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Cain Gaining Ground in GOP Primary

Obama Motivates Supporters, Opponents in Early 2012 Matchups

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut

President, Pew Research Center

Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock

Associate Directors

Scott Keeter

Director of Survey Research

1615 L St, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel (202) 419-4350

Fax (202) 419-4399

www.people-press.org

Cain Gaining Ground in GOP Primary

Obama Motivates Supporters, Opponents in Early 2012 Matchups

Barack Obama is a leading driver of voter preferences in possible 2012 matchups, among both his supporters and opponents. Currently, Obama is running a close race in hypothetical matchups against Mitt Romney and Rick Perry. Against both GOP candidates, most of Obama's supporters view their vote as a vote for the president, while most of those who plan to vote for Romney or Perry see their vote as a vote against Obama.

Given a choice between Obama and Romney, 48% of registered voters say they would vote for Romney or lean toward Romney, while an identical percentage supports Obama or leans toward Obama. Most Obama supporters – 33% of all voters – say they consider their vote as a vote for the president, rather than as a vote against Romney. Conversely, far more Romney supporters say they view their vote as a vote against Obama rather than a vote for Romney. The pattern is similar in a possible Obama-Perry matchup.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Sept. 22-Oct. 4 among 2,410 adults, including 1,901 registered voters, finds that Romney holds a sizable advantage over Obama among political independents. Fully 54% of independent voters say that in an Obama-Romney matchup they would vote for Romney or lean toward Romney. Fewer independents (41%) say they would vote for Obama. Democrats overwhelmingly support Obama while Republicans favor Romney

Most See 2012 Vote as Either For or Against Obama

Hypothetical 2012 Matchups

	%		%
Obama	48	Obama	50
For Obama	33	For Obama	34
Against Romney	11	Against Perry	15
Romney	48	Perry	46
For Romney	15	For Perry	12
Against Obama	33	Against Obama	31
Other/DK	5	Other/DK	5
	100		100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011.
Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Obama Trails Romney among Independents

	Obama	Romney	Other/ DK	Obama	Perry	Other/ DK
	%	%	%	%	%	%
All voters	48	48	5=100	50	46	5=100
Republican	7	91	2=100	9	88	2=100
Democrat	88	10	2=100	88	10	2=100
Independent	41	54	4=100	45	48	5=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q35/35a, Q36/36a.
Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

by as large a margin. However, as has been the case in recent years, Democrats hold a wide lead in party affiliation: In the current survey, 35% of registered voters affiliate with the Democratic Party while 27% affiliate with the GOP and 34% are independents. As a result, despite Romney's lead among independents, overall voter preferences are even (48% Romney vs. 48% Obama). (For a comprehensive breakdown of voter preferences in these matchups, see the table on pg. 9.)

It is not unusual in the early stages of a presidential reelection campaign for the focus to be on the incumbent. In February 2004, most of George W. Bush's supporters (39% of all voters) said they considered their vote as a vote for Bush, while most supporters of John Kerry (30% of all voters) said they viewed their vote as a vote against Bush. There was a similar pattern in early matchups involving Bill Clinton in his reelection bid in 1996 and George H. W. Bush in 1992.

Incumbents Typically Are Focal Point for Support, Opposition

March, 1992		March, 1996		Feb, 2004		Sept, 2011	
H. W. Bush	50	Clinton	53	W. Bush	47	Obama	48
For Bush	33	For Clinton	30	For Bush	39	For Obama	33
Against Clinton	15	Against Dole	20	Against Kerry	6	Against Romney	11
Clinton	43	Dole	41	Kerry	47	Romney	48
For Clinton	13	For Dole	15	For Kerry	15	For Romney	15
Against Bush	28	Against Clinton	25	Against Bush	30	Against Obama	33
Don't know	<u>7</u>	Don't know	<u>6</u>	Don't know	<u>6</u>	Don't know	<u>5</u>
	100		100		100		100
<i>NET: Voting for/against incumbent</i>	<i>61</i>		<i>55</i>		<i>69</i>		<i>66</i>

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q35-Q38. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Shifting GOP Primary Preferences

Romney continues to hold a slim lead for the Republican Party's presidential nomination, with the backing of 22% of Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. But three other candidates are in double digits – Perry at 17%, Herman Cain at 13%, and Ron Paul at 12%. Among the most attentive Republican voters – those who have given “a lot of thought” to the election – the current race is virtually a dead heat between Romney (23%), Perry (19%) and Cain (20%).

