

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MARCH 2012 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
March 7-11, 2012
N=1503

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>
March 7-11, 2012	50	41	9	Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11
Feb 8-12, 2012	47	43	10	Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	44	48	8	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Dec 7-11, 2011	46	43	11	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Nov 9-14, 2011	46	46	8	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
May 2, 2011	56	38	6	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12				

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=766]:

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]**

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Dec <u>11</u> ¹	May <u>11</u>	Jan <u>11</u>	Aug <u>10</u>	Feb <u>10</u>	Aug <u>09</u>	Feb <u>09</u>	Early Oct <u>08</u>	Jul <u>08</u>	Jan <u>08</u>	Sep <u>07</u>	Jan <u>07</u>
31	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	21	26	35	27	31	19	31	9	5	5	3	5
24	Economy (general)	19	28	27	35	24	27	53	55	39	20	10	5
8	Energy costs	1	7	2	--	--	--	--	5	19	3	2	2
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced												
8	budget/Gov't spending	9	10	11	3	11	6	4	1	1	2	1	1
5	Health care/costs/accessibility	4	6	9	4	13	20	3	4	3	10	7	8
	Dissatisfaction with gov't/politics/												
4	Obama	10	4	9	9	5	5	5	4	3	6	7	8
3	Partisanship/Parties/Gridlock	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3	War/War in Iraq/War in Afghan.	4	5	3	3	4	5	3	11	17	27	37	42
3	Finances/money	2	5	2	2	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--
2	Immigration	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	6	6	5
2	Taxes	2	1	1	1	1	--	--	1	--	2	1	--
2	Defense/national security	1	1	1	--	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1
2	Housing market/foreclosures	1	1	1	2	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--
	Oil dependence/Energy policy and												
1	alternatives	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2	1	2	--
1	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3
1	Inflation	1	2	2	1	--	--	2	5	6	3	1	--
1	Recession/Slowing economy	--	1	--	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	--	--
	Education/schools/affording												
1	education	3	2	3	1	1	2	1	--	4	4	3	4
1	Jobs moving overseas/Trade	1	1	1	--	2	1	1	1	1	1	--	--
1	Crime/Violence	1	1	1	--	1	1	1	--	1	1	2	2
1	Distribution of wealth/inequality	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--
1	Greed	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Welfare abuse/Gov't dependency	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Medicare	--	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Morality/Ethics/Family values	2	1	2	4	3	3	1	1	3	2	3	3
1	Too much foreign aid/Spend at home	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	--
1	Race relations/Racism	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--
13	Other												
8	Don't know/No answer	6	7	5	7	6	5	3	4	4	5	5	7
	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/												
5	INTERNATIONAL	6	9	6	4	11	10	7	18	25	36	48	50
66	(NET) ECONOMIC	55	68	62	65	65	55	80	75	61	34	20	15

Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses.

NO QUESTION 3

¹ Complete trend for Q2F1 not shown; trends available to 1987.

ASK ALL:

Q.4 Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [ITEM] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?]** **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never heard of	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly		
a. The Republican Party								
Mar 7-11, 2012	36	7	30	56	27	29	*	8
Jan 11-16, 2012	35	7	27	58	28	30	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	36	7	29	55	27	28	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	5	29	59	27	32	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	42	9	32	51	22	28	1	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	43	8	35	48	19	29	*	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	8	35	49	21	28	*	8
July 1-5, 2010	39	10	29	49	24	25	*	12
April 1-5, 2010	37	8	29	53	26	27	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	37	5	32	51	20	31	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	5	41	46	14	32	0	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	40	6	34	50	19	31	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	40	7	33	50	18	32	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	40	7	33	51	17	34	0	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	55	21	34	*	5
Late October, 2008	40	10	30	50	23	27	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	47	11	36	46	22	24	*	7
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11

Q.4 CONTINUED...

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Ref</u>
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6
b. The Democratic Party								
Mar 7-11, 2012	49	14	36	43	18	25	*	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	43	13	29	51	23	28	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	13	32	45	19	26	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	9	34	50	21	29	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	48	14	34	45	18	27	*	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	47	13	35	46	17	29	*	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	13	36	44	20	24	*	7
July 1-5, 2010	44	12	31	45	22	23	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	38	9	29	52	27	25	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	40	8	32	49	25	24	*	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	9	39	44	17	27	*	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	48	11	37	43	19	24	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	49	12	37	40	16	25	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	59	15	44	34	13	21	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	19	43	32	12	20	*	6
Late October, 2008	57	19	38	33	15	18	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	55	18	37	39	14	25	*	6
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6

ASK ALL:

- Q.5 And how about, **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE]**? Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT NAME]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about **[NEXT NAME]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never heard of	(VOL.) Can't rate/Ref
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>		
a.	Barack Obama								
	Mar 7-11, 2012	56	24	32	41	25	16	*	3
	Feb 8-12, 2012	54	22	32	42	26	16	*	5
	Jan 11-16, 2012	51	23	28	45	24	21	0	4
	Nov 9-14, 2011	52	21	31	45	24	21	*	3
	Mar 8-14, 2011	58	22	36	39	20	19	*	3
	Dec 2-5, 2010	54	26	29	43	25	18	*	2
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	53	21	32	43	23	20	*	5
	Jun 10-13, 2010	56	27	30	39	20	19	0	4
	Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	65	33	32	30	16	14	*	5
	Jun 10-14, 2009	72	37	35	25	11	14	*	3
	Apr 14-21, 2009	73	38	35	24	10	14	*	3
	Jan 7-11, 2009	79	40	39	15	4	11	0	6
	Mid-October, 2008	66	33	33	28	13	15	*	6
	Late September, 2008	65	33	32	30	11	19	*	5
	Mid-September, 2008	62	28	34	34	15	19	*	4
	Late May, 2008	51	23	28	40	21	19	*	9
	April, 2008	52	21	31	42	21	21	*	6
	March, 2008	56	21	35	34	18	16	1	9
	Late February, 2008	57	24	33	34	16	18	1	8
	Early February, 2008	58	19	39	30	13	17	2	10
	January, 2008	56	20	36	33	13	20	3	8
	Late December, 2007	54	16	38	30	12	18	5	11
	August, 2007	48	14	34	26	10	16	13	13
b.	Mitt Romney								
	Mar 7-11, 2012	29	6	23	51	21	30	5	15
	Feb 8-12, 2012	32	7	25	49	20	29	6	13
	Jan 11-16, 2012	31	7	24	45	17	27	9	14
	Nov 9-14, 2011	36	7	29	42	16	26	9	12
	Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	35	11	25	21	9	13	25	18
	Jun 10-14, 2009	40	9	31	28	8	20	19	13
	Early February, 2008	30	6	24	44	15	29	8	18
	January, 2008	31	7	24	43	13	30	8	18
	Late December, 2007	29	4	25	35	11	24	17	19
	August, 2007	28	5	23	24	7	17	29	19
c.	Rick Santorum								
	Mar 7-11, 2012	27	6	21	44	23	21	11	17
	Feb 8-12, 2012	33	10	23	36	16	20	14	17

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Now, thinking about how Barack Obama is handling some issues...

