

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE
2009 RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY**

FINAL TOPLINE

Survey A: August 11-17, 2009, N=2,010

Survey B: August 20-27, 2009, N=2,003

Combined N=4,013

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.115 And thinking about your personal finances, have you done any of the following lately? (First,) Have you **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE a-e BLOCK FIRST, THEN ASK f, THEN ASK g LAST]**, or not? **[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
f. Gotten help from your church or house of worship to help make ends meet August 11-17, 2009	9	91	*
g. Gotten help from a non-religious community or volunteer organization to help make ends meet August 11-17, 2009	7	93	*

Now, on some issues...

RANDOMIZE Q.145 a-c AS A BLOCK WITH Q.146a-b AND 147 AS A SEPARATE BLOCK

Q.145 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose **[READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM a. ALWAYS FIRST]**? And how about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

NOTE: Q.145a WAS ASKED AS Q.249 IN SURVEY B. Q.249 IS PRESENTED HERE WITH Q.145a.

	<u>-----FAVOR-----</u>			<u>-----OPPOSE-----</u>			<u>(VOL.)</u>
	<u>Strongly</u>			<u>Strongly</u>			
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling to people who need them							
August 11-27, 2009 ¹	69	25	44	25	10	16	5
August, 2008	67	26	41	29	10	19	4
July, 2005	66	25	41	30	8	22	4
February, 2004	69	28	41	29	10	19	2
March, 2002	70	26	44	27	9	18	3
June, 2001	72	30	42	25	10	15	3
March, 2001	75	30	45	21	8	13	4
February, 2001	64	28	36	30	11	19	6
September, 2000 (RVs)	67	32	35	29	12	17	4

ASK ALL:

a. Allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling to people who need them

August 11-27, 2009 ¹	69	25	44	25	10	16	5
August, 2008	67	26	41	29	10	19	4
July, 2005	66	25	41	30	8	22	4
February, 2004	69	28	41	29	10	19	2
March, 2002	70	26	44	27	9	18	3
June, 2001	72	30	42	25	10	15	3
March, 2001	75	30	45	21	8	13	4
February, 2001	64	28	36	30	11	19	6
September, 2000 (RVs)	67	32	35	29	12	17	4

¹ Q.145a was asked as part of a list, while Q.249 was asked as a standalone question. The introduction to Q.249 read, "On another subject..."

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.260 In general, who do you think can do the best job of providing services to people in need... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

		Aug <u>2008</u>	Mar <u>2001</u>
37	Religious organizations	31	37
28	Non-religious, community-based organizations [OR]	29	27
25	Federal and state government agencies	31	28
*	Family/friends/other [VOL. DO NOT READ]	--	--
2	None of the above [VOL. DO NOT READ]	3	2
8	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]	6	6

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.261 Now, thinking about some specific problem areas. For each item that I read, please tell me WHO you think could do the best job of providing services to people in need. (First,) **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE AND OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**... who could do the best job providing these types of services: a religious organization, a non-religious community-based group, or a federal or state government agency?

	Religious <u>organization</u>	Non-religious community- <u>based group</u>	Federal/ state govt. <u>agency</u>	(VOL.) <u>None of</u> <u>the above</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
a.F1	Treatment for drug and alcohol addiction				
	August 20-27, 2009	40	24	2	6
	March, 2001	27	31	2	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
b.F2	Literacy training				
	August 20-27, 2009	36	43	1	8
	March, 2001	12	49	2	6
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
c.F1	Mentoring programs for young people				
	August 20-27, 2009	38	12	2	6
	March, 2001	40	15	2	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
d.F2	Feeding the homeless				
	August 20-27, 2009	21	21	1	5
	March, 2001	40	28	2	5
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
e.F1	Counseling teens about pregnancy				
	August 20-27, 2009	39	15	3	5
	March, 2001	39	12	3	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
f.F2	Child care				
	August 20-27, 2009	34	27	2	5
	March, 2001	29	29	4	6
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
g.F1	Health care				
	August 20-27, 2009	34	43	4	7
	March, 2001	9	56	2	5

Q.261 CONTINUED...

	<u>Religious organization</u>	<u>Non-religious community-based group</u>	<u>Federal/state govt. agency</u>	<u>(VOL.) None of the above</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
h.F2 Job training					
August 20-27, 2009	7	35	51	1	6
March, 2001	5	28	61	1	5

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

i.F1 Counseling and educating prisoners					
August 20-27, 2009	38	23	31	2	6
March, 2001	40	18	35	2	5

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.262 I'm going to read the names of some specific religious groups. For each one that I name, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose this group applying for government funds to provide social services to people who need them. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE WITHIN BLOCKS, BEGINNING WITH a./b., THEN c. THRU h.; ITEM i. SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS.]

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. Individual churches, synagogues and other houses of worship			
August 20-27, 2009	59	36	6
August, 2008	60	36	4
March, 2001	60	35	5
b. Charitable organizations that have a religious affiliation			
August 20-27, 2009	68	27	5
August, 2008	68	28	4
March, 2001	69	26	5

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

c.F1 Catholic churches			
August 20-27, 2009	60	36	4
August, 2008	61	35	4
March, 2001	62	32	6

ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:

d.F2 Protestant churches			
August 20-27, 2009	56	35	9
August, 2008	59	35	6
March, 2001	61	31	8

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

e.F1 Muslim mosques			
August 20-27, 2009	39	52	9
August, 2008	40	53	7
March, 2001	38	46	16

ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:

f.F2 Jewish synagogues			
August 20-27, 2009	52	36	11
August, 2008	55	39	6
March, 2001	58	34	8

Q.262 CONTINUED...