With interviewing conducted continually from Sept. 22 to Oct. 4, the survey provides a track of Perry's declining support, and Cain's growing support. In interviews conducted Sept. 22-25, Perry led Cain by a 23% to 8% margin. In later interviews conducted Oct. 1-4, Perry's support had fallen eight points, while Cain's support was up ten points.

Meanwhile, there were no significant shifts in support for any of the other announced candidates. Republican voters who agree with the Tea Party are particularly supportive of Cain's candidacy – 23% back him compared with just 6% of Republicans who do not identify with the Tea Party. By contrast, Romney receives more backing from non-Tea Party Republicans (25%) than Tea Party Republicans (17%).

Cain's Support Grows, Perry's Falls, Romney's Remains Steady

	Total Sept 22- Oct 4	Sept 22-25	Sept 26-30	Oct 1-4
<i>Based on Rep and Rep-leaning RVs</i>	%	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	22	25	20	22
Rick Perry	17	23	14	15
Herman Cain	13	8	14	18
Ron Paul	12	13	10	13
Newt Gingrich	8	7	9	7
Michele Bachmann	6	6	7	5
Rick Santorum	2	2	2	2
Jon Huntsman	1	1	2	1
Other	1	*	2	1
None/DK	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100
N	876	295	337	244

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q27 & Q28.
Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered
voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

There are substantial regional differences in support levels for the GOP candidates. Perry retains significant support in the Midwest, South and West, but has very little backing from Republican and Republican-leaning voters in the Northeast, where Romney performs well. Cain has broader appeal in the South than in other regions.

Cain Appeals to GOP Tea Party Supporters

<i>Who would you most like to see nominated as GOP candidate?</i>	All Rep/Lean R	<i>Tea Party</i>		<i>Thought given</i>	
		Yes	No	A lot	Less
	%	%	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	22	17	25	23	22
Rick Perry	17	18	17	19	15
Herman Cain	13	23	6	20	9
Ron Paul	12	13	11	11	13
Newt Gingrich	8	9	7	8	7
Michele Bachmann	6	7	6	3	8
Rick Santorum	2	3	2	2	2
Jon Huntsman	1	1	2	2	1
Other	1	1	1	1	1
None/DK	<u>17</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100	100	100	100
N	876	408	455	380	489

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q27 & Q28. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Paul's overall standing in the nomination contest is boosted by his broad appeal among younger GOP voters and men. He has the support of 18% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters under 40, compared with 11% among those 40 to 64 and just 5% among those age 65 and older. He also garners twice as much support among men (16%) as among women (7%).

Gender, Age and Regional Differences in Early GOP Preferences

<i>Who would you most like to see nominated as GOP candidate?</i>	All Rep/ Lean R	Men	Women	18-39	40-64	65+	North- east	Mid- west	South	West
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Mitt Romney	22	19	25	21	22	25	25	25	16	28
Rick Perry	17	18	16	16	19	15	8	22	18	18
Herman Cain	13	15	11	9	14	15	11	8	19	10
Ron Paul	12	16	7	18	11	5	13	6	13	16
Newt Gingrich	8	9	6	7	7	11	6	7	11	4
Michele Bachmann	6	3	10	8	6	3	6	10	5	5
Rick Santorum	2	2	3	0	4	1	8	2	1	1
Jon Huntsman	1	2	1	1	1	3	3	*	1	2
Other	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	0
None/DK	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	876	438	438	159	434	271	141	210	345	180

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q27/27a. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Sarah Palin supporters' second choice shown. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

2012 Electoral Landscape Less Favorable for Obama

In 2008, Obama won a narrow majority of independents' votes: 52% voted for him while 44% supported McCain, according to national exit polls conducted by the National Election Pool. But in a hypothetical race against Romney, independent voters favor the Republican by 13 points (54% to 41%).

Obama also is faring worse among white voters, particularly white men, than he did three years ago. Obama trailed McCain by 12 points among all white voters in 2008 (43% to 55%). But against Romney, Obama is losing the white vote by 20 points (38% to 58%).

