



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
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No Rise In Fears or Reported Depression

PUBLIC REMAINS STEADY IN FACE OF ANTHRAX SCARE

Reports of new anthrax cases in New York and elsewhere are not raising public anxiety or further demoralizing Americans. Reports of depression, sleeplessness and concern over renewed terrorism have not increased following the news on Oct. 12 that an NBC employee had been infected with anthrax. In the wake of those reports, about three-in-ten (29%) this weekend said they were feeling depressed, compared to 33% who made such reports earlier in the week, and 42% who said they had felt depressed in early October. The number who have experienced insomnia also declined from 18% in early October to 12% this weekend.

While new anthrax outbreaks have not panicked or demoralized the public, fears over terrorism remain high. About seven-in-ten (69%) have some concern over new attacks, and better than half (52%) are at least somewhat worried that they or their families could become victims of terrorism. There has been no increase in these concerns since early October and no spike in worries this weekend.

The latest Pew Research Center survey, conducted Oct. 10-14, shows that, as in previous polls, many more women than men are experiencing psychological stress related to terrorism. Four-in-ten women reported feelings of

American Anxiety Unchanged				
	Sept 21-25	Oct 1-3	Oct 10-11	Oct 12-14
	%	%	%	%
<i>Worry you/family will be a victim</i>				
Very	17	n/a	15	20
Somewhat	36	n/a	32	32
Not too	31	n/a	30	29
Not at all	15	n/a	21	17
DK/Refused	1	n/a	2	2
	100		100	100
<i>Worry about another attack in the U.S.</i>				
Very	n/a	28	27	27
Somewhat	n/a	45	38	42
Not too	n/a	15	18	19
Not at all	n/a	11	15	10
DK/Refused	n/a	1	2	2
		100	100	100
<i>Have felt depressed+</i>				
Yes	71	42	33	29
No	27	57	65	68
DK/Refused	2	1	2	3
	100	100	100	100
<i>Trouble sleeping+</i>				
Yes	33	18	14	12
No	66	81	86	87
DK/Refused	1	1	*	1
	100	100	100	100

+ "Because of the way you feel about the terrorist attacks" in Sept and early October. "Because of your concerns about terrorist attacks or the war against terrorism" in mid-October.

depression compared to only about one-in-five (21%) men. Better than twice as many women as men have experienced insomnia (19% to 7%). Women are more worried about new terrorist attacks, and are more likely to express concern that they or their families could fall victim to terrorism.

The survey shows that a solid majority of Americans (59%) believe that the military, rather than news organizations, should exert more control over news on the war in Afghanistan. That is about the same proportion that supported military censorship in the Persian Gulf War a decade ago (57%). Nearly seven-in-ten Republicans (68%) back military control over war news, compared to only about half (53%) of Democrats.

A narrower majority (52%) believes that U.S. news organizations should not show videotaped speeches by suspected terrorist leader Osama bin Laden. Partisan differences on this issue are minimal, but there is a significant age gap. While most Americans under age 30 (55%) say the media should air bin Laden's messages; majorities in other age groups favor censoring his speeches.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 891 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period October 10-14, 2001. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 4 percentage points. For results based on October 10-11 (N=400) or October 12-14 (N=491), the sampling error is plus or minus 5.5 percentage points.

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.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS
'AMERICA RESPONDS' TRACKING SURVEY, PART I
OCTOBER 10-14, 2001
N=891

Q.5 In the past few days, have you yourself felt depressed because of your concerns about terrorist attacks or the war against terrorism?

<u>Total</u>	Oct <u>10-11</u>	Oct <u>12-14</u>		Early Oct <u>2001^a</u>	Mid-Sept <u>2001^b</u>	GULF WAR <u>Jan. 1991</u>
31	33	29	Yes	42	71	50
66	65	68	No	57	27	49
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100		100	100	100
	(N=400)	(N=491)				

Q.6 In the past few days, have you had any trouble sleeping because of your concerns about terrorist attacks or the war against terrorism?

<u>Total</u>	Oct <u>10-11</u>	Oct <u>12-14</u>		Early Oct <u>2001^c</u>	Mid-Sept <u>2001^d</u>
13	14	12	Yes	18	33
86	86	87	No	81	66
<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100		100	100
	(N=400)	(N=491)			

Q.7 How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? **[READ]**

<u>Total</u>	Oct <u>10-11</u>	Oct <u>12-14</u>		Early Oct <u>2001</u>
27	27	27	Very worried	28
40	38	42	Somewhat worried	45
19	18	19	Not too worried	15
12	15	10	Not at all worried	11
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100	100	100		100
	(N=400)	(N=491)		

^a In Early October 2001, the question was worded "... depressed by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?"

^b In Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "Have you yourself felt depressed by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?"

^c In Early October 2001, the question was worded "... sleeping because of the way you feel about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?"

^d In Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "Have you had any trouble sleeping because of the way you feel about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?"

Q.8 All in all, how worried are you that you or someone in your family might become a victim of a terrorist attack? Would you say you are [READ]

Total	Oct			Late Sept 2001	----- Gallup -----				
	10-11	12-14			9/14-15 2001 ^e	9/11 2001 ^f	Aug 1998	July 1996	April 1995 ^g
18	15	20	Very worried	17	18	23	10	13	14
32	32	32	Somewhat worried	36	33	35	22	26	28
29	30	29	Not too worried	31	35	24	38	34	33
19	21	17	Not at all worried	15	13	16	29	27	24
0	0	0	Already victim [VOL.]	*	*	1	--	--	--
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100

(N=400) (N=491)

Q.9 In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the terrorist attacks and the war against terrorism? [READ]^h

		Early Oct	Mid-Sept	GULF WAR
		2001	2001	Jan 1991
32	Excellent	56	36	
42	Good	37	33	42
17	Only fair	6	15	
6	Poor	3	3	5
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.10 Do you think the military should exert more control over how news organizations report about the war or do you think that most decisions about how to report about the war should be left to news organizations themselves?

		GULF WAR	
		Jan 1991	Oct 1986
59	Give military more control	57	29
28	News organizations should decide	34	64
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

^eFor the September 14-15 Gallup trend the question started with wording, "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred this past Tuesday in New York City and Washington, DC..."

^fFor the September 11 Gallup trend the question started with wording, "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred today in New York City and Washington, DC..."

^gFor the April 1995 Gallup trend the question was worded, "How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of a terrorist attack similar to the bombing in Oklahoma City?"

^hIn Early October 2001 and Mid-September 2001 the question was worded, "In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?" In January 1991 the question was worded "covering the War in the Gulf."

Q.11 ASKED OCT. 12-14 ONLY [N=490]:

Q.11 Do you think the American news media should show videotaped speeches made by Osama bin Laden or not?

40	Yes
52	No
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	