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66% Of Democrats Want Clinton Nomination Challenged
PUBLIC EXPECTS GOP MIRACLES

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Robert C. Toth, Senior Associate
Carol Bowman, Director of Research
Kimberly Parker, Assistant Research Director
Times Mirror Center for The People & The Press
202/293-3126

66% Of Democrats Want Clinton Nomination Challenged **PUBLIC EXPECTS GOP MIRACLES**

The GOP is riding high with the public in the after-glow of its big election victory. Most Americans (57%) are happy the Republicans won, approve of their plans and policies for the future (52%), and think party leaders will be successful in getting things done in Washington (62%).

But for all the enthusiasm, and despite their expressed interest in Republican agenda items such as trimming the budget deficit, welfare reform and a middle class tax cut, Americans still sound like Democrats in many ways. When asked about the federal budget, for example, the public would maintain or *increase* spending on a wide variety of programs, ranging from public education to defense.

These are the principal findings of a nationwide poll of 1,511 Americans conducted this past weekend which found public evaluations of the Democratic party at an all-time low, and more Americans self-identifying as Republicans than as Democrats. Yet the survey revealed mixed personal evaluations of prominent Republican leaders. New Senate majority leader Dole received only fairly positive ratings. Speaker of the House to be Gingrich received fairly *negative* evaluations, and prospective Senate Armed Service Chairman Helms got *horrible* ratings.

Times Mirror respondents were also clear in their view of Bill Clinton. A test election question found Clinton trailing a generic Republican by 33% to 40%, with fully 18% favoring a generic Independent candidate for President. Further, the poll showed that 66% of Democrats want to see other candidates challenge Clinton for their party's presidential nomination in 1996.

Reflecting Clinton's low public esteem, Americans are divided on who should take the lead in solving the country's problems: 43% want GOP Congressional leaders, while 39% want the President. Democrats express considerable willingness to cooperate with the Republican agenda. By a 61% to 33% margin, Democrats think their party leaders should go along with the GOP to get things accomplished, rather than standing up to the GOP on issues that are important to Democratic groups.

While Americans welcome new congressional leadership in Washington, they are even more emphatic than a year ago that the focus remain on domestic issues rather than foreign policy. No fewer than 85% think it important that President Clinton concentrate on domestic issues -- up from 76% who held that view in October 1993. On international issues, support for NATO remains high, despite Bosnia and despite Bob Dole's criticisms. Nearly two in three Americans (60%) think that the alliance should be maintained -- about what Gallup found in response to the same question in 1991.

The Public's Agenda

For the most part the public agrees with the national priorities detailed in the Contract for America (even though the Contract itself remains unfamiliar to as much as 52% of the public). Reducing crime is the most urgent issue, with 78% giving it a high priority. Two other prominent Contract items, welfare reform (66%) and reducing the budget deficit (65%), also received high priority from a large majority of the electorate. Improving the job situation is also still very much on the public's agenda (64%).

Health care reform, cutting taxes for the middle class, passing a constitutional amendment that would require a balanced budget, and stricter control of handguns constitute a second tier of issues. About half those polled by Times Mirror gave these problems a high priority rating. Least high priority support went to a school prayer amendment (33%), term limits (33%), and cutting the capital gains tax (27%).

By and large there is more agreement than disagreement about national priorities among major demographic and political groups. However, gender and partisan differences were sharp with regard to priorities for some issues. Republicans and men give higher priority to welfare reform and cutting the budget deficit, while women and Democrats stress health care reform and handgun control.

While not in the GOP Contract, the issue of welfare benefits for illegal immigrants has engaged public attention. Fully 26% of respondents said they followed "very closely" news about California's controversial Proposition 187 which bars education, health and welfare benefits from illegal immigrants and their children; another 32% followed that story "fairly closely." And a majority (53%) of Times Mirror respondents said they would favor a similar law in their state, with 41% opposed. Southwestern and southern border states showed somewhat more support for such a law, as did men and college graduates.

Don't Spend More, Yet Don't Spend Less

The good news for GOP leaders who will struggle with cutting the deficit is that compared to five years ago the public no longer wants to see federal spending increased on a wide range of programs. The bad news is that for the most part the public wants spending levels at least maintained, but not cut.