Obama Losing Ground among Independents, Whites

	2008 Exit Polls			Oct 2011 regist. voters		
	Obama	McCain	diff	Obama	Romney	diff
	%	%		%	%	
Total	53	46	D+7	48	48	even
Republican	9	90	R+81	7	91	R+84
Democrat	89	10	D+79	88	10	D+78
Independent	52	44	D+8	41	54	R+13
White	43	55	R+12	38	58	R+20
Black	95	4	D+91	95	3	D+92
Hispanic	67	31	D+36	60	37	D+23
Men	49	48	D+1	42	54	R+12
Women	56	43	D+13	53	43	D+10
<i>Among whites</i>						
Men	41	57	R+16	34	63	R+29
Women	46	53	R+7	43	53	R+10
College grad	47	51	R+4	45	52	R+7
Not college grad	40	58	R+18	35	61	R+26

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q35/Q35a. Based on registered voters. 2008 exit poll conducted by National Election Pool.

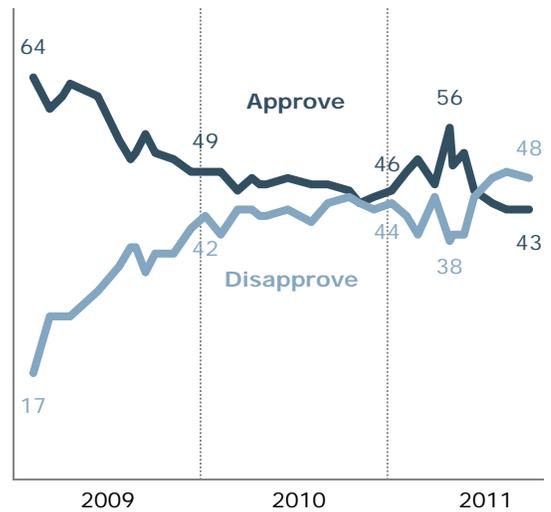
Obama's deficit among white men also has increased from 16 points in 2008 to 29 points in an early matchup with Romney. (*For a comprehensive breakdown of voter preferences in the Obama-Romney and Obama-Perry matchups, see the table on pg. 9.*)

Obama Job Approval Steady

The survey finds that Obama's job approval rating among the general public is little changed from August: 43% say they approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president, while 48% disapprove. In August, 43% approved and 49% disapproved. Obama's current job rating is down from May, when 52% approved of the way he was handling his job.

As was the case in August, significantly more strongly disapprove of Obama's job performance (34%) than strongly approve (26%). Earlier this year, the balance of strong approval to strong disapproval was about even (in March, 32% strong approval vs. 29% strong disapproval). (For a breakdown of Obama job approval ratings, see table on pg. 11.)

Obama Job Approval



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Q1.

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted September 22-October 4, 2011, among a national sample of 2,410 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (1,442 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 968 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 462 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://people-press.org/methodology/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2010 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 within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the 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	Sample Size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	2,410	2.5 percentage points
Total registered voters	1,901	3.0 percentage points
Republican voters	549	5.5 percentage points
Democratic voters	645	5.0 percentage points
Independent voters	645	5.0 percentage points
Republicans and Rep-leaning voters	876	4.0 percentage points
Agree with Tea Party	408	6.0 percentage points
Disagree/No opinion	455	6.0 percentage points

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.

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEATS

Q.35 If you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.35a Who do you lean towards? Q.36 If you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Rick Perry, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.36a Who do you lean towards?

