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Multiple Causes Seen for Baltimore Unrest

*Most Say It Was the ‘Right Decision’
to Charge Police Officers*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THIS REPORT:**

Carroll Doherty, Director of Political Research

Alec Tyson, Senior Researcher

Rachel Weisel, Communications Associate

202.419.4372

www.pewresearch.org

Multiple Causes Seen for Baltimore Unrest

Most Say It Was the ‘Right Decision’ to Charge Police Officers

The public sees a number of contributing factors for the outbreak of violence and unrest in Baltimore last week.

About six-in-ten (61%) say that “some people taking advantage of the situation to engage in criminal behavior”

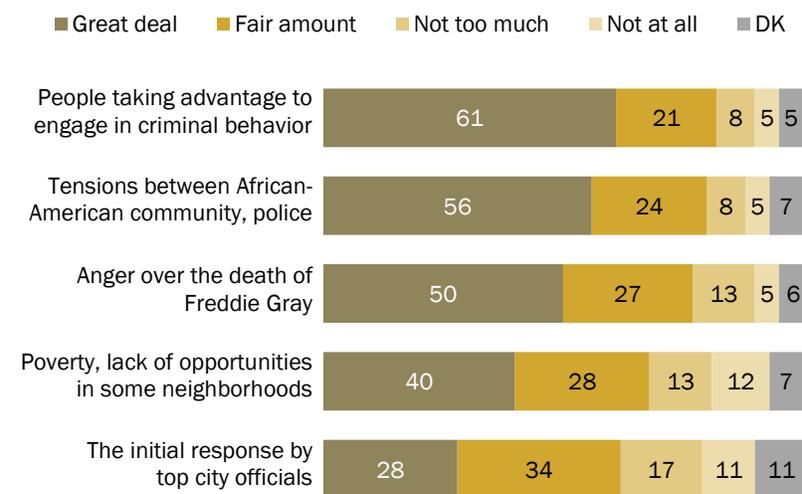
contributed a “great deal” to the unrest, while 56% say the same about tensions between the African-American community and the police.

However, majorities say all five factors mentioned in the survey – including anger over the death of Freddie Gray, poverty in some neighborhoods and the initial response by city officials – contributed at least a fair amount to the unrest.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted April 30-May 3 among 1,000 adults, finds relatively modest racial differences in opinions about the factors that contributed to the unrest in Baltimore.

Public Cites ‘People Taking Advantage,’ Tensions Between Blacks & Police as Top Factors for Unrest

% saying each contributed _____ to violence and unrest in Baltimore ...



Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015.

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Two-thirds of whites (66%) and 54% of blacks say that people taking advantage of the situation to commit crimes contributed a great deal to the unrest. Blacks are more likely than whites to say that poverty is a major cause: 50% of blacks say this contributed a great deal to the turmoil, compared with 39% of whites.

The survey finds that majorities of both whites and blacks say Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby made the right decision in bringing criminal charges against some Baltimore police officers, including a charge of second-degree murder against one of the officers.

Overall, 65% say the decision by the state's attorney to charge the officers was right, while 16% see it as the wrong decision; 18% do not offer an opinion. The question was asked May 1-3 among 798 adults. (Mosby announced the charges on May 1.)

Nearly eight-in-ten blacks (78%) and 60% of whites say the decision to bring charges was right. There are sharp partisan differences in these views: 75% of Democrats, 71% of independents and 45% of Republicans express positive views of the decision to charge the six officers.

More Blacks than Whites Say Poverty Contributed a 'Great Deal' to Unrest

% saying each contributed a 'great deal' to violence and unrest in Baltimore ...

	Total %	White %	Black %	W-B diff
People taking advantage to engage in criminal behavior	61	66	54	+12
Initial response by top city officials	28	28	33	-5
Anger over death of Freddie Gray	50	53	59	-6
Tensions between black community, police	56	56	65	-9
Poverty, lack of opportunity in neighborhoods	40	39	50	-11

Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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Majority Says It Was 'Right Decision' to Charge Baltimore Police Officers

% saying it was _____ to bring criminal charges against Baltimore police officers in death of Freddie Gray

	Wrong decision	Right decision	DK
Total	16	65	18
White	21	60	19
Black	7	78	16
Republican	33	45	22
Democrat	12	75	14
Independent	14	71	16

Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Question on the decision was added after first night of interviewing and ran May 1-3, 2015, N=798. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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While the public generally supports the decision to charge the police officers, most Americans do not have a great deal of confidence into the ongoing investigations into Gray's death.