- Q.6F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT INTRODUCTION AS NECESSARY]**

				(VOL.) DK/Ref
		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	
a.	The economy			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	43	53	4
	Jan 11-16, 2012	38	59	4
	Nov 9-14, 2011	35	58	6

Q.6F2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	60	6
May 2, 2011	40	55	4
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	56	6
Jan 6-9, 2011	42	51	7
Jun 16-20, 2010	43	51	5
May 6-9, 2010	41	51	8
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	54	8
Mar 10-14, 2010	41	52	7
Jan 6-10, 2010	42	51	7
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	52	5
Jul 22-26, 2009	38	53	9
Jun 10-14, 2009	52	40	8
Apr 14-21, 2009	60	33	7
Feb 4-8, 2009	56	24	20
b. Energy policy			
Mar 7-11, 2012	42	45	13
Jan 11-16, 2012	36	46	18
Nov 9-14, 2011	44	38	18
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	44	16
Jan 6-9, 2011	46	37	18
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	40	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	43	34	23
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	35	20
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	50	34	16
Jul 22-26, 2009	46	31	22
c. Dealing with Iran			
Mar 7-11, 2012	47	40	14
Jan 11-16, 2012	48	41	11
Jan 6-9, 2011	42	39	19
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	43	19
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	43	40	17
d. The situation in Afghanistan			
Mar 7-11, 2012	49	42	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	56	37	7
May 2, 2011	60	29	11
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	43	45	11
Jan 6-9, 2011	44	42	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	46	9
Apr 21-26, 2010	41	42	17
Mar 10-14, 2010	51	35	15
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	43	12
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	36	49	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	47	33	19
e. The federal budget deficit			
Mar 7-11, 2012	36	58	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	34	62	5
Nov 9-14, 2011	34	57	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	32	60	9
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	33	59	8
Jan 6-9, 2011	35	53	12
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	56	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	32	58	11
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	58	11
Jul 22-26, 2009	32	53	15
April 14-21, 2009	50	38	12

NO QUESTIONS 7-11

ASK ALL:

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election . . . Quite a lot or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

	Quite a lot	(VOL.) Some	Only a little	(VOL.) None	(VOL.) DK/Ref
2012 Election					
Mar 7-11, 2012	66	2	30	1	1
2008 Election					
November, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Late October, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Mid-October, 2008	81	3	13	3	*
Early October, 2008	81	2	14	2	1
Late September, 2008	80	3	14	2	1
Mid-September, 2008	78	4	14	3	1
August, 2008	74	6	17	2	1
July, 2008	74	2	20	3	1
June, 2008	72	2	23	2	1
Late May, 2008	75	4	17	3	1
April, 2008	77	7	13	2	1
March, 2008	78	3	15	3	1
Late February, 2008	74	3	19	2	2
2004 Election					
November, 2004	82	3	12	2	1
Mid-October, 2004	76	5	15	3	1
Early October, 2004	74	4	19	2	1
September, 2004	71	3	22	3	1
August, 2004	69	2	26	2	1
July, 2004	67	2	28	2	1
June, 2004	58	3	36	2	1
May, 2004	59	6	30	4	1
Late March, 2004	60	4	31	4	1
Mid-March, 2004	65	2	31	2	*
2000 Election					
November, 2000	72	6	19	2	1
Late October, 2000	66	6	24	4	*
Mid-October, 2000	67	9	19	4	1
Early October, 2000	60	8	27	4	1
September, 2000	59	8	29	3	1
July, 2000	46	6	45	3	*
June, 2000	46	6	43	5	*
May, 2000	48	4	42	5	1
April, 2000	45	7	41	7	*
1996 Election					
November, 1996	67	8	22	3	*
October, 1996	65	7	26	1	1
Late September, 1996	61	7	29	2	1
Early September, 1996	56	3	36	4	1
July, 1996	55	3	41	1	*
June, 1996	50	5	41	3	1
1992 Election					
Early October, 1992	77	5	16	1	1
September, 1992	69	3	26	1	1
August, 1992	72	4	23	1	*
June, 1992	63	6	29	1	1
1988 Election					
Gallup: November, 1988	73	8	17	2	0
Gallup: October, 1988	69	9	20	2	0

THOUGHT CONTINUED...

	Quite <u>a lot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Some</u>	Only a <u>little</u>	(VOL.) <u>None</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
<i>Gallup: August, 1988</i>	61	10	27	2	0
<i>Gallup: September, 1988</i>	57	18	23	2	0

ASK ALL:

Q.12 Over the course of the campaign, are you getting more interested or less interested in the outcome of the election this November?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

Mar 7-11

2012

72	More interested [OR]
22	Less interested
4	Neither/no change (VOL.)
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

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 RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN REGIST:

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?

Mar 7-11

2012

76	Yes, registered
72	Absolutely certain
4	Chance registration has lapsed
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
23	No, not registered
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.13 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 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
2012 Election					
Mar 7-11, 2012	4	25	34	34	3
Jan 26-29, 2012	4	21	37	34	5
Jan 4-8, 2012	3	27	35	27	7
Nov 9-14, 2011	5	23	36	28	7
Aug 17-21, 2011	4	22	38	26	9
May 25-30, 2011	3	22	35	27	13

Q.13 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON ...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
SELECTED TRENDS FOR COMPARISON²:					
2008 Election					
October, 2007 (<i>Republican</i>)	3	28	40	19	10
October, 2007 (<i>Democratic</i>)	9	35	33	17	6
2004 Election					
September, 2003 (<i>Democratic</i>)	3	29	39	15	14
1996 Election					
October, 1995 (<i>Republican</i>)	3	30	44	19	4
1992 Election					
October, 1991 (<i>Democratic</i>)	2	19	39	16	24
1988 Election					
January, 1988 (<i>Republican</i>)	4	36	41	11	8
January, 1988 (<i>Democratic</i>)	2	29	44	17	8

Q.13 FULL TREND:

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=538]:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	6	43	39	9	2
Jan 26-29, 2012	8	38	40	12	2
Jan 4-8, 2012	5	46	34	10	6
Nov 9-14, 2011	10	38	39	7	6
Aug 17-21, 2011	9	40	38	6	7
May 25-30, 2011	5	39	36	7	13
February, 2008	10	50	31	7	2
January, 2008	11	57	28	3	1
November, 2007	9	47	34	7	3
October, 2007	5	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>	(VOL.) <u>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

²

Before October 2007, answer choice read "Fair" not "Only fair." In October 2007 the question was asked both ways and no difference was found. As a result, October 2007 numbers combine both versions of the question. In 1988, 1991 and 1993 question asked about "men running for the [party] presidential nomination."