	<u>Obama</u> %	<u>Romney</u> %	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Obama</u> %	<u>Perry</u> %	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
ALL VOTERS	48	48	4	50	46	5	1901
SEX							
Men	42	54	4	46	50	4	849
Women	53	43	4	53	42	5	1052
AGE							
18-49	50	46	4	53	44	4	685
50+	45	51	4	46	48	5	1178
DETAILED AGE							
18-29	62	36	2	63	35	2	182
30-49	45	51	4	48	48	5	503
50-64	47	49	4	48	47	6	615
65+	42	52	5	44	51	5	563
SEX BY AGE							
Men 18-49	42	53	4	48	48	4	326
Men 50+	42	54	3	44	52	4	509
Women 18-49	58	40	3	57	39	4	359
Women 50+	47	47	5	48	45	6	669
RACE							
White, non-Hispanic	38	58	4	41	54	5	1475
Black, non-Hispanic	95	3	2	92	4	4	185
Hispanic	60	37	3	63	36	1	113
EDUCATION							
College grad+	49	48	3	51	45	4	778
Some college	49	47	3	50	46	4	539
HS or less	45	49	5	48	47	6	581
INCOME							
\$75,000+	44	53	3	45	51	4	540
\$30,000-\$74,999	47	50	4	49	47	4	613
<\$30,000	53	42	4	56	39	5	491
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE							
Total White NH Prot.	29	66	5	33	62	5	793
White NH evang. Prot.	20	75	6	21	73	5	399
White NH mainline Prot.	40	56	4	46	51	4	394
Total Catholic	47	50	3	49	47	5	415
White NH Cath.	41	57	2	42	53	4	321
Unaffiliated	61	35	4	62	32	6	310
REGION							
Northeast	51	45	4	54	40	6	351
Midwest	49	46	5	49	46	6	468
South	44	51	5	46	49	4	693
West	50	49	2	53	45	3	389
MARITAL STATUS							
Married	42	53	5	44	51	6	1098
Not married	50	47	3	51	44	4	518
EMPLOYMENT							
Employed	47	49	4	48	47	5	998
Not employed	49	47	4	51	45	4	896

PRESIDENTIAL TRIAL HEATS (CONT.)

Q.35 If you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Mitt Romney, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.35a Who do you lean towards? Q.36 If you had to choose between Barack Obama, the Democrat, and Rick Perry, the Republican, who would you vote for?/Q.36a Who do you lean towards?

	<u>Obama</u> %	<u>Romney</u> %	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Obama</u> %	<u>Perry</u> %	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
PARTY ID							
Republican	7	91	2	9	88	3	549
Democrat	88	10	3	88	10	2	645
Independent	41	54	5	45	48	7	645
PARTY WITH LEANERS							
Rep/Lean Rep	8	90	2	10	86	3	876
Dem/Lean Dem	87	10	3	87	10	3	896
IDEOLOGY							
Conservative	25	70	5	25	69	6	775
Moderate	53	43	4	56	39	4	715
Liberal	83	15	2	84	13	2	365
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY							
Conservative Republican	3	95	3	4	93	3	380
Mod/Lib Republican	16	83	2	19	79	3	163
Mod/Cons Democrat	83	14	4	82	15	2	395
Liberal Democrat	96	3	1	97	2	1	233
TEA PARTY MOVEMENT							
Agree	3	94	3	3	94	3	408
Disagree/No opinion	12	86	2	16	80	4	455
AMONG WHITES							
Men	34	63	4	38	58	4	650
Women	43	53	4	43	51	5	825
18-49	39	57	4	42	54	4	469
50+	39	58	4	40	55	5	981
College grad+	45	52	3	47	49	4	636
Some college or less	35	61	5	38	57	5	836
\$75,000+	39	58	3	40	57	3	440
\$30,000-\$74,999	36	60	4	40	56	4	487
<\$30,000	41	54	5	45	49	6	340
Republican	5	93	2	6	91	3	501
Democrat	84	13	3	84	14	2	399
Independent	36	59	5	41	52	6	531
Northeast	44	53	3	47	47	6	279
Midwest	41	53	6	42	52	6	383
South	31	64	4	34	62	4	521
West	42	56	2	46	51	3	292

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handing his job as president?