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:			
g.F2 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or Mormon churches			
August 20-27, 2009	48	43	9
August, 2008	50	44	6
March, 2001	51	41	8

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

h.F1 Evangelical Christian churches			
August 20-27, 2009	55	38	7
August, 2008	55	38	7
March, 2001	52	35	13

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

i. Groups that encourage religious conversion as part of the services they provide			
August 20-27, 2009	28	63	9
August, 2008	32	61	7
March, 2001	32	59	9

RANDOMIZE Q.263 AND Q.264

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.263 Here are a few reasons why some people OPPOSE the idea of allowing churches and other houses of worship to use government money to provide social services. Please tell me whether each one is an important concern of yours, or not. (First,) **[READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM a. ALWAYS FIRST]**... Is this an important concern of yours, or not?

	<u>Important</u> <u>concern</u>	<u>Not important</u> <u>concern</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. This would interfere with the separation between church and state			
August 20-27, 2009	52	45	3
March, 2001	52	45	3
b. The people who receive these services might be forced to take part in religious practices			
August 20-27, 2009	60	38	3
March, 2001	60	38	2
c. The programs may not meet the same standards as government-based programs			
August 20-27, 2009	48	48	4
March, 2001	47	48	5
d. This might increase religious divisions within this country			
August 20-27, 2009	47	49	4
March, 2001	48	48	4
e. Government might get too involved in what religious organizations do			
August 20-27, 2009	69	28	3
March, 2001	68	30	2

RANDOMIZE Q.263 AND Q.264

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.264 Here are a few reasons why some people FAVOR the idea of allowing churches and other houses of worship to use government money to provide social services. Please tell me whether you think each one is an important reason to favor this, or not? (First,) [READ AND RANDOMIZE]... Do you think this is an important reason, or not?

	Important <u>reason</u>	Not important <u>reason</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Religious groups could do a better job because the power of religion can change people's lives			
August 20-27, 2009	59	37	3
March, 2001	62	35	3
b. The people who provide the services would be more caring and compassionate			
August 20-27, 2009	68	28	4
March, 2001	72	25	3
c. Religious groups could provide services more efficiently than government programs			
August 20-27, 2009	59	36	5
March, 2001	60	36	4
d. People who need social services should have a variety of options to pick from			
August 20-27, 2009	78	19	3
March, 2001	77	20	3

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.265 If religious organizations do use government funds to provide social services, do you think these organizations should be allowed to ONLY hire people who share their religious beliefs, or should they not be allowed to do this?

	<u>Aug</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2001</u>
21 Should be allowed to only hire people who share their religious beliefs	22	18
74 Shouldn't be allowed to do this	73	78
5 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	4

NO QUESTIONS 266 TO 269

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.270 From what you know, does Barack Obama favor or oppose allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply for government funding to provide social services?

27	Favor
18	Oppose
54	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK SURVEY B IF Q.270=1 [N=492]

Q.271 Do you think Barack Obama emphasizes this issue too much, too little, or about the right amount?

10	Too much
18	Too little
66	About the right amount
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.272 From what you know, did George W. Bush favor or oppose allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply for government funding to provide social services?

36	Favor
16	Oppose
48	Don't know/refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

RELIG What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

[INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS "nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc." BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH: And would you say that's atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]

IF SOMETHING ELSE, NOTHING IN PARTICULAR OR DK/REF (RELIG=11, 12, 99) ASK:

CHR Do you think of yourself as a Christian or not?

40	Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
23	Roman Catholic (Catholic)
2	Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
*	Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
2	Jewish (Judaism)
*	Muslim (Islam)
1	Buddhist
*	Hindu
2	Atheist (do not believe in God)
3	Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
2	Something else (SPECIFY)
12	Nothing in particular
11	Christian (VOL.)
*	Unitarian (Universalist) (VOL.)
2	Don't Know/Refused (VOL.)

IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1-4, 13 OR ((RELIG=11 OR RELIG=99) AND CHR=1)):

BORN Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL

34	Yes, would
40	No, would not
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
78%	Christian

ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

NOTE: ATTEND FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.

	More than <u>once a week</u>	Once <u>a week</u>	Once or twice <u>a month</u>	A few times <u>a year</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
August 11-27, 2009	14	23	16	18	16	11	1
August, 2008	13	26	16	19	15	10	1
Aug, 2007	14	26	16	18	16	9	1
July, 2006	15	25	15	18	14	12	1
July, 2005	14	27	14	19	14	11	1
Aug, 2004	13	25	15	20	15	11	1
July, 2003	16	27	15	18	14	10	*
March, 2003	15	24	15	21	15	9	1
March, 2002	15	25	17	18	15	9	1
Mid-Nov, 2001	16	26	14	17	16	10	1
March, 2001	17	26	17	17	15	7	1
Sept, 2000 (RVs)	17	28	16	17	13	8	1
June, 1997	12	26	17	20	15	10	*
June, 1996	14	25	17	21	13	9	1

ASK ALL:

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

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

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

NOTE: PARTY/PARTYLN FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Rep</u>	<i>Lean</i> <u>Dem</u>
August 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
August 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
July, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
June, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
May, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
April, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3	11	15
Late September, 2008	25	35	34	3	1	2	13	15
Mid-September, 2008	28	35	32	3	*	2	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2	12	18

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	DK/	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
<i>Yearly Totals</i>								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
<i>2001 Post-Sept 11</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>27.9</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>.6</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>9.4</i>
<i>2001 Pre-Sept 11</i>	<i>28.2</i>	<i>34.6</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>.5</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>12.5</i>
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--