

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**DECEMBER 2010 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**December 1-5, 2010**  
**N=1500**

**RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2****ASK ALL:**

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

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

**RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2****ASK ALL:**

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

	<u>Satis- fied</u>	<u>Dis- satisfied</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>				
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	August, 2008	21	74	5
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	July, 2008	19	74	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	June, 2008	19	76	5
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	March, 2008	22	72	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	Late December, 2007	27	66	7
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	October, 2007	28	66	6
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	February, 2007	30	61	9
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	Early January, 2007	30	63	7
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	December, 2006	28	65	7
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
Sep 10-15, 2009 <sup>1</sup>	30	64	7	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	July, 2006	30	65	5
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	May, 2006*	29	65	6
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	March, 2006	32	63	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	January, 2006	34	61	5
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	July, 2005	35	58	7
December, 2008	13	83	4	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	February, 2005	38	56	6
				January, 2005	40	54	6
				December, 2004	39	54	7
				Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
				July, 2004	38	55	7
				May, 2004	33	61	6
				Late February, 2004*	39	55	6

1 From 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>
Early January, 2004	45	48	7	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
December, 2003	44	47	9	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
October, 2003	38	56	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
August, 2003	40	53	7	January, 1998	46	50	4
<i>April 8, 2003</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>	September, 1997	45	49	6
January, 2003	44	50	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
November, 2002	41	48	11	January, 1997	38	58	4
September, 2002	41	55	4	July, 1996	29	67	4
Late August, 2002	47	44	9	March, 1996	28	70	2
May, 2002	44	44	12	October, 1995	23	73	4
March, 2002	50	40	10	June, 1995	25	73	2
Late September, 2001	57	34	9	April, 1995	23	74	3
Early September, 2001	41	53	6	July, 1994	24	73	3
June, 2001	43	52	5	March, 1994	24	71	5
March, 2001	47	45	8	October, 1993	22	73	5
February, 2001	46	43	11	September, 1993	20	75	5
January, 2001	55	41	4	May, 1993	22	71	7
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7	January, 1993	39	50	11
September, 2000	51	41	8	January, 1992	28	68	4
June, 2000	47	45	8	November, 1991	34	61	5
April, 2000	48	43	9	<i>Gallup: Late Feb, 1991</i>	66	31	3
August, 1999	56	39	5	August, 1990	47	48	5
January, 1999	53	41	6	May, 1990	41	54	5
November, 1998	46	44	10	January, 1989	45	50	5
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 Looking ahead, so far as you are concerned, do you think that 2011 will be better or worse than 2010?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	55	31	14
Jan 6-10, 2010	67	26	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	52	37	11
December, 2007	50	34	16
December, 2006	57	28	15
December, 1999	66	19	15
December, 1998	59	25	16
December, 1994	59	28	13
<i>Gallup: December, 1993</i>	64	20	16
<i>Gallup: December, 1992</i>	61	11	28
<i>Gallup: December, 1991</i>	61	31	8
<i>Gallup: December, 1990</i>	48	42	10
<i>Gallup: December, 1986</i>	53	25	22
<i>Gallup: December, 1985</i>	64	20	17
<i>Gallup: December, 1984</i>	61	20	19
<i>Gallup: December, 1982</i>	50	32	18
<i>Gallup: December, 1981</i>	41	44	15

**ASK ALL:**

Q.4 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- vision	News- papers	Radio	Maga- zines	Internet	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	66	31	16	3	41	1	1
July 8-11, 2010	68	24	17	3	41	2	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	70	32	17	3	35	1	1
July 22-26, 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	*
<b>Early Sept, 2005<sup>2</sup> (Hurricane Katrina)</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*</b>
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	*
<b>March, 2003 (War in Iraq)</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*</b>
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	*
<b>Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
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
<b>Early January, 1991 (Persian Gulf)</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>*</b>

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

<sup>2</sup>

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.4 ASK:**

Q.5 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>Channel</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>TV not a main source</i>
Dec 1-5, 2010	16	10	7	9	16	7	16	3	2	(34)
July 8-11, 2010	17	9	8	8	17	5	19	4	2	(32)
Dec 9-13, 2009	16	12	8	10	19	6	19	3	2	(30)
July 22-26, 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)
<b>Early Sept, 2005<sup>3</sup></b> <b>(Hurricane Katrina)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(11)</b>
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.