Q1a: Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
TOTAL	43	26	17	48	34	14	9	2410
SEX								
Men	39	22	17	52	37	14	9	1118
Women	47	30	17	44	31	13	9	1292
AGE								
18-49	45	26	19	44	29	16	10	1014
50+	41	27	14	52	41	11	7	1357
DETAILED AGE								
18-29	50	26	24	38	21	17	12	354
30-49	42	26	16	49	34	15	9	660
50-64	40	27	14	51	39	12	8	723
65+	42	27	15	54	44	10	4	634
SEX BY AGE								
Men 18-49	40	21	19	50	32	18	10	525
Men 50+	38	25	13	55	45	10	7	579
Women 18-49	51	32	19	39	25	14	11	489
Women 50+	43	28	15	50	37	13	7	778
RACE								
White, non-Hispanic	33	18	15	58	43	14	9	1758
Black, non-Hispanic	89	74	15	5	3	1	6	245
Hispanic	51	26	26	39	18	20	10	213
EDUCATION								
College grad+	44	26	18	49	36	13	6	871
Some college	44	27	18	47	35	12	9	659
HS or less	42	27	15	47	32	15	11	875
INCOME								
\$75,000+	41	23	18	53	42	11	6	615
\$30,000-\$74,999	42	26	15	50	36	14	9	743
<\$30,000	47	29	18	44	28	16	9	727
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE								
Total White NH Prot.	27	15	11	66	52	14	8	937
White NH evang. Prot.	19	11	7	75	63	12	6	470
White NH mainline Prot.	35	19	16	56	40	15	9	467
Total Catholic	42	23	19	49	33	16	9	532
White NH Cath.	36	19	17	57	42	15	7	376
Unaffiliated	51	29	22	38	22	16	11	412
REGION								
Northeast	42	24	18	49	33	16	9	451
Midwest	46	29	17	46	34	12	8	573
South	43	28	14	48	36	12	9	882
West	43	23	20	48	32	16	9	504
MARITAL STATUS								
Married	39	24	14	55	43	12	6	1236
Not married	44	26	18	46	32	14	10	713
EMPLOYMENT								
Employed	43	25	18	47	33	15	9	1286
Not employed	43	28	15	48	36	13	9	1114

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE (CONT.)

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handing his job as president?

Q1a: Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
REGISTERED VOTER								
Yes, certain	43	28	15	51	38	13	6	1901
Not registered	44	23	21	40	23	17	16	509
PARTY ID								
Republican	10	4	6	84	71	14	6	627
Democrat	78	52	25	17	7	9	6	786
Independent	36	19	17	52	36	17	11	887
PARTY WITH LEANERS								
Rep/Lean Rep	11	4	7	81	65	16	8	1047
Dem/Lean Dem	74	48	26	19	9	11	7	1159
IDEOLOGY								
Conservative	27	17	10	67	55	12	6	934
Moderate	47	27	20	43	54	16	10	906
Liberal	67	42	25	24	9	11	9	488
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY								
Conservative Republican	5	2	3	91	80	11	4	427
Mod/Lib Republican	19	8	11	71	54	18	10	191
Mod/Cons Democrat	74	48	25	21	9	11	6	492
Liberal Democrat	86	59	27	9	3	6	5	270
TEA PARTY MOVEMENT								
Agree	5	1	5	93	87	6	2	442
Disagree/No opinion	15	10	7	75	8	53	22	10
AMONG WHITES								
Men	28	14	15	63	47	15	9	789
Women	38	22	16	53	40	14	8	969
18-49	32	16	16	56	39	17	12	630
50+	35	20	15	60	47	12	5	1102
College grad+	39	21	18	54	41	13	7	688
Some college or less	31	17	14	60	45	15	10	1066
\$75,000+	36	19	17	59	47	11	5	490
\$30,000-\$74,999	30	17	13	61	45	15	9	560
<\$30,000	35	17	18	56	38	17	10	465
Republican	7	3	4	87	74	13	6	560
Democrat	72	42	30	23	12	11	5	468
Independent	29	14	15	59	42	17	12	667
Northeast	38	18	20	55	40	16	7	335
Midwest	37	22	15	54	41	13	9	455
South	27	15	11	63	49	14	10	619
West	36	19	18	55	39	16	8	349

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
OCTOBER 2011 GENERATIONS SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
September 22- October 4, 2011
N=2410

RANDOMIZE Q.1/Q1.a BLOCK AND Q.2**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>
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
May 2, 2011	56	38	6	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (Q.1=1,2):

Q.1a Do you [approve/disapprove] very strongly, or not so strongly?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Sep 22-Oct 4 2011		Aug 17-21 2011	Feb 22- Mar 1 2011	Jan 5-9 2011	Aug 25- Sep 6 2010	Jun 16-20 2010	Jan 6-10 2010	Apr 14-21 2009
43	Approve	43	51	46	47	48	49	63
26	Very strongly	26	32	27	28	29	30	45
15	Not so strongly	15	18	16	17	17	15	13
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	2	3	5
48	Disapprove	49	39	44	44	43	42	26
34	Very strongly	38	29	30	32	31	30	18
13	Not so strongly	11	10	13	11	11	11	8
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	*
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	10	10	9	9	10	11

QUESTIONS 2, 7-10, 17-19, 21 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 3-6, 11-16, 20, 22-24

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the 2012 Presidential election...