Just 13% say they have a great deal of confidence into the investigations while 35% say they have a fair amount of confidence. About four-in-ten (44%) have little or no confidence in the investigations. However, the share expressing confidence in the investigations rose during the latter part of the survey period: 40% expressed a great deal or fair amount of confidence on April 30, while 50% expressed at least a fair amount of confidence from May 1-3, after the charges were announced.

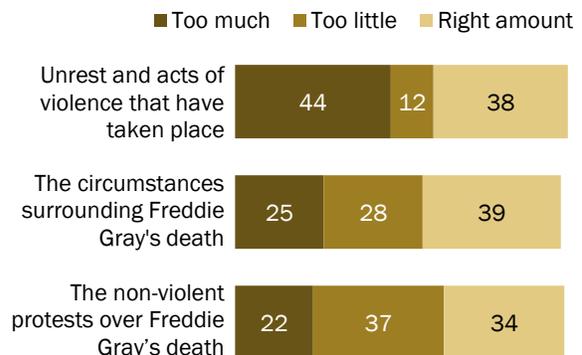
The survey finds that, in a busy news week, the events in Baltimore were the public's most closely followed story. A third (33%) followed the unrest in Baltimore very closely, while 22% tracked news about the aftermath of the Nepal earthquake very closely. About one-in-five followed news about the economy (20%), the Supreme Court arguments on same-sex marriage (18%) and the 2016 presidential candidates (16%).

The public gives mixed ratings to news organizations' coverage of developments in Baltimore: 44% say the coverage was excellent or good; 48% say it was only fair or poor.

When asked about the amount of news coverage of specific events in Baltimore, 44% say news organizations devoted too much coverage to unrest and acts of violence after Gray's death; just 12% say they gave too little coverage to the unrest, while 38% say news organizations gave the right amount of coverage.

44% See 'Too Much' Coverage of Unrest; 22% Say Same About Peaceful Protests

In Baltimore, % saying news organizations have given _____ coverage of ...



Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015.

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What Factors Contributed to Unrest in Baltimore?

There are significant differences between Republicans and Democrats in their views of the factors behind the unrest in Baltimore.

About three-quarters of Republicans (76%) say that some people taking advantage of the situation to engage in criminal behavior contributed a great deal to the violence and unrest in Baltimore. For Republicans, no other factor comes close. Half (50%) say tensions between the police and black community contributed a great deal to the turmoil, and 48% say the same about anger over the death of Freddie Gray.

By contrast, majorities of Democrats say that tensions between the police and African-American community (63%), anger over the death of Freddie Gray (58%) and people taking advantage of the situation to commit crimes (54%) contributed a great deal to the unrest in Baltimore.

While nearly half of Democrats (48%) say poverty and lack of opportunities in some neighborhoods contributed a great deal to the unrest, just 30% of Republicans agree. Liberal Democrats are about twice as likely as conservative Republicans to say poverty in some neighborhoods contributed a great deal to the unrest (61% vs. 31%).

Partisan Differences in Views of Factors Behind Unrest in Baltimore

% saying each contributed a 'great deal' to violence and unrest in Baltimore ...

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	R-D diff
People taking advantage to engage in criminal behavior	61	76	54	61	+22
Initial response by top city officials	28	34	26	28	+8
Anger over death of Freddie Gray	50	48	58	47	-10
Tensions between black community, police	56	50	63	54	-13
Poverty, lack of opportunity in neighborhoods	40	30	48	38	-18

Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015.