This represents a significant change in the public's spending priorities over the past four years, a change that seems disturbingly out of step with the GOP's budget strategy. In May, 1990, most of the public wanted more spending for most large government programs. Now fewer of the public want increases, but this is offset by a rise in those who want spending to stay the same. No significant new support was found for spending cuts in 14 program areas tested, with three exceptions -- environmental protection, farm subsidies and government assistance for the unemployed.

Moreover, the support for increased spending, plus support for keeping spending at the same level, add up to very impressive majorities, ranging from 63% to 94%, for every one of the 14 government programs asked about in the Times Mirror poll, without exception. Most support goes to combatting crime: 71% for increasing spending on this problem, 23% for keeping expenditures at current levels. Next highest spending priority is the public school systems: 64% for more spending, 28% for keeping spending the same.

Then comes research on AIDS (55% for increased spending), programs for the homeless (53%), health care (52%), re-training programs for displaced workers (50%), Social Security (46%), financial aid for college students (41%), environmental protection (40%), scientific research (37%), military defense (31%), farm subsidies (27%), programs that assist blacks and other minorities (also 27%), and government assistance for the unemployed (25%).

These high levels of support for increased spending, compared to 1990, are nonetheless down sharply in virtually all of these program areas. Environmental protection took the biggest slap in this respect. From 71% supporting increased spending on the environment in 1990, only 40% now favor an increase; and whereas only 3% wanted such programs cut then, 17% now call for decreases now. Older Americans (50 years old and over) and those who voted for Bush in 1992 were found disproportionately more often calling for cuts in environmental spending.

Farm subsidies were also harshly treated. The 27% who now want those subsidies increased is only half of the 50% who said the same in 1990. Moreover, fully 29% now call for cuts in the program, double the 13% who did so four years ago. All told, agriculture is the program category that has attracted the most opposition. Respondents wanting to reduce farm subsidies were far more often men than women (37% vs. 22%), college graduates rather than those without a high school education (46% vs. 21%), as well as older, wealthier, suburban Americans who voted for Ross Perot in 1992 and live in the Western region of the country.

Social Security, too, received less support for increased expenditures, as did spending on public school education, on programs to assist blacks and other minorities, on programs to assist the homeless, on health care, and on scientific research. Support for more money for AIDS research was almost at the same level as previously: 59% in 1990 and 55% now.

The program which received the biggest boost was national defense: 31% favored increased spending, up from 23% in 1990; and 44% favored keeping spending at the same level, up from 31% in 1990. Sentiment for cutting military spending was almost halved, from 43% in 1990 to 23% now. Demographically, those who called for a higher Pentagon budget were largely the less educated, older Americans, most often from the south, who voted for George Bush in 1992.

GOP Gains

At least for the moment, more Americans think of themselves as Republicans (35%) than as Democrats (30%), a reversal of the usual ordering. But this may more reflect the Democratic party falling into disfavor than a surge of enthusiasm for the GOP. Since July evaluations of the GOP have become only some what more positive, while views of the Democrats have become *much* more negative.

TREND IN OPINION

	Favorable	Unfavorable	No Opinion
	%	%	%
Republican Party			
July 1994	63	33	4
December	67	27	6
The Democratic Party			
July 1994	62	34	4
December	50	44	6

The Democratic Party is viewed unfavorably by more people from all demographic and political categories, but the falloff in favorable opinions since the summer was greatest among Midwesterners, Perot voters and residents of rural areas.

Clinton Troubles, Carter Troubles: A Comparison

The decline in the Democratic party's standing with the public is mirrored in how Americans have come to feel about Bill Clinton. Nearly as many Americans now say they have an unfavorable opinion of the President (46%) as have a favorable one (51%). And unlike just a few months ago, the President's ratings are not any better than the First Lady's.

A comparison with Jimmy Carter when his Presidency was in trouble provides striking evidence that Clinton's problem are much more rooted in attitudes toward him personally than was the case with Carter in the summer of 1979. At that time President Carter's Gallup approval rating was a meager 29%, fully 11% points below Clinton's current reading. But his favorability rating was 62% -- 11% points higher than Bill Clinton's favorable rating in this poll.