Q.25 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2012?
[READ IN ORDER]

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>None at all</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	29	29	22	19	2
Aug 17-21, 2011	27	30	23	18	1
Jul 20-24, 2011	20	29	27	23	1
May 25-30, 2011	23	30	27	19	1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
2008 Presidential Election					
December, 2007	35	33	13	18	1
November, 2007	34	35	16	14	1
October, 2007	30	37	17	14	2
September, 2007	27	33	21	17	2
July, 2007	30	38	16	15	1
June, 2007	29	34	20	16	1
April, 2007	26	34	21	17	2
March, 2007	24	36	20	18	2
February, 2007	24	34	22	18	2
December, 2006	23	36	20	20	1

QUESTION 26 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**Q.27 As I name some possible 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?]**¹

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>
16	Mitt Romney	16	14	13
10	Rick Perry	6	--	--
9	Sarah Palin	10	13	15
8	Ron Paul	8	8	9
6	Herman Cain	4	--	--
5	Michele Bachmann	8	--	--
5	Newt Gingrich	3	6	6
3	Jon Huntsman	2	--	--
1	Rick Santorum	1	2	2
1	Other (VOL.) ²	1	1	4
*	<i>Tim Pawlenty</i>	2	2	4
*	<i>Mike Huckabee</i>	0	13	15
*	<i>Mitch Daniels</i>	0	2	--
0	<i>Haley Barbour</i>	0	2	3
20	None (VOL.)	21	21	14
4	Too early to tell (VOL.)	5	2	--
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	13	12	14

1 In November 2010, the question read, "Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the Republican nomination for President in 2012. After I read all the names, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for President or if there is someone else you support."

2 Pawlenty, Huckabee, Daniels and Barbour were explicitly named in previous surveys. In surveys where they get less than 1% support, they are included in other.

ASK IF SARAH PALIN IS FIRST CHOICE (Q.27=5):

Q.28 Who, if anyone, would be your second choice for the Republican nomination in 2012? **[READ OPTIONS IF NECESSARY]**

Republican primary preference , with second choice substituted for those who chose Sarah Palin in Q.27.

BASED ON TOTAL:

Sep 22-Oct 4 <u>2011</u>		Jul 20-24 <u>2011</u>	Mar 8-14 <u>2011</u>
18	Mitt Romney	18	15
11	Rick Perry	6	--
9	Ron Paul	9	10
7	Michele Bachmann	10	--
7	Herman Cain	5	--
6	Newt Gingrich	3	8
3	Jon Huntsman	2	--
2	Rick Santorum	1	3
1	Other (VOL.) ³	1	2
*	<i>Tim Pawlenty</i>	2	3
*	<i>Mike Huckabee</i>	0	17
*	<i>Mitch Daniels</i>	0	3
0	<i>Haley Barbour</i>	0	3
21	None (VOL.)	23	23
4	Too early to tell (VOL.)	5	2
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	14	13

NO QUESTIONS 29-34**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.35-Q.35a IN BLOCK & Q.36-Q36a IN BLOCK****ASK BEFORE FIRST BLOCK:**

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

ASK BEFORE SECOND BLOCK:

And if the 2012 election were being held TODAY...

ASK ALL:

Q.35 If you had to choose between,-**[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**, who would you vote for?

ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.35=3,9):

Q.35a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.35]**?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1901]:

Sep 22-Oct 4 <u>2011</u>	
48	Barack Obama, the Democrat
47	Vote for Obama
1	Lean towards Obama
48	Mitt Romney, the Republican
46	Vote for Romney
2	Lean towards Romney
1	Other candidate (VOL.)
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

3 Pawlenty, Huckabee, Daniels and Barbour were explicitly named in previous surveys. In surveys where they get less than 1% support, they are included in other.

