

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
May 25-30, 2011
N=1509

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>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
May 2, 2011	56	38	6	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:

Q.2F1 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

		Jan	Aug	Feb	Aug	Feb	Oct	Jul	Jan	Sep	Jan
		<u>11</u>	<u>10</u> ¹	<u>10</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>07</u>
May											
25-30											
<u>2011</u>											
28	Economy (general)	27	35	24	27	53	55	39	20	10	5
26	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	35	27	31	19	31	9	5	5	3	5
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced										
10	budget/Gov't spending	11	3	11	6	4	1	1	2	1	1
7	Energy costs	2	--	--	--	--	5	19	3	2	2
6	Health care/costs/accessibility	9	4	13	20	3	4	3	10	7	8
5	War/War in Iraq/War in Afghan.	3	3	4	5	3	11	17	27	37	42
5	Finances/money	2	2	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--
	Dissatisfaction with gov't/politics/										
4	Obama	9	9	5	5	5	4	3	6	7	8
	Education/schools/affording										
2	education	3	1	1	2	1	--	4	4	3	4
2	Inflation	2	1	--	--	2	5	6	3	1	--
1	Morality/Ethics/Family values	2	4	3	3	1	1	3	2	3	3
1	U.S. foreign policy/U.S. image	*	*	*	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
1	Medicare	*	--	1	*	--	--	--	*	*	*
1	Social Security	*	--	*	1	*	1	*	1	1	1
1	Immigration	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	6	6	5
1	Too much foreign aid/Spend at home	*	*	*	*	*	1	*	*	1	*
1	Taxes	1	1	1	--	--	1	--	2	1	--
1	Crime/Violence	1	--	1	1	1	--	1	1	2	2
1	Jobs moving overseas/Trade	1	--	2	1	1	1	1	1	--	--
1	Terrorism	1	--	2	1	1	2	3	3	6	5
1	Recession/slowing economy	--	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	--	--
1	Housing market/foreclosures	1	2	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--
1	National security	1	--	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1
1	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3
9	Other										
7	Don't know/No answer	5	7	6	5	3	4	4	5	5	7
	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/										
9	INTERNATIONAL	6	4	11	10	7	18	25	36	48	50
68	(NET) ECONOMIC	62	65	65	55	80	75	61	34	20	15

¹ Complete trend for Q2.F1 not shown; trends available to 1987.

ASK ALL:

Q.3 Right now, which is more important for President Obama to focus on... domestic policy or foreign policy?

	<u>Domestic policy</u>	<u>Foreign policy</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama					
May 25-30, 2011	77	9	1	9	5
Jan 5-9, 2011	78	11	1	7	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	73	12	1	10	3
January 7-11, 2009 ²	71	11	*	14	4
Next President					
September, 2008 ³	60	21	*	15	4
May, 2008	61	22	*	15	4
G.W. Bush					
January, 2008	56	31	1	8	4
January, 2007	39	40	1	15	5
August, 2006	50	32	1	12	5
January, 2006	57	25	1	13	4
October, 2005	64	20	1	12	3
Early January, 2005	53	27	1	16	3
January, 2002	52	34	*	11	3
Clinton					
Early September, 1998	56	30	0	11	3
January, 1997	86	7	*	5	2
December, 1994	85	7	2	4	2
October, 1993	76	13	*	7	4

NO QUESTIONS 4-14**ASK ALL:**

Q.15 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**?

	May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
a.	62	Trustworthy	58	58	61	64	76
	31	Not trustworthy	36	37	31	30	15
	2	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	1	2	2	1
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	3	5	5	8
b.	55	Able to get things done	54	55	57	58	70
	38	Not able to get things done	38	39	35	31	15
	3	Neither particularly (VOL.)	3	2	3	3	2
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	4	5	8	13
c.	58	A strong leader	53	53	62	65	77
	37	Not a strong leader	41	42	32	29	13
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	1
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	3	3	5	9
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:							
d.F1	73	Warm and friendly	70	68	77	78	87
	20	Cold and aloof	23	26	16	16	8
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	4	3	2	2
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	2	4	4	3

² January 7-11, 2009, survey asked about "president-elect Obama."

³ September and May 2008 surveys asked about priorities for the "next president."

Q.15 CONTINUED...