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Views of Charging Police Officers: Baltimore, New York, Ferguson

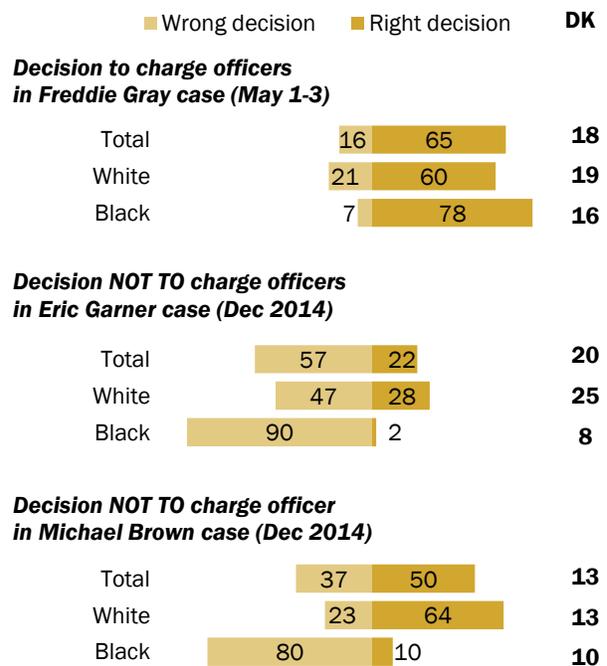
The new survey finds 65% saying it was the right decision to bring charges against the Baltimore police officers involved in the Freddie Gray case, while just 16% call it the wrong decision. Majorities of blacks (78%) and whites (60%) call it the right decision, though this view is more widely held among blacks than whites.

[A December 2014 survey](#) found that 57% of Americans said it was the wrong decision not to charge New York City police officers in the choking death of Eric Garner; far fewer (22%) said this was the right decision. Blacks overwhelmingly said the decision was wrong, by a 90%-2% margin. On balance, whites also said the decision was wrong by a 47%-28% margin.

In the same survey, 50% of the public said the grand jury made the right decision not to charge police officer Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown, compared with 37% who called this the wrong decision. There were much wider racial differences in reactions to that outcome: 80% of blacks said it was the wrong decision not to charge Officer Wilson in Michael Brown's death, while just 10% said it was the right decision. By contrast, most whites (64%) thought the grand jury made the right decision, compared with 23% who called it the wrong decision.

Views of Baltimore Police Charges and Prior Cases in NY, Ferguson, MO

% saying each was ...



Survey conducted May 1 - May 3, 2015.

Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic.

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Views of News Coverage of Unrest in Baltimore

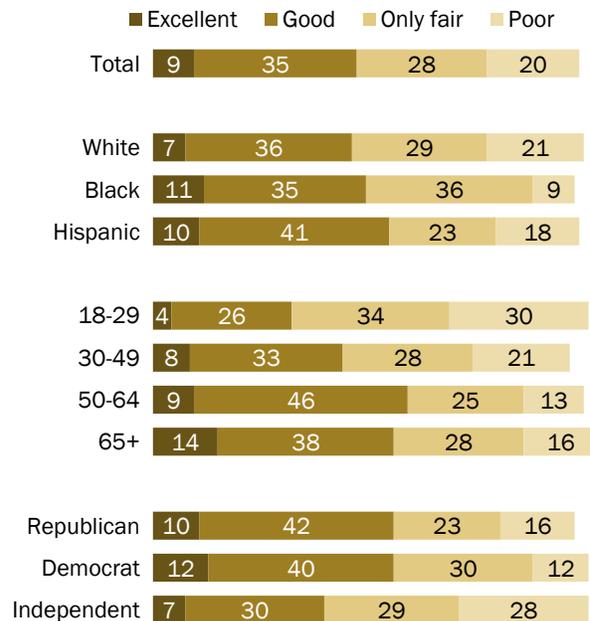
The public gives mixed ratings for how news organizations covered the events in Baltimore. About half rate the coverage as “only fair” (28%) or “poor” (20%), while roughly as many rate it “excellent” (9%) or “good” (35%). Whites, blacks and Hispanics give generally similar ratings.

People under 30 rate the news organizations’ coverage the most negatively. Three-in-ten (30%) say that news organizations did a poor job and another 34% say it was only fair. Just 30% say the press did an excellent or good job covering events in Baltimore. By contrast, adults 50 and older are more likely to say the press did an excellent or good job (54%) than a fair or poor one (40%).

Republicans and Democrats both rate the coverage somewhat positively, on balance, but independents are decidedly critical. About half of Republicans and Democrats (52% each) say the coverage was excellent or good, while about four-in-ten say it was fair or poor. Among independents, 37% rate the press’s performance on this story positively, compared with a 57% majority saying it has been only fair (29%) or poor (28%).