ASK ALL:**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.35-Q.35a IN BLOCK & Q.36-Q36a IN BLOCK**

Q.36 If you had to choose between, [READ AND RANDOMIZE], who would you vote for?

ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.36=3,9):

Q.36a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.36]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1901]:

Sep 22-Oct 4

2011

50	Barack Obama, the Democrat
49	Vote for Obama
1	Lean towards Obama
46	Rick Perry, the Republican
44	Vote for Perry
2	Lean towards Perry
1	Other candidate (VOL.)
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK IF Q35/Q35a FOLLOWS Q36/Q36a AND CHOSE MITT ROMNEY (Q.35=2 OR Q.35a=2):

Q.37a Would you say that your choice is more a vote FOR Mitt Romney or more a vote AGAINST Barack Obama?

ASK IF Q35/Q35a FOLLOWS Q36/Q36a AND CHOSE BARACK OBAMA (Q.35=1 OR Q.35a=1):

Q.37b Would you say that your choice is more a vote FOR Barack Obama or more a vote AGAINST Mitt Romney?

BASED ON RVS WHO WERE ASKED OBAMA-ROMNEY MATCHUP SECOND [N=933]:

	<u>Romney</u>	<i>Pro-Romney</i>	<i>Anti-Obama</i>	<i>DK</i>	<u>Obama</u>	<i>Pro-Obama</i>	<i>Anti-Romney</i>	<i>DK</i>	Other/DK/Ref
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 ⁴	48	15	33	1	48	33	11	3	5

ASK IF Q36/Q36a FOLLOWS Q35/Q35a AND CHOSE RICK PERRY (Q.36=2 OR Q.36a=2):

Q.38a Would you say that your choice is more a vote FOR Rick Perry or more a vote AGAINST Barack Obama?

ASK IF Q36/Q36a FOLLOWS Q35/Q35a AND CHOSE BARACK OBAMA (Q.36=1 OR Q.36a=1):

Q.38b Would you say that your choice is more a vote FOR Barack Obama or more a vote AGAINST Rick Perry?

BASED ON RVS WHO WERE ASKED OBAMA-PERRY MATCHUP SECOND [N=968]:

	<u>Perry</u>	<i>Pro-Perry</i>	<i>Anti-Obama</i>	<i>DK</i>	<u>Obama</u>	<i>Pro-Obama</i>	<i>Anti-Perry</i>	<i>DK</i>	Other/DK/Ref
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 ⁵	46	12	31	2	50	34	15	2	5

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

	<u>McCain</u>	<i>Pro-McCain</i>	<i>Anti-Obama</i>	<i>DK</i>	<u>Obama</u>	<i>Pro-Obama</i>	<i>Anti-McCain</i>	<i>DK</i>	<u>Nader⁶</u>	<u>Barr</u>	Other/DK/Ref
November, 2008	39				50				1	1	9
Late October, 2008	36				52				3	1	8
Mid-October, 2008	38	24	12	2	52	40	10	2	n/a	n/a	10
Early October, 2008	40				50				n/a	n/a	10
Late September, 2008 ⁴²					49				n/a	n/a	9

⁴ Overall Romney-Obama percentages based on all registered voters [N=1901]. Pro- and Anti- percentages based on half-sample who were asked Q37a/Q37b [N=933].

⁵ Overall Perry-Obama percentages based on all registered voters [N=1901]. Pro- and Anti- percentages based on half-sample who were asked Q38a/Q38b [N=968].

⁶ The question regarding whether a vote was more for one's candidate of choice or more against his opponents was not asked of Nader or Barr supporters in 2008, Nader supporters in 2004, or Nader or Buchanan supporters in 2000.

Q.37a/Q.37b AND Q.38a/Q.38b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Pro-Bush</u>	<u>Anti-Gore</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Pro-Gore</u>	<u>Anti-Bush</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Buchanan</u>	<u>Other/DK/Ref</u>
Mid-September, 2008	44	29	13	2	46	32	11	3	n/a	n/a	10
August, 2008	43	25	16	2	46	33	12	1	n/a	n/a	11
July, 2008	42	25	14	3	47	32	12	3	n/a	n/a	11
June, 2008	40				48				n/a	n/a	12
Late May, 2008	44	28	14	2	47	35	11	1	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	27	14	2	50	38	10	2	n/a	n/a	7