Q.13 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
October, 1991	3	24	38	11	23
January, 1988 (GP)	4	33	45	11	7

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.14 As I name some Republican candidates for president in 2012, please tell me which one, if any, you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**
[PROBE IF NECESSARY: As of today, who would you say you LEAN toward?]

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=538]:

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Feb 8-12 <u>2012</u>	Jan 11-16 <u>2012</u>	Jan 4-8 <u>2012</u>	Dec 7-11 <u>2011</u>	Nov 9-14 <u>2011</u>	Sep 22- Oct 4 <u>2011</u>	Jul 20-24 <u>2011</u>	Mar 8-14 <u>2011</u>	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>
33	Mitt Romney	28	31	27	21	23	21	21	21	17
24	Rick Santorum	30	14	16	3	2	2	1	2	2
20	Newt Gingrich	17	16	16	33	16	7	3	11	9
14	Ron Paul	12	15	12	8	8	11	9	8	10
*	Other (VOL.) ³	1	2	1	*	*	1	1	1	5
	Rick Perry	--	5	6	4	8	16	12	--	--
	Jon Huntsman	--	2	2	3	1	1	2	--	--
	Michele Bachmann	--	--	--	6	5	4	11	--	--
	Herman Cain	--	--	--	--	22	12	8	--	--
	Sarah Palin	--	--	--	--	--	9	11	13	16
	Tim Pawlenty	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	5
	Mike Huckabee	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20	19
	Mitch Daniels	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
	Haley Barbour	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2
	Chris Christie	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
4	None (VOL.)	4	4	4	10	4	5	5	5	4
3	Too early to tell (VOL.)	3	6	5	4	5	5	7	3	--
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	6	10	7	5	5	8	7	10

NO QUESTIONS 15-17

³ Perry, Huntsman, Bachmann, Cain, Palin, Pawlenty, Huckabee, Daniels and Barbour were explicitly asked in some previous surveys. Chris Christie was never asked in any surveys. In surveys in which they received less than 1% support, these responses are included in other. Dashes indicate that candidates were not explicitly asked about and received less than 1% support.

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.18-Q.18b/Q.19-Q.19b IN BLOCKS**ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):****ASK BEFORE FIRST BLOCK:**

Now, suppose the 2012 presidential election were being held TODAY and...

ASK BEFORE SECOND BLOCK:

If the election were TODAY and...

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.18 / Q.19 You had to choose between, **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**, who would you vote for?

ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.18 / Q.19=3,9):

Q.18a / Q.19a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.18 / Q.19]**?

ASK IF NAMED A CANDIDATE (Q.18 / Q.19=1,2):

Q.18b / Q.19b Would you support **[INSERT LAST NAME OF CANDIDATE CHOSEN IN Q.18 / Q.19]** over **[INSERT LAST NAME OF CANDIDATE NOT CHOSEN IN Q.18 / Q.19]** strongly, or only moderately? ⁴

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

Q.18 Mitt Romney

	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	42	28	13	*	54	41	12	*	1	3
Feb 8-12, 2012	44	--	--	--	52	--	--	--	1	3
Jan 11-16, 2012	45	--	--	--	50	--	--	--	2	4
Nov 9-14, 2011	47	--	--	--	49	--	--	--	1	3
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	48	--	--	--	48	--	--	--	1	4

Q.19 Rick Santorum

	<u>Santorum</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	28	11	0	57	45	11	*	1	3
Feb 8-12, 2012	43	--	--	--	53	--	--	--	1	3

Q.18-Q.18b/Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON:**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u> ⁵	<u>DK</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Barr</u>	Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
November, 2008	39	21	18	*	50	35	14	1	1	1	9
Late October, 2008	36	20	15	1	52	39	12	1	3	1	8
Mid-October, 2008	38	21	16	1	52	36	16	*	n/a	n/a	10
Early October, 2008	40	21	18	1	50	36	14	*	n/a	n/a	10
Late September, 2008	42	23	19	*	49	33	15	1	n/a	n/a	9
Mid-September, 2008 ⁶	44	25	19	*	46	30	15	1	n/a	n/a	10
August, 2008	43	17	26	*	46	27	19	*	n/a	n/a	11
July, 2008	42	17	24	1	47	24	22	1	n/a	n/a	11
June, 2008	40	14	26	*	48	28	19	1	n/a	n/a	12
Late May, 2008	44				47				n/a	n/a	9
April, 2008	44				50				n/a	n/a	6
March, 2008	43				49				n/a	n/a	8
Late February, 2008	43				50				n/a	n/a	7

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Kerry</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Nader</u>	Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
November, 2004	45	34	11	*	46	29	16	1	1	8
Mid-October, 2004	45	32	13	*	45	28	16	1	1	9
Early October, 2004	48	35	12	1	41	24	17	*	2	9

⁴ Those who lean to a candidate are included in "Only moderately."

⁵ Includes those who say they lean to the Republican or Democratic candidate.

⁶ After August 2008, June 2004, July 2000, July 1996, June 1992, and June 1988 the question specified vice presidential candidates.

Q.18-Q.18b/Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Bush</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Kerry</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Nader</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		
September, 2004	49	33	15	1	43	22	20	1	1	7
August, 2004	45	32	13	*	47	28	19	*	2	6
July, 2004	44				46				3	7
June, 2004	46				42				6	6
May, 2004	43				46				6	5
Late March, 2004	44				43				6	7
Mid-March, 2004	42				49				4	5
Two-way trial heats:										
June, 2004	48				46				n/a	6
May, 2004	45				50				n/a	5
Late March, 2004	46				47				n/a	7
Mid-March, 2004	43				52				n/a	5
Late February, 2004	44				48				n/a	8
Early February, 2004	47				47				n/a	6
Early January, 2004	52				41				n/a	7
October, 2003	50				42				n/a	8

	<u>Bush</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Gore</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Nader</u>	<u>Buchanan</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>			
November, 2000	41	26	15	*	45	25	19	1	4	1	9
Late October, 2000	45	29	16	*	43	24	19	*	4	1	7
Mid-October, 2000	43	25	18	*	45	22	23	*	4	1	7
Early October, 2000	43	26	17	*	44	22	22	*	5	*	8
September, 2000	41	21	19	1	47	25	21	1	2	1	9
July, 2000	42				41				6	2	9
Late June, 2000	42				35				2	2	19
Mid-June, 2000	41				42				4	3	10
January, 2000	51				39				n/a	4	6
September, 1999	49				35				n/a	10	6
Two-way trial heats:											
July, 2000	48				46				n/a	n/a	6
Mid-June, 2000	45	20	25	*	46	18	27	1	n/a	n/a	9
May, 2000	46				45				n/a	n/a	9
March, 2000	43				49				n/a	n/a	8
February, 2000	46	19	27	*	45	18	26	1	n/a	n/a	9
December, 1999	55				40				n/a	n/a	5
October, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7
September, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7
July, 1999	53				42				n/a	n/a	5
March, 1999	54				41				n/a	n/a	5
January, 1999	50				44				n/a	n/a	6
Early September, 1998	53				40				n/a	n/a	7