**NO QUESTIONS 6-8****ASK ALL:**

Q.9 As I read a list of some issues, please tell me if you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or if things are about the same as they have been. First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**. Do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been on this issue? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been on this issue?]**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:**

	<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a.F1 The way the health care system is working				
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	47	5
December, 2008	8	33	56	3
February, 2007	13	24	60	3
May, 2005	9	25	62	4
March, 2002	16	25	54	5
February, 2001	13	29	53	5
November, 1997	16	26	54	4
December, 1996	20	25	52	3
April, 1995	14	30	53	3
March, 1994	16	31	49	4
b.F1 The availability of good-paying jobs				
Dec 1-5, 2010	11	24	63	3
December, 2008	5	21	72	2
February, 2007	16	32	47	5
May, 2005	15	25	55	5
March, 2002	21	22	51	6

<sup>3</sup> In early September 2005, the question was worded: "Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from ..."

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
	February, 2001	33	26	36	5
	November, 1997	31	28	37	4
	December, 1996	19	26	51	4
	April, 1995	17	24	55	4
	March, 1994	10	23	63	4
c.F1	Environmental pollution				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	26	45	23	6
	December, 2008	32	31	33	4
	February, 2007	20	26	52	2
	May, 2005	21	35	37	7
	November, 1997	38	32	27	3
	December, 1996	42	26	30	2
	April, 1995	43	26	30	1
	March, 1994	37	26	34	3
	February, 1989	32	20	42	6
d.F1	The gap between rich and poor				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	5	32	58	5
	December, 2008	5	32	59	4
	February, 2007	7	27	63	3
	February, 1989	8	30	58	4
e.F1	Illegal immigration				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	11	41	42	7
	December, 2008	10	34	51	5
	February, 2007	11	25	59	5
	May, 2005	11	29	52	8
	November, 1997	13	29	48	10
	December, 1996	15	32	47	6
	April, 1995	9	23	62	6
	March, 1994	9	22	58	11
f.F1	The financial condition of Medicare				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	9	29	51	11
	December, 2008	6	31	53	10
	May, 2005	5	26	56	13
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:</b>					
g.F2	Our ability to compete economically with other countries				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	12	28	55	6
	December, 2008	8	30	58	4
	March, 1994	24	26	43	7
h.F2	The cost of living				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	4	28	64	3
	December, 2008	8	20	69	3
	April, 1995	9	28	61	2
	March, 1994	8	32	59	1
i.F2	The quality of public education				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	17	34	44	5
	December, 2008	19	28	50	3
	February, 2007	24	26	45	5
	May, 2005	20	26	50	4
	March, 2002	27	22	45	6
	February, 2001	23	20	53	4
	November, 1997	26	26	46	2
	December, 1996	24	22	52	2

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
	April, 1995	18	20	60	2
	March, 1994	17	19	61	3
j.F2	The federal budget deficit				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	8	20	67	5
	December, 2008	3	15	79	3
	February, 2007	8	20	64	8
	May, 2005	6	19	65	10
	November, 1997	32	30	29	9
	December, 1996	23	24	48	5
	April, 1995	15	21	60	4
	March, 1994	11	21	60	8
	February, 1989 <sup>4</sup>	16	27	50	7
k.F2	The financial condition of Social Security				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	25	64	8
	December, 2008	6	23	63	8
	May, 2005	6	25	63	6
l.F2	International terrorism				
	Dec 1-5, 2010	27	43	25	6
	December, 2008	32	37	28	3
	February, 2007	30	27	38	5
	May, 2005	36	28	31	5
	March, 2002	40	14	40	6
	April, 1995	19	40	36	5
	March, 1994	20	41	35	4
	February, 1989	18	24	53	5

**NO QUESTIONS 10-11****ASK ALL:**

Q.12 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about the debate in Washington over the federal income tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

38	A lot
43	A little
17	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:**

Q.13F1 As you may know, these tax cuts are set to expire at the end of December. Which comes closer to your view about what President Obama and Congress should do now? **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

	<u>Keep all of the tax cuts in place</u>	<u>Keep the tax cuts only for income below \$250,000, but end the tax cuts for income above that</u>	<u>End all of the tax cuts</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Dec 1-5, 2010	33	47	11	9

<sup>4</sup> In February 1989, the item was "the budget deficit."