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Pro-Bush</u>	<u>Anti-Kerry</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Kerry</u>	<u>Pro-Kerry</u>	<u>Anti-Bush</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Fourth party</u>	<u>Other/DK/Ref</u>
November, 2004	45	34	9	2	46	20	23	3	1	n/a	8
Mid-October, 2004	45	32	10	3	45	18	24	3	1	n/a	9
Early October, 2004	48	36	10	2	41	15	23	3	2	n/a	9
September, 2004	49	38	9	2	43	15	26	2	1	n/a	7
August, 2004	45	34	8	3	47	20	24	3	2	n/a	6
July, 2004	44				46				3	n/a	7
June, 2004	46				42				6	n/a	6
May, 2004	43				46				6	n/a	5
Late March, 2004	44				43				6	n/a	7
Mid-March, 2004	42				49				4	n/a	5
Two-way trial heats:											
June, 2004	48	35	11	2	46	17	27	2	n/a	n/a	6
May, 2004	45	33	10	2	50	15	32	3	n/a	n/a	5
Late March, 2004	46	36	8	2	47	17	27	3	n/a	n/a	7
Mid-March, 2004	43	34	7	2	52	21	29	2	n/a	n/a	5
Late February, 2004	44				48				n/a	n/a	8
Early February, 2004	47	39	6	2	47	15	30	2	n/a	n/a	6
Early January, 2004	52				41				n/a	n/a	7
October, 2003	50				42				n/a	n/a	8

	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Bush</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Nader</u>	<u>Buchanan</u>	<u>Other/DK/Ref</u>
November, 2000	41	27	12	2	45	29	14	2	4	1	9
Late October, 2000	45				43				4	1	7
Mid-October, 2000	43				45				4	1	7
Early October, 2000	43				44				5	*	8
September, 2000	41	24	14	3	47	30	14	3	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				46				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				45				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
September, 1998	53				40				n/a	n/a	7

Q.37a/Q.37b AND Q.38a/Q.38b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	<u>Dole</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Dole</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Clinton</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Perot</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Perot</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
November, 1996	32	15	15	2	51	33	15	3	9	4	5	*	8
October, 1996	34	15	18	1	51	33	16	2	8	4	4	*	7
Late September, 1996	35				51				7				7
Early September, 1996	34	16	17	1	52	35	15	2	8	3	5	0	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				53				n/a				5
June, 1996	40				55				n/a				5
April, 1996	40				54				n/a				6
March, 1996	41	15	25	1	53	30	20	3	n/a				6
February, 1996	44				52				n/a				4
January, 1996	41				53				n/a				6
July, 1994	49				46				n/a				5

	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Bush</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Clinton</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Perot</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Perot</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>other</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
Late October, 1992	34	19	13	2	44	25	17	2	19	10	7	2	3
Early October, 1992	35	19	13	3	48	23	22	3	8	3	5	*	9
June, 1992	31				27				36				6
Two-way trial heats:													
September, 1992	38	20	16	2	53	21	29	3	n/a				9
August, 1992	37	20	16	1	57	27	28	2	n/a				6
June, 1992	46				41				n/a				13
May, 1992	46				43				n/a				11
Late March, 1992	50	33	15	2	43	13	28	2	n/a				7

	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Bush</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>Dukakis</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Du-</u> <u>kakis</u>	<i>Pro-</i> <u>Dukakis</u>	<i>Anti-</i> <u>Bush</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Third</u> <u>party</u>	<u>Fourth</u> <u>party</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
October, 1988	50	31	16	3	42	23	15	4	n/a	n/a	8
September, 1988	50	31	15	4	44	21	19	4	n/a	n/a	6
May, 1988	40	26	11	3	53	23	26	4	n/a	n/a	7

QUESTIONS 39-88 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No</u> <u>preference</u>	<u>Other</u> <u>party</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Rep</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Dem</u>
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
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	16
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	31	39	3	*	2	16	16
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				No	Other	DK/Ref	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
<i>Yearly Totals</i>				<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>			
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</u>	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	<i>Not</i>
				<u>either way</u>	<u>Haven't</u>	<u>Refused</u>
				<u>heard of</u>		<u>DK</u>
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 ⁷	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

7 In the February 2-7, 2011 survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."