	May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
e.F1	67	Well informed	64	67	69	70	79
	27	Not well informed	31	30	26	23	15
	2	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	2	1	2	1
	4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	2	4	4	5
f.F1	75	Stands up for what he believes in	77	--	--	--	--
		Doesn't stand up for what					
	18	he believes in	16	--	--	--	--
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	--	--	--	--
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	--	--	--	--

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:

g.F2	75	A good communicator	75	77	83	83	92
	20	Not a good communicator	21	20	14	13	6
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	2	1	1	*
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	1	2	3	2
h.F2		Someone who cares about					
	64	people like me	60	60	64	68	81
		Someone who doesn't care					
	30	about people like me	34	35	30	25	14
	*	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	2	1	1	1
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	3	4	6	4
i.F2	40	Liberal	--	--	42	44	38
	32	Middle of the road [OR]	--	--	36	36	40
	16	Conservative	--	--	14	9	13
	3	None particularly (VOL.)	--	--	1	2	2
	9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	--	--	7	9	7

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.16 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

	May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Mar 8-14 <u>2011</u>	Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u>	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>
	38	The job situation	34	44	47	49	41	45
	28	The federal budget deficit	24	19	19	19	23	22
	20	Rising prices	28	23	15	15	16	17
		Problems in the financial						
	10	and housing markets	10	10	14	12	13	11
	2	Other (VOL.)	3	1	1	2	3	2
	*	None/Not worried about any (VOL.)	*	1	1	1	1	*
	2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	3	3	2	2	2

ASK ALL:

Q.17 Please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do a better job in each of the following areas... (First,) which party could do a better job of... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Dealing with the economy					
	May 25-30, 2011	38	40	5	8	8
	Sep 16-19, 2010	38	37	8	10	8
	May 20-23, 2010	33	34	9	14	10

Q.17 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Feb 3-9, 2010	38	41	7	6	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	32	42	6	12	9
February, 2008	34	53	2	5	6
October, 2006	32	45	4	5	14
September, 2006	32	46	5	5	12
February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8
Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6
July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12
Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13
Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13
January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18
May, 2001 ⁴	33	44	8	5	10
June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9
March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9
Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10
March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5
October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10
Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9
Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28
b. Dealing with the Medicare system					
May 25-30, 2011	34	44	5	8	9
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
<i>Reforming the Medicare system</i>					
Sep 16-19, 2010	33	38	7	9	12
c. Reducing the federal budget deficit					
May 25-30, 2011	41	38	4	9	8
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	46	34	8	6	7
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	7	16	14
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	36	5	9	7
May 20-23, 2010	33	30	8	16	12
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	35	6	11	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	36	6	8	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	35	36	6	13	10
September, 2006	27	47	4	8	14
February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7
Early October, 2005 ⁵	29	47	6	10	8
June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9
July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7
December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15
d. Dealing with immigration					
May 25-30, 2011	39	37	4	9	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	9	12	16
May 20-23, 2010	35	27	10	14	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	35	7	11	12
Aug 27-30, 2009	31	36	6	13	13
February, 2008	38	43	4	6	9
October, 2006	35	33	6	8	18
September, 2006	32	37	5	10	16
April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11

⁴ In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous?"

⁵ In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

ASK ALL:

- Q.18 As you may know, Medicare is the government program that provides health care to seniors and people with permanent disabilities. How much, if anything, have you heard about a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

May 25-30

2011

20 A lot
50 A little
28 Nothing at all
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK ALL:

- Q.19 Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal? **[REPEAT PROPOSAL AS NEEDED: Would you favor or oppose a proposal to change Medicare into a program that would give future participants a credit toward purchasing private health insurance coverage?]**

ASK IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE (Q.19=1,2):

- Q.20 Would you say you **[Favor/Oppose]** this proposal strongly, or not so strongly?

May 25-30

2011

36 Favor
22 Strongly
13 Not so strongly
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**
41 Oppose
30 Strongly
10 Not so strongly
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**
23 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK ALL:

Thinking about foreign policy...

- Q.21 As I read a list of possible LONG-RANGE foreign policy goals which the United States might have, tell me how much priority you think each should be given. (First,) **[READ AND RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**, do you think this should have top priority, some priority, or no priority at all? What about **[INSERT ITEM]**? **[READ THE ANSWER CHOICES AS NECESSARY AFTER THE FIRST TIME]**

Top Some No **(VOL.)**
priority priority priority DK/Ref

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:

- a.F1 Taking measures to seek out and destroy
terrorist groups in other countries
May 25-30, 2011

44 41 13 3

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:

- b.F2 Taking measures to protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks
May 25-30, 2011
October 28-November 8, 2009
Mid-September, 2008
Late October, 2005
July, 2004
Mid-October, 2001
Early September, 2001

81 17 1 1
85 13 1 1
82 16 1 1
86 12 1 1
88 10 1 1
93 6 * 1
80 16 3 1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:

- c.F1 Promoting democracy in other nations
May 25-30, 2011
October 28-November 8, 2009
Late October, 2005

13 58 27 2
21 54 22 3
24 54 19 3

Q.21 CONTINUED...

