

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
March 7-10, 2013 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,006

ASK ALL:

PEW.1 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the					
U.S. economy					
March 7-10, 2013	35	30	16	19	*
January 31-February 3, 2013	33	33	16	16	1
January 17-20, 2013	36	32	15	16	*
January 3-6, 2013	34	32	18	16	1
December 6-9, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
November 8-11, 2012	41	31	15	12	1
November 1-4, 2012	38	30	16	14	1
October 25-28, 2012	44	30	14	11	1
October 18-21, 2012	39	36	12	12	1
October 12-14, 2012	42	28	14	15	1
October 4-7, 2012	40	29	13	17	*
September 27-30, 2012	34	37	13	15	1
September 20-23, 2012	36	32	17	15	*
September 13-16, 2012	38	32	17	12	1
September 7-9, 2012	36	31	17	15	2
August 31-September 3, 2012	33	31	20	16	1
August 23-26, 2012	38	30	15	16	1
August 16-19, 2012	33	32	16	19	*
August 9-12, 2012	30	31	20	18	1
August 2-5, 2012	33	29	20	17	1
July 26-29, 2012	32	30	20	19	*
July 19-22, 2012	39	29	16	16	*
July 12-15, 2012	32	33	18	17	1
July 5-8, 2012	34	28	18	19	1
June 28-July 1, 2012	38	28	15	18	1
June 21-24, 2012	33	32	17	17	*
June 14-17, 2012	39	28	15	17	*
June 7-10, 2012	35	32	15	18	*
May 31-June 3, 2012	37	34	13	14	1
May 24-27, 2012	33	31	19	16	1
May 17-20, 2012	35	30	16	19	*
May 10-13, 2012	40	26	16	17	*
May 3-6, 2012	38	29	13	20	*
April 26-29, 2012	34	32	17	16	1
April 19-22, 2012	35	35	13	14	2
April 12-15, 2012	39	28	16	17	1
April 5-8, 2012	37	31	16	16	1
March 29-April 1, 2012	34	33	15	18	1
March 22-25, 2012	36	29	16	18	1
March 15-18, 2012	40	35	11	14	1
March 8-11, 2012	37	32	14	17	*
March 1-4, 2012	41	27	15	17	1
February 23-26, 2012	37	33	14	15	1
February 16-20, 2012	33	32	16	17	1
February 9-12, 2012	42	30	14	13	1
February 2-5, 2012	38	32	16	13	1
January 26-29, 2012	35	31	16	19	*

