

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST  
APRIL 28-MAY 1, 2011 OMNIBUS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
N=1,006**

**PEW.1-PEW.2, PEW.7-PEW.8 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED  
NO PEW.3-PEW.5**

Now a different type of question...

**ASK ALL:**

PEWWP.1 What do you think is the main reason gasoline prices have gone up recently? [**RECORD FIRST MENTION; DO NOT PROBE**]<sup>1</sup>

April 28-May 1

2011

**31 NET: GREED/OIL COMPANIES/SPECULATION**

- 11 Greed
- 7 Oil companies
- 7 Speculators/Wall Street
- 3 OPEC/Middle Eastern countries/Oil producers
- 1 Because they can
- 1 Gouging

**19 Wars/unrest in Libya/the Middle East**

**14 NET: POLITICS/POLICY**

- 5 United States not drilling enough/using its own oil
- 5 Other political reasons/Government
- 4 President Obama/Obama Administration

**12 ECONOMIC/MARKET REASONS**

- 4 Market issue—Competition with other countries for oil/Demand
- 4 The economy
- 2 Time of year/Season
- 2 Increasing price of crude oil
- 1 Declining value of the dollar/Monetary policy

**1 Corruption**

- 9 Other
- 14 No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

*What do you think is the main reason gasoline prices have gone up recently? [**RECORD FIRST MENTION; DO NOT PROBE**]*

	<b>ABC News/ Washington Post</b>	
	<u>May 2008</u>	<u>May 2007</u>
Oil companies/Greed/Profit	30	33
Iraq war	12	15
Bush administration	10	7
OPEC/Foreign oil producers	9	4
Market forces	8	2
Supply—less gas available/Gas production problems	7	8
Demand—people driving more	5	3
Other political reasons	4	8
Time of year/Season	*	2
Other	5	6
No opinion	10	12

<sup>1</sup> PEWWP.1 asked in conjunction with *The Washington Post*.

## About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted April 28-May 1, 2011, among a national sample of 1,006 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (675 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 331 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 150 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see: <http://people-press.org/methodology/detailed>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status, based on extrapolations from the 2010 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1,006	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	247	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	344	6.5 percentage points
Independents	325	7.0 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

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