

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MARCH 2012 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**March 7-11, 2012**  
**N=1503**

**QUESTIONS 1-57 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

- Q.58 In your opinion, should churches and other houses of worship **[RANDOMIZE: keep out of political matters; express their views on day-to-day social and political questions]** – or should they **[INSERT OTHER OPTION]**?

	<u>Should keep out</u>	<u>Should express views</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
Mar 7-11, 2012	54	40	6
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	52	43	5
August, 2008	52	45	3
July, 2006	46	51	3
July, 2005	44	51	5
August, 2004	44	51	5
Mid-July, 2003	44	52	4
March, 2001	43	51	6
September, 2000 (RVs) <sup>1</sup>	45	51	4
June, 1996	43	54	3
Gallup: February, 1968	53	40	7
Gallup: March, 1957	44	48	8

**ASK ALL:**

- Q.59 Do you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?<sup>2</sup>

Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>		Jul 21- Aug 5 <u>2010</u>	Aug <u>2008</u>	Aug <u>2007</u>	Jul <u>2005</u>	Aug <u>2004</u>	Mid-Jul <u>2003</u>	Mar <u>2002</u>	Early Oct <u>2001</u>
38	Too much	29	29	27	26	27	21	16	12
30	Too little	37	36	38	39	31	41	24	22
25	Right amount	24	28	26	27	32	29	53	60
7	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	10	7	9	8	10	9	7	6

**ASK ALL:**

- Q.60 As I name some groups, please tell me whether you feel each one is generally FRIENDLY toward religion, NEUTRAL toward religion, or UNFRIENDLY toward religion. First, do you feel that **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** [is/are] generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you feel that [ITEM] is generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion?]**

	<u>Friendly</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfriendly</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a. The Democratic Party				
Mar 7-11, 2012	35	36	21	8
Nov 9-14, 2011	30	40	20	11
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	41	19	14
August 20-27, 2009	29	39	22	11
August, 2008	38	37	15	10
August, 2007	30	37	15	18

<sup>1</sup> In 2000 and earlier, the question did not include "and other houses of worship."

<sup>2</sup> In March 2002 the question was worded, "Since September 11<sup>th</sup>, has there been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?" In Early October 2001 the question was part of a series and began, "As I read from a list, tell me if you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of what I mention."

## Q.60 CONTINUED...

	<u>Friendly</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfriendly</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
July, 2006	26	42	20	12
July, 2005	29	38	20	13
August, 2004	40	34	13	13
Mid-July, 2003	42	36	12	10
b. The Republican Party				
Mar 7-11, 2012	54	24	13	10
Nov 9-14, 2011	43	26	19	12
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	43	28	14	15
August 20-27, 2009	48	29	12	12
August, 2008	52	29	9	10
August, 2007	50	23	9	18
July, 2006	47	28	13	12
July, 2005	55	23	9	13
August, 2004	52	24	10	14
Mid-July, 2003	52	27	10	11
c. The Obama administration				
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	32	23	6
Aug 20-27, 2009	37	36	17	10
d. University professors				
Mar 7-11, 2012	14	37	32	17
July, 2003	18	40	26	16
e. News reporters and the news media				
Mar 7-11, 2012	19	38	35	8
August 20-27, 2009	14	42	35	9
July, 2003	16	41	34	9

## ASK ALL:

Q.61 Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree? Next **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree?]**

	-----AGREE-----			-----DISAGREE-----			<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comp- letely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comp- letely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	
a. Religious conservatives have too much control over the Republican Party							
Mar 7-11, 2012	51	21	30	40	13	27	9
August, 2008	48	17	31	41	11	30	11
August, 2007	43	15	28	41	10	31	16
July, 2005	45	14	31	43	11	32	12
Early September, 2004 (RVs) <sup>3</sup>	43	17	26	48	18	30	9
b. Liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party							
Mar 7-11, 2012	41	12	28	49	19	30	10
August, 2008	43	14	29	45	13	32	12
August, 2007	37	13	24	47	14	33	16
July, 2005	44	12	32	42	11	31	14

## QUESTIONS 62-76 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

<sup>3</sup> In 2004, asked as part of a list that began: "Here are some statements about the candidates and political parties.

**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?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
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
Dec 7-11, 2011	23	33	38	3	*	2	12	17
Nov 9-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	1	2	16	15
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
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
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	--	--	--	--	--