	<u>Dole</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Clinton</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Perot</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		
November, 1996	32	17	15	*	51	26	24	1	9	8
October, 1996	34	17	16	1	51	25	26	*	8	7
Late September, 1996	35	16	18	1	51	26	25	*	7	7
Early September, 1996	34	17	17	*	52	26	26	0	8	6
July, 1996	34				44				16	6
March, 1996	35				44				16	5
September, 1995	36				42				19	3
July, 1994	36				39				20	5
Two-way trial heats:										
July, 1996	42	11	30	*	53	20	31	1	n/a	5
June, 1996	40	13	23	1	55	22	29	1	n/a	5
April, 1996	40				54					6
March, 1996	41				53					6
February, 1996	44				52					4

Q.18-Q.18b/Q.19-Q.19b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Dole</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Only mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Perot</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
January, 1996	41				53					6
July, 1994	49				46					5
		<u>Only</u>				<u>Only</u>				<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Perot</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Late October, 1992	34	20	14	--	44	26	18	--	19	3
Early October, 1992	35	14	21	--	48	23	25	--	8	9
June, 1992	31				27				36	6
Two-way trial heats:										
September, 1992	38	14	21	--	53	25	28	--	n/a	9
August, 1992	37	14	23	--	57	24	33	--	n/a	6
June, 1992	46	13	33	--	41	9	32	--	n/a	13
May, 1992	46	15	31	--	43	10	33	--	n/a	11
Late March, 1992	50	19	31	--	43	9	34	--	n/a	7
		<u>Only</u>				<u>Only</u>				<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Dukakis</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 1988	50	24	26	--	42	20	22	--		8
September, 1988	50	26	24	--	44	19	25	--		6
May, 1988	40	12	28	--	53	14	39	--		7

RANDOMIZE Q.20 AND Q.21

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

- Q.20 Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between [RANDOMIZE: Barack Obama and Mitt Romney]?
- Q.21 Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between [RANDOMIZE: Barack Obama and Rick Santorum]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

		<u>Republican</u>		<u>Democrat</u>		<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>Other/DK</u>
Q.20	Mar 7-11, 2012	32	<i>Romney</i>	59	<i>Obama</i>	9
Q.21	Mar 7-11, 2012	24	<i>Santorum</i>	68	<i>Obama</i>	8

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election?

	<u>Republican</u>		<u>Democrat</u>		
2008 Election					
Mid-October, 2008	17	<i>McCain</i>	61	<i>Obama</i>	22
Mid-September, 2008	39	<i>McCain</i>	39	<i>Obama</i>	22
June, 2008	27	<i>McCain</i>	53	<i>Obama</i>	20
April, 2008 ⁷	42	<i>McCain</i>	47	<i>Obama</i>	11
April, 2008	46	<i>McCain</i>	45	<i>Clinton</i>	9
March, 2008	38	<i>McCain</i>	50	<i>Obama</i>	12
March, 2008	46	<i>McCain</i>	42	<i>Clinton</i>	12
2004 Election					
November, 2004	48	<i>Bush</i>	27	<i>Kerry</i>	25
Mid-October, 2004	54	<i>Bush</i>	27	<i>Kerry</i>	19
Early October, 2004	61	<i>Bush</i>	27	<i>Kerry</i>	12
September, 2004	60	<i>Bush</i>	22	<i>Kerry</i>	18
August, 2004	44	<i>Bush</i>	37	<i>Kerry</i>	19
July, 2004	42	<i>Bush</i>	38	<i>Kerry</i>	20
June, 2004	51	<i>Bush</i>	35	<i>Kerry</i>	14

⁷ In March and April 2008, this question was asked both about John McCain/Barack Obama and John McCain/Hillary Clinton, and read: "Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election if it is between..."

Q.20/Q.21 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>		<u>Democrat</u>		
May, 2004	52	<i>Bush</i>	31	<i>Kerry</i>	17
Early February, 2004	56	<i>Bush</i>	32	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	12
Mid-January, 2004	61	<i>Bush</i>	21	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	18
September, 2003	47	<i>Bush</i>	34	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	19
June, 2003	66	<i>Bush</i>	22	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	12
2000 Election					
November, 2000	43	<i>Bush</i>	32	<i>Gore</i>	25
Late October, 2000	48	<i>Bush</i>	38	<i>Gore</i>	14
Early October, 2000	33	<i>Bush</i>	46	<i>Gore</i>	21
June, 2000	51	<i>Bush</i>	33	<i>Gore</i>	16
October, 1999	70	<i>Bush</i>	23	<i>Gore</i>	7
1996 Election					
Late September, 1996 ⁸	12	<i>Dole</i>	79	<i>Clinton</i>	9
Early September, 1996	16	<i>Dole</i>	75	<i>Clinton</i>	9
July, 1996	19	<i>Dole</i>	72	<i>Clinton</i>	9
1992 Election					
October, 1992	30	<i>Bush, Sr.</i>	61	<i>Clinton</i>	9
March, 1992	72	<i>Bush, Sr.</i>	20	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	8
February, 1992	66	<i>Bush, Sr.</i>	25	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	9
October, 1991	78	<i>Bush, Sr.</i>	11	<i>Dem Candidate</i>	11

ASK ALL:

Q.22 All in all, how would you rate the job news organizations have done in covering the presidential campaign so far: excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	13	36	27	18	5
2008 Election⁹					
Oct 17-20, 2008	14	38	24	22	2
Oct 10-13, 2008	11	42	24	21	2
May 30-Jun 2, 2008	9	34	34	20	3
Feb 8-11, 2008	11	44	27	17	1
Sep 28-Oct 1, 2007	6	35	32	21	6
2004 Election					
June, 2004	10	37	34	15	4
Early February, 2004	11	43	30	12	4
2000 Election					
June, 2000	7	41	38	10	4
March, 2000	10	46	32	9	3
February, 2000	13	50	25	7	5
1996 Election					
September, 1996	13	44	29	11	3
July, 1996	7	35	42	14	2
February, 1996	16	45	25	10	4
1992 Election					
September, 1992	12	45	27	11	5
May, 1992	10	44	33	10	3
March, 1992	12	51	28	6	3
February, 1992	11	45	32	7	5

⁸ In 1996 and October 1992, the question also asked about Ross Perot. Results here are included in the "Other/DK" category.