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.14F2 As you may know, these tax cuts are set to expire at the end of December. Which comes closer to your view about what President Obama and Congress should do now? **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

	Keep all of the tax cuts in place	Keep the tax cuts only for income below \$1 million but end the tax cuts for income above that	End all of the tax cuts	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	34	36	14	15

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

*Which comes closer to your view about the tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president?*  
**[READ IN ORDER]**

	All of the tax cuts should remain in place	Tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed, while others stay in place	All of the tax cuts should be repealed	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Nov 4-7, 2010	34	30	28	8
Sep 9-12, 2010	29	29	28	14
Jul 22-25, 2010	30	27	31	12
Late October, 2008 <sup>5</sup>	23	34	27	16
Mid-October, 2008	25	37	25	13
November, 2007	30	38	22	10
October, 2007	24	31	30	15
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	34	22	14
Early October, 2006	26	36	26	12
April, 2006	25	36	28	11
December, 2004	28	35	25	12
Early September, 2004	27	31	28	14

**NO QUESTIONS 15-16****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about Afghanistan...

Q.17 How well is the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010		Jul 8-11 2010	Jun 16-20 2010	Mar 10-14 2010	Dec 9-13 2009	Oct 28-Nov 8 2009	Jan 7-11 2009	Feb 2008
8	Very well	9	8	9	7	4	7	10
39	Fairly well	40	40	43	39	32	38	38
28	Not too well	31	32	22	32	41	34	31
15	Not at all well	9	13	13	11	16	11	10
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	7	13	10	6	10	11

**RANDOMIZE Q.18 AND Q.19****ASK ALL:**

Q.18 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 1-5 2010		Jun 16-20 2010	Mar 10-14 2010	Dec 9-13 2009	Jan 7-11 2009
9	Definitely succeed	14	12	11	13
40	Probably succeed	45	46	48	49
30	Probably fail	26	22	25	23
9	Definitely fail	7	7	7	6
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	12	10	9

<sup>5</sup> In 2008 and earlier surveys, the question was worded "...tax cuts passed under President Bush over the past few years."

**RANDOMIZE Q.18 AND Q.19****ASK ALL:**

Q.19 Do you think the U.S. and NATO should keep military troops in Afghanistan until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. and NATO should remove their troops as soon as possible?

	<u>Keep troops in Afghanistan</u>	<u>Remove their troops</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Dec 1-5, 2010	44	47	8
Jul 8-11, 2010	47	42	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	53	40	6
Apr 15-May 5, 2010 <b>(GAP)</b>	48	45	7
Sep 10-15, 2009 <b>(GAP)</b>	50	43	7
June, 2009 <b>(GAP)</b>	57	38	5
Mid-Sept, 2008	61	33	6
April, 2008 <b>(GAP)</b>	50	44	6
Late Feb, 2008	61	32	7
May, 2007 <b>(GAP)</b>	50	42	7

**RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS****ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about the nation's economy...

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

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
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

**Q.20 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
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 <sup>6</sup>	2	29	42	26	1

**RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS****ASK ALL:**

Q.21 Which of these best describes your opinion: **[READ; READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]**?