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January 19-22, 2012	35	30	16	19	1
January 12-15, 2012	33	32	14	20	1
January 5-8, 2012	39	31	15	15	*
SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2013/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf					
b. Automatic government spending cuts that began on March 1st					
March 7-10, 2013	31	26	18	25	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
February 21-24, 2013: <i>News about automatic cuts to federal spending that will take effect next week, unless the president and Congress act</i>	25	26	19	29	1
December 13-16, 2012: <i>The debate in Washington over automatic spending cuts and tax increases that would take effect in January unless the President and Congress act</i>	37	28	16	18	1
December 6-9, 2012	37	26	17	20	1
November 29-December 2, 2012	40	26	14	20	1
November 15-18, 2012	33	24	16	25	1
November 8-11, 2012	38	20	20	20	*
July 19-22, 2012	23	21	22	33	1
c. Reports about the U.S. stock market					
March 7-10, 2013	14	22	24	39	*
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
September 15-18, 2011: <i>Recent ups and downs in the stock market</i>	24	27	18	30	1
August 11-14, 2011	32	28	16	24	1
July 28-31, 2011	18	23	20	39	1
January 27-30, 2011: <i>Recent gains in the stock market</i>	13	17	20	49	1
August 12-15, 2010: <i>Recent ups and downs in the stock market</i>	17	21	20	42	1
March 26-29, 2010	13	23	23	40	1
October 16-19, 2009: <i>Recent gains in the stock market</i>	15	23	19	43	*
July 24-27, 2009	23	25	24	28	*
March 13-16, 2009	38	31	14	17	0
March 6-9, 2009: <i>Recent major drops in the U.S. stock market</i>	35	31	15	19	*
February 20-23, 2009	31	32	20	17	*
November 21-24, 2008	50	23	15	12	*
October 17-20, 2008: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	54	31	9	6	*
October 10-13, 2008: <i>Recent major drops in the U.S. stock market</i>	59	26	9	6	*
July 3-7, 2008: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	22	29	23	26	*
March 14-17, 2008	25	31	23	21	*
January 25-28, 2008	29	28	19	23	1
August 17-20, 2007	21	24	22	33	*
July 27-30, 2007	15	26	21	37	1
March 2-5, 2007: <i>The recent drop in the U.S. stock market</i>	21	28	25	26	*
Early September, 2002: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market</i>	27	30	20	22	1
Late July, 2002	33	33	15	18	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
March, 2001	27	27	18	27	1
Mid-October, 2000	20	26	23	31	1
April, 2000	18	28	23	31	*
Early April, 2000	19	29	20	32	*
March, 2000	23	29	21	26	1
March, 1999	18	29	22	31	*
January, 1999	24	28	19	28	1
Early September, 1998	32	31	20	17	*
Mid-August, 1998	17	23	21	39	*
January, 1998	21	25	23	31	*
Mid-November, 1997	25	36	18	20	1
Early November, 1997: <i>Thinking about last Monday when the stock market dropped, how closely did you follow what was happening?</i>	16	29	22	33	*
September, 1997: <i>Recent major ups and downs in the stock market</i>	14	22	23	40	1
April, 1997	17	21	22	40	*
February, 1996	12	20	25	42	1
d. The death of Hugo Chavez, the President of Venezuela					
March 7-10, 2013	10	22	29	39	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
October 20-23, 2011: <i>The death of former Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi</i>	25	32	19	23	*
e. Catholic cardinals meeting in Rome to select a new pope					
March 7-10, 2013	14	23	26	36	*
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
February 14-17, 2013: <i>Pope Benedict announcing that he would step down as head of the Catholic Church</i>	18	26	27	29	1
March 29-April 1, 2012: <i>Pope Benedict's visit to Cuba and Mexico</i>	5	15	23	57	*
September 16-19, 2010: <i>Pope Benedict's visit to Great Britain and his comments on the Catholic Church's handling of sex-abuse scandals</i>	10	16	26	47	1

ASK ALL:

PEW.2 Thinking about what's being taught in kindergarten-through-12th-grade schools these days, what ONE subject should schools emphasize more than they do now? **[OPEN END. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE. USE PRECODED LIST IF RESPONSE CLEARLY FITS. OTHERWISE RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS.]**

March 7-10

2013

30	Math/Mathematics/Arithmetic
19	English/Grammar/Writing/Reading
11	Science
10	History/Social studies/Civics/Politics/Current events/Government
6	Art/Arts/Music
4	Computers/Computer science
2	Physical education/Health/Sex education/Abstinence
2	Religion/Christianity/Bible/Prayer/Creationism
2	Economics/Finances
1	Foreign languages
1	Manner/Respect/Anti-bullying
3	Other
7	Don't know/No answer

45 (NET) STEM subjects

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 What's the main reason many young people don't pursue degrees in math and science? Is it mostly because they think these subjects ... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

46	Are too hard
20	Are too boring
22	Are not useful for their careers
7	Other (VOL.)
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about recent economic news...

PEW.4 Are you hearing mostly good news about the economy these days, mostly bad news about the economy or a mix of both good and bad news?

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
March 7-10, 2013	7	33	58	1
January 31-February 3, 2013	10	28	59	3
January 3-6, 2013	6	32	59	2
December 6-9, 2012	7	36	54	2
November 1-4, 2012	10	33	55	2
October 4-7, 2012	8	28	62	2
September 7-9, 2012	6	35	58	1
August 2-5, 2012	3	41	53	3
July 5-8, 2012	4	40	55	2
May 31-June 3, 2012	3	37	57	3
May 3-6, 2012	6	32	60	2
April 5-8, 2012	11	30	57	2
March 8-11, 2012	11	24	62	2
February 2-5, 2012	8	30	59	3
January 5-8, 2012	9	30	60	1
December 1-4, 2011	6	36	56	1