⁹ In 2008 and previous years, question asked about "the press."

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.23 Do you think the fact that the Republican primary contest has not yet been decided and is still going on is a good thing or a bad thing for the Republican Party?

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=538]:

Mar 7-11 2012		Feb 8-12 2012
47	Good thing	55
43	Bad thing	36
3	Neither/Still early (VOL.)	4
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.24 Just in general, how well do you think [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] understands the needs of people like you? Very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well? How about [NEXT ITEM]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

		Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.	Barack Obama Mar 7-11, 2012	29	29	16	25	2
b.	Mitt Romney Mar 7-11, 2012	12	32	23	27	7
c.	Rick Santorum Mar 7-11, 2012	14	30	19	28	9

NO QUESTIONS 25-26**RANDOMIZE Q.27 AND Q.28****ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):**

Q.27 In general, do you think [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] positions on the issues are too conservative, not conservative enough, or about right? And do you think [NEXT ITEM] positions on the issues are too conservative, not conservative enough, or about right?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

		Too <u>conservative</u>	Not conservative <u>enough</u>	About <u>right</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.	Mitt Romney's Mar 7-11, 2012	29	23	35	14
b.	Rick Santorum's Mar 7-11, 2012	40	15	33	13

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

		Too <u>conservative</u>	Not conservative <u>enough</u>	About <u>right</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	John McCain February, 2008	26	22	37	15

RANDOMIZE Q.27 AND Q.28**ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):**

Q.28 In general, do you think Barack Obama's positions on the issues are **[READ IN ORDER]**:

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1188]:

	Too <u>liberal</u>	Not liberal <u>enough</u>	About <u>right</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	41	12	42	5
February, 2008	33	7	48	12

ASK ALL:

Q.29 Do you happen to know if **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE]** is Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, atheist, agnostic, or some other religion? How about **[INSERT NEXT NAME]**? Is he Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, atheist, agnostic, or some other religion?

[INTERVIEWERS: IF R SAYS "MULTIPLE FAITHS/ALL OF THE ABOVE," RECORD AS "8-SOME OTHER RELIGION" AND RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE]

a. Mitt Romney

Mar 7-11

2012

2 Protestant
3 Catholic
48 Mormon
1 Jewish
* Muslim
* Atheist
* Agnostic
0 Some other religion
1 Christian (VOL.)
42 Don't know (VOL.)
1 Refused (VOL.)

Nov 9-14

2011

3
3
39
*
1
*
*
0
1
51
1

b. Rick Santorum

Mar 7-11

2012

9 Protestant
24 Catholic
3 Mormon
1 Jewish
* Muslim
* Atheist
* Agnostic
* Some other religion
4 Christian (VOL.)
58 Don't know (VOL.)
1 Refused (VOL.)

ASK Q.30a-b IMMEDIATELY AFTER ITEM IN Q.29a-b IF RESPONSE IS PROTESTANT/CATHOLIC/MORMON/CHRISTIAN OR OTHER (Q.29a=1,2,3,8,9 / Q.29b=1,2,3,8,9):

Q.30 And, do you happen to know if [INSERT NAME; OBSERVE FILTERS] is an evangelical or "born again" Christian, or not?

ASK IMMEDIATELY AFTER Q.29a IF PROTESTANT/CATHOLIC/MORMON/CHRISTIAN (Q.29a=1,2,3,8,9):

a. Mitt Romney

BASED ON TOTAL: BASED ON FILTER:

Mar 7-11	Mar 7-11	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2012</u>	
6	11	Yes, evangelical or "born again" Christian
22	41	No, not evangelical or "born again" Christian
27	49	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
45	--	<i>Don't know/Refused or Non-Christian religion in Q29a</i>

N 1503 949

ASK IMMEDIATELY AFTER Q.29b IF PROTESTANT/CATHOLIC/MORMON/CHRISTIAN (Q.29b=1,2,3,8,9):

b. Rick Santorum

BASED ON TOTAL: BASED ON FILTER:

Mar 7-11	Mar 7-11	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2012</u>	
14	35	Yes, evangelical or "born again" Christian
9	22	No, not evangelical or "born again" Christian
17	44	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
60	--	<i>Don't know/Refused or Non-Christian religion in Q29b</i>

N 1503 709

NO QUESTION 31

ASK ALL:

Thinking now about the nation's economy...

Q.32 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	1	9	38	51	1
Feb 8-12, 2012	1	10	46	43	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	2	9	42	47	1
Dec 7-11, 2011	*	8	38	53	1
Aug 17-21, 2011	1	6	37	56	1
Jun 15-19, 2011	*	8	45	46	1
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	1	7	38	53	1
Feb 2-7, 2011	1	11	45	42	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	1	8	44	45	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	1	7	38	54	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	1	7	43	48	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	1	8	48	43	1
Apr 21-26, 2010	*	11	39	49	1
Mar 10-14, 2010	1	6	39	53	1
Feb 3-9, 2010	1	7	38	53	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	1	7	41	50	1
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1

Q.32 CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Aug 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
Mar 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2
Late February, 2004 ¹⁰	2	29	42	26	1

ASK ALL:

Q.33 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	44	14	38	4
Feb 8-12, 2012	44	10	42	3
Jan 11-16, 2012	34	16	46	3
Dec 7-11, 2011	28	18	50	4
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	18	50	2
Jun 15-19, 2011	29	23	46	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	16	45	4
Apr 21-26, 2010	42	19	36	3
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	16	40	3
Dec 9-13, 2009	42	17	38	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	39	19	39	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	45	15	38	3
Aug 11-17, 2009	45	19	33	3
Jun 10-14, 2009	48	16	34	2
Mar 9-12, 2009	41	19	37	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	40	18	38	4

¹⁰

Earlier trends available from Gallup.

Q.33 CONTINUED...

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
December, 2008	43	17	36	4
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8
July, 2008	30	21	41	8
March, 2008	33	22	39	6
January, 2008	20	26	48	6
September, 2007	19	23	53	5
June, 2007	16	24	55	5
February, 2007	17	20	58	5
December, 2006	22	18	56	4
September, 2006	16	25	55	4
January, 2006	20	22	55	3
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3
January, 2005	27	18	52	3
August, 2004	36	9	47	8
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8
September, 2003	37	17	43	3
May, 2003	43	19	35	3
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7
January, 2003	30	20	44	6
January, 2002	44	17	36	3
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 2001	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4
May, 1990	18	31	45	6
February, 1989	25	22	49	4
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9
May, 1988	24	20	46	10
January, 1988	22	26	45	7
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 1984 (RVs)	35	13	49	3

ASK ALL:

Q.34 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	<u>The job situation</u>	<u>The federal budget deficit</u>	<u>Rising prices</u>	<u>Problems in the financial and housing markets</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other</u>	(VOL.) None/not worried <u>about any</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	24	22	11	2	1	2
Nov 9-14, 2011	47	22	13	12	2	1	2
Sep 1-4, 2011	43	22	17	11	4	2	2
Jul 20-24, 2011	39	29	15	11	3	1	2
May 25-30, 2011	38	28	20	10	2	*	2
Mar 8-14, 2011	34	24	28	10	3	*	1
Feb 2-7, 2011	44	19	23	10	1	1	3
Dec 1-5, 2010	47	19	15	14	1	1	3
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	49	19	15	12	2	1	2
Jun 3-6, 2010	41	23	16	13	3	1	2
Mar 10-14, 2010	45	22	17	11	2	*	2

NO QUESTIONS 35-37

ASK ALL:

Thinking about Afghanistan...

