

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST
SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,006**

PEW.1-PEW.2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

On another subject...

PEWWP.1 In the dispute between Israel and the Palestinians, which side do you sympathize with more, Israel or the Palestinians?

	<u>Israel</u>	<u>Palestinians</u>	<u>(VOL.) Both</u>	<u>(VOL.) Neither</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
September 15-18, 2011	40	10	3	21	25

FOR COMPARISON:¹

May 25-30, 2011	48	11	4	15	21
Apr 21-26, 2010	49	16	4	12	19
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	12	4	14	19
January 7-11, 2009	49	11	5	15	20
May, 2007	49	11	5	17	18
August, 2006	52	11	5	15	17
July, 2006	44	9	5	20	22
May, 2006	48	13	4	14	20
Late October, 2005	43	17	5	16	19
July, 2005	37	12	5	19	27
July, 2004	40	13	7	18	22
Late February, 2004	46	12	8	15	19
Mid-July, 2003	41	13	8	18	20
June, 2002	46	12	6	19	17
April, 2002	41	13	6	21	19
Mid-October, 2001	47	10	8	18	17
Early September, 2001	40	17	6	23	14
September, 1997	48	13	5	16	18
September, 1993	45	21	3	18	12
<i>Chicago CFR</i> 1990	34	14	7	26	20
<i>Chicago CFR</i> 1982	40	17	8	19	16
<i>Chicago CFR</i> 1978 ²	45	14	9	18	15

ASK ALL:

PEWWP.2 Thinking about the situation in the Middle East these days, do you think Barack Obama is **[RANDOMIZE: favoring Israel too much; favoring the Palestinians too much]** or striking about the right balance?

Sep 15-18 <u>2011</u>		May 25-28 <u>2011</u>	Apr 21-26 <u>2010</u>	Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>
5	Favoring Israel too much	6	7	7	6
20	Favoring the Palestinians too much	21	21	16	17
37	Striking about the right balance	50	47	51	62
38	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	24	25	26	14

¹ Non-response to questions PEWWP.1-PEWWP.3 was unusually high on this survey. These questions were asked near the start of this poll, while previously they have been asked in the middle of surveys with substantial political content preceding them.

² In the 1978 Chicago Council on Foreign Relations survey conducted by the Gallup Organization, results are based on respondents who said they had "heard or read about the situation in the Middle East", which represented 87% of the public. As a context note, in both the 1978 and 1982 CCFR/Gallup surveys, this question followed a broader question: "In the Middle East situation, are your sympathies more with Israel or more with the Arab nations?" and in 1982, a question regarding "U.S. military aid and arms sales to Israel".

ASK ALL:

PEWWP.3 Do you think the United States should or should not recognize Palestine as an independent nation?

		FOR COMPARISON:¹	
		ABC/Wash Post	ABC
Sep 15-18		April	Oct
<u>2011</u>		<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
42	Should	68	55
26	Should not	21	28
32	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	17

ASK ALL:

PEW.3 How much if anything, have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The planned debate at the United Nations over the status of the Palestinian territories September 15-18, 2011	10	38	51	1

PEW.3b-PEW3.d HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted September 15-18, 2011 among a national sample of 1,006 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (604 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 402 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 176 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. 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, 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, 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	1,006	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	264	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	289	7.0 percentage points
Independents	390	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.