD: How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (REPEAT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2012 — is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?]** Have you heard of **[INSERT NEXT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD: Is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance that you would vote for (REPEAT NAME) for president?]** **[INTERVIEWER CAN ACCEPT VOLUNTEERED RESPONSE "good chance/some chance/no chance" BEFORE FINISHING READING ENTIRE LIST, IF RESPONDENT HAS BEEN READ FULL LIST AT LEAST TWICE]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1205]:**

	Have heard	Have not heard	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref	<i>Based on Those Who Have Heard</i>			<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref	<b>(N)</b>
				Good chance	Some chance	No chance		
<b>NO ITEM a.</b>								
b.	Mitt Romney							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	87	13	*	16	38	42	5
	May 25-30, 2011	82	18	1	17	34	44	5
	June, 2007	62	37	1	14	26	52	8
	February, 2007	43	56	1	8	28	50	14
c.	Newt Gingrich							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	87	12	*	8	23	66	3
	May 25-30, 2011	86	13	1	9	24	63	4
	June, 2007	87	12	1	11	19	63	7
	February, 2007	85	14	1	7	20	66	7
d.	Sarah Palin							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	97	3	*	13	19	67	1
	May 25-30, 2011	97	2	*	14	20	63	3
e.	Rick Perry							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	71	28	*	19	28	47	6
f.	Ron Paul							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	76	24	1	14	28	53	5
	May 25-30, 2011	71	28	1	9	26	60	6
g.	Michele Bachmann							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	84	15	1	14	25	56	5
	May 25-30, 2011	54	45	1	14	26	51	8
<b>NO ITEM h.</b>								
i.	Jon Huntsman							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	39	61	*	9	25	59	7
	May 25-30, 2011	32	68	1	8	27	49	16
j.	Rick Santorum							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	46	54	*	11	23	59	7
	May 25-30, 2011	41	58	1	11	27	51	10
k.	Herman Cain							
	Aug 17-21, 2011	41	59	*	20	22	53	4
	May 25-30, 2011	33	66	1	23	25	41	11

**ASK ALL**

Q.29 Apart from your opinions about the Republican candidates, which one do you think has the best chance of defeating Barack Obama next November? **[OPEN END; RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY.] [IF PERSON OFFERS MULTIPLE CANDIDATES, PROBE WITH: Which of those do you think has the best chance of defeating Obama?]**

Aug 17-21

2011

20	Mitt Romney
16	Rick Perry
8	Sarah Palin
6	Michele Bachmann
4	Ron Paul
3	Newt Gingrich
2	Jon Huntsman
2	Herman Cain
1	Rick Santorum
11	None
1	Other
25	Don't know/Refused

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about next year's congressional elections ...

Q.30 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

**IF Q.30=3,9 ASK:**

Q.30a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1205]:**

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	(VOL.) Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	44	48	8
<b>2010 Election</b>			
Oct 27-30, 2010	43	44	12
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	42	12
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	44	47	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	44	45	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	45	10
Mar 11-21, 2010	44	44	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	45	13
Jan 6-10, 2010	44	46	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	47	11
Aug 20-27, 2009	44	45	10
<b>2008 Election</b>			
June, 2008	37	52	11
<b>2006 Election</b>			
November, 2006	40	48	12
Late October, 2006	38	49	13
Early October, 2006	38	51	11
September, 2006	39	50	11
August, 2006	41	50	9
June, 2006	39	51	10
April, 2006	41	51	8
February, 2006	41	50	9
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8
<b>2004 Election</b>			
June, 2004	41	48	11
<b>2002 Election</b>			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12
Early October, 2002	44	46	10