Q.38 How well is the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at <u>all well</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mar 7-11, 2012	13	38	25	16	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	10	45	26	11	8
Jun 15-19, 2011	10	43	28	12	7
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	7	43	29	15	7
Dec 1-5, 2010	8	39	28	15	10
Jul 8-11, 2010	9	40	31	9	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	8	40	32	13	7
Mar 10-14, 2010	9	43	22	13	13
Dec 9-13, 2009	7	39	32	11	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	4	32	41	16	6
Jan 7-11, 2009	7	38	34	11	10
February, 2008	10	38	31	10	11

ASK ALL:

Q.39 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Afghanistan until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should remove troops as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Afghanistan</u>	Remove <u>troops</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mar 7-11, 2012	35	57	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	38	56	6
Jun 15-19, 2011	39	56	4
May 5-8, 2011	43	49	8
May 2, 2011	47	48	4
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 ¹¹	44	50	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	44	47	8
Jul 8-11, 2010	47	42	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	53	40	6
Apr 15-May 5, 2010 (GAP)	48	45	7
Sep 10-15, 2009 (GAP)	50	43	7
June, 2009 (GAP)	57	38	5
Mid-Sept, 2008	61	33	6
April, 2008 (GAP)	50	44	6
Late Feb, 2008	61	32	7
May, 2007 (GAP)	50	42	7

NO QUESTIONS 40-41**ASK ALL:**Q.42 Thinking about the relationship between the United States and Israel. Is the U.S. **[RANDOMIZE: too supportive of Israel, not supportive enough of Israel]**, or is U.S. support of Israel about right?

Mar 7-11

2012

22	Too supportive of Israel
20	Not supportive enough
46	About right
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

¹¹ In surveys conducted March 30-April 3, 2011 and before, the question was worded "Do you think the U.S. and NATO should keep military troops in Afghanistan until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. and NATO should remove their troops as soon as possible?"

Next,

ASK ALL:

Q.43 As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each. First, would you favor or oppose the government **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**? Would you favor or oppose the government **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	65	31	4
	Nov 3-6, 2011	58	35	7
	Mar 17-20, 2011	57	37	6
	Oct 13-18, 2010	51	41	7
	Jun 16-20, 2010	44	52	4
	May 6-9, 2010	54	38	8
	Feb 3-9, 2010	63	31	6
	Apr 14-21, 2009	68	27	5
	September, 2008	67	28	5
b.	Increasing federal funding for research on wind, solar and hydrogen technology			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	69	26	5
	Nov 3-6, 2011	68	26	6
	Mar 17-20, 2011	74	21	5
	Oct 13-18, 2010	74	21	6
	Jun 16-20, 2010	75	21	3
	May 6-9, 2010	73	22	5
	Feb 3-9, 2010	78	17	5
	Apr 14-21, 2009	82	15	3
	September, 2008	82	14	4
	Late February, 2008	81	14	5
	February, 2006	82	14	4
c.	Promoting the increased use of nuclear power			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	44	49	7
	Nov 3-6, 2011	39	53	8
	Mar 17-20, 2011	39	52	8
	Oct 13-18, 2010	45	44	11
	Jun 16-20, 2010	47	47	6
	May 6-9, 2010	45	44	11
	Feb 3-9, 2010	52	41	7
	Apr 14-21, 2009	45	48	7
	September, 2008	50	43	7
	Late February, 2008	44	48	8
	February, 2006	44	49	7
	Mid-September, 2005	39	53	8
d.	Giving tax cuts to energy companies to do more exploration for oil and gas			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	46	50	4
	Late February, 2008 ¹²	42	53	5
	February, 2006	44	52	4
	Mid-September, 2005	52	44	4
e.	Requiring better fuel efficiency for cars, trucks and SUVs			
	Mar 7-11, 2012	78	19	3
	Oct 13-18, 2010	79	17	4
	September, 2008	88	10	2
	February, 2008	90	8	2

¹²

In late February and earlier the question asked only about oil exploration.

Q.43 CONTINUED...

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
February, 2006	86	12	2
Mid-September, 2005	86	12	2
f. Spending more on subway, rail and bus systems			
Mar 7-11, 2012	65	31	4
Mar 27-20, 2011	61	34	6
Oct 13-18, 2010	63	29	8
Jun 16-20, 2010	64	31	5
May 6-9, 2010	65	28	7
Feb 3-9, 2010	70	25	4
Apr 14-21, 2009	70	25	5
Late-February, 2008	72	23	5
February, 2006	68	26	6
Mid-September, 2005	68	27	5

ASK ALL:

Q.44 How much, if anything, have you heard about a drilling method called fracking that is used to extract natural gas from underground rock formations? Have you heard **[READ]**

Mar 7-11

2012

26 A lot
37 A little
37 Nothing at all
* Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.44=1,2):

Q.45 From what you've read and heard, do you favor or oppose fracking?

BASED ON TOTAL:		BASED ON HEARD A LOT/LITTLE:	
Mar 7-11	Mar 7-11		
<u>2012</u>	<u>2012</u>		
33	52	Favor	
22	35	Oppose	
8	13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	
37	--	Heard nothing/DK/Ref	
N 1503	1038		

NO QUESTIONS 46-54

Thinking about the political parties ...

ASK ALL:

Q.55 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders (First,) which party do you think is better described by the phrase... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE.]** Which party **[NEXT ITEM]**?

	<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>Democratic Party</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>Both equally</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>Neither</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
NO ITEM a.					
b. Can better manage the federal government					
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	42	1	9	9
Dec 7-11, 2011	35	41	3	13	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	38	2	14	7
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	41	39	2	8	9

Q.55 CONTINUED...

