

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JANUARY 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
January 9-13, 2013
N=1,502

QUESTION 1-2, 9-12, 16-18, 20-22, PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
NO QUESTIONS 3-8, 13-15, 19, 26-29

QUESTIONS 23-25 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.30 I'd like to ask you about priorities for President Obama and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think each should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important or should it not be done. (First,) should **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? What about... **[INSERT ITEM]?) [REPEAT AS NECESSARY TO BE SURE RESPONDENT UNDERSTANDS SCALE: should this be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?]**

<u>SUMMARY TABLE</u>		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
I.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy	86	11	1	1	1
a.F1	Improving the job situation	79	16	2	3	1
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit	72	20	3	2	3
h.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks	71	22	5	1	1
n.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	70	24	2	1	2
m.F2	Improving the educational system	70	22	4	2	2
o.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	65	29	3	2	2
f.F1	Reducing health care costs	63	26	4	5	2
p.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	57	32	6	3	2
c.F1	Reducing crime	55	33	9	2	1
e.F1	Protecting the environment	52	33	10	3	2
d.F1	Reforming the nation's tax system	52	32	7	3	6
s.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problem	45	41	9	2	2
j.F1	Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington	44	29	18	4	6
r.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military	41	36	14	7	2
q.F2	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	40	30	12	11	6
g.F1	Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration	39	40	13	4	3
u.	Strengthening gun control laws	37	26	12	21	3
i.F1	Dealing with global trade issues	31	47	15	2	6
k.F2	Improving the country's roads, bridges, and public transportation systems	30	51	16	2	2
t.F2	Dealing with global warming	28	36	18	14	4

FULL TREND:

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK ITEMS a THRU j OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:						
a.F1	Improving the job situation					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	79	16	2	3	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	82	14	1	2	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	84	13	*	1	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	81	15	1	1	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	82	15	1	1	1
	January, 2008	61	31	4	2	2
	January, 2007	57	30	10	1	2
	January, 2006	65	28	4	1	2

Q.30 CONTINUED...

	Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
January, 2005	68	28	2	1	1
January, 2004	67	28	3	1	1
January, 2003	62	32	4	1	1
January, 2002	67	27	4	1	1
January, 2001	60	30	6	2	2
January, 2000	41	35	16	4	4
July, 1999	54	30	10	3	3
January, 1999	50	34	10	2	4
January, 1998	54	32	10	3	1
January, 1997	66	26	5	2	1
December, 1994	64	27	5	2	2
b.F1 Reducing the budget deficit					
Jan 9-13, 2013	72	20	3	2	3
Jan 11-16, 2012	69	21	5	2	3
Jan 5-9, 2011	64	27	3	2	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	60	29	5	2	4
Jan 7-11, 2009	53	33	7	2	4
January, 2008	58	33	5	1	3
January, 2007	53	34	7	2	4
January, 2006	55	35	5	1	4
January, 2005	56	34	5	2	3
January, 2004	51	38	6	3	2
January, 2003	40	44	11	2	3
January, 2002	35	44	13	3	5
January, 1997	60	30	5	2	3
December, 1994	65	26	5	1	3
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
<i>Paying off the national debt</i>					
January, 2001	54	32	8	2	4
January, 2000	44	38	11	3	4
July, 1999	45	41	10	2	2
January, 1999	42	43	10	1	4
January, 1998	46	40	9	3	2
c.F1 Reducing crime					
Jan 9-13, 2013	55	33	9	2	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	48	37	11	2	2
Jan 5-9, 2011	44	43	10	2	1
Jan 6-10, 2010	49	39	8	2	2
Jan 7-11, 2009	46	41	9	2	2
January, 2008	54	36	7	1	2
January, 2007	62	31	5	1	1
January, 2006	62	29	6	1	2
January, 2005	53	39	5	2	1
January, 2004	53	34	9	2	2
January, 2003	47	42	8	2	2
January, 2002	53	39	6	*	2
January, 2001	76	19	3	2	*
January, 2000	69	24	4	1	2
July, 1999	76	20	2	1	1
January, 1999	70	24	3	1	2
January, 1998	71	25	2	1	1
January, 1997	70	25	3	2	*
December, 1994	78	17	2	1	2