Young Adults Most Critical of Baltimore News Coverage

How would you rate the job news organizations have done covering the events in Baltimore? (%)



Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Don't know responses not shown.

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Opinions vary regarding the amount of coverage of certain aspects of the Baltimore events.

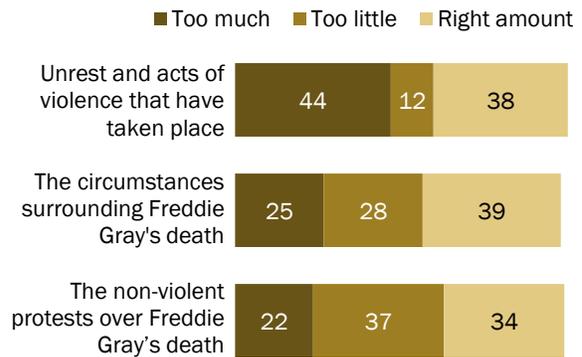
Many more say the news organizations gave too much coverage to the unrest and violence than too little coverage (44% vs. 12%), but 38% say it was the right amount. Roughly equal shares think the press gave too much (25%) as too little (28%) coverage to the circumstances surrounding Gray's death; a 39% plurality thinks it was the right amount. When it comes to the non-violent protests, more believe that news organizations have given too little (37%) than too much (22%) coverage.

A large share of adults 18-29 think the news organizations have covered the non-violent protests too little (56%) and just 13% think there has been too much coverage of them. On the other hand, most adults 65 and older think coverage of the non-violence has been the right amount (39%) or too much (34%); just 17% think there was too little coverage of that aspect of the events.

About four-in-ten independents (42%) and Democrats (40%) say the news organizations have given too little coverage to the non-violent protests; fewer Republicans (23%) think that there was not enough coverage of them.

Divided Views of Amount of Coverage of Unrest, Gray's Death, Protests

In Baltimore, % saying news organizations have given _____ coverage of ...



Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Don't know responses not shown.

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Young People Say Press Gave Too Little Coverage to Non-Violent Protests

% saying news organizations have given _____ coverage to non-violent protests after Freddie Gray's death

	Too much %	Too little %	Right amount %	DK %
Total	22	37	34	8=100
White	26	38	30	7=100
Black	15	38	43	4=100
Hispanic	16	29	45	11=100
18-29	13	56	24	7=100
30-49	15	41	36	8=100
50-64	28	31	35	6=100
65+	34	17	39	10=100
Republican	30	23	38	9=100
Democrat	18	40	38	5=100
Independent	23	42	28	7=100

Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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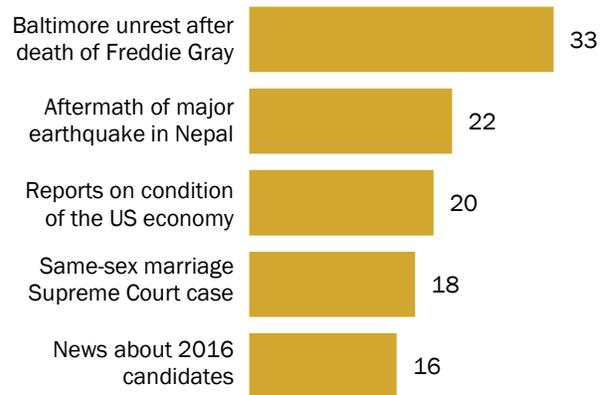
The Week's News

The unrest following the death of Freddie Gray was the top story last week, with a third of the public (33%) saying they followed developments in Baltimore “very closely.” Smaller shares followed news about the aftermath of the earthquake in Nepal (22%) and reports on the condition of the U.S. economy (20%) very closely. Similar shares tracked news about the Supreme Court hearing a case on same-sex marriage (18%) and the candidates for the 2016 presidential election (16%).

Half of blacks (50%) followed news on the aftermath of Freddie Gray’s death very closely, compared with 32% of whites and 22% of Hispanics. Last August, 54% of blacks and 25% of whites paid very close attention to news about Michael Brown’s death in Ferguson, MO.

More Paying Attention to Baltimore Unrest Than Nepal, Supreme Court

% following each story ‘very closely’



Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015.