PEW.4 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November 10-13, 2011	3	48	48	1
October 6-9, 2011	1	58	39	2
September 1-4, 2011	2	61	35	1
August 4-7, 2011	1	67	30	2
July 7-10, 2011	3	49	46	2
June 2-5, 2011	2	46	50	1
May 12-15, 2011	6	35	56	2
March 31-April 3, 2011	5	33	60	2
March 3-6, 2011	7	38	53	2
February 3-6, 2011	6	29	64	1
January 6-9, 2011	7	24	68	1
December 2-5, 2010	4	39	55	1
November 11-14, 2010	5	41	53	2
October 7-10, 2010	6	39	53	2
September 2-6, 2010	3	41	54	2
August 5-8, 2010	4	38	55	3
July 1-5, 2010	3	42	54	1
June 10-13, 2010	4	30	65	1
May 7-10, 2010	4	29	66	1
April 1-5, 2010	6	28	66	*
March 5-8, 2010	4	30	66	1
February 5-8, 2010	4	35	61	*
January 8-11, 2010	5	29	65	1
December 4-7, 2009	7	33	59	1
October 30-November 2, 2009	5	31	62	2
October 9-12, 2009	6	27	66	1
September 3-6, 2009	5	27	68	1
August 7-10, 2009	11	29	59	1
July 2-5, 2009	3	41	56	*
June 12-15, 2009	4	37	59	*
May 8-11, 2009	4	31	64	1
April 9-13, 2009	4	39	56	1
March 13-16, 2009	2	51	46	1
February 13-16, 2009	2	60	37	1
January 16-19, 2009	2	67	30	1
December 5-8, 2008	1	80	19	*

ASK ALL:

PEW.5 Thinking about some specific aspects of the nation's economy... Please tell me if you are hearing mostly good news, mostly bad news or a mix of both good and bad news about each of the following. **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The financial markets				
March 7-10, 2013	23	29	43	5
January 31-February 3, 2013	18	28	44	10
December 6-9, 2012	10	36	47	7
November 1-4, 2012	12	31	48	9
October 4-7, 2012	16	26	50	8
September 7-9, 2012	14	37	41	7
August 2-5, 2012	6	41	44	9
July 5-8, 2012	6	35	50	8
May 31-June 3, 2012	5	47	42	6
March 8-11, 2012	15	29	48	8
November 10-13, 2011	4	50	41	5
August 4-7, 2011	2	69	25	4

PEW.5 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June 2-5, 2011	5	40	45	9
May 12-15, 2011	11	33	45	11
March 31-April 3, 2011	13	30	51	6
March 3-6, 2011	12	33	47	8
February 3-6, 2011	17	31	46	6
December 2-5, 2010	13	38	44	4
September 2-6, 2010	9	43	40	8
July 1-5, 2010	4	46	44	6
May 7-10, 2010	6	41	49	3
April 1-5, 2010	15	30	50	6
March 5-8, 2010	11	26	59	4
January 8-11, 2010	16	32	47	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	33	48	7
August 7-10, 2009	20	31	43	6
June 12-15, 2009	9	43	45	3
b. Real estate values				
March 7-10, 2013	24	23	46	7
January 31-February 3, 2013	25	24	40	10
December 6-9, 2012	25	31	34	11
November 1-4, 2012	22	35	35	8
October 4-7, 2012	23	32	38	7
September 7-9, 2012	20	43	32	5
August 2-5, 2012	11	41	36	11
July 5-8, 2012	14	39	41	7
May 31-June 3, 2012	14	43	36	6
March 8-11, 2012	9	39	42	10
November 10-13, 2011	6	55	32	7
August 4-7, 2011	4	63	27	6
June 2-5, 2011	7	56	28	9
May 12-15, 2011	9	45	35	11
March 31-April 3, 2011	6	48	38	8
March 3-6, 2011	8	46	36	10
February 3-6, 2011	8	51	34	7
December 2-5, 2010	6	62	28	4
September 2-6, 2010	6	57	32	5
July 1-5, 2010	9	49	35	7
May 7-10, 2010	12	41	42	5
April 1-5, 2010	12	44	38	6
March 5-8, 2010	8	45	42	5
January 8-11, 2010	11	43	40	5
October 30-November 2, 2009	13	43	37	6
August 7-10, 2009	11	40	41	7
June 12-15, 2009	11	45	40	3
c. Prices for food and consumer goods				
March 7-10, 2013	6	52	40	3
January 31-February 3, 2013	7	50	38	5
December 6-9, 2012	9	48	37	5
November 1-4, 2012	9	50	35	5
October 4-7, 2012	5	51	40	4
September 7-9, 2012	7	58	31	4
August 2-5, 2012	7	54	33	5
July 5-8, 2012	9	45	40	6
May 31-June 3, 2012	7	46	40	7
March 8-11, 2012	7	50	38	6
November 10-13, 2011	5	52	36	7
August 4-7, 2011	4	62	28	5

