

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER/NATIONAL JOURNAL
CONGRESSIONAL CONNECTION POLL
SEPTEMBER 9-12, 2010 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1001**

PEW.1 THROUGH PEW.3 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 Do you approve or disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in March?

IF DISAPPROVE (2 IN PEW.4) ASK:

PEW.5 What do you think Congress should do about health care now? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Sep 9-12 <u>2010</u>		Jul 8-11 <u>2010</u>	Apr 1-5 <u>2010</u> ¹
38	Approve	35	40
45	Disapprove	47	44
9	<i>Let the law stand and see how it works</i>	7	--
32	<i>Repeal the law as soon as possible</i>	37	--
4	<i>Don't know/Refused (VOL.)</i>	4	--
17	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	17	16

TREND FOR COMPARISON (BEFORE HEALTH CARE REFORM SIGNED INTO LAW):

As of right now, do you generally favor or generally oppose the health care bills being discussed in Congress?

	Generally <u>favor</u>	Generally <u>oppose</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 11-21, 2010	40	47	13
Mar 10-14, 2010	38	48	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	38	50	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	39	48	13
Dec 9-13, 2009	35	48	17
Nov 12-15, 2009	42	39	19
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	38	47	15
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	34	47	19
Sep 10-15, 2009	42	44	14
Aug 20-27, 2009	39	46	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	38	44	18

PEW.6 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

¹ In April, the question asked about the "legislation passed last month..."

ASK ALL:

PEW.7 Thinking about the Republican Party, who do YOU think of as the leader of the Republican Party these days... **[SINGLE RESPONSE, DO NOT READ OPTIONS. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE; ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]**

Sep 9-12 <u>2010</u>		Apr 21-26 <u>2010</u>	Dec 9-13 <u>2009</u>	Mar 9-12 <u>2009</u>
5	Sarah Palin	4	2	1
5	John McCain	8	9	11
4	John Boehner	1	*	*
2	Newt Gingrich	2	1	2
1	Mitt Romney	3	1	1
1	Rush Limbaugh	2	3	5
1	Michael Steele	1	1	2
1	Mitch McConnell	1	1	1
1	Glenn Beck	*	*	*
4	Other (anyone less than 1%)			
15	Nobody is	18	22	15
60	Don't know/Refused	52	55	57

RANDOMIZE PEW.8, PEW.9, PEW.10

ASK ALL:

PEW.8 As you may know, there is a current proposal that would allow younger workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in retirement accounts of their choice, which might include stocks, bonds or mutual funds and provide either a lower or higher benefit than Social Security does now. Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

Sep 9-12
2010

58	Favor
28	Oppose
15	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

TREND FOR COMPARISON: How much, if anything, have you heard about a proposal that would allow younger workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in private retirement accounts, which might include stocks or mutual funds – have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all?

Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

BASED ON TOTAL:

	Late May <u>2005</u>	Mid- March <u>2005</u>	March <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2005</u>	Early Dec <u>2004</u>	(RVs) Sept <u>2004</u>	Sept <u>2000</u>
Favor	47	46	44	46	54	58	70
Oppose	40	44	40	38	30	26	21
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	13	10	16	16	16	16	9

RANDOMIZE PEW.8, PEW.9, PEW.10

ASK ALL:

PEW.9 As you may know, Medicare is the government program that provides health care to seniors and people with permanent disabilities. Would you favor or oppose ending the current Medicare system and replacing it with a program that provides vouchers to Medicare participants so they can purchase private health insurance coverage?

Sep 9-12
2010

33	Favor
52	Oppose
15	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE PEW.8, PEW.9, PEW.10

ASK ALL:

PEW.10 As you may know, under the U.S. Constitution, all children born in the U.S. are automatically U.S. citizens, including those born to illegal immigrants. Would you favor changing the Constitution so that parents must be legal residents of the U.S. in order for their newborn child to be a citizen, or should the Constitution be left as it is?

Sep 9-12

2010

46 Favor changing Constitution
 49 Leave Constitution as is
 6 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**

TREND FOR COMPARISON²:

Were you aware that a child born to illegal immigrants in the U.S. is automatically a U.S. citizen, or weren't you aware of that?

Would you favor changing the Constitution so that the parents must be legal residents of the U.S. in order for their newborn child to be a citizen, or should the Constitution be left as it is?

BASED ON TOTAL:

	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	March <u>2006</u>
Favor changing Constitution	41	42
Leave Constitution as is	56	54
Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	4

ASK ALL:

PEW.11 Which comes closer to your view about the tax cuts passed when George W. Bush was president?
[READ IN ORDER]

	All of the tax cuts should remain in place	Tax cuts for the wealthy should be repealed, while others stay in place	All of the tax cuts should be repealed	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Sep 9-12, 2010	29	29	28	14
Jul 22-25, 2010	30	27	31	12
Late October, 2008 ³	23	34	27	16
Mid-October, 2008	25	37	25	13
November, 2007	30	38	22	10
October, 2007	24	31	30	15
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	34	22	14
Early October, 2006	26	36	26	12
April, 2006	25	36	28	11
December, 2004	28	35	25	12
Early September, 2004	27	31	28	14

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

ASK IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY:

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>	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
Sep 9-12, 2010	23	31	38	5	1	3	15	16

² In addition to differences in question wording, in both the June 2010 and March 2006 surveys, these questions followed a series of questions about immigration.

³ In 2008 and earlier surveys, the question was worded "...tax cuts passed under President Bush over the past few years."