WITH CLINTON, IT'S PERSONAL

	Carter July 1979	Clinton Dec. 1994
Personal Favorability		
Favorable	62	51
Unfavorable	35	46
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100
Presidential Approval		
Approve	29	41
Disapprove	58	47
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100

Clinton's image problems are reflected both in how poorly he fares when ballot-tested against unnamed Republican and Independent opponents, and in the large percentage of Democrats who would like to see a nomination challenge in 1996. While as many 66% of Democrats would like to see other Democrats enter the race, 81% of Independents feel that way.

Independent backing will be crucial to all candidates in 1996. In the current three way ballot test, only 28% of Independents said they would vote for Clinton. In 1992 he polled 40% of the Independent vote in his victory over George Bush and Ross Perot.

Dole Ratings Flat-- Newt's No Hit Either

The nation's ranking Republican, Bob Dole has not reaped a big image dividend from the GOP's November 8th victory. His 58% to 28% favorable to unfavorable rating is unchanged from his 59% to 28% score in a July Times Mirror survey. However, it is more positive than the ratings of other well know Republicans, such as Dan Quayle (46%-46%) and especially Jesse Helms (29%-47%).

Even though news about the election outcome leads this month's Times Mirror News Interest Index Newt Gingrich is not yet a household word. Nearly half of those polled had never heard of

him, or were unable to make a basic evaluation of the new Speaker of the House. Americans who have come to know Newt don't seem captivated -- 25% rated him favorably and 28% unfavorably.

Looking ahead to '96, while Bob Dole is the best regarded of the well known Republicans, lesser known potential rivals such as Kemp, Cheney and Gramm have strong images among those who know these men well enough to evaluate them. Lamar Alexander's ratings are slightly below that of the others on this basis. Arlen Specter, who has formally expressed interest in his party's nomination, gets even lower evaluations than other possible candidates.

When ratings of potential presidential candidates are based on the views of Republicans only, Bob Dole's relative standing improves markedly. However, non-pol Colin Powell is still better evaluated than Dole, even among Republicans.

EVALUATIONS OF LEADING REPUBLICANS

	Favor- Able	Unfavor- Able	Never Heard of/ Can't Rate	Favorable/ Unfavorable Ratio*	Among Republicans Only
Jack Kemp	42	18	40	70	77
Phil Gramm	31	19	50	62	72
Newt Gingrich	26	28	46	48	67
Lamar Alexander	16	11	73	59	62
Bob Dole	57	28	15	67	80
Jesse Helms	29	47	24	38	49
Dick Cheney	42	18	40	70	72
Dan Quayle	46	46	8	50	63
Colin Powell	69	10	21	88	89
Arlen Specter	21	18	61	54	60

* Based on the percentage favorable among those able to rate the individual

'94 Voters Less Informed, But Just As Satisfied

In addition to being happy that the GOP won control of the U.S. Congress, most American voters (70%) said they were satisfied with the outcome of election contests in their states. About the same percentage (73%) expressed the same view four years ago. However, fewer voters felt well informed by the election campaigns this fall compared to 1990. In the current survey, registered voters divided evenly between those who felt they learned enough to make an informed choice (48%) and those who did not (50%). Four years ago, voters said they felt well informed by a 54% to 43% margin.

Unlike four years ago, Democrats were much less happy with the outcome of the election than Republicans and Independents. In 1990, Republicans, Democrats and Independents all expressed roughly equal levels of contentment with the results.

Support for NATO

Despite its professed emphasis on domestic issues, the public does not appear unaware of international developments.

Amid the crisis in U.S.-European relations over Bosnia, the public remains highly in favor (60%) of retaining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization despite its inability to end the Balkan conflict. A similar proportion of respondents (62%) answered the same way in a Gallup poll in 1991. However, the proportion of respondents who say NATO is no longer necessary has jumped from 17% three years ago to 27% now, perhaps indicating greater public awareness of NATO's performance. The pro-NATO sentiment was noticeably greater among whites than blacks (62% vs. 46%), among the college educated than those without a high school diploma (70% vs. 42%), and among the wealthiest (68% among those earning \$50,000 and over vs. 50% among those making under \$20,000 a year).