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>		Aug 25-Sep 6 <u>2010</u> <sup>7</sup>	Jun 3-6 <u>2010</u>	Mar 10-14 <u>2010</u>
17	The economy is recovering	10	13	13
33	The economy is not yet recovering but will recover soon	37	35	37
48	It will be a long time before the economy recovers	52	50	48
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	2

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

*How would you describe economic conditions in this country? Would you say the economy is now recovering OR that we are in a recession that will pass fairly soon OR that we are in an economic depression that will last a long time?*

	Jan <u>2004</u>	March <u>1994</u>	Dec <u>1993</u>	Jan <u>1993</u>	March <u>1992</u>	Jan <u>1992</u>
The economy is now recovering	45	40	37	34	16	7
We are in a recession that will pass fairly soon	33	33	27	35	41	51
We are in a depression that will last a long time	18	21	29	27	40	38
Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	4	6	7	4	3	4

**RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS****ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.22 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>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	30	40	23	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	6	33	36	23	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	6	30	40	23	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	6	32	38	20	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	6	31	39	22	2
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

<sup>6</sup> Earlier trends available from Gallup.

<sup>7</sup> In September 2010 and earlier, the first answer choice read "The economy is now recovering."

**Q.22 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
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
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
U.S. News:January, 1993	4	33	46	16	1
U.S. News:October, 1992	6	34	40	19	1
U.S. News:August, 1992	5	30	47	17	1
U.S. News:May, 1992	4	35	45	15	1
U.S. News:January, 1992	4	32	45	18	1

**RANDOMIZE Q.20-Q.21/Q.22-Q.23 IN BLOCKS****ASK ALL:**

Q.23 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 1-5, 2010	7	49	20	6	14	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	9	48	16	6	17	5
Mar 10-14, 2010	9	52	15	8	12	4
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

**Q.23 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.) DK/Ref
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
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
U.S. News:October, 1992	9	51	14	3	15	8
U.S. News:August, 1992	6	50	20	5	14	5
U.S. News:May, 1992	8	49	22	4	13	4
U.S. News:January, 1992	9	46	19	5	16	5

**ASK ALL:**

Q.24 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>		Aug 25-Sep 6 <u>2010</u>	Jun 3-6 <u>2010</u>	Mar 10-14 <u>2010</u>
47	The job situation	49	41	45
19	The federal budget deficit	19	23	22
15	Rising prices	15	16	17
14	Problems in the financial and housing markets	12	13	11
1	Other <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	3	2
1	None/Not worried about any <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1	*
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	2

**NO QUESTIONS 25-27****ASK ALL:**

EMPLOY Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>	
43	Full-time
15	Part time
42	Not employed
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK OF EMPLOYED ONLY (EMPLOY=1,2) [N=828]:**

Q.28 How would you rate the financial condition of the company or organization that employs you? Would you say it is in excellent financial shape, good shape, only fair shape or in poor shape?

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	(VOL.) Does not <u>apply</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	23	41	27	7	2	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	18	42	27	10	2	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	15	43	29	10	*	3
December, 2008	20	43	27	8	1	1
Early October, 2008	22	44	25	5	2	2

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

	Excellent <u>shape</u>	Good <u>shape</u>	Only fair <u>shape</u>	Poor <u>shape</u>	(VOL.) Does not <u>apply</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Early February, 2008	30	39	21	6	2	2
June, 2001	31	39	20	7	2	1
<i>U.S. News</i> :October, 1992	27	38	23	10	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :August, 1992	23	40	26	9	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	25	40	22	11	--	2
<i>U.S. News</i> :January, 1992	22	39	24	12	--	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.29 Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community or are jobs difficult to find?

	Plenty of <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	14	79	3	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	10	85	3	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	14	79	3	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	11	80	3	6
December, 2008	19	73	4	4
Early October, 2008	25	64	4	7
July, 2008	31	58	4	7
April, 2008	30	61	4	5
Early February, 2008	34	53	5	8
November, 2007	41	48	4	7
September, 2007	36	50	6	8
June, 2007	39	49	5	7
February, 2007	39	48	6	7
December, 2006	40	49	5	6
March, 2006	37	56	3	4
January, 2006	33	56	6	5
Early October, 2005	36	56	4	4
May, 2005	30	60	6	4
January, 2005	32	58	5	5
Mid-September, 2004	31	52	6	11
August, 2004	34	55	4	7
Late April, 2004	30	57	4	9
Late February, 2004	31	59	5	6
Mid-January, 2004	27	60	6	7
October, 2003	24	66	5	5
June, 2002	31	59	4	6
June, 2001	42	44	8	6
<i>U.S. News</i> :August, 1992	15	76	6	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	16	77	4	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :January, 1992	12	79	6	3

**ASK IF EMPLOYED FULL OR PART TIME (EMPLOY=1,2) [N=828]:**

Q.30 And what about the job opportunities available to you? Do you think there are plenty of jobs in your line of work available in your community, or are jobs in your line of work difficult to find?