	<u>Top priority</u>	<u>Some priority</u>	<u>No priority</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
July, 2004	24	57	15	4
Mid-October, 2001	24	61	12	3
Early September, 2001	29	52	16	3
September, 1997	22	57	18	3
June, 1995	16	57	24	3
September, 1993	22	52	24	2
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:				
d.F2 Promoting and defending human rights in other countries				
May 25-30, 2011	24	56	18	2
October 28-November 8, 2009	29	54	14	3
Mid-September, 2008	25	58	15	2
Late October, 2005	37	50	11	2
July, 2004	33	53	12	2
Mid-October, 2001	27	61	10	2
Early September, 2001	29	54	14	3
September, 1997	27	56	15	2
June, 1995	21	56	20	3
September, 1993	22	54	22	2
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:				
e.F1 Reducing our dependence on imported energy sources				
May 25-30, 2011	67	24	6	2
October 28-November 8, 2009	64	28	3	5
Mid-September, 2008	76	20	2	2
Late October, 2005	67	28	2	3
July, 2004 ⁶	63	30	4	3
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:				
f.F2 Dealing with global climate change				
May 25-30, 2011	29	43	23	4
October 28-November 8, 2009	40	39	19	3
Mid-September, 2008	43	41	14	2
Late October, 2005	43	43	10	4
July, 2004 ⁷	36	46	12	6
Mid-October, 2001	31	51	13	5
Early September, 2001	44	39	12	5
September, 1997	50	42	6	2
June, 1995	56	36	6	2
September, 1993	56	37	6	1
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:				
g.F1 Improving relationships with our allies				
May 25-30, 2011	46	48	5	1
September, 2008	54	42	2	2
July, 2004	54	40	4	2
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:				
h.F2 Reducing U.S. military commitments overseas				
May 25-30, 2011	46	43	8	3
September, 2008	45	45	7	3
July, 2004	35	51	10	4
Early September, 2001	26	58	14	2

⁶ In July 2004, the item referred to "imported oil sources."

⁷ In 2004 and 2001, the item was worded "Dealing with global warming" and in September 1993, June 1995 and September 1997 the item was worded "Improving the global environment."

Q.21 CONTINUED...

		<u>Top priority</u>	<u>Some priority</u>	<u>No priority</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:					
i.F1	Finding a solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians				
	May 25-30, 2011	23	47	27	3
	September, 2008	25	50	22	3
	July, 2004	28	46	22	4
	January, 2003 ⁸	38	40	19	3
	March, 1999	35	42	19	4
	September, 1993	34	45	19	2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:

j.F2	Protecting the jobs of American workers				
	May 25-30, 2011	84	13	2	1
	October 28-November 8, 2009	85	13	1	1
	Mid-September, 2008	82	16	1	1
	Late October, 2005	84	14	1	1
	July, 2004	84	13	2	1
	Mid-October, 2001	74	24	1	1
	Early September, 2001	77	19	3	1
	September, 1997	77	20	2	1
	June, 1995	80	17	2	1
	September, 1993	85	13	2	*

NO QUESTIONS 22-23**ASK ALL:**

Q.24 As you may know, there have been protests and calls for change in a number of Middle Eastern countries recently. From what you have read and heard, do you think these events will lead to lasting improvements for people living in these countries, or not?

May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>
37	Yes, lasting improvements	42
45	No, no lasting improvements	43
5	Depends/Too soon to tell (VOL.)	3
13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12

ASK ALL:

Q.25 Do you think the anti-government protests and changes in the Middle East will end up being **[RANDOMIZE: good for the United States, bad for the United States]** or won't have much effect on the United States?

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>	<i>Egypt</i> Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u> ⁹
23	Good	24	15
26	Bad	35	28
36	Won't have much effect	28	36
4	Depends/Too soon to tell (VOL.)	4	5
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	9	7

NO QUESTIONS Q26-28

⁸ In January 2003 and earlier the question was worded "Bringing about a permanent settlement between Israel and the Arabs."

⁹ In February 2011, the question read "From what you've read and heard, do you think the anti-government protests and calls for political change in Egypt will end up being good for the United States, bad for the United States, or won't have much effect on the United States?"

