

PEW RESEARCH CENTER/WASHINGTON POST
July 28-31, 2011 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,001

ASK ALL:
 PEWWP.1

If you had to use one single word to describe your impression of the budget negotiations in Washington, what would that one word be? **[IF "DON'T KNOW" PROBE ONCE:** It can be anything, just the first word that comes to mind...] **[OPEN END: ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE]**

Jul 28-31 <u>2011</u>		Apr 9-10 <u>2011</u>
66	Ridiculous	29
42	Disgust/Disgusted/Disgusting	22
36	Stupid/Stupidity	13
26	Frustrated/Frustrating	14
25	Poor/Poorly	7
25	Terrible	7
24	Disappointing/Disappointment/Disappointed	13
23	Childish	6
22	Mess/Messy	14
22	Joke	
17	Pathetic	4
16	Confusing	4
14	Crazy	
13	Bad	
12	Idiot/Idiotic	5
11	Disaster	
11	Suck/Sucks	4
10	Sad	
9	Bull/Bull****	12
9	Chaos/Chaotic	4
9	Disgrace	
8	Lousy	
7	Politics/Political	4
7	Stinks	5
7	Outrageous	
7	Pitiful	
7	Scary	
6	Compromise	
5	Fair	5
5	Horrible	5
5	Difficult	
5	Juvenile	
5	Ludicrous	
5	Selfish	
5	Stalemate	
5	Complicated	
5	Incapable/incompetent	
5	Screwed up	
4	Concerned	
4	Futile	
4	Greed	
4	Sorry	
4	Asinine	
4	Awful	
4	Obama	
4	Stubborn	
4	Unfair	
305	Other	202
119	Don't know/Refused	45

NOTE: The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentage. Words with fewer than 4 mentions not shown.

In April this question was asked Saturday and Sunday only (N=427).

ASK ALL:
PEWWP.2

As a result of the budget negotiations in Washington over the last several weeks, have you come to have a MORE favorable opinion of **[INSERT ITEM, USE FULL TITLE AND NAME FOR ITEMS A-B; RANDOMIZE]** a LESS favorable opinion of **[INSERT ITEM, USE FIRST AND LAST NAME ONLY FOR ITEMS A-B]** or hasn't your opinion of **[him/them]** changed?¹

	<u>More favorable</u>	<u>Less favorable</u>	<u>Opinion has not changed</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. President Barack Obama July 28-31, 2011	18	37	44	2
b. Speaker of the House John Boehner July 28-31, 2011	11	34	45	9
c. Democrats in Congress July 28-31, 2011	13	30	53	5
d. Republicans in Congress July 28-31, 2011	11	42	44	4
e. Members of Congress affiliated with the Tea Party movement July 28-31, 2011	11	37	45	6

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

In the past few weeks, have you come to have a MORE favorable opinion of Barack Obama, a LESS favorable opinion of Barack Obama, or hasn't your opinion of him changed lately?

	<u>More favorable</u>	<u>Less favorable</u>	<u>Opinion has not changed</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
January 29-February 1, 2010	18	22	57	3
January 22-25, 2010	8	33	55	4
December 4-7, 2009	12	27	57	3
September 11-14, 2009	19	26	53	1
June 25-28, 2009	13	20	63	4
May 21-24, 2009	18	21	60	1
April 9-13, 2009	20	18	60	2
March 20-23, 2009	22	19	56	3
February 27-March 2, 2009	23	20	56	1
February 6-9, 2009	23	16	60	1

2008 CAMPAIGN

TREND FOR COMPARISON:²

October 31-November 3, 2008	25	25	49	1
October 24-27, 2008	24	21	52	3
October 17-20, 2008	33	23	43	1
October 10-13, 2008	29	21	48	2
October 3-6, 2008	28	23	47	2
September 26-29, 2008	31	23	45	1
September 19-22, 2008	25	20	53	2
September 12-15, 2008	20	20	58	2
September 5-8, 2008	20	20	59	1
August 29-31, 2008	29	19	50	2

¹ PEWWP.1 and PEWWP.2a-e asked in conjunction with *The Washington Post*.

² For March 20-24, 2008, through October 31-November 3, 2008, the introduction read, "In the past few days." For September 12-15 through October 31-November 3, 2008, the question asked respondents to "Please think about each of the following candidates," Barack Obama, John McCain, Joe Biden and Sarah Palin in the 2008 presidential and vice presidential elections. For June 13-16, 2008, through September 5-8, 2008, the question was worded, "Please think about each of the following *presidential* candidates..." and asked about Barack Obama and John McCain. For March 20-24, 2008, through June 6-9, 2008, the list of presidential candidates included Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain.

PEWWP.2 CONTINUED...	<u>More favorable</u>	<u>Less favorable</u>	<u>Opinion has not changed</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
August 22-25, 2008	22	21	54	3
August 15-18, 2008	16	21	60	3
August 8-11, 2008	15	18	64	3
August 1-4, 2008	16	22	60	2
July 25-28, 2008	17	21	59	3
July 18-21, 2008	16	22	60	2
July 11-14, 2008	15	17	64	4
July 3-7, 2008	17	17	62	4
June 27-30, 2008	21	19	56	4
June 20-23, 2008	16	16	66	2
June 13-16, 2008	17	15	64	4
June 6-9, 2008	19	17	61	3
May 30-June 2, 2008	17	21	58	4
May 22-25, 2008	18	20	60	2
May 16-19, 2008	19	19	59	3
May 9-12, 2008	20	23	55	2
May 2-5, 2008	11	25	59	5
April 25-28, 2008	16	24	58	2
April 18-21, 2008	18	24	54	4
March 28-31, 2008	18	27	52	3
March 20-24, 2008	22	30	46	2

PEW.1-PEW.2 AND PEW.3-PEW.4 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 28-31, 2011, among a national sample of 1,001 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (600 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 401 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 173 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/detailed>.

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	1,001	4.0 percentage points
Republicans	249	7.5 percentage points
Democrats	311	7.0 percentage points
Independents	374	6.5 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.