	Plenty of <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 1-5, 2010	30	65	2	3
December, 2008	38	56	2	4
Early February, 2008	48	46	3	3
<i>U.S. News</i> :May, 1992	32	63	2	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.31 Over the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or someone in your household has been without a job and looking for work, or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	46	53	*
Oct 27-30, 2010	38	60	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	44	56	1
Mar 10-14, 2010 <sup>8</sup>	54	45	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	42	58	*
Feb 4-8, 2009	39	61	*
December, 2008	35	65	*
Early February, 2008	28	71	1
May, 2005	31	69	*

**ASK ALL:**

Q.32 What's your impression about the real estate market in your area? Over the past year, have home prices in your area gone up a lot, gone up a little, gone down a little, or gone down a lot?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>Sep 30-Oct 4 2009</u>	<u>Dec 2008</u>	<u>Early Oct 2008</u>	<u>July 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2007</u>
8	Gone up a lot	8	11	19	20	28	28
17	Gone up a little	13	11	14	13	18	22
34	Gone down a little	35	33	29	32	23	25
29	Gone down a lot	31	34	25	24	18	15
5	Stayed about the same <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	5	4	5	3	3
8	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	8	6	9	6	10	7

**ASK ALL:**

Q.33 And how about over the next few years... Do you think the price of homes in your area will go up a lot, go up a little, go down a little or go down a lot?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>July 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2007</u>	<u>June 2007</u>
10	Go up a lot	14	15	17	26
47	Go up a little	40	40	36	36
25	Go down a little	29	26	28	23
8	Go down a lot	7	8	8	5
4	Stay about the same <b>(VOL.)</b>	4	4	5	4
7	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	7	6	6

**ASK ALL:**

Q.34 In general, how easy or difficult is it for you to afford the things in life that you want – very easy, easy, difficult or very difficult?

<u>Dec 1-5 2010</u>		<u>Early Dec 2008</u>	<u>Early Oct 2008</u>	<u>Early Feb 2008</u>	<u>June 2002</u>	<u>June 2001</u>	<u>U.S. News Jan 1992</u>
4	Very easy	6	8	9	5	7	4
36	Easy	37	41	43	44	43	35
40	Difficult	40	37	33	37	36	46
17	Very difficult	15	11	12	11	12	12
3	Don't Know/Ref <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	3	3	3	2	3

<sup>8</sup> In March 10-14, 2010 and February 4-8, 2009, those who were not employed and looking for work, identified on an earlier question, were not asked this question, but are included in "yes."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.35 How easy or difficult is it for you and your family to afford **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** – very easy, easy, difficult or very difficult? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?<sup>9</sup>