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the 2012 Presidential election...

Q.29 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2012? **[READ]**

		TREND FOR COMPARISON: 2008 Presidential Election									
May 25-30 2011		Dec 2007	Nov 2007	Oct 2007	Sep 2007	Jul 2007	Jun 2007	Apr 2007	Mar 2007	Feb 2007	Dec 2006
23	A lot	35	34	30	27	30	29	26	24	24	23
30	Some	33	35	37	33	38	34	34	36	34	36
27	Not much	13	16	17	21	16	20	21	20	22	20
19	None at all	18	14	14	17	15	16	17	18	18	20
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1

ASK ALL:

Q.30 Looking ahead, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected president in 2012 or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election? **[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election?"]**

	Obama <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Republican</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
May 25-30, 2011	48	35	18
Mar 8-14, 2011	48	35	16

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Looking ahead to the general election in November, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected president in 2004 or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?

[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?"]

	Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
Mid-January, 2004	44	40	16
Early January, 2004	43	43	14
December, 2003	47	38	15
October, 2003	40	44	16
September, 2003	44	43	13
August, 2003	40	39	21
Mid-July, 2003	45	37	18
April, 2003	46	35	19

Looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate or an Independent candidate be elected President?

	Clinton <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Republican</u>	Prefer <u>independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 1995	31	28	22	19
August, 1995	29	32	23	16
March, 1995	29	33	20	18
December, 1994	28	35	15	22
December, 1993	28	22	12	38

Would you like to see George Bush re-elected President in November or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?

	G.H.W. Bush <u>re-elected</u>	Prefer <u>Democrat</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other/DK</u>
February, 1992	40	48	12
January, 1992	42	42	16

ASK ALL:

Q.31 Overall, what's your impression of the possible candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

SELECTED TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

		Oct 2007		Sept 2003	Oct 1995	Oct 1991	Jan 1988	
		Rep	Dem	Dem	Rep	Dem	Rep	Dem
May 25-30 2011		<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>	<u>cands</u>
3	Excellent	4	8	3	3	2	3	3
22	Good	28	35	27	29	18	34	27
36	Only fair	39	34	39	46	38	42	44
23	Poor	18	15	15	18	15	11	17
15	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	8	16	4	27	10	9

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

BASED ON REPUBLICAN AND REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=535]:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
May 25-30, 2011	5	39	36	7	13
February, 2008	10	50	31	7	2
January, 2008	10	57	28	3	1
November, 2007	9	47	34	7	3
October, 2007	6	46	36	7	6
September, 2007	8	41	36	8	6
October, 1995	5	46	40	6	3
January, 1988 (GP)	6	50	35	4	5

Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the DEMOCRATIC presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

BASED ON DEMOCRATIC AND DEMOCRATIC-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
February, 2008	30	50	16	2	2
January, 2008	28	50	18	2	2
November, 2007	16	51	28	2	3
October, 2007	16	48	26	5	5
September, 2007	15	49	29	2	5
January, 2004	8	39	41	6	8
December, 2003	5	40	39	7	9
September, 2003	4	40	39	5	12
February, 1992	6	39	47	4	5
October, 1991	3	24	38	11	23
January, 1988 (GP)	4	33	45	11	7

ASK ALL:

Q.33 Next, I'm going to read you a list of possible Republican presidential candidates. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. First, **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES]**, have you heard of **[REPEAT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD:** How much of a chance is there that you would vote for **(REPEAT NAME)** if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2012 — is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?] Have you heard of **[INSERT NEXT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD:** Is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance that you would vote for **(REPEAT NAME)** for president?]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1227]:

					<i>Based on Those Who Have Heard</i>				
		<u>Have heard</u>	<u>Have not heard</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Good chance</u>	<u>Some chance</u>	<u>No chance</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	(N)
NO ITEM a.									
b.	Mitt Romney								
	May 25-30, 2011	82	18	1	17	34	44	5	(1057)
	June, 2007	62	37	1	14	26	52	8	
	February, 2007	43	56	1	8	28	50	14	
c.	Newt Gingrich								
	May 25-30, 2011	86	13	1	9	24	63	4	(1116)
	June, 2007	87	12	1	11	19	63	7	
	February, 2007	85	14	1	7	20	66	7	
d.	Sarah Palin								
	May 25-30, 2011	97	2	*	14	20	63	3	(1119)
e.	Tim Pawlenty								
	May 25-30, 2011	48	50	1	14	28	48	10	(654)
f.	Ron Paul								
	May 25-30, 2011	71	28	1	9	26	60	6	(925)
g.	Michele Bachmann								
	May 25-30, 2011	54	45	1	14	26	51	8	(731)
NO ITEM h.									
i.	Jon Huntsman								
	May 25-30, 2011	32	68	1	8	27	49	16	(412)
j.	Rick Santorum								
	May 25-30, 2011	41	58	1	11	27	51	10	(585)
k.	Herman Cain								
	May 25-30, 2011	33	66	1	23	25	41	11	(444)
l.	Gary Johnson								
	May 25-30, 2011	20	79	1	6	22	54	17	(244)

