

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
2011 MARCH POLITICAL TYPOLOGY SURVEY A
FINAL TOPLINE**

Survey B: March 8-14, 2011 N=1525

NO QUESTION 1

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.B2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	July, 2005	35	58	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	February, 2005	38	56	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	January, 2005	40	54	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	December, 2004	39	54	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	July, 2004	38	55	7
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	May, 2004	33	61	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	December, 2003	44	47	9
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	October, 2003	38	56	6
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	August, 2003	40	53	7
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	<i>April 8, 2003</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	January, 2003	44	50	6
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	November, 2002	41	48	11
Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	September, 2002	41	55	4
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	March, 2002	50	40	10
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	June, 2001	43	52	5
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
December, 2008	13	83	4	February, 2001	46	43	11
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	January, 2001	55	41	4
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
August, 2008	21	74	5	September, 2000	51	41	8
July, 2008	19	74	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
June, 2008	19	76	5	April, 2000	48	43	9
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	August, 1999	56	39	5
March, 2008	22	72	6	January, 1999	53	41	6
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	November, 1998	46	44	10
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
October, 2007	28	66	6	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
February, 2007	30	61	9	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	February, 1998	59	37	4
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	January, 1998	46	50	4
December, 2006	28	65	7	September, 1997	45	49	6
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	August, 1997	49	46	5
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	January, 1997	38	58	4
July, 2006	30	65	5	July, 1996	29	67	4
May, 2006*	29	65	6	March, 1996	28	70	2
March, 2006	32	63	5	October, 1995	23	73	4
January, 2006	34	61	5	June, 1995	25	73	2
Late November, 2005	34	59	7	April, 1995	23	74	3
				July, 1994	24	73	3
				March, 1994	24	71	5
				October, 1993	22	73	5

¹ In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

Q.B2 CONTINUED ...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
September, 1993	20	75	5	<i>Gallup: Late Feb, 1991</i>	66	31	3
May, 1993	22	71	7	August, 1990	47	48	5
January, 1993	39	50	11	May, 1990	41	54	5
January, 1992	28	68	4	January, 1989	45	50	5
November, 1991	34	61	5	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

NO QUESTIONS 3-13**Q.B14-Q.B15 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL SURVEY B:**

Q.B16 Which of the following national economic issues worries you most? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

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

NO QUESTIONS 18-19, 23-32, 39-46, 48-67, 69-70**Q.17, Q.B20-Q.B22, Q.33-Q.B38, Q.B47, Q.B68 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL SURVEY B:**

Q.B71 Considering what the president and Congress need to deal with, do you think reducing the budget deficit should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or does it not need to be addressed this year?

Mar 8-14 <u>2011</u>		Oct <u>2005</u>	Mar <u>2005</u>
53	Top priority	42	39
33	Important but lower priority	38	46
3	Not too important	6	6
7	Does not need to be addressed this year	10	5
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	4

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.B72 Would you favor or oppose [**INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE**] as a way to reduce the budget deficit?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Raising taxes			
Mar 8-14, 2011	30	67	3
October, 2005	26	70	4
March, 2005	31	66	3
b. Lowering defense and military spending			
Mar 8-14, 2011	49	47	4
October, 2005	36	58	6
March, 2005	35	60	5
c. Lowering domestic spending			
Mar 8-14, 2011	61	30	9
October, 2005	47	41	12
March, 2005	54	35	11
d. Changes to Social Security and Medicare			
Mar 8-14, 2011	30	65	4

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.B73 Who has the better approach to the budget deficit: [**RANDOMIZE: Barack Obama/the Republicans in Congress**], or is there not much difference?

	<u>Barack</u> <u>Obama</u>	<u>Republicans</u> <u>in Congress</u>	<u>Not much</u> <u>difference</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 8-14, 2011	20	21	52	7
Nov 4-7, 2010 ²	24	35	33	8

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	<u>President</u> <u>Clinton</u>	<u>Republicans</u> <u>in Congress</u>	<u>Not much</u> <u>difference</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
<i>NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996</i>	29	31	34	6
<i>NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996</i>	28	34	29	9
<i>NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995</i>	25	40	27	8
<i>NBC/WSJ: Sep 1995</i>	30	35	25	10
<i>NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995</i>	27	39	24	10
<i>NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995</i>	25	37	29	9
<i>NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)</i>	23	46	27	4

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.B74 If the government makes major cuts in federal spending this year in an effort to reduce the budget deficit, do you think these cuts will [**RANDOMIZE: help the job situation/hurt the job situation**], or not have much of an effect either way?

Mar 8-14			
<u>2011</u>			
18	Help		
34	Hurt		
41	Not much of an effect either way		
1	Mixed effect (VOL.)		
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)		

NO QUESTIONS 75-89**Q.B90-Q.B92 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

² In November 2010 the question asked about "President Obama" and was asked as part of a list.

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.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Mar 8-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	17	15
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
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	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
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?

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/DK
Mar 8- 14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ³	22	22	53	2	2	--

³ 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

TEAPARTY2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	(VOL.) <u>Haven't heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	<i>Not heard of/ DK</i>
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

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX
MARCH 10-13, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,001**

PEW.1-PEW.3 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**ASK ALL:**

PEW.4 As you may know, there has been a lot of discussion in Washington recently over the federal budget deficit and government spending. From what you've seen and heard, has the tone of the debate over the federal budget deficit been **[READ AND RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

*TREND FOR COMPARISON:
Debate over health care*

<u>Mar 10-13 2011</u>		<u>Sep 11-14 2009</u>
27	Generally polite and respectful [OR]	31
49	Generally rude and disrespectful	53
24	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	16

PEW.5-PEW.8 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

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."