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>			
Oct 13-18, 2010	43	36	2	11	8
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	41	41	3	8	7
Jun 16-20, 2010	41	37	3	12	7
Feb 3-9, 2010	40	40	4	9	8
Aug 27-30, 2009	34	38	4	14	10
October, 2007	32	44	5	9	10
March, 2007	31	47	3	8	11
Early October, 2006	34	44	3	9	10
April, 2006 ¹³	35	39	3	15	8
January, 2006	34	40	4	12	10
Early October, 2005	35	41	3	13	8
July, 2004	37	40	4	9	10
Early September, 1998	37	32	8	12	11
August, 1997	39	33	4	16	8
July, 1996	45	32	4	12	7
April, 1995	49	30	3	13	5
July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5
May, 1993	36	32	2	17	13
July, 1992	30	36	1	23	10
May, 1990	28	20	12	31	9
May, 1988	33	30	10	17	10
January, 1988	30	28	12	20	10
May, 1987	24	25	13	28	10
c. Is more extreme in its positions					
Mar 7-11, 2012	50	35	5	1	9
Dec 7-11, 2011	53	33	4	1	9
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	50	38	3	1	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	50	35	4	2	9

ASK ALL:

Q.56 And which party could do a better job of **[INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Which party could do a better job of ITEM?]**

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>			
a. Improving the job situation					
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	44	3	6	9
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	42	42	3	6	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	39	39	5	7	9
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	39	10	6	6
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	31	8	13	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	39	41	6	8	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	37	8	9	10
September, 2006	29	47	6	5	13
March, 1998	30	51	7	5	7
October, 1994	37	42	6	7	8
b. Representing your views on abortion					
Mar 7-11, 2012	31	47	1	6	15
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	36	44	2	5	13
Aug 27-30, 2009	33	41	3	9	14
September, 2006	33	44	2	6	15
January, 1992 ¹⁴	29	39	--	11	21

¹³ In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Able to manage the federal government well."

Q.56 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 1990		30	40	--	12	18
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=766]:						
c.F1	Dealing with health care					
	Mar 7-11, 2012	35	49	1	7	8
	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	38	49	3	4	6
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	42	6	5	7
	Oct 13-18, 2010	32	39	5	11	13
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	36	46	5	7	6
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:						
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>						
	Feb 3-9, 2010	32	45	6	10	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	27	46	4	14	9
	February, 2008	26	56	3	8	7
	October, 2006	25	46	4	8	17
	September, 2006	24	48	5	10	13
	February, 2006	27	49	6	9	9
	Mid-September, 2005	28	51	4	10	7
	July, 2004	23	50	4	10	13
	Early July, 2003	31	38	6	10	15
<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>						
	January, 2002	20	45	--	6	29
	January, 2001	30	47	--	7	16
	January, 1999	25	46	--	7	22
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>						
	Early September, 1998	31	43	7	7	12
	March, 1998	25	53	6	8	8
	October, 1994	34	41	5	10	10
	July, 1994	34	48	2	8	8
<i>Reforming health care</i>						
	December, 1993	25	47	--	10	18
<i>Improving health care in the U.S.</i>						
	January, 1992	21	56	--	8	15
	May, 1990	20	50	--	16	14
d.F1	Dealing with the nation's energy problems					
	Mar 7-11, 2012	35	46	2	6	10
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	37	42	7	5	9
	Oct 13-18, 2010	28	38	8	11	15
	May 20-23, 2010	28	35	10	12	15
	Apr 21-26, 2010	32	40	8	9	12
	Feb 3-9, 2010	32	44	8	6	10
	Aug 27-30, 2009	25	47	7	9	12
	February, 2008	23	57	5	5	10
	September, 2006	27	47	4	7	15
	February, 2006	32	45	6	7	10
	Mid-September, 2005	31	44	6	8	11
	May, 2001	36	34	10	7	13
	October, 2006	28	44	5	6	17

¹⁴ In January 1992 and August 1990, the item was worded, "Which political party - the Republican Party or the Democratic party do you think could do a better job of: representing your views on abortion?"

Q.56 CONTINUED...

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:						
e.F2	Dealing with the federal budget deficit					
	Mar 7-11, 2012	42	41	2	7	7
	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	37	4	6	7
	Jul 22-24, 2011	43	37	5	6	8
	May 25-30, 2011 ¹⁵	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	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
f.F2	Dealing with the Medicare system					
	Mar 7-11, 2012	35	48	3	7	7
	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

NO QUESTION 57

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

- Q.58 In your opinion, should churches and other houses of worship **[RANDOMIZE: keep out of political matters; express their views on day-to-day social and political questions]** – or should they **[INSERT OTHER OPTION]**?

	Should <u>keep out</u>	Should <u>express views</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	54	40	6
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	52	43	5
August, 2008	52	45	3
July, 2006	46	51	3
July, 2005	44	51	5
August, 2004	44	51	5
Mid-July, 2003	44	52	4
March, 2001	43	51	6
September, 2000			
(RVs) ¹⁶	45	51	4
June, 1996	43	54	3
Gallup: February, 1968	53	40	7
Gallup: March, 1957	44	48	8

¹⁵ From February 2006 to May 2011 item read "Reducing the federal budget deficit;" and the experiment conducted in July 2011 showed no significant difference between the current wording and this wording. 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."

¹⁶ In 2000 and earlier, the question did not include "and other houses of worship."

ASK ALL:

Q.59 Do you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders? ¹⁷

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Jul 21- <u>Aug 5</u> <u>2010</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Jul</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Mid-Jul</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>Mar</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>Early Oct</u> <u>2001</u>
38	Too much	29	29	27	26	27	21	16	12
30	Too little	37	36	38	39	31	41	24	22
25	Right amount	24	28	26	27	32	29	53	60
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	10	7	9	8	10	9	7	6

ASK ALL:

Q.60 As I name some groups, please tell me whether you feel each one is generally FRIENDLY toward religion, NEUTRAL toward religion, or UNFRIENDLY toward religion. First, do you feel that **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** [is/are] generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you feel that [ITEM] is generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion?]**

	<u>Friendly</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfriendly</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The Democratic Party				
Mar 7-11, 2012	35	36	21	8
Nov 9-14, 2011	30	40	20	11
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	41	19	14
August 20-27, 2009	29	39	22	11
August, 2008	38	37	15	10
August, 2007	30	37	15	18
July, 2006	26	42	20	12
July, 2005	29	38	20	13
August, 2004	40	34	13	13
Mid-July, 2003	42	36	12	10
b. The Republican Party				
Mar 7-11, 2012	54	24	13	10
Nov 9-14, 2011	43	26	19	12
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	43	28	14	15
August 20-27, 2009	48	29	12	12
August, 2008	52	29	9	10
August, 2007	50	23	9	18
July, 2006	47	28	13	12
July, 2005	55	23	9	13
August, 2004	52	24	10	14
Mid-July, 2003	52	27	10	11
c. The Obama administration				
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	32	23	6
Aug 20-27, 2009	37	36	17	10
d. University professors				
Mar 7-11, 2012	14	37	32	17
July, 2003	18	40	26	16
e. News reporters and the news media				
Mar 7-11, 2012	19	38	35	8
August 20-27, 2009	14	42	35	9
July, 2003	16	41	34	9

¹⁷ In March 2002 the question was worded, "Since September 11th, has there been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?" In Early October 2001 the question was part of a series and began, "As I read from a list, tell me if you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of what I mention."