Q.30 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
d.F1	Reforming the nation's tax system Jan 9-13, 2013	52	32	7	3	6
e.F1	Protecting the environment					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	52	33	10	3	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	43	39	15	3	*
	Jan 5-9, 2011	40	44	12	3	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	44	42	11	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	41	42	12	3	2
	January, 2008	56	34	8	1	1
	January, 2007	57	32	9	1	1
	January, 2006	57	35	6	1	1
	January, 2005	49	42	8	1	*
	January, 2004	49	40	10	1	*
	January, 2003	39	50	9	1	1
	January, 2002	44	42	12	1	1
	January, 2001	63	30	3	3	1
	January, 2000	54	37	6	2	1
	July, 1999	59	32	7	1	1
	January, 1999	52	39	7	1	1
	January, 1998	53	37	8	1	1
	January, 1997	54	35	8	2	1
f.F1	Reducing health care costs					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	63	26	4	5	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	60	30	4	5	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	61	28	4	4	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	57	31	5	4	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	59	30	5	4	2
	January, 2008	69	24	3	3	1
	January, 2007	68	24	4	3	1
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>					
	January, 2006	60	28	6	3	3
	January, 2005	54	33	7	4	2
	January, 2004	50	35	8	4	3
	January, 2003	48	38	7	3	4
	January, 2002	50	37	7	4	2
	Early September, 2001	54	34	5	5	2
	January, 2001	66	22	4	5	3
	January, 2000	56	30	7	3	4
	July, 1999	57	29	7	4	3
g.F1	Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	39	40	13	4	3
	Jan 11-16, 2012	39	38	17	4	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	46	38	12	3	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	40	41	14	2	3
	Jan 7-11, 2009	41	36	18	3	2
	January, 2008	51	32	11	3	3
	January, 2007	55	29	11	3	2
h.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	71	22	5	1	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	69	25	5	1	*
	Jan 5-9, 2011	73	22	3	1	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	80	17	2	*	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	76	18	3	1	2

Q.30 CONTINUED...

		Top <u>priority</u>	Important but lower <u>priority</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Should not <u>be done</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	January, 2008	74	22	2	*	2
	January, 2007	80	16	2	1	1
	January, 2006	80	18	1	*	1
	January, 2005	75	21	2	1	1
	January, 2004	78	18	2	1	1
	January, 2003	81	16	2	1	0
	January, 2002	83	15	1	*	1
i.F1	Dealing with global trade issues					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	31	47	15	2	6
	Jan 11-16, 2012	38	40	14	4	4
	Jan 5-9, 2011	34	44	13	3	5
	Jan 6-10, 2010	32	46	12	4	7
	Jan 7-11, 2009	31	49	11	2	7
	January, 2008	37	45	11	2	5
	January, 2007	34	46	12	2	6
	January, 2006	30	46	11	5	8
	January, 2005	32	47	13	2	6
	January, 2004	32	47	14	3	4
	January, 2002	25	55	13	2	5
	January, 2001	37	46	8	3	6
	January, 2000	30	48	14	1	7
j.F1	Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	44	29	18	4	6
	Jan 11-16, 2012	40	31	18	5	6
	Jan 5-9, 2011	37	31	19	6	7
	Jan 6-10, 2010	36	34	18	7	6
	Jan 7-11, 2009	36	34	18	5	7
	January, 2008	39	32	16	4	9
	January, 2007	35	30	23	4	8
ASK ITEMS k THRU t FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:						
k.F2	Improving the country's roads, bridges, and public transportation systems					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	30	51	16	2	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	30	52	15	2	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	33	48	16	2	2
l.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	86	11	1	1	1
	Jan 11-16, 2012	86	11	1	1	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	87	11	1	1	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	83	14	1	1	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	85	12	*	1	1
	January, 2008	75	20	2	1	2
	January, 2007	68	25	4	2	1
	January, 2006	66	26	5	1	2
	January, 2005	75	22	2	*	1
	January, 2004	79	16	2	1	2
	January, 2003	73	23	2	1	1
	January, 2002	71	26	2	*	1
	Early September, 2001 ¹	80	18	1	*	1
	January, 2001	81	15	2	1	1
	January, 2000	70	25	3	1	1

¹ In Early September 2001, January 2001 and January 2000 the item was worded: "Keeping the economy strong."

Q.30 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
m.F2	Improving the educational system					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	70	22	4	2	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	65	27	4	3	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	66	26	5	2	1
	Jan 6-10, 2010	65	28	4	2	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	61	30	5	2	2
	January, 2008	66	26	4	2	2
	January, 2007	69	25	4	1	1
	January, 2006	67	26	4	2	1
	January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1
	Mid-January, 2004	71	23	4	1	1
	January, 2003	62	31	4	1	2
	January, 2002	66	27	4	1	2
	Early September, 2001	76	19	3	1	1
	January, 2001	78	17	1	3	1
	January, 2000	77	18	3	1	1
	July, 1999	74	19	4	1	2
	January, 1999	74	22	2	1	1
	January, 1998	78	17	3	2	*
	January, 1997	75	20	3	2	*
n.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	70	24	2	1	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	68	26	2	2	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	66	26	4	1	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	66	28	3	2	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	63	31	3	1	2
	January, 2008	64	28	4	2	2
	January, 2007	64	28	5	2	1
	January, 2006	64	28	4	2	2
	January, 2005	70	25	2	2	1
	January, 2004	65	28	4	2	1
	January, 2003	59	34	4	1	2
	January, 2002	62	32	3	1	2
	Early September, 2001	74	22	2	1	1
	January, 2001	74	21	1	2	2
	January, 2000	69	27	2	1	1
	July, 1999	73	23	3	*	1
	January, 1999	71	24	3	1	1
	January, 1998	71	24	4	1	*
	January, 1997	75	20	2	2	1
o.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	65	29	3	2	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	61	31	5	1	1
	Jan 5-9, 2011	61	31	4	2	3
	Jan 6-10, 2010	63	30	4	1	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	60	32	5	1	2
	January, 2008	60	33	4	1	2
	January, 2007	63	31	3	1	2
	January, 2006	62	30	4	2	2
	January, 2005	67	29	3	1	*
	January, 2004	62	32	4	1	1
	January, 2003	56	39	4	*	1
	January, 2002	55	38	5	1	1
	January, 2001	71	24	2	1	2
	January, 2000	64	30	3	1	2

Q.30 CONTINUED...

