

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

QUESTIONS 2-3, 5-8, 16-18, 25-30, 35-37, 39-40, 44 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 1, 4, 10-15, 19-24, 31-34, 38, 41, 43, 45-54

QUESTION 42 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.9 Now I'm going to ask you about some things that have happened in the U.S. and around the world over the last 50 years or so. For each event, please tell me if you happen to remember EXACTLY where you were OR EXACTLY what you were doing the MOMENT you heard the news. Just tell me "yes" if you do remember this and "no" if you do not. If you were not old enough at the time to remember, just say so and we'll move on. First, do you happen to remember exactly where you were OR exactly what you were doing the MOMENT you heard about... **[READ IN ORDER; IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT HE OR SHE WASN'T BORN OR WASN'T OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER AN EVENT, END THE SERIES AND GO TO THE NEXT QUESTION. IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW" GO TO THE NEXT ITEM IN THE SERIES.]** How about... **[NEXT ITEM] [REPEAT AS NECESSARY BUT AT LEAST EVERY THREE ITEMS: do you happen to remember exactly where you were or what you were doing the moment you heard about [ITEM]?**

	Based on total respondents					Based on those eight or older at time of event ¹		
	Yes	No	(VOL.) Not old enough	(VOL.) Not born yet	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Yes	No	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. The killing of Osama bin Laden (2011) Aug 17-21, 2011	81	19	0	--	*	81	19	*
b. The September 11 th terrorist attacks (2001) Aug 17-21, 2011	97	3	0	--	0	97	3	0
TREND FOR COMPARISON								
August, 2006 ²	95	5	--	--	*	95	5	*
Late August, 2002	97	3	--	--	*	97	3	*
c. The Oklahoma City bombing (1995) Aug 17-21, 2011	63	34	2	--	1	70	30	*
May, 1999	86	14	*	--	*	86	14	*
d. The fall of the Berlin Wall (1989) Aug 17-21, 2011	44	38	9	8	*	58	41	1
May, 1999	59	39	2	--	*1	60	39	1
e. The Challenger explosion (1986) Aug 17-21, 2011	59	20	7	13	1	79	20	1
May, 1999	78	17	4	--	1	83	16	1

NO ITEM f.

¹ Based on those who were age eight or older at time of event and did not volunteer that they were not old enough. Presented on this filter for comparison with recollections of the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks measured in the current survey. For the killing of Osama bin Laden, based on those 18 or older at time of event.

² In 2006 & 2002, the question was asked as a stand-alone question and was worded: "Do you happen to remember exactly where you were or what you were doing the moment you heard the news about the September 11th terrorist attacks?"

Q.9 CONTINUED

	Based on total respondents					Based on those eight or older at time of event		
	Yes	No	(VOL.) Not old enough	Not born yet	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Yes	No	(VOL.) DK/Ref
g. Richard Nixon's resignation (1974)								
Aug 17-21, 2011	36	20	8	35	*	71	29	*
May, 1999	52	25	10	13	1	74	25	1
h. Neil Armstrong walking on the moon (1969)								
Aug 17-21, 2011	37	13	6	43	*	80	19	1
May, 1999	53	13	10	24	*	85	14	1
i. Martin Luther King's assassination (1968)								
Aug 17-21, 2011	30	16	8	45	*	72	27	1
May, 1999	42	21	15	22	*	72	27	1
j. John F. Kennedy's assassination (1963)								
Aug 17-21, 2011	37	6	5	51	*	95	5	0
May, 1999	51	5	8	35	*	96	3	1
September, 1988 (AP/Media General) ³	77	7	15	--	1	--	--	--

ASK ALL:

On a different subject, I have a few questions about the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:

Q.55F1 Thinking back to that time, how much did the September 11th terrorist attacks move you or affect you emotionally? **[READ]**

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Aug <u>2002</u> ⁴
75	A great deal	67
18	Some	25
4	Not much	5
2	Not at all	3
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:

Q.56F2 As a result of the September 11th terrorist attacks, has life in America changed in a major way, changed only a little bit, or is life in America basically the same as it was before the attacks?

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Aug <u>2006</u> ⁵	Aug <u>2002</u>
61	Changed in a major way	51	50
28	Changed only a little bit	35	35
10	Basically the same	13	14
*	Other (VOL.)	*	*
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1

NO QUESTION 57

³ In September 1998, the question was worded: "If you were old enough at the time, do you remember where you were when you learned that President Kennedy had been assassinated?"

⁴ In August 2002, question began "How much did the September 11th terrorist attacks..."

⁵ In 2002 and 2006, question began "As a result of the attacks..."

ASK ALL:

Q.58 Do you think that the September 11th terrorist attacks were the start of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe versus the people of Islam, or is it only a conflict with a small, radical group?

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Aug <u>2006</u>	Aug <u>2002</u>	Oct <u>2001</u>
35	Major conflict	40	35	28
57	Conflict with a small radical group	49	52	63
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	13	9

NO QUESTIONS 59-62**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:**

Q.63F1 Overall, do you think the ability of terrorists to launch another major attack on the U.S. is greater, the same, or less than it was at the time of the September 11th terrorist attacks?