Public attentiveness to the Balkan conflict appears no higher than previously despite the threat to NATO's integrity. But a surprisingly high proportion of respondents -- 50% -- knew that the Serbs are winning the Bosnian war rather than the Muslims.

America's leadership position in the world is essentially unchanged in the public's mind, with 40% saying the U.S. plays a more important role now compared to ten years ago (37% said that in 1990 and in 1993), but 27% said the U.S. role is less important (down from 35% in 1990 and 30% in 1993). Significantly more blacks and Hispanics believe the U.S. role is more important today than whites (53% and 52% vs. 39%, respectively).

GATT Gets Some Attention

The public showed greater awareness of foreign trade issues in December, probably due to increased news coverage of the debate on GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). Those who said they followed closely the debate over GATT ratification rose from 26% in October (8% said they followed it "very closely," 18% said "fairly closely") to 44% (16% "very closely") in the immediate wake of the treaty's passage. Of those who followed it closely (very closely plus fairly closely), 64% supported the treaty, with 28% opposed.

The public's view of U.S. economic competitiveness in the world has significantly improved recently. Some 27% said it has improved in the past ten years, compared to 20% who held that view in 1990. And at least as importantly, those who said U.S. competitiveness has worsened dropped from 51% to 38% over the same period. Attentiveness to news about the condition of the U.S. economy, overall, remains at about its lowest level in three years, which also suggests reduced public anxiety about America's position in the global economy.

Other News Followed Closely

Among the stories making news in recent weeks, the public was most attentive to the mid-term elections by far. Fully 41% said they followed "very closely" news about the outcome, about double their attention to the campaign in September and October but comparable to the 38% who followed "very closely" the outcome of the previous mid-term election, in November, 1990.

Several other stories received much the same following as previously. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy were followed "very closely" by 28%, the same level since last spring and markedly lower than the 49% in February, 1993, when interest in economic matters peaked. The O.J. Simpson case was followed "very closely" by 23%, essentially the same level as two months earlier and significantly below the 48% level in June. And the U.S. force deployment to Haiti was followed "very closely" by 31%, down only somewhat from 38% in October.

Two new stories also attracted considerable attention: 19% followed "very closely" the recent comments by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), new chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, about Clinton, with another 21% following it "fairly closely."¹

¹Helms said in an off-hand remark, that Clinton should take bodyguards when he visited any military base in North Carolina.

PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	Outcome Of the Elections	Deployment Of U.S. Forces to Haiti	Reports About U.S. Economy	Passage Proposition 187	(N)
<i>Total</i>	41	31	28	26	(1511)
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	42	37	31	27	(754)
Female	40	25	25	25	(757)
<i>Race</i>					
White	42	31	28	24	(1250)
*Hispanic	36	28	36	43	(80)
Black	38	36	29	38	(141)
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	32	30	20	21	(307)
30-49	41	28	26	23	(673)
50+	45	36	35	32	(523)
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	53	38	39	32	(418)
Other College	44	32	26	24	(399)
High School Grad	37	31	25	26	(549)
< H. S. Grad.	32	23	23	22	(143)
<i>Region</i>					
East	36	32	30	24	(305)
Midwest	40	32	26	23	(380)
South	41	33	28	17	(561)
West	47	26	28	46	(265)
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	48	32	28	25	(542)
Democrat	42	31	29	29	(442)
Independent	33	31	28	24	(471)

Question: Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely.