NO QUESTION 34-35

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.36 Which of these statements do you think best describes the federal budget deficit **[READ IN ORDER; REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF OF SAMPLE]**

May 25-30 <u>2011</u>		Apr 21-25 <u>2011</u>	Dec 1-5 <u>2010</u>
74	It is a major problem that the country must address now	81	70
	It is a major problem that should be addressed		
22	when the economy is better	14	23
3	It is not much of a problem for the country	1	1
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	5

ASK ALL:

Q.37 Thinking about ways to reduce the deficit and size of the national debt, please tell me if you would approve or disapprove of each of the following. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the size of the national debt? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Would you approve or disapprove of this as a way to reduce the size of the national debt?]**¹⁰

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:				
a.F1	Reduce federal funding for programs that help lower income Americans			
	May 25-30, 2011	40	54	6
b.F1	Gradually raise the age at which people can begin receiving Social Security benefits			
	May 25-30, 2011	36	59	5
	Dec 1-5, 2010	38	58	4
c.F1	Make more of high-earners' income subject to the Social Security payroll tax			
	May 25-30, 2011	67	26	7
	Dec 1-5, 2010	64	27	9
d.F1	Limit tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages			
	May 25-30, 2011	49	43	8
TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages</i>			
	Dec 1-5, 2010	34	56	10
NO ITEM e.				
f.F1	Reduce agriculture subsidies			
	May 25-30, 2011	44	44	12
g.F1	Reduce military commitments overseas			
	May 25-30, 2011	65	30	6
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:				
h.F2	Reduce federal funding to states for things like education and roads			
	May 25-30, 2011	23	73	4
	Dec 1-5, 2010	25	71	4
NO ITEM i.				

¹⁰

In December 2010, question began, "Thinking about ways to reduce the federal budget deficit...".

Q.37 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
j.F2	Tax the health insurance people receive from their employer			
	May 25-30, 2011	22	73	4
	Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7
k.F2	Reduce Social Security benefits for seniors with higher incomes			
	May 25-30, 2011	42	54	5
	Dec 1-5, 2010	48	47	5
l.F2	Raise the income tax rate on incomes over \$250,000 a year			
	May 25-30, 2011	66	31	3
m.F2	Limit tax deductions for large corporations			
	May 25-30, 2011	62	34	4
n.F2	Reduce U.S. assistance to foreign countries			
	May 25-30, 2011	72	22	5

ASK ALL:

Q.38 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>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Barack Obama					
	May 25-30, 2011	22	33	22	21	2
	Dec 1-5, 2010	19	34	20	24	4
b.	Republican leaders in Congress					
	May 25-30, 2011	7	40	31	20	2
	Dec 1-5, 2010	6	34	29	27	4
c.	Democratic leaders in Congress					
	May 25-30, 2011	12	39	28	18	3
	Dec 1-5, 2010	9	33	28	24	5

ASK ALL:

Q.39 How much, if at all, do you think each of the following has contributed to the size of the current national debt? First, has **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** contributed a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all to the size of the current national debt? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How much has [ITEM] contributed to the size of the current national debt: a great deal, a fair amount, not much or not at all?]**

		<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	The condition of the national economy					
	May 25-30, 2011	42	34	14	5	5
b.	The tax cuts enacted over the past 10 years					
	May 25-30, 2011	19	35	28	10	8
c.	The cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan					
	May 25-30, 2011	60	26	8	3	2
d.	Increased spending on domestic programs					
	May 25-30, 2011	24	38	24	7	8

NO QUESTIONS 40-44

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

Q.45 In the dispute between Israel and the Palestinians, which side do you sympathize with more, Israel or the Palestinians?