	<u>Greater</u>	<u>The same</u>	<u>Less</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	23	39	35	3
Oct 13-18, 2010	30	41	25	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	33	35	29	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	29	38	29	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	17	44	35	4
Mid-September, 2008	18	43	36	3
Late-February, 2008	16	41	39	4
December, 2006	23	41	31	5
August, 2006	25	37	33	5
January, 2006	17	39	39	5
Late-October, 2005	26	41	29	4
July, 2005	28	40	29	3
July, 2004	24	39	34	3
Late-August, 2002	22	39	34	5

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:

Q.64F1 So far, there has not been another terrorist attack in America since 2001. Is this mostly because
[READ AND RANDOMIZE]

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		Oct 13-18 <u>2010</u>	Oct 28- Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Aug <u>2006</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>
43	The government is doing a good job protecting the country	37	44	39	33
16	America is a difficult target for terrorists	13	11	13	17
35	America has been lucky so far	43	35	40	45
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	9	8	5

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:

Q.65F2 In general, how well do you think the U.S. government is doing in reducing the threat of terrorism?
[READ]

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	27	49	16	6	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	15	54	17	10	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	15	50	21	12	2
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	20	53	14	8	4
Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009	19	56	15	5	5
Feb 4-8, 2009	22	49	16	6	7
Late February, 2008	21	45	19	12	3
January, 2007	17	37	27	17	2
December, 2006	17	48	21	11	3
August, 2006	22	52	16	8	2

Q.65F2 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not <u>too well</u>	Not at <u>all well</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
February, 2006	16	52	20	10	2
January, 2006	16	50	20	9	5
Late October, 2005	17	50	22	9	2
July, 2005	17	53	19	8	3
July, 2004	18	53	17	8	4
August, 2003	19	56	16	7	2
Early November, 2002 (RVs)	15	54	19	8	4
June, 2002	16	60	16	4	4
Early November, 2001	35	46	9	5	5
October 15-21, 2001	38	46	9	4	3
October 10-14, 2001	48	40	6	2	4

NO QUESTIONS 66-69**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:**

Q.70F1 Thinking back to the time right after the September 11th attacks, do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush dealt with the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington?

Aug 17-21

2011

56	Approve
38	Disapprove
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON...

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington?

Mid-Sep

2001

85	Approve
6	Disapprove
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS 71-75**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:**

Q.76F2 In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it will be necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	40	54	6
April, 2009	27	65	8
January, 2007	40	54	6
September, 2006 ⁶	43	50	7
July, 2005	40	53	7
July, 2004	38	56	6
August, 2003	44	50	6
June, 2002	49	45	6
January, 2002	55	39	6
Mid-September, 2001	55	35	10
April, 1997	29	62	9
March, 1996	30	65	5
LA Times: April, 1995	49	43	8

⁶ In September 2006, July 2005 and July 2004 the question was worded: "In order to curb terrorism in this country, do you think it is necessary for the average person to give up some civil liberties, or not?"

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:

Q.77F1 Do you favor or oppose the following measures to curb terrorism. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** What about **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Do you favor or oppose [ITEM] to curb terrorism?]**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F1 Requiring that all citizens carry a national identity card at all times to show to a police officer on request			
Aug 17-21, 2011	57	41	2
December, 2006	57	39	4
January, 2006	57	38	5
August, 2003 ⁷	56	40	4
Late August, 2002	59	38	3
Mid-September, 2001	70	26	4
b.F1 The U.S. government monitoring personal telephone calls and emails			
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	68	3
December, 2006 ⁸	34	61	5
Late August, 2002	33	61	6

NO ITEM c.

d.F1 Allowing airport personnel to do extra checks on passengers who appear to be of Middle-Eastern descent			
Aug 17-21, 2011	53	43	4
December, 2006	57	38	5
January, 2006	57	38	5
Late August, 2002	59	38	3
e.F1 The U.S. government monitoring credit card purchases			
Aug 17-21, 2011	42	55	3
December, 2006 ⁹	42	53	5
Late August, 2002	43	51	6

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:

Q.78F2 Thinking back, do you think there is anything that the U.S. did wrong in its dealings with other countries that might have motivated the September 11th terrorist attacks, or not?

Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>		<u>Jul</u> <u>2004</u> ¹⁰	<u>Late Aug</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>Late Sep</u> <u>2001</u>
43	Yes, U.S. wrongdoing may have motivated attacks	38	38	33
45	No	51	49	55
13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	13	12

⁷ In August 2003, the item was asked as a stand-alone question.

⁸ In 2006 and 2002, item was worded "Allowing the U.S. government to monitor personal telephone calls and emails."

⁹ In 2006 and 2002, item was worded "Allowing the U.S. government to monitor credit card purchases."

¹⁰ In 2004, question read "...motivated the 9/11 terrorist attacks..." In 2002 and 2001, the question read "Do you think there is anything that the U.S. did wrong in its dealings with other countries that might have motivated the terrorist attacks, or not?"