**Q.30/Q.30a CONTINUED...**

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	(VOL.) Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early September, 2002	44	46	10
June, 2002	44	46	10
February, 2002	46	45	9
Early November, 2001	44	44	12
<b>2000 Election</b>			
Early November, 2000	42	48	10
Early October, 2000	43	47	10
July, 2000	43	47	10
February, 2000	44	47	9
October, 1999	43	49	8
June, 1999	40	50	10
<b>1998 Election</b>			
Late October, 1998	40	47	13
Early October, 1998	43	44	13
Early September, 1998	45	46	9
Late August, 1998	44	45	11
Early August, 1998	42	49	9
June, 1998	44	46	10
March, 1998	40	52	8
February, 1998	41	50	9
January, 1998	41	51	8
August, 1997	45	48	7
<b>1996 Election</b>			
November, 1996	41	48	11
October, 1996	42	49	9
Late September, 1996	43	49	8
Early September, 1996	43	51	6
July, 1996	46	47	7
June, 1996	44	50	6
March, 1996	44	49	7
January, 1996	46	47	7
October, 1995	48	48	4
August, 1995	50	43	7
<b>1994 Election</b>			
November, 1994	45	43	12
Late October, 1994	47	44	9
Early October, 1994	52	40	8
September, 1994	48	46	6
July, 1994	45	47	8

**NO QUESTIONS 31-34****ASK ALL:**

Next,

Q.35 If you were setting priorities for the federal government these days, would you place a higher priority on **[OPTION]** or a higher priority on **[OPTION]**?

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Jun 15-19 <u>2011</u>	Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u>
47	Spending to help the economy recover	42	46
46	Reducing the budget deficit	52	49
7	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	5

**Q.35 TREND FOR COMPARISON...**

*If you were setting priorities for the government these days, would you place a higher priority on [OPTION] or a higher priority on [OPTION]?*

	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>	Jul 15-18 <u>2010</u>	Feb 3-9 <u>2010</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u> <sup>10</sup>	Jun 18-21 <u>2009</u>
Spending more to help the economy recover	43	51	47	53	48
Reducing the budget deficit	50	40	47	38	46
Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	7	9	6	9	6

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking now about the nation's economy...

Q.36 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref
Aug 17-21, 2011	1	6	37	56	1
Jun 15-19, 2011	*	8	45	46	1
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	1	7	38	53	1
Feb 2-7, 2011	1	11	45	42	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	1	8	44	45	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	1	7	38	54	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	1	7	43	48	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	1	8	48	43	1
Apr 21-26, 2010	*	11	39	49	1
Mar 10-14, 2010	1	6	39	53	1
Feb 3-9, 2010	1	7	38	53	1
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
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

<sup>10</sup> In July, 2009, question was asked as part of a list that included items on: spending on education, spending on health care and spending to develop energy technology.

**Q.36 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
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 <sup>11</sup>	2	29	42	26	1

**ASK ALL:**

Q.37 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>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	18	50	2
Jun 15-19, 2011	29	23	46	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	16	45	4
Apr 21-26, 2010	42	19	36	3
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	16	40	3
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
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
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 2001	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	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 (RVs)	24	16	51	9
May, 1988	24	20	46	10
January, 1988	22	26	45	7
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 1984 (RVs)	35	13	49	3

<sup>11</sup> Earlier trends available from Gallup.

**NO QUESTION 38****ASK ALL:**

Thinking more generally ...

Q.39 In dealing with important issues facing the country, are **[RANDOMIZE]**; Barack Obama and Republican leaders in Congress, Republican leaders in Congress and Barack Obama] working together or not working together?

**ASK IF 'NOT WORKING TOGETHER' (Q.39=2):**

Q.40 Who do you think is most to blame for them not working together? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Aug 11-17 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u> <sup>12</sup>
21	Working together	27	25	24	39	43
75	Not working together	65	67	63	50	45
21	Barack Obama to blame	19	19	17	12	7
37	Republican leaders in Congress to blame	31	32	29	26	27
12	Both to blame <b>(VOL.)</b>	11	9	9	9	5
1	Neither to blame <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	1	1	1
1	Other to blame <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	2	1	3
3	Don't know who is to blame <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	3	4	2	2
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9	8	13	11	12

**NO QUESTION 41****QUESTION 42 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTION 43****ASK ALL:**

Q.44 Are Republican leaders in Congress paying too much attention, too little attention, or the right amount of attention to the ideas and positions of the Tea Party?

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>
30	Too much	27	22
31	Too little	32	28
20	Right amount	23	25
20	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	19	25

**NO QUESTIONS 45-54****QUESTIONS 55-87 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

<sup>12</sup> In February 2009, question was worded: "In developing a plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs. ..."