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Racial Differences in Interest in Freddie Gray, Michael Brown Cases

% following each story ‘very closely’

	Michael Brown's death Aug 14-17 2014	Freddie Gray's death Apr 30- May 3 2015
	%	%
Total	27	33
White	25	32
Black	54	50
Hispanic	18	22

Survey conducted April 30-May 3, 2015. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted April 30-May 3, 2015 among a national sample of 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in the continental United States (500 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 500 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 285 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see

<http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and region to parameters from the 2013 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2014 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,000	3.6 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015*	798	4.0 percentage points
Republican	210	7.8 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	158	9.0 percentage points
Democrat	321	6.3 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	254	7.1 percentage points
Independent	368	5.9 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	307	6.4 percentage points
White, non-Hispanic	682	4.3 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	528	4.9 percentage points
Black, non-Hispanic	117	10.4 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	98	11.4 percentage points
Hispanic	124	10.1 percentage points
May 1-May 3, 2015	109	10.8 percentage points

*PEW.9 was asked May 1-May 3, 2015.

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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April 30-May 3, 2015 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,000

ASK ALL:

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

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
April 30-May 3, 2015	20	28	25	26	1
March 5-8, 2015	24	31	16	29	1
February 5-8, 2015	24	32	19	23	2
January 22-25, 2015	26	30	18	24	2
January 8-11, 2015	24	35	17	24	1
December 4-7, 2014	28	31	20	19	1
November 6-9, 2014	31	35	21	12	2
October 16-19, 2014	26	33	22	18	1
September 25-28, 2014	25	33	22	19	1
July 31-August 3, 2014	27	29	23	21	1
June 5-8, 2014	26	28	20	24	1
March 20-23, 2014	30	34	18	17	2
March 6-9, 2014	27	31	19	22	1
February 27-March 2, 2014	27	32	16	24	1
February 6-9, 2014	28	29	20	22	1
January 30-February 2, 2014	29	31	17	23	*
January 9-12, 2014	28	29	19	23	1
January 2-5, 2014	29	31	17	22	1
<u>SEE TREND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2015/01/NII-Economy-trend.pdf</u>					
b. News about candidates for the 2016 presidential election					
April 30-May 3, 2015	16	25	23	34	1
<u>SEE TRENDS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS: http://www.people-press.org/files/2015/05/NII-Election-trend.pdf</u>					
c. Unrest in Baltimore following the death of African-American man Freddie Gray					
April 30-May 3, 2015	33	32	18	15	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
March 5-8, 2015: <i>The Justice Department's report on race and policing in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	21	25	15	38	1
December 4-7, 2014: <i>Reactions following a grand jury decision not to charge a police officer in the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	41	31	14	14	1
November 20-23, 2014: <i>Developments in Ferguson, Missouri in the shooting death of Michael Brown</i>	25	29	20	25	2
August 14-17, 2014: <i>The police shooting of an African American teen and protests in Ferguson, Missouri</i>	27	30	18	23	2

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July 11-14, 2013: <i>The trial of George Zimmerman for the shooting death of Florida teen Trayvon Martin</i>	26	28	24	21	1
June 27-30, 2013	22	29	23	25	1
June 13-16, 2013	15	26	24	35	1
April 26-29, 2012: <i>Developments in the case against George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin</i>	24	28	22	25	1
April 20-22, 2012	27	29	21	21	1
April 12-15, 2012: <i>George Zimmerman being charged with second-degree murder in the death of Trayvon Martin</i>	35	31	16	17	1
April 5-8, 2012: <i>Controversy over the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an African American teen in Florida</i>	34	30	18	18	*
March 29-April 1, 2012	30	35	15	20	*
March 22-25, 2012	35	24	15	26	1
July 31-August 3, 2009: <i>Reports about the arrest of Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates and President Obama's response to the incident</i>	25	26	22	25	2
July 24-27, 2009: <i>The arrest of Henry Louis Gates, a black Harvard professor, at his home after a dispute with a police officer</i>	30	31	17	21	1
April 25-28, 2008: <i>The acquittal of three New York City police officers in the shooting of an unarmed man on his wedding day</i>	13	24	24	38	1
September 21-24, 2007: <i>Demonstrations in Jena, Louisiana, about six black teenagers involved in a schoolyard fight</i>	18	27	25	30	*
April 2001: <i>Rioting in Cincinnati after an unarmed black man was shot by police</i>	24	32	23	20	1
July 2000: <i>The video showing Philadelphia police kicking and beating a carjacking suspect</i>	22	32	22	23	1
March 2000: <i>The acquittal of four New York policemen who shot and killed Amadou Diallo, an African immigrant</i>	28	35	20	17	0
February 1999: <i>The Texas murder trial of a man accused of dragging a black man behind a pickup truck</i>	24	41	20	14	1
May 1993: <i>The Rodney King trial and verdict in Los Angeles</i>	47	34	13	6	*
May 1992: <i>The verdict in the Rodney King case and the riots and disturbances that followed</i>	70	22	5	2	1
March 1991: <i>The videotaped beating by Los Angeles police of a suspect they apprehended in an auto chase</i>	46	30	13	10	1