		Very easy	Easy	Difficult	Very difficult	(VOL.) N/A	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.	Food						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	10	58	22	7	*	2
	December, 2008	9	60	25	4	*	2
	July, 2008	10	50	30	8	*	2
	Early February, 2008	14	57	22	5	*	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August, 1992	11	65	18	5	*	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May, 1992	12	66	18	3	*	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January, 1992	7	68	21	3	*	1
b.	Health care						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	8	37	31	20	3	2
	December, 2008	7	44	29	16	1	3
	July, 2008	9	40	30	16	2	3
	Early February, 2008	11	39	29	16	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August, 1992	7	39	32	19	2	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May, 1992	10	42	29	15	3	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January, 1992	6	43	29	16	4	2
c.	Taxes						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	34	43	14	3	3
	December, 2008	3	38	41	11	3	4
	July, 2008	5	35	40	12	3	5
	Early February, 2008	6	36	37	14	3	4
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992	3	32	43	17	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	4	30	46	15	3	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	2	33	45	13	4	3
d.	Savings for retirement						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	3	20	35	29	11	3
	December, 2008	2	23	39	25	8	3
	July, 2008	5	23	37	22	10	3
	Early February, 2008	5	28	34	22	8	3
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992	3	22	36	29	9	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	2	21	38	24	13	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	2	22	37	23	14	2
e.	Your home heating and electric bills						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	7	41	37	11	2	3
	December, 2008	7	46	32	10	2	3
	July, 2008	6	41	38	11	1	3
	Early February, 2008	8	44	33	11	2	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : August 1992 <sup>10</sup>	7	54	29	8	1	1
	<i>U.S. News</i> : May 1992	9	54	28	6	1	2
	<i>U.S. News</i> : January 1992	4	55	31	7	1	2
f.	Gasoline						
	Dec 1-5, 2010	6	38	36	14	4	2
	December, 2008	10	57	21	6	5	1
	July, 2008	4	23	42	26	3	2
	Early February, 2008	5	30	38	22	3	2

<sup>9</sup> In all 1992 surveys, the question was worded "How easy is it for you and your family to afford" the items.

<sup>10</sup> In all 1992 surveys, category was "Heating oil, gas and electric."

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.36F2 Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans—not including your mortgage—would you say you...**[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010		Early		Early		Jan 2006	Mid-	Late	U.S. News	
		Oct 2008 <sup>11</sup>	July 2008	Feb 2008	Sep 2007		May 2005	Feb 2004	June 2001	Jan 1992
12	Owe a lot more than you can afford	10	10	9	7	8	10	9	13	7
15	Owe a little more than you can afford	15	12	13	13	15	15	13	15	14
30	Owe about what you can afford	33	34	32	31	30	33	29	31	32
17	Owe less than you can afford?	22	20	22	26	24	22	23	18	19
14	Do not have any debts <b>(VOL.)</b>	13	16	12	15	15	13	20	12	16
10	No credit cards or loans <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	6	9	6	6	5	5	10	11
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	1

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:**

Q.37F1 Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans—not including your mortgage—would you say you...**[READ IN ORDER]**

Dec 1-5 2010	
12	Owe a lot more than you can afford
15	Owe a little more than you can afford
27	Owe about what you can afford
42	Do you not owe any money on credit cards or installment loans?
1	Pay off credit cards every month <b>(VOL.)</b>
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

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

On a different subject...

Q.39 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military

	-----FAVOR-----			-----OPPOSE-----			<b>(VOL.)</b>
	Total	Strongly favor	Favor	Total	Strongly oppose	Oppose	
Dec 1-5, 2010	59	21	38	23	8	16	17
Nov 4-7, 2010	58	23	35	27	11	16	16
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 <sup>12</sup>	60	21	39	30	13	17	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	61	18	43	27	10	17	12
Mar 9-12, 2009	59	19	40	32	13	19	9
March, 2006	60	20	40	32	13	19	8
July, 2005	58	15	43	32	15	17	10
July, 1994	52	16	36	45	26	19	3

<sup>11</sup> In 2008 and before, the question read "excluding your mortgage...."

<sup>12</sup> In July 2010, March 2009, March 2006, July 2005, and July 1994 the question was part of a list. The question was not part of a list in February 2010.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.40 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about the release of a Defense Department study on the possibility of gays and lesbians serving openly in the military? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

29	A lot
49	A little
20	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about foreign policy...

Q.41 How much, if anything have you heard about the START treaty signed by President Obama and the president of Russia to reduce the number of nuclear weapons in both countries?