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:

Q.79F2 Do you think the U.S. has killed or captured most of those responsible for the September 11th terrorist attacks, or don't you think so?

Aug 17-21

2011

45	Yes, has
47	No, has not
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION 80**ASK ALL:**

Q.81 Do you think the use of torture against suspected terrorists in order to gain important information can often be justified, sometimes be justified, rarely be justified, or never be justified?

	<u>Often</u> <u>justified</u>	<u>Sometimes</u> <u>justified</u>	<u>Rarely</u> <u>justified</u>	<u>Never</u> <u>justified</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	19	34	18	24	4
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	19	35	16	25	5
Apr 14-21, 2009	15	34	22	25	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	16	28	20	31	5
Late February, 2008	17	31	20	30	2
November, 2007	18	30	21	27	4
January, 2007	12	31	25	29	3
Early October, 2006	18	28	19	32	3
Late October 2005	15	31	17	32	5
Late March, 2005	15	30	24	27	4
July, 2004	15	28	21	32	4

NO QUESTIONS 82-85**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=777]:**

And finally thinking about the war in Iraq,

Q.86F1 In the long run, do you think the war in Iraq has increased the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., lessened the chances, or has it made no difference?

Aug 17-21		<u>Apr</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Early</u> <u>Oct</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Jul</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Mid-Oct</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Early</u> <u>Sep</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>2002</u> ¹¹
<u>2011</u>							
31	Increased	37	41	45	36	34	45
26	Lessened	27	25	22	32	32	18
39	No difference	33	32	30	28	31	30
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	2	3	4	3	7

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=732]:

And finally thinking about the war in Afghanistan,

Q.87F2 In the long run, do you think the war in Afghanistan has increased the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., lessened the chances, or has it made no difference?

Aug 17-21

2011

37	Increased
25	Lessened
34	No difference
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

¹¹

The question from the November 2002 Global Attitudes survey was worded: "In the long run, do you think a war with Iraq to end Saddam Hussein's rule is likely to increase the chances of terrorist attacks in the U.S., lessen the chances, or will it make no difference?"

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No <u>preference</u>	(VOL.) Other <u>party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Rep</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Dem</u>
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
Yearly Totals								
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	--	--	--	--	--

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JULY 2011 POLITICAL AND MEDIA SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
July 20-24, 2011
N=1,501

QUESTION 1-5, 7-9, 18-21, 24-28, 31-36, 56-57 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

QUESTIONS 3, 8-9, 12-16, 37-42, 45-49, 52-54 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 6, 10-11, 17, 22-23, 29-30, 43-44, 50-51, 55, 58-59

ASK ALL:

Q.60 In your opinion, how much support for extremism, if any, is there among Muslims living in the U.S.?
[READ]

Jul 20-24	
<u>2011</u>	
15	A great deal
25	A fair amount
33	Not too much
12	None at all
14	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.60 In your opinion, how much support for extremism, if any, is there among Muslims living in the U.S.?
[READ]

ASK IF Q.60=1,2,3:

Q.61 Do you think support for extremism in the Muslim American community is **[RANDOMIZE:**
increasing, decreasing] or staying about the same?

Jul 20-24	
<u>2011</u>	
24	Increasing
7	Decreasing
38	Staying about the same
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
26	<i>No support at all for extremism/Don't know</i>

ASK ALL:

Q.62 Thinking about the U.S., do you think that the government's anti-terrorism policies single out Muslims in the U.S. for increased surveillance and monitoring, or don't you think so?

ASK IF THINK MUSLIMS ARE SINGLED OUT (Q.62=1):

Q.63 And how much, if at all, does it bother you that Muslims in the U.S. are singled out for increased surveillance and monitoring? Would you say it bothers you **[READ]**

Jul 20-24		Apr
<u>2011</u>		<u>2007</u> ¹²
44	Yes, think government singles out Muslims	45
11	Bothers you a lot	8
14	Bothers you some	16
8	Bothers you not much	9
11	Bothers you not at all	13
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*
46	No, don't think so	43
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12

¹² The 2007 question began, "Do you think that the government's anti-terrorism policies..."

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
July 21-24, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=999

PEW.1-PEW.5 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO PEW.6-PEW.8****PEW.9-PEW.14 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

On another subject...

PEW.15 How concerned, if at all, are you about the rise of Islamic extremism around the WORLD these days? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not at all concerned?

	<u>Very concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat concerned</u>	<u>Not too concerned</u>	<u>Not at all concerned</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jul 21-24, 2011	37	36	16	8	3
Nov 12-15, 2009	49	29	12	8	2
April, 2007	48	33	11	5	3

ASK ALL:

PEW.16 How concerned, if at all, are you about the possible rise of Islamic extremism in the U.S.? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned or not at all concerned?

	<u>Very concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat concerned</u>	<u>Not too concerned</u>	<u>Not at all concerned</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jul 21-24, 2011	36	31	19	11	2
Nov 12-15, 2009	52	27	11	7	3
April, 2007	46	32	13	5	4