**ASK ALL:**

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

**ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):**

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

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Aug 17-21, 2011	24	30	40	3	*	3	17	18
Jul 20-24, 2011	24	32	38	4	*	2	16	14
Jun 15-19, 2011	26	34	32	4	*	4	13	13
May 25-30, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	15	17
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	25	32	37	3	*	3	17	16
Mar 8-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	17	15
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	16
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	31	39	3	*	2	16	16
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

**ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):**

REPJOB How good a job is the Republican Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values — In general, would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

**BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=665]:**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	3	36	49	10	2
Nov 4-7, 2010	8	32	40	12	8
Feb 3-9, 2010	3	31	49	14	3
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	3	18	54	23	2
Mid-September, 2008	4	31	44	19	2
October, 2007	5	31	49	13	2
Late November, 2006	7	35	41	15	2
June, 2006	6	36	44	10	4
April, 2006	6	41	41	10	2
Mid-September, 2005	4	44	41	8	3
Late March, 2005	8	43	36	9	4
July, 2004	12	49	33	4	2
August, 2003	6	51	37	5	1
May, 2002	6	49	38	5	2
May, 2001	10	50	32	5	3
September, 2000 (RVs)	6	43	44	5	2

**ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2):**

DEMJOB How good a job is the Democratic Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people — In general, would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

**BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=690]:**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	6	32	47	14	1
Nov 4-7, 2010	10	38	35	15	2
Feb 3-9, 2010	8	47	36	7	1
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	10	45	39	4	2
Mid-September, 2008	9	41	36	11	3
October, 2007	4	35	48	9	4
Late November, 2006	6	37	45	7	5
June, 2006	4	30	51	13	2
April, 2006	5	35	48	11	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	32	49	14	2
Late March, 2005	3	30	51	14	2
July, 2004	6	43	40	8	3
August, 2003	5	33	51	9	2
May, 2002	5	39	43	10	3
May, 2001	8	39	40	7	6
September, 2000 (RVs)	11	52	32	4	1

**ASK ALL:**

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/DK</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	20	27	50	1	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	24	53	1	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	20	26	50	3	2	--
May 25-30, 2011	18	23	54	2	2	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>13</sup>	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

**ASK ALL:**

PVOTE08A In the 2008 presidential election between Barack Obama and John McCain, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

**ASK IF YES (PVOTE08A=1):**

PVOTE08B Did you vote for Obama, McCain or someone else?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1205]:**

	<u>Voted</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Other candidate</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>	<u>Did not vote</u>	<u>(VOL.) Don't remember/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	89	46	33	6	5	11	1
Mar 8-14, 2011	88	46	32	5	5	12	*
Nov 4-7, 2010	89	45	33	6	4	11	1
Oct 27-30, 2010	88	44	35	4	5	10	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	89	45	35	4	4	10	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	89	46	34	4	4	10	1
Jan 6-10, 2010	92	44	37	4	6	8	*
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	93	47	34	5	7	7	*
Feb 4-8, 2009	93	48	33	4	8	7	*
Jan 7-11, 2009	93	48	35	4	6	7	*
December, 2008	93	50	32	3	9	7	*

<sup>13</sup>

In the February 2-7, 2011 survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
AUGUST 18-21, 2011 OMNIBUS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
N=1,007**

**PEW.1-PEW.2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 Thinking about possible Republican candidates for president in 2012... Regardless of whom you might prefer, which Republican candidate have you heard the most about in the news recently?

**[OPEN END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY.] [PLEASE BE CERTAIN TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "JOHN MCCAIN" AND "HERMAN CAIN".]**

Aug 18-21 <u>2011</u>		Jul 21-24 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-19 <u>2011</u>	Jun 2-5 <u>2011</u>	May 12-15 <u>2011</u>	Apr 14-17 <u>2011</u>
23	Michele Bachmann	23	5	1	1	*
22	Rick Perry	3	*	*	*	*
7	Mitt Romney	13	27	22	7	9
4	Sarah Palin	7	8	20	2	4
3	Donald Trump	4	2	5	16	26
3	Ron Paul	1	1	1	2	*
1	Newt Gingrich	1	5	2	12	1
1	Herman Cain	*	*	*	*	*
*	Tim Pawlenty	1	1	1	1	1
*	Jon Huntsman	1	*	*	*	*
*	Mike Huckabee	*	*	*	2	2
1	Other					
35	None/Don't know/Refused	44	45	41	50	53