PEW.5 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June 2-5, 2011	5	58	30	6
May 12-15, 2011	3	58	32	6
March 31-April 3, 2011	3	59	34	4
March 3-6, 2011	7	62	26	5
February 3-6, 2011	7	49	39	5
December 2-5, 2010	16	41	39	5
September 2-6, 2010	12	35	42	10
July 1-5, 2010	9	32	48	10
May 7-10, 2010	8	37	46	9
April 1-5, 2010	10	35	46	9
March 5-8, 2010	9	34	50	7
January 8-11, 2010	12	37	45	6
October 30-November 2, 2009	12	39	42	7
August 7-10, 2009	10	36	46	9
June 12-15, 2009	9	39	46	6
d. The job situation				
March 7-10, 2013	15	45	40	1
January 31-February 3, 2013	12	42	43	3
December 6-9, 2012	17	47	35	1
November 1-4, 2012	14	46	37	3
October 4-7, 2012	17	42	40	2
September 7-9, 2012	12	52	34	2
August 2-5, 2012	6	55	35	4
July 5-8, 2012	9	51	38	3
May 31-June 3, 2012	8	55	35	2
March 8-11, 2012	17	38	42	3
December 1-4, 2011	10	51	37	2
November 10-13, 2011	5	64	28	2
August 4-7, 2011	4	74	21	2
June 2-5, 2011	5	58	34	3
May 12-15, 2011	9	51	37	3
March 31-April 3, 2011	12	43	42	2
March 3-6, 2011	10	50	37	3
February 3-6, 2011	9	52	37	2
December 2-5, 2010	6	66	27	1
September 2-6, 2010	5	65	28	2
July 1-5, 2010	5	64	30	1
May 7-10, 2010	9	52	38	2
April 1-5, 2010	9	56	33	2
March 5-8, 2010	5	59	35	1
January 8-11, 2010	6	61	31	2
October 30-November 2, 2009	3	68	27	2
August 7-10, 2009	6	61	32	1
June 12-15, 2009	1	71	27	1
e. Gas prices				
March 7-10, 2013	4	74	20	2
January 31-February 3, 2013	8	53	32	7
December 6-9, 2012	22	42	30	5
November 1-4, 2012	16	50	30	4
October 4-7, 2012	4	72	21	2
September 7-9, 2012	3	75	19	3
August 2-5, 2012	10	58	28	5
July 5-8, 2012	31	31	35	2
May 31-June 3, 2012	19	48	31	2
March 8-11, 2012	2	85	12	2
November 10-13, 2011	9	47	36	8

PEW.5 CONTINUED...

	Hearing mostly <u>good news</u>	Hearing mostly <u>bad news</u>	A mix of good and <u>bad news</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
August 4-7, 2011	4	66	26	4
June 2-5, 2011	8	68	23	2
May 12-15, 2011	1	84	14	1
March 31-April 3, 2011	1	88	10	1
March 3-6, 2011	1	90	7	2
February 3-6, 2011	2	77	18	3

NO QUESTION PEW.6**ASK ALL:**

Here are some questions about things you might have learned in school or seen in the news

PEW.7 For each statement that I read, please tell me if it is true or false. If you don't know, just tell me so, and we will skip to the next question. First, **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**...is that true or false? Next, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** **[IF NECESSARY: Is that true or false?]**

