

Scholars and Rogues Analysis of Pew Research Center January 2009 Political Poll

| 2009, "top priority" sorted | a top priority | important but lower priority | not too important | should not be done | don't know/refused | a "priority" | not a "priority" |
|---|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Strengthening the nation's economy | 85 | 12 | | 1 | 1 | 97 | 1 |
| Improving the job situation | 82 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 97 | 2 |
| Defending the country from future terrorist attacks | 76 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 94 | 4 |
| Taking steps to make the social security system financially sound | 63 | 31 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 94 | 4 |
| Improving the educational system | 61 | 30 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 91 | 7 |
| Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound | 60 | 32 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 92 | 6 |
| Dealing with the nation's energy problem | 60 | 32 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 92 | 6 |
| reducing health care costs | 59 | 30 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 89 | 9 |
| Reducing the budget deficit | 53 | 33 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 86 | 9 |
| providing health insurance to the uninsured | 52 | 33 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 85 | 12 |
| Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people | 50 | 39 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 89 | 9 |
| Reducing crime | 46 | 41 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 87 | 11 |
| Dealing with the moral breakdown of the country | 45 | 29 | 16 | 6 | 4 | 74 | 22 |
| strengthening the U.S. military | 44 | 39 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 83 | 12 |
| reducing federal income taxes for the middle class | 43 | 39 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 82 | 14 |
| protecting the environment | 41 | 42 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 83 | 15 |
| dealing with the issue of illegal immigration | 41 | 36 | 48 | 3 | 2 | 77 | 51 |
| Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington | 36 | 34 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 70 | 23 |
| dealing with global trade issues | 31 | 49 | 11 | 2 | 7 | 80 | 13 |
| Dealing with global warming | 30 | 37 | 19 | 10 | 4 | 67 | 29 |

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| Strengthening the nation's economy | 75 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 95 | 3 |
| defending the country from future terrorist attacks | 74 | 22 | 2 | | 2 | 96 | 2 |
| reducing health care costs | 69 | 24 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 93 | 6 |
| Improving the educational system | 66 | 26 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 92 | 6 |
| Taking steps to make the social security system financially sound | 64 | 28 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 92 | 6 |
| Improving the job situation | 61 | 31 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 92 | 6 |
| Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound | 60 | 33 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 93 | 5 |
| Dealing with the nation's energy problem | 59 | 32 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 91 | 7 |
| Reducing the budget deficit | 58 | 33 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 91 | 6 |
| protecting the environment | 56 | 34 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 90 | 9 |
| Reducing crime | 54 | 36 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 90 | 8 |
| providing health insurance to the uninsured | 54 | 32 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 86 | 12 |
| dealing with the issue of illegal immigration | 51 | 32 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 83 | 14 |
| Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people | 51 | 37 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 88 | 9 |
| reducing federal income taxes for the middle class | 46 | 40 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 86 | 11 |
| Dealing with the moral breakdown of the country | 43 | 31 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 74 | 21 |
| strengthening the U.S. military | 42 | 38 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 80 | 17 |
| Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington | 39 | 32 | 16 | 4 | 9 | 71 | 20 |
| dealing with global trade issues | 37 | 45 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 82 | 13 |
| Dealing with global warming | 35 | 38 | 15 | 7 | 5 | 73 | 22 |

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| defending the country from future terrorist attacks | 80 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 96 | 3 |
| Improving the educational system | 69 | 25 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 94 | 5 |
| reducing health care costs | 68 | 24 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 92 | 7 |
| Strengthening the nation's economy | 68 | 25 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 93 | 6 |
| Taking steps to make the social security system financially sound | 64 | 28 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 92 | 7 |
| Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound | 63 | 31 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 94 | 4 |
| Reducing crime | 62 | 31 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 93 | 6 |
| Improving the job situation | 57 | 30 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 87 | 11 |
| protecting the environment | 57 | 32 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 89 | 10 |
| Dealing with the nation's energy problem | 57 | 35 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 92 | 7 |
| providing health insurance to the uninsured | 56 | 31 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 87 | 11 |
| dealing with the issue of illegal immigration | 55 | 29 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 84 | 14 |
| Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people | 55 | 36 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 91 | 8 |
| Reducing the budget deficit | 53 | 34 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 87 | 9 |
| reducing federal income taxes for the middle class | 48 | 35 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 83 | 14 |
| Dealing with the moral breakdown of the country | 47 | 30 | 12 | 8 | 3 | 77 | 20 |
| strengthening the U.S. military | 46 | 35 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 81 | 15 |
| Dealing with global warming | 38 | 34 | 16 | 8 | 4 | 72 | 24 |
| Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington | 35 | 30 | 23 | 44 | 8 | 65 | 67 |
| dealing with global trade issues | 34 | 46 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 80 | 14 |

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| dealing with the issue of illegal immigration | 51 | 32 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 83 | 14 |
| dealing with global trade issues | 37 | 45 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 82 | 13 |
| strengthening the U.S. military | 42 | 38 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 80 | 17 |
| Dealing with the moral breakdown of the country | 43 | 31 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 74 | 21 |
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