	Israel	Palestinians	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May 25-30, 2011	48	11	4	15	21
Apr 21-26, 2010	49	16	4	12	19
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	12	4	14	19
January 7-11, 2009	49	11	5	15	20
May, 2007	49	11	5	17	18
August, 2006	52	11	5	15	17
July, 2006	44	9	5	20	22
May, 2006	48	13	4	14	20
Late October, 2005	43	17	5	16	19
July, 2005	37	12	5	19	27
July, 2004	40	13	7	18	22
Late February, 2004	46	12	8	15	19
April, 2002	41	13	6	21	19
Mid-October, 2001	47	10	8	18	17
Early September, 2001	40	17	6	23	14
September, 1997	48	13	5	16	18
September, 1993	45	21	3	18	12
Chicago CFR 1990	34	14	7	26	20
Chicago CFR 1982	40	17	8	19	16
Chicago CFR 1978 ¹¹	45	14	9	18	15

ASK ALL:

Q.46 Thinking about the situation in the Middle East these days, do you think Barack Obama is **[RANDOMIZE: favoring Israel too much; favoring the Palestinians too much]** or striking about the right balance?

May 25-30 2011		Apr 21-26 2010	Oct 28-Nov 8 2009	Jun 10-14 2009
6	Favoring Israel too much	7	7	6
21	Favoring the Palestinians too much	21	16	17
50	Striking about the right balance	47	51	62
24	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	25	26	14

NO QUESTION 47-48**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.49 Regardless of the specific candidates who are running for president, we'd like to know how you generally feel about some different traits. First, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for president who **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, or wouldn't this matter to you? How about if a candidate **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PLEASE PROMPT RESPONDENT WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY FIVE TO TEN ITEMS AS A REMINDER]**

	More likely	Less likely	Wouldn't matter	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a. Is a woman				
May 25-30, 2011	14	7	77	1
August, 2007	15	12	72	1

¹¹ In the 1978 Chicago Council on Foreign Relations survey conducted by the Gallup Organization, results are based on respondents who said they had "heard or read about the situation in the Middle East", which represented 87% of the public. As a context note, in both the 1978 and 1982 CCFR/Gallup surveys, this question followed a broader question: "In the Middle East situation, are your sympathies more with Israel or more with the Arab nations?" and in 1982, a question regarding "U.S. military aid and arms sales to Israel".

Q.49 CONTINUED...

		<u>More likely</u>	<u>Less likely</u>	<u>Wouldn't matter</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	February, 2007	13	11	75	1
b.	Is black				
	May 25-30, 2011	7	3	89	1
	August, 2007	9	6	84	1
	February, 2007	7	4	88	1
c.	Is Hispanic				
	May 25-30, 2011	8	11	80	1
	August, 2007	9	15	75	1
	February, 2007	4	14	80	2
d.	Is Mormon				
	May 25-30, 2011	5	25	68	3
	August, 2007	5	25	66	4
	February, 2007	2	30	64	4
e.	Does not believe in God				
	May 25-30, 2011	5	61	33	2
	August, 2007	3	61	34	2
	February, 2007	3	63	32	2
f.	Has served in the military				
	May 25-30, 2011	49	4	47	1
	February, 2007	48	3	48	1
g.	Has been a business executive				
	May 25-30, 2011	35	14	49	2
	February, 2007	28	13	56	3
h.	Has been an elected official in Washington for many years				
	May 25-30, 2011	26	25	46	3
	February, 2007	35	15	45	5
i.	Has never held elected office before				
	May 25-30, 2011	9	51	38	3
	February, 2007	7	56	35	2
j.	Has used marijuana in the past				
	May 25-30, 2011	5	24	69	2
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Used drugs in the past</i>				
	February, 2007	2	45	47	6
k.	Had an extramarital affair in the past				
	May 25-30, 2011	2	46	49	3
	February, 2007	1	39	56	4
l.	Has been divorced				
	May 25-30, 2011	3	11	85	1
	February, 2007	3	9	86	2
m.	Is homosexual				
	May 25-30, 2011	3	33	62	2
	February, 2007	1	46	51	2
n.	Has been a governor				
	May 25-30, 2011	37	5	55	3

ASK ALL:

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

[INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1 FOR REGIST AND REGICERT]

ASK IF REGISTERED (REGIST=1):

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

May 25-30

2011

77 Yes, Registered
74 Absolutely certain
3 Chance registration has lapsed
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**
22 No, not registered
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

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.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	preference	party			
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
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

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

PARTY/PARTLY CONTINUED...

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>			
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 ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

				(VOL.) Haven't	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>heard of</u>		
May 25-30, 2011	18	23	54	2	2	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ¹²	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

¹² In the February 2-7, 2011 survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." 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."