		Top <u>priority</u>	Important but lower <u>priority</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Should not <u>be done</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	July, 1999	71	24	3	1	1
	January, 1999	62	33	2	1	2
	January, 1998	64	31	3	1	1
	January, 1997	64	31	3	1	1
p.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	57	32	6	3	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	52	36	8	2	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	52	36	8	2	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	53	38	6	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	50	39	6	3	2
	January, 2008	51	37	7	2	3
	January, 2007	55	36	6	2	1
	January, 2006	55	36	6	1	2
	January, 2005	59	34	5	1	1
	January, 2004	50	42	6	1	1
	January, 2003	48	45	5	1	1
	January, 2002	44	46	7	2	1
	January, 2001	63	28	6	1	2
	January, 2000	55	38	4	1	2
	July, 1999	60	33	5	1	1
	January, 1999	57	37	4	1	1
	January, 1998	57	34	6	2	1
	January, 1997	57	35	6	2	*
q.F2	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	40	30	12	11	6
	Jan 11-16, 2012	44	30	11	10	5
	Jan 5-9, 2011	43	30	12	9	6
	Jan 6-10, 2010	45	31	13	7	4
	Jan 7-11, 2009	45	29	16	6	4
	January, 2008	43	31	13	8	5
	January, 2007	47	30	12	8	3
	January, 2006	47	26	14	9	4
	January, 2005	41	32	14	10	3
	January, 2004	45	31	13	9	2
	January, 2003	39	34	16	7	4
	January, 2002	45	32	12	7	4
	January, 2001	51	27	10	7	5
	January, 2000	48	34	9	6	3
	July, 1999	55	28	8	5	4
	January, 1999	50	31	10	5	4
	January, 1998	48	31	13	6	2
	January, 1997	52	29	10	6	3
r.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	41	36	14	7	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	39	36	15	8	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	43	35	14	6	3
	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	35	10	5	1
	Jan 7-11, 2009	44	39	8	4	5
	January, 2008	42	38	12	5	3
	January, 2007	46	35	10	5	4
	January, 2006	42	36	13	6	3
	January, 2005	52	35	8	3	2
	January, 2004	48	31	15	5	1
	January, 2003	48	34	11	4	3
	January, 2002	52	37	7	2	2
	January, 2001	48	37	8	5	2

Q.30 CONTINUED...

		Top priority	Important but lower priority	Not too important	Should not be done	(VOL.) DK/Ref
s.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problem					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	45	41	9	2	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	52	38	6	2	2
	Jan 5-9, 2011	50	39	7	2	2
	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	39	7	2	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	60	32	5	1	2
	January, 2008	59	32	6	1	2
	January, 2007	57	35	6	1	1
	January, 2006	58	33	6	1	2
	January, 2005	47	42	7	1	3
	January, 2004	46	41	10	1	2
	January, 2003	40	46	10	1	3
	January, 2002	42	46	7	2	3
	Early September, 2001 ²	46	41	6	2	5
t.F2	Dealing with global warming					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	28	36	18	14	4
	Jan 11-16, 2012	25	35	20	16	4
	Jan 5-9, 2011	26	35	21	14	4
	Jan 6-10, 2010	28	36	20	14	2
	Jan 7-11, 2009	30	37	19	10	4
	January, 2008	35	38	15	7	5
	January, 2007	38	34	16	8	4

ASK ALL:

u.	Strengthening gun control laws					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	37	26	12	21	3
	January, 2001	47	24	11	16	2
	January, 2000	46	25	16	11	2
	July, 1999	51	23	11	12	3

QUESTIONS 31-32 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**NO QUESTION 33, 37-39, 44-49, 52****QUESTIONS 34-36, 40-43, 50-51, 53-54 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****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?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
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
Oct 4-7, 2012	27	31	36	3	1	3	15	15
Sep 12-16, 2012	24	35	36	2	*	2	14	16
Jul 16-26, 2012	22	33	38	4	*	3	14	15
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	17
Jun 7-17, 2012	24	33	39	2	*	2	17	17
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	24	32	36	4	*	4	13	14
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17

² In Early September 2001 the item was worded: "Passing a comprehensive energy plan."

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
				<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>			
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
Jan 11-16, 2012	22	31	42	3	*	2	17	16
Jan 4-8, 2012	26	31	35	4	*	4	14	14
Yearly Totals								
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
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	--	--	--	--	--