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
d. The Supreme Court hearing a case about same-sex marriage					
April 30-May 3, 2015	18	22	24	35	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
June 27-30, 2013: <i>The Supreme Court decisions on same-sex marriage</i>	30	31	20	19	*
June 20-23, 2013: <i>Recent Supreme Court rulings and cases before the court</i>	13	21	25	40	1
March 28-31, 2013: <i>The Supreme Court hearing cases about same-sex marriage</i>	22	29	22	26	1
Feb 9-12, 2012: <i>A federal appeals court ruling that California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional</i>	16	23	24	37	1
Feb 24-27, 2011: <i>Recent developments in the debate over gay marriage</i>	19	26	20	34	1
May 29-June 1, 2009: <i>The California Supreme Court upholding a ban on gay marriage</i>	22	35	19	23	1
Nov 7-10, 2008: <i>California voting to ban gay marriage</i>	18	26	24	32	*
June 20-23, 2008: <i>Same sex marriage in CA</i>	22	26	25	27	*
May 16-19, 2008: <i>The California Supreme Court's decision giving same sex couples the right to marry</i>	19	27	25	28	1
e. The aftermath of a major earthquake in Nepal					
April 30-May 3, 2015	22	32	25	20	1
TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:					
November 14-17, 2013: <i>The aftermath of a major typhoon in the Philippines</i>	32	35	18	14	*
April 14-17, 2011: <i>The aftermath of a major earthquake and tsunami in Japan</i>	38	37	16	8	*
April 7-10, 2011	46	37	11	5	1
March 31-April 3, 2011	50	35	9	5	*
March 24-27, 2011	50	35	12	3	*
March 17-20, 2011	55	31	9	4	*
March 11-13, 2011: <i>A major earthquake and tsunami off the coast of Japan¹</i>	52	29	12	7	*
February 24-27, 2011: <i>A major earthquake in New Zealand</i>	20	30	26	23	1
October 28-November 1, 2010: <i>A tsunami and a volcano erupting in Indonesia</i>	11	25	27	36	1
March 12-15, 2010: <i>Major aftershocks in Chile following an earthquake in late February</i>	18	41	27	14	*
March 5-8, 2010: <i>A major earthquake in Chile</i>	27	42	19	12	*
February 12-15, 2010: <i>The aftermath of a major earthquake and relief efforts in Haiti</i>	37	37	17	8	*
February 5-8, 2010	42	39	13	6	*

¹ This item was added to polling on the second day of the field period. Data were collected March 11-13, 2011. N=671.