		<u>True</u>	<u>False</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	All radioactivity is man-made			
	March 7-10, 2013	22	66	12
	June 18-21, 2009	21	63	16
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	<i>General Social Survey, 2012</i>	18	70	12
	<i>General Social Survey, 2010</i>	20	67	13
	<i>General Social Survey, 2008</i>	18	70	12
	<i>General Social Survey, 2006</i>	14	70	17
b.	Electrons are smaller than atoms			
	March 7-10, 2013	47	27	25
	June 18-21, 2009	46	24	30
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	<i>General Social Survey, 2012</i>	53	20	27
	<i>General Social Survey, 2010</i>	51	20	29
	<i>General Social Survey, 2008</i>	52	23	25
	<i>General Social Survey, 2006</i>	53	19	28
c.	Lasers work by focusing sound waves			
	March 7-10, 2013	19	48	34
	June 18-21, 2009	22	47	31
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	<i>General Social Survey, 2012</i>	24	45	31
	<i>General Social Survey, 2010</i>	19	48	33
	<i>General Social Survey, 2008</i>	24	48	28
	<i>General Social Survey, 2006</i>	17	45	38
d.	The continents on which we live have been moving their location for millions of years and will continue to move in the future			
	March 7-10, 2013	77	10	13
	June 18-21, 2009	76	10	13
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:			
	<i>General Social Survey, 2012</i>	81	7	12
	<i>General Social Survey, 2010</i>	79	9	12
	<i>General Social Survey, 2008</i>	77	10	13
	<i>General Social Survey, 2006</i>	79	8	13

Correct answers for each trend in bold

ASK ALL:

PEW.8 Which one of the following types of solar radiation does sunscreen protect the skin from? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

3	X-rays
5	Infrared
83	Ultraviolet (<i>Correct</i>)
2	Microwaves
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.9 Does nanotechnology deal with things that are extremely **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

65	Small (<i>Correct</i>)
3	Large
2	Cold
4	Hot
26	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.10 Which gas makes up most of the Earth's atmosphere? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

14	Hydrogen
20	Nitrogen (<i>Correct</i>)
19	Carbon dioxide
36	Oxygen
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.11 What is the main function of red blood cells? Is it... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

9	To fight disease in the body
78	To carry oxygen to all parts of the body (<i>Correct</i>)
6	To help the blood to clot
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.12 Which of these is a major concern about the overuse of antibiotics? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

77	It can lead to antibiotic-resistant bacteria (<i>Correct</i>)
6	Antibiotics are very expensive
10	People will become addicted to antibiotics
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.13 Which is an example of a chemical reaction? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

- 12 Water boiling
- 12 Sugar dissolving
- 66 Nails rusting (*Correct*)
- 10 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

ASK ALL:

PEW.14 Which is the better way to determine whether a new drug is effective in treating a disease? If a scientist has a group of 1,000 volunteers with the disease to study, should she **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

March 7-10

2013

- 19 Give the drug to all of them and see how many get better
- 75 Give the drug to half of them but not to the other half, and compare how many in each group get better (*Correct*)
- 6 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

ASK ALL:

PEW.15 What gas do most scientists believe causes temperatures in the atmosphere to rise? Is it **[RANDOMIZE AND READ]**?

March 7-10

2013

- 58 Carbon dioxide (*Correct*)
- 10 Hydrogen
- 8 Helium
- 7 Radon
- 16 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

June 18-21

2009

- 65
- 7
- 4
- 5
- 20

April 28-May 12

2009

- 66
- 7
- 4
- 6
- 17

ASK ALL:

PEW.16 Which natural resource is extracted in a process known as "fracking"? Is it **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

March 7-10

2013

- 51 Natural gas (*Correct*)
- 12 Coal
- 5 Diamonds
- 4 Silicon
- 28 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)

ASK ALL:

PEW.17 On standardized tests of science knowledge, do average American 15 year olds rank at **[READ IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE: the top, the middle, or the bottom]** compared with 15 year olds in other developed nations?

March 7-10

2013

- 7 Top
- 35 Middle (*Correct*)
- 44 Bottom
- 13 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)