ASK ALL:

Q.61 Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree? Next **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree?]**

	-----AGREE-----			-----DISAGREE-----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comp- letely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comp- letely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	
a. Religious conservatives have too much control over the Republican Party							
Mar 7-11, 2012	51	21	30	40	13	27	9
August, 2008	48	17	31	41	11	30	11
August, 2007	43	15	28	41	10	31	16
July, 2005	45	14	31	43	11	32	12
Early September, 2004 (RVs) ¹⁸	43	17	26	48	18	30	9
b. Liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party							
Mar 7-11, 2012	41	12	28	49	19	30	10
August, 2008	43	14	29	45	13	32	12
August, 2007	37	13	24	47	14	33	16
July, 2005	44	12	32	42	11	31	14

NO QUESTIONS 62-63**RANDOMIZE Q.64-Q.67 AS A BLOCK WITH Q.68/Q.69 AS A BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Q.64 How much, if anything, have you read or heard about recent political violence in Syria? Have you heard...**[READ]**

Mar 7-11

2012

36	A lot
39	A little
25	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.65 Do you think the United States has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria between government forces and anti-government groups, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

	<u>U.S. has responsibility</u>	<u>U.S. doesn't have responsibility</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mar 7-11, 2012	25	64	11
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:			
Mar 10-13, 2011: <i>Fighting in Libya</i>	27	63	10
June, 2007: <i>Ethnic genocide in Darfur</i>	49	34	17
December, 2006: <i>Ethnic genocide in Darfur</i>	51	36	13
March, 1999: <i>Fighting between ethnic groups in Kosovo, a province of Serbia</i>	47	46	7
June, 1995: <i>Fighting between Serbs and Bosnians in what used to be Yugoslavia</i>	30	64	6

¹⁸

In 2004, asked as part of a list that began: "Here are some statements about the candidates and political parties.

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=766]:

Q.66F1 Would you favor or oppose the U.S. and its allies bombing Syrian military forces to protect anti-government groups in Syria?

Mar 7-11

2012

25 Favor
62 Oppose
13 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=737]:

Q.67F2 Would you favor or oppose the U.S. and its allies sending arms and military supplies to anti-government groups in Syria?

Mar 7-11

2012

29 Favor
63 Oppose
9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

Q.66F1 AND Q.67F2 TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Would you favor or oppose the United States and its allies doing each of the following with respect to Libya. (First,) [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Bombing Libyan air defenses Mar 10-13, 2011	16	77	7
	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Sending arms and military supplies to anti-government groups in Libya ¹⁹			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	25	66	9
Mar 10-13, 2011	23	69	8

RANDOMIZE Q.64-Q.67 AS A BLOCK WITH Q.68/Q.69 AS A BLOCK**ASK ALL:**

Q.68 How much, if anything, have you read or heard about the dispute over Iran's nuclear program?
Have you heard...[READ]?

Mar 7-11		Feb 8-12	Jan 11-16	Sep 30- Oct 4	Sep	Feb
<u>2012</u>		<u>2012</u>	<u>2012</u> ²⁰	<u>2009</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2006</u>
41	A lot	38	42	41	41	32
38	A little	39	41	41	44	46
21	Nothing at all	23	15	18	14	21
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	2	*	1	1

¹⁹ Not asked in a list Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011. For March 10-13, 2011 question was worded "sending arms and supplies to anti-government groups in Libya."

²⁰ In June 11-16, 2012, the question read: "...recent tensions between the U.S. and Iran over Iran's nuclear program and disputes in the Persian Gulf." In February 2006, question read: "The Iranian government recently said it will resume research on nuclear technology, despite opposition from other countries. How much, if anything, have you read or heard about this?"

ASK ALL:

Q.69 Which is your greater concern when it comes to dealing with Iran's nuclear program ... that we will take action TOO QUICKLY, or that we will wait TOO LONG?

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Nov <u>2007</u>	Sept <u>2006</u>	May <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>
34	Take action too quickly	35	35	34	34
54	Wait too long	52	51	53	53
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	13	14	13	13

NO QUESTIONS 70-71**ASK ALL:**

Next,

Q.72 Do you approve or disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u> ²¹	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>	Sep 9-12 <u>2010</u>	Aug 25- Sep 6 <u>2010</u>	Jul 8-11 <u>2010</u>	Apr 1-5 <u>2010</u>
47	Approve	41	43	38	44	35	40
45	Disapprove	48	47	45	46	47	44
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	10	17	10	17	16

ASK ALL:

Q.73 What, if anything, do you think Congress should do with the health care law? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Sep 22-Oct 4 <u>2011</u> ²²	Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>
33	Expand it	31	35	30
20	Leave it as is	22	20	22
38	Repeal it	38	37	40
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	9	8	8

ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.74F1 As you may know, by 2014 nearly all Americans will be required to have health insurance. People who do not buy insurance will pay a penalty while people who cannot afford it will receive financial help from the government. Do you approve or disapprove of this policy?

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.75F2 As you may know, by 2014 nearly all Americans will be required to have health insurance. People who cannot afford insurance will receive financial help from the government while people who do not buy it will pay a penalty. Do you approve or disapprove of this policy?

BASED ON TOTAL

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>	
41	Approve
56	Disapprove
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

²¹ In January 2011 the question asked about legislation passed "last year," and in November 2010 it read "earlier this year." In September, August and July the question asked about legislation passed "in March." In April, the question asked about the legislation passed "last month."

²² In October 2011, question did not follow the approval question and began: "Thinking about the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress last year..."

ASK ALL:

Q.76 Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE?]**

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Feb 22-Mar 1 <u>2011</u>
52	Developing alternative sources, such as wind, solar and hydrogen technology	63
39	Expanding exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas	29
5	Both should be given equal priority (VOL.)	6
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2

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			
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
Jan 11-16, 2012	22	31	42	3	*	2	17	16
Jan 4-8, 2012	26	31	35	4	*	4	14	14
Dec 7-11, 2011	23	33	38	3	*	2	12	17
Nov 9-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	1	2	16	15
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	23	33	38	2	1	3	18	16
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
Yearly Totals								
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
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	--	--	--	--	--

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?

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	19	29	48	2	2	
Feb 8-12, 2012	18	25	53	2	2	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	20	24	52	2	2	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	18	25	52	2	3	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	19	27	50	2	2	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	20	27	51	1	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	19	27	51	2	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	20	27	50	1	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	24	53	1	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	20	26	50	3	2	--
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 ²³	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

23

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 2010 through October 2010, 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 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."