Dec 1-5

2010

16	A lot
52	A little
31	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.41=1,2):**

Q.42 As you may know, this treaty will only take effect if the U.S. Senate votes to ratify it. Would you favor or oppose the Senate ratifying the START treaty?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE [N=1085]**

Dec 1-5

2010

54	Favor
24	Oppose
22	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q.43 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about a recent North Korean artillery attack on a South Korean island? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

38	A lot
40	A little
22	Nothing at all
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.43=1,2):**

Q.44 Do you think this attack represents a major increase in hostilities between the two countries, or do you think it is similar to other incidents that have happened from time to time in the past?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE [N=1236]**

Dec 1-5

2010

41	Major increase in hostilities
50	Similar to other incidents from time to time in the past
9	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**NO QUESTIONS 45-48**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.49 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about discussions in Washington about how to address the federal budget deficit? Have you heard **[READ]**

Dec 1-5

2010

31	A lot
49	A little
19	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q.50 Which of these statements do you think best describes the federal budget deficit **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

Dec 1-5

2010

70	It is a major problem that the country must address now
23	It is a major problem that should be addressed when the economy is better
1	It is not much of a problem for the country
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q.51 What is the best way to reduce the federal budget deficit? Should we mostly focus on **[RANDOMIZE: Cutting major programs / Increasing taxes]** mostly focus on **[increasing taxes / cutting major programs]** or should we do a combination of both?

Dec 1-5

2010

16	Cutting major programs
4	Increasing taxes
65	Combination of both
1	Deficit is not a priority/Don't focus on deficit <b>(VOL.)</b>
13	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q.52 Looking ahead five years or so, do you think we will have made significant progress in reducing the federal budget deficit, or not?

Dec 1-5

2010

37	Yes
52	No
11	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

Feb

1989

40
46
14

**ASK ALL:**

Q.53 Thinking about ways to reduce the federal budget deficit, please tell me if you would you approve or disapprove of each of the following. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the federal budget deficit?]**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=763]:**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F1 Reduce federal funding to states for things like education and roads Dec 1-5, 2010	25	71	4
b.F1 Gradually raise the age at which people can begin receiving Social Security benefits Dec 1-5, 2010	38	58	4

**Q.53 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
c.F1	Reduce Social Security benefits for seniors with higher incomes Dec 1-5, 2010	48	47	5
d.F1	Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages Dec 1-5, 2010	34	56	10
e.F1	Create a national sales tax Dec 1-5, 2010	42	52	6
f.F1	Reduce the number of people serving in the military Dec 1-5, 2010	34	61	5

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:**

g.F2	Raise the amount people on Medicare contribute to cover their health care costs Dec 1-5, 2010	32	64	5
h.F2	Tax the health insurance people receive from their employer Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7
i.F2	Cut back on the development of military weapons programs Dec 1-5, 2010	43	50	8
j.F2	Make more of high-earners' income subject to the Social Security payroll tax Dec 1-5, 2010	64	27	9
k.F2	Freeze the salaries of federal workers Dec 1-5, 2010	59	35	5
l.F2	Raise the national gasoline tax Dec 1-5, 2010	22	74	4

**ASK ALL:**

Q.54 How much confidence do you have in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** to do the right thing when it comes to dealing with the federal budget deficit – a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Barack Obama Dec 1-5, 2010	19	34	20	24	4
b.	Republican leaders in Congress Dec 1-5, 2010	6	34	29	27	4
c.	Democratic leaders in Congress Dec 1-5, 2010	9	33	28	24	5

**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
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
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	27	34	34	3	1	2	15	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	26	33	36	3	1	3	16	13
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	26	31	37	3	*	3	14	17
Jan 6-10, 2010	22	33	42	2	1	2	17	16
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
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 DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2):**

Q.55 How good a job is Barack Obama doing these days in standing up for the Democratic Party's 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 Obama is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

**BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=676]:**

Dec 1-5

2009

17	Excellent
37	Good
36	Only fair
7	Poor
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK ALL:**

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

	Strongly <u>agree</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	Strongly <u>disagree</u>	No opinion <u>either way</u>	(VOL.) Haven't <u>heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	Not <u>heard of/</u> <u>DK</u>
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	17	14	12	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	8	19	11	11	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 <sup>13</sup> (RVs)	12	17	11	14	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	9	19	11	13	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	11	18	12	14	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	8	14	9	9	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	9	15	10	8	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	10	15	8	10	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	9	15	7	7	29	--	1	31

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<sup>13</sup>

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."