PEW.1 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January 29-February 1, 2010	45	38	13	4	*
January 22-25, 2010	50	40	8	3	*
January 15-18, 2010: <i>A major earthquake in Haiti</i>	60	28	8	4	*
August 14-17, 2009: <i>A typhoon that caused flooding and mudslides in Taiwan</i>	7	21	30	41	1
April 9-13, 2009: <i>A major earthquake in Italy</i>	18	35	25	22	*
May 16-19, 2008: <i>The earthquake in China</i>	30	41	17	12	*
May 9-12, 2008: <i>Reports about the cyclone that hit Burma</i>	23	35	23	19	*
November 2-5, 2007: <i>The impact of Hurricane Noel on the Bahamas and Cuba</i>	11	22	31	35	1
September 7-10, 2007: <i>The impact of Hurricanes Felix and Henriette on Mexico and Central America</i>	14	29	29	27	1
August 24-27, 2007: <i>The destruction caused by Hurricane Dean in Mexico and the Caribbean</i>	18	39	24	18	1
October, 2005: <i>The earthquake in Pakistan</i>	22	39	23	16	*
January, 2005: <i>The earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean</i>	58	32	7	3	*
January, 2004: <i>The earthquake in Iran</i>	16	34	31	19	*
February, 2001: <i>The earthquake in India</i>	15	33	31	20	1
March, 2000: <i>Flood rescue efforts in Mozambique</i>	10	26	30	34	*
September, 1999: <i>The earthquake in Turkey</i>	27	37	23	12	1
November, 1998: <i>Hurricane Mitch and the rain and mudslides in Central America</i>	36	36	16	11	1
February, 1995: <i>The earthquake in Japan</i>	25	47	20	8	*
May, 1991: <i>The cyclone that devastated Bangladesh</i>	23	36	23	17	1
July, 1990: <i>The earthquake in Iran</i>	20	36	28	16	*

NO QUESTION PEW.2

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 How much confidence do you have in the investigations into the death of Freddie Gray, who died after his arrest by Baltimore police—a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

13	A great deal of confidence
35	A fair amount of confidence
27	Not too much confidence
17	No confidence at all
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

How much confidence do you have in the investigations of the police shooting in Ferguson, Missouri—a great deal of confidence, a fair amount of confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all?

Aug 14-17

2014

12	A great deal of confidence
33	A fair amount of confidence
24	Not too much confidence
17	No confidence at all
14	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTION PEW.4**ASK ALL:**

PEW.5 In general, how would you rate the job news organizations have done covering the events in Baltimore? Have news organizations done an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job covering the events in Baltimore?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

9	Excellent
35	Good
28	Only fair
20	Poor
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

PEW.6 Thinking about some specific aspects of the events in Baltimore, do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage, too little coverage or the right amount of coverage to each of the following?
[READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The circumstances surrounding the death of Freddie Gray April 30-May 3, 2015	25	28	39	9
b. Unrest and acts of violence that have taken place April 30-May 3, 2015	44	12	38	6

PEW.6 CONTINUED...

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c. The non-violent protests over Freddie Gray's death April 30-May 3, 2015	22	37	34	8

NO QUESTION PEW.7**ASK ALL:**

PEW.8 How much, if at all, do you think each of the following contributed to the violence and unrest in Baltimore? First, do you think **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** contributed a great deal, some, not too much, or not at all to the violence and unrest in Baltimore? How about, **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY "Do you think [ITEM] contributed a great deal, some, not too much or not at all to the violence and unrest in Baltimore?"]**

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>A fair amount</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Anger over the death of Freddie Gray after his arrest by police April 30-May 3, 2015	50	27	13	5	6
b. Some people taking advantage of the situation to engage in criminal behavior April 30-May 3, 2015	61	21	8	5	5
c. Tensions between the African-American community and the police April 30-May 3, 2015	56	24	8	5	7
d. The initial response by top city officials April 30-May 3, 2015	28	34	17	11	11
e. Poverty and lack of opportunities in some neighborhoods April 30-May 3, 2015	40	28	13	12	7

ASK ALL MAY 1-3 ONLY [N=798]:

PEW.9 As you may know, some Baltimore police officers are facing criminal charges in the death of Freddie Gray, including one who has been charged with second-degree murder. All things considered, do you think the state attorney made the right decision or the wrong decision in bringing these charges?

Apr 30-May 3

2015

65 Right decision
 16 Wrong decision
 18 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

All things considered, do you think the grand jury made the right decision or the wrong decision not to charge Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown?

(U)
 Dec 3-7
2014
 50 Right decision
 37 Wrong decision
 13 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

All things considered, do you think the grand jury made the right decision or the wrong decision not to charge a police officer in the death of Eric Garner?

(U)
 Dec 4-7
2014
 22 Right decision
 57 Wrong decision
 20 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.)	(VOL.)		(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
		No	Other		DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
		preference	party				
April 30-May 3, 2015	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>				
	19	31	39	7	*	3	13
						13	18

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls