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# Public Agrees on Obesity's Impact, Not Government's Role

*Yes to Calories on Menus,  
No to Soda Limits*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
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# Public Agrees on Obesity's Impact, Not Government's Role

## *Yes to Calories on Menus, No to Soda Limits*

Most Americans (69%) see obesity as a very serious public health problem, substantially more than the percentages viewing alcohol abuse, cigarette smoking and AIDS in the same terms. In addition, a broad majority believes that obesity is not just a problem that affects individuals: 63% say obesity has consequences for society beyond the personal impact on individuals. Just 31% say it impacts the individuals who are obese but not society more broadly.

Yet, the public has mixed opinions about what, if anything, the government should do about the issue. A 54% majority does not want the government to play a significant role in reducing obesity, while 42% say the government should play a significant role. And while some proposals for reducing obesity draw broad support, others are decidedly unpopular.

The new national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted Oct. 30-Nov. 6 among 2,003 adults, finds that two-thirds (67%) favor requiring chain restaurants to list calorie counts on menus. But just 31% support limits on the size of sugary soft drinks in restaurants and convenience stores – 67% oppose this idea. More than half (55%) favor banning TV ads of unhealthy foods during children's programming, but barely a third (35%) supports raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy foods. On each of these policies, Democrats and women are more supportive than Republicans, independents and men.

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### Agreement on Obesity's Impact on Society, Less Consensus on Gov't Role

Oct 30-Nov 6  
2013

<i>Which comes closer to your view ...</i>	%
Obesity has consequences for society, beyond personal impacts	63
Obesity impacts individuals, but doesn't have major impact on society	31
Don't know	6
	100
<i>Should government play significant role in reducing obesity?</i>	
Yes, should play significant role	42
No, should not play significant role	54
Don't know	3
	100
<i>How much can government policies do to reduce obesity in this country?</i>	
A lot	26
Some	35
Not much	22
Nothing at all	14
Don't know	2
	100

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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(The survey was conducted before the [Food and Drug Administration's proposal last Thursday](#) to severely restrict trans fats nationwide.<sup>1</sup>)

While most agree that obesity is a very serious public health problem, the public is divided as to whether the country is making progress or losing ground in dealing with obesity. Slightly more people say the U.S. is losing ground (34%) than making progress (28%), with 36% saying things are about the same as they have been.

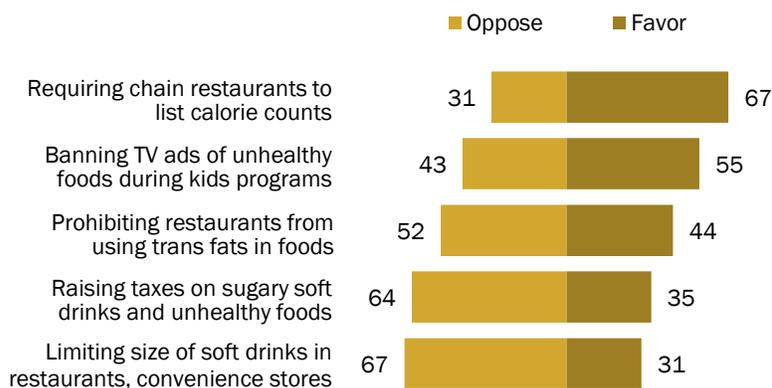
How much can the government do to reduce obesity? Roughly six-in-ten believe government policies and programs can do “a lot” (26%) or “some” (35%); about one-in-five (22%) say that government policies can do “not much” and 14% say they can do “nothing at all” to reduce obesity.

## The Scope of the Problem

Obesity ranks high among perceived public health problems: About seven-in-ten adults say it is an extremely (24%) or very (45%) serious public health problem. Americans view obesity as a less serious public health problem than cancer (79%), but similar to mental

## Public Favors Restaurant Calorie Counts, But Opposes Soft Drink Size Limits, Taxes on Unhealthy Foods

*% favor/oppose ...*

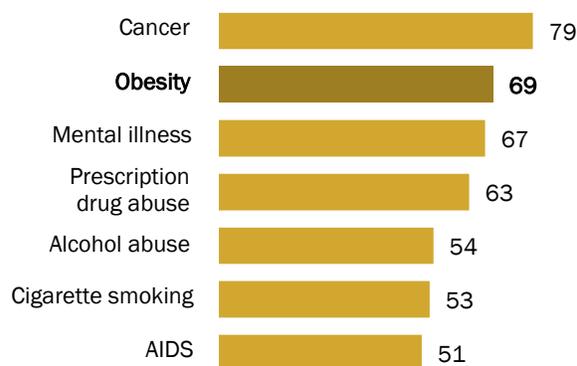


Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Don't know responses not shown.

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## Large Majority Sees Obesity as Serious Public Health Problem

*% rating each as an extremely/very serious public health problem*



Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> The FDA has tentatively determined that partially hydrogenated oils, which are the primary dietary source of artificial trans fats, are not generally recognized as safe. If finalized, the new policy would largely eliminate partially hydrogenated oils from the food supply.

illness (67%) and more than abuse of prescription drugs (63%) or alcohol (54%).

Far fewer Americans say the nation is making progress in dealing with obesity (28%) than in dealing with cancer (54% making progress), AIDS (48%) or cigarette smoking (45%). But more say progress is being made on obesity than on mental illness (19%), alcohol abuse (17%) or prescription drug abuse (16%).

Those who see obesity as a very serious problem are about twice as likely as those who do not to say the nation is losing ground in dealing with the issue (40% vs. 19%).

Women are slightly more likely than men to say that obesity is a serious public health problem (72% vs. 66%). But women also are more likely to believe that the country has been making progress on the issue (32% vs. 24% of men).

In addition, Hispanics (83%) and blacks (75%) are more likely than whites (65%) to rate obesity as a serious public health problem. Blacks are more optimistic on the issue: 37% believe the country is making progress on obesity while just 16% say we are losing ground. By comparison, 39% of Hispanics and 36% of whites feel we are losing ground.

More Democrats (77%) than Republicans (61%) view obesity as a very serious public health problem. Democrats are more likely than Republicans to see the country as making progress (36% vs. 24%).

## U.S. Making Progress or Losing Ground? Public Divided on Obesity

*In dealing with issue, country is ...*

	<b>Making progress</b>	<b>Losing ground</b>	<b>About same</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
Cancer	54	15	31	1=100
AIDS	48	12	35	5=100
Cigarette smoking	45	13	39	3=100
<b>Obesity</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1=100</b>
Mental illness	19	35	43	3=100
Alcohol abuse	17	23	58	1=100
Prescription drug abuse	16	37	43	4=100

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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### What Is 'Obesity'?

When asking about obesity, the survey defined the term as "people being seriously overweight."

There is a technical definition of the term. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention classifies adults 20 and older as obese if their [Body Mass Index \(BMI\)](#) is 30 or above. BMI is a ratio of one's weight to height, using the formula:

$$\text{BMI} = \left[ \frac{\text{Weight in pounds}}{(\text{Height in inches})^2} \right] \times 703$$

You can [calculate your BMI](#) on the CDC website interactive.

Those who describe themselves as overweight are as likely as others to say that obesity is a very serious public health problem (70% vs. 69%) and have similar views about whether the country is making progress or losing ground on the issue.

## More than Just an Individual Problem

About six-in-ten Americans (63%) say obesity has consequences for society that go beyond personal impact. Only about half as many (31%) say obesity does not have a major societal impact beyond the individual level. Majorities in virtually every demographic and political subgroup say obesity has social consequences beyond the individuals affected.

Republicans (60%), Democrats (67%) and independents (63%) are about equally likely to say obesity has social consequences, as are men (62%) and women (64%). Perhaps the biggest divide is by education: 76% of college graduates say obesity has social consequences beyond the individuals affected, compared with 68% of those with some college and 51% of those with a high school degree or less.

Among those younger than 30, 55% say obesity has consequences for society beyond the personal impacts, 39% say it does not have a major societal impact. Among older age groups, about three-in-ten say obesity does not have a major impact on society.

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## Obesity Seen as Having Consequences for Society, Beyond Personal Impacts

*Which comes closer to your view ...*

	<b>Obesity has consequences for society that go beyond its personal impact</b>	<b>Obesity impacts individuals, but doesn't have a major impact on society</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%
Total	63	31	6=100
White	67	29	4=100
Nonwhite	56	35	9=100
Men	62	33	5=100
Women	64	30	6=100
18-29	55	39	5=100
30-49	70	27	3=100
50-64	64	30	5=100
65+	57	31	13=100
College grad+	76	22	2=100
Some college	68	30	2=100
HS or less	51	38	11=100
Republican	60	36	4=100
Democrat	67	28	5=100
Independent	63	31	6=100
<i>Self-reported weight</i>			
Overweight	60	33	8=100
About right/ underweight	65	31	5=100

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## Limited Support for Government Role in Reducing Obesity

While most see obesity as a substantial public health issue, there is limited support for the government playing a major role in anti-obesity efforts. Overall, 42% say government should play a significant role in reducing obesity, 54% say it should not.

While majorities of Republicans and Democrats say obesity has broad social consequences, there are sharp partisan differences about whether the government should have a role in reducing obesity. By a margin of 60%-37%, Democrats believe the government should play a significant role in curbing obesity. But just 20% of Republicans say this, while 77% of Republicans do not want the government to play a significant role. Among independents, more say the government should not play a significant role (56%) than say that it should (41%).

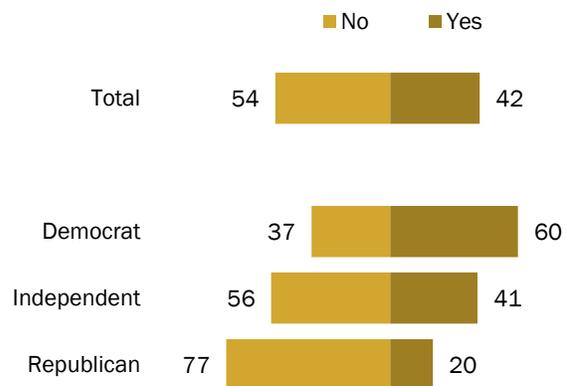
There are differences within the Republican Party on this issue. Nearly nine-in-ten (89%) Republicans and Republican leaners who agree with the Tea Party oppose a significant role for the government in reducing obesity. Among non-Tea Party Republicans, 65% oppose a government role.

Not surprisingly, views on what government *should* do are closely linked to perceptions of what the government *can* do. About one-in-four adults (26%) think government policies can do “a lot” to reduce obesity and 35% say it can do “some.” Roughly one-in-five (22%) say that government policies can do “not much” and 14% say they can do “nothing at all” to reduce obesity.

Among those who think that government policies and programs can do a lot to reduce obesity, 84% want the government to play a significant role. Nearly the opposite is true of those who believe such policies can do not much or nothing at all – 83% think the government should not play a significant role. Those who think government policies can do some to reduce obesity are split: 47% think the government should play a significant role and 51% say it should not.

### Partisans Disagree About Government Role in Reducing Obesity

*Should gov't play significant role in reducing obesity?*



Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013.

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Among the public overall, majorities of blacks (66%) and Hispanics (69%) say that government should play a significant role in reducing obesity. By contrast, whites are far less likely to think the government should be involved. Just a third of whites (33%) say the government should play a significant role in addressing obesity, while 64% disagree.

There also are age differences in views of the government's role on obesity. About half (54%) of adults ages 18-29 say the government should play a significant role in reducing obesity, compared with just 33% of those ages 65 and older.

While college graduates are more likely than those who have not attended college to describe obesity as having societal consequences, they are no more likely to support major government efforts to deal with the issue or to believe that government anti-obesity efforts are likely to be effective.

People who describe themselves as overweight are about as likely to want a significant government role (40%) as those who describe themselves as about right or underweight (43%).

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## Minorities, Young Adults Think Gov't Should Have Anti-Obesity Role

*Should the government play a significant role in reducing obesity ...*

	<b>Yes</b> %	<b>No</b> %	<b>DK</b> %
Total	42	54	3=100
White	33	64	3=100
Black	66	30	4=100
Hispanic	69	29	3=100
Men	41	56	3=100
Women	44	53	3=100
18-29	54	44	3=100
30-49	46	52	2=100
50-64	36	61	3=100
65+	33	61	6=100
College grad+	42	55	3=100
Some college	40	57	3=100
HS or less	45	52	3=100
<i>Among Reps/ Rep leaners ...</i>			
Tea Party	10	89	1=100
Non-Tea Party	33	65	3=100
<i>View of obesity...</i>			
Has consequences for society beyond personal	52	46	2=100
Impacts individuals, no major impact on society	30	69	1=100
<i>Self-reported weight</i>			
Overweight	40	57	3=100
About right/Underweight	43	53	3=100

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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## Demographic Divides on Specific Food Policies

When it comes to specific public policies aimed at reducing obesity, the public is of two minds. Proposals focused on information and advertising draw more support than opposition. But proposals that would affect an individual's choice more directly are broadly opposed.

Most people are in favor of requiring chain restaurants to list calorie counts on menus (67%) and most also support a ban on advertising unhealthy food during children's television programming (55%). But majorities oppose a limit on soda size in restaurants and convenience stores (67%) as well as higher taxes on unhealthy foods and soft drinks (64%).

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### Support for Listing Calorie Counts, But Broad Opposition to Soda Limits, Taxes

	Favor %	Oppose %	DK %
Requiring chain restaurants to list calorie counts	67	31	3=100
Banning TV ads of unhealthy foods during kid's programs	55	43	3=100
Prohibiting restaurants from using trans fats in foods	44	52	4=100
Raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy foods	35	64	1=100
Limiting size of soft drinks in restaurants, convenience stores	31	67	2=100

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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In recent years, New York City and other cities have banned artificial trans fats from restaurants, a policy that slightly more Americans would oppose (52%) than favor (44%). Last Thursday – after the survey was completed – the [FDA proposed](#) banning the cholesterol-laden trans fats because they are not “generally recognized as safe.”

All five of the policies have more support from women than men, by about 10 percentage points in each case. And in all five cases, Democrats favor a more restrictive food policy than Republicans and independents.

Among Republicans, only calorie counts in chain restaurants receive majority support (59% favor). (A provision of the Affordable Care Act, [requiring restaurants](#) with 20 or more locations to post calorie counts, is currently in the process of being implemented.)

Limiting the size of soft drinks in restaurants and convenience stores – a policy passed in New York City earlier this year, but invalidated by a New York judge – faces broad opposition across virtually all groups. Democrats oppose this idea by a 57% to 41% margin. Opposition outpaces support among independents by 69% to 30%, and just 19% of Republicans would favor soda-size limits while 78% would oppose them.

There also are partisan differences in opinions about raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy foods: 45% of Democrats, 33% of independents and just 24% of Republicans favor higher taxes on unhealthy foods. Among Democrats, a majority of liberals (67%) supports this proposal compared with 38% of the party's conservatives and moderates.

More Democrats (63%) than Republicans (47%) favor

banning ads for unhealthy food on children's TV shows, and while there is less support overall for banning restaurant trans fats, the partisan gap in views is similar (51% of Democrats favor vs. 35% of Republicans).

## Food Policies Divides by Party, Sex, Race

Percent saying they would favor ...

	Chain restaurant calorie counts	Ban ads for unhealthy foods on kids' TV	Ban on restaurant trans fat	Tax on unhealthy food/soda	Limits on restaurant soda size
	%	%	%	%	%
Total	67	55	44	35	31
White	66	53	41	31	25
Non-White	70	59	49	43	43
Diff	-4	-6	-8	-12	-18
Men	63	48	37	30	25
Women	71	61	50	39	36
Diff	-8	-13	-13	-9	-11
18-29	77	58	49	48	45
30-49	68	54	41	39	33
50-64	64	54	43	23	23
65+	56	52	42	28	22
Young-Old diff	+21	+6	+7	+20	+23
College grad+	72	55	47	39	27
Some college or less	65	55	43	33	32
Diff	+7	0	+4	+6	-5
Republican	59	47	35	24	19
Democrat	75	63	51	45	41
Independent	65	53	41	33	30
Rep-Dem diff	-16	-16	-16	-21	-22
<i>Among Reps/ Rep leaners ...</i>					
Tea Party	37	34	23	11	6
Non-Tea Party	71	54	42	33	27
Diff	-34	-20	-19	-22	-21

Source: Pew Research Center Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites include only those who are not Hispanic.

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Nearly half of those under 30 favor raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy food (48%) and 45% favor limiting the size of sugary soft drinks. By contrast, only about a quarter of those 50 and older support each of these proposals.

More non-whites (43%) than whites (31%) support raising taxes on unhealthy foods. Similarly, 43% of non-whites and only 25% of whites support limiting soda sizes. (The sample size for these questions was too small to allow for comparisons between blacks and Hispanics separately.)

## About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted October 30–November 6, 2013 among a national sample of 2,003 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (1,001 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,002 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 524 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 and region to parameters from the 2011 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 and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2012 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. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting.

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:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	2,003	2.5 percentage points
Form 1	1,007	3.6 percentage points
Form 2	996	3.6 percentage points
Republican	530	5.0 percentage points
Democrat	607	4.6 percentage points
Independent	746	4.2 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.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
GENERAL PUBLIC SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 6, 2013  
N=2,003**

**QUESTIONS 1, 3-5, 12, 13c-f, 13h, 13k-l, 14 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**QUESTIONS 2, 13a-b, 13g, 13i-j PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 6-11**

On a different subject...

**ASK ALL:**

Q.15 For each item I name, please tell me how serious a public health problem you think it is in this country – extremely serious, very serious, somewhat serious, or less serious than that. The first is **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**. How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NEEDED:** How serious a public health problem do you think **[ITEM]** is in this country?]

		<u>Extremely serious</u>	<u>Very serious</u>	<u>Somewhat serious</u>	<u>Less serious than that</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a.	Obesity, that is, people being seriously overweight					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	24	45	24	6	1
	ABC News/TIME May 2004	34	46	18	3	*
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,007]:</b>						
b.F1	Cancer					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	29	50	17	3	1
	ABC News/TIME May 2004	37	49	12	1	*
<b>NO ITEM c</b>						
d.F1	Alcohol abuse					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	16	37	34	11	1
	ABC News/TIME May 2004	25	42	27	5	1
e.F1	Mental illness					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	20	47	26	5	2
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=996]:</b>						
f.F2	AIDS					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	14	37	35	12	2
	ABC News/TIME May 2004	35	44	16	4	1
g.F2	Cigarette smoking					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	14	39	31	15	1
	ABC News/TIME May 2004	32	40	22	6	*
<b>NO ITEM h</b>						
i.F2	Prescription drug abuse					
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	19	44	27	8	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.16 In dealing with **[INSERT ITEM IN SAME ORDER AS Q.15]**, do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been? How about dealing with **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NEEDED: In dealing with the problem of [ITEM], do you think the country is making progress, losing ground, or are things about the same as they have been?]**

		<u>Making progress</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Obesity Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	28	36	34	1

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1007]:**

b.F1	Cancer Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	54	31	15	1
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**NO ITEM c**

d.F1	Alcohol abuse Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	17	58	23	1
e.F1	Mental illness Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	19	43	35	3

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=996]:**

f.F2	AIDS Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	48	35	12	5
g.F2	Cigarette smoking Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	45	39	13	3

**NO ITEM g**

i.F2	Prescription drug abuse Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	16	37	43	4
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Thinking specifically about obesity...

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17 Do you think government should or should not play a significant role in reducing obesity?

	<u>Should play a significant role</u>	<u>Should not play a significant role</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	42	54	3

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

*Do you think government should or should not play a significant role in reducing obesity among children?*

	<u>Should play a significant role</u>	<u>Should not play a significant role</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	57	39	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.18 Right now, do you feel that you are overweight, underweight, or just about the right weight for you?

**ASK IF OVERWEIGHT (Q.18=1):**

Q.18b Do you feel you are very overweight, somewhat overweight, or only a little overweight?

Oct 30- Nov 6 <u>2013</u>		(SDT) Feb 8-Mar 7 <u>2006</u>	July <u>1990</u>
31	Overweight	39	42
4	Very	5	6
15	Somewhat	16	13
12	Only a little	18	23
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*
6	Underweight	3	5
63	Just about right	57	53
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	*

**QUESTIONS 19-20, 23-26, 28-29, 31-34, 40-44, 46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 21-22, 27, 30, 35-39, 45**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,007]:**

Next...

Q.47F1 Which comes closer to your view even if neither is exactly right? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Oct 30- Nov 6 <u>2013</u>	
63	Obesity has consequences for society that go beyond the personal impact on individuals who are obese [OR]
31	Obesity impacts individuals who are obese but does not have a major impact on society
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,007]:**

Q.48F1 How much do you think government policies and programs can do to reduce obesity in this country **[READ IN ORDER]**?

Oct 30- Nov 6 <u>2013</u>	
26	A lot
35	Some
22	Not much
14	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=996]:**

Next...

Q.49 As I read some policies that have been considered by some cities and states around the country, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose each. First, would you favor or oppose, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Would you favor or oppose [ITEM]?**

		Favor	Oppose	(VOL.) DK/Ref
a.F2	Requiring chain restaurants to list calorie counts on menus Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	67	31	3

**NO ITEM b**

c.F2	Prohibiting restaurants from using trans fats in foods Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	44	52	4
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**Q.49 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
d.F2	Limiting the size of sugary soft drinks sold in restaurants and convenience stores Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	31	67	2
e.F2	Banning television advertising of unhealthy foods during children's programming Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	55	43	3
f.F2	Raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy foods Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	35	64	1

**QUESTIONS 50-59 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>(VOL.) No preference</u>	<u>(VOL.) Other party</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	24	32	38	4	*	2	16	14
Oct 9-13, 2013	25	32	37	3	1	3	16	18
Sep 4-8, 2013	26	32	38	3	1	1	17	15
Jul 17-21, 2013	19	29	46	3	*	2	19	18
Jun 12-16, 2013	23	33	39	3	*	2	17	15
May 1-5, 2013	25	32	37	2	1	3	14	16
Mar 13-17, 2013	26	33	34	3	1	3	14	15
Feb 13-18, 2013	22	32	41	2	*	2	15	19
Jan 9-13, 2013	25	32	38	2	*	2	15	16
Dec 17-19, 2012	21	32	38	4	*	4	15	14
Dec 5-9, 2012	23	33	38	3	1	2	14	19
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	26	34	34	3	1	3	13	16
Oct 24-28, 2012	28	33	33	4	*	2	12	16
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
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

**PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...**

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)			
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
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 REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):**

TEAPARTY3 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

**BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=876]:**

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/DK
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	40	9	48	2	1	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	11	45	2	1	--
Sep 4-8, 2013	35	9	54	1	1	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	37	10	50	2	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	9	46	1	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	41	7	48	1	3	--
May 1-5, 2013	28	8	61	2	1	--
Mar 13-17, 2013	43	7	47	1	1	--
Feb 13-18, 2013	36	9	52	1	3	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	43	9	45	1	2	--
Jan 9-13, 2013	35	10	51	2	2	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	11	51	1	*	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	40	8	49	1	2	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	38	9	50	1	3	--
Sep 12-16, 2013	39	7	52	1	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	40	9	47	2	1	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	36	9	53	1	2	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	38	10	49	2	1	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	40	7	51	1	1	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	42	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	37	8	52	1	1	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	40	9	48	2	1	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	41	9	49	*	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	37	11	51	1	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	7	49	*	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	7	51	*	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	42	9	47	1	1	--
May 25-30, 2011	37	7	52	1	3	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	45	9	46	*	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	37	7	54	1	*	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	41	9	48	1	1	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>1</sup>	43	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	45	6	47	1	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	48	5	45	1	1	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	51	5	42	1	1	--

<sup>1</sup> 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."

**TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Haven't heard of</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Refused</u>	Not heard of/ <u>DK</u>
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	58	5	27	--	1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	54	5	30	--	1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	56	6	29	--	*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36	--	1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30	--	*	19
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25	--	1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26	--	1	21

**Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:**

(SDT)

Pew Research Social and Demographic Trends