*The designation, hispanic, is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

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PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	O.J. Simpson Case	Comments By Sen. Jesse Helms	Debate Over GATT	Civil War in Bosnia	(N)
<i>Total</i>	23	19	16	13	(1511)
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	20	22	19	14	(754)
Female	26	16	13	12	(757)
<i>Race</i>					
White	21	19*	16	12	(1250)
*Hispanic	37	23	14	19	(80)
Black	41	20	18	17	(141)
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	29	10	9	9	(307)
30-49	20	17	15	14	(673)
50+	25	27	22	15	(523)
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	14	30	23	18	(418)
Other College	20	14	15	13	(399)
High School Grad	26	18	16	11	(549)
< H. S. Grad.	34	13	12	11	(143)
<i>Region</i>					
East	19	19	15	15	(305)
Midwest	20	17	18	13	(380)
South	28	20	17	12	(561)
West	24	19	15	12	(265)
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	22	14	17	13	(542)
Democrat	26	27	17	15	(442)
Independent	22	16	16	11	(471)

Question: Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely.

*The designation, hispanic, is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

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TABLES

1996 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE
Three-Way Race

	<i>Clinton</i>	<i>Republican</i>	<i>Independent</i>	<i>Don't Know/ Refused</i>	<i>N</i>
Total	33	40	18	9=100	1511
Registered Voters	33	43	16	9=100	1102
Sex					
Male	30	41	20	9=100	754
Female	35	39	17	9=100	757
Race					
White	28	44	18	10=100	1250
Black	69	10	14	7=100	141
Hispanic	39	31	22	8=100	80
Age					
18-29	28	45	24	3=100	307
30-49	31	40	20	9=100	673
50-64	34	39	15	12=100	286
65+	40	35	12	13=100	237
Education					
College Grad.	36	45	12	7=100	418
Some College	31	43	17	9=100	399
H.S. Grad.	29	40	22	9=100	549
< High School	38	31	20	11=100	143
Family Income					
\$50,000+	30	50	15	5=100	349
\$30,000-49,999	31	41	19	9=100	422
\$20,000-29,999	30	40	22	8=100	295
< \$20,000	43	27	19	11=100	302
Region					
East	35	37	18	10=100	305
Midwest	30	45	16	9=100	380
South	31	40	19	10=100	561
West	37	36	20	7=100	265

Question: Also looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected, or would you like to see a Republican candidate, or Independent candidate be elected President in 1996? (Includes Leaners)

	<i>Clinton</i>	<i>Republican</i>	<i>Independent</i>	<i>Don't Know/ Refused</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Community</i>					
Large City	40	36	16	8=100	307
Suburb	32	45	17	6=100	363
Small City/Town	31	40	19	10=100	524
Rural Area	27	39	22	12=100	310
<i>Party Identification</i>					
Republican	4	84	6	6=100	542
Democrat	71	9	13	7=100	442
Independent	28	22	39	11=100	471
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>					
Bush	3	78	10	9=100	432
Clinton	70	9	14	7=100	434
Perot	10	44	37	9=100	152
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>					
Approve	69	14	11	6=100	616
Disapprove	4	66	23	7=100	731
Don't Know	21	29	24	26=100	164
<i>Voting Blocs</i>					
White Protestants	22	48	19	11=100	755
White Catholics	33	44	17	6=100	335
White, Evangelical Repubs.	2	73	16	9=100	223
All Other Republicans 8	68	17	7=100	570	
Independent Swing Voters*	22	26	42	10=100	139

* Independent, registered voters, under the age of 50 with a high school education

FAVORABLE RATINGS FOR THE PARTIES
By Demographics

	<i>July 1994</i>		<i>December 1994</i>		<i>Dem. Loss</i>	<i>GOP Gain</i>
	<i>Democratic Party</i>	<i>Republican Party</i>	<i>Democratic Party</i>	<i>Republican Party</i>		
<i>Total</i>	62	63	50	66	-12	+3
<i>Sex</i>						
Male	58	67	45	69	13	2
Female	65	60	55	64	10	4
<i>Race</i>						
White	59	67	46	70	13	3
Black	84	33	76	44	8	11
Hispanic	72	55	56	58	16	3
<i>Age</i>						
18-29	58	67	47	70	11	3
30-49	61	64	49	64	12	0
50-64	66	62	53	70	13	8
65+	64	59	52	63	12	4
<i>Education</i>						
College Grad.	55	64	45	63	10	-1
Some College	60	65	50	67	10	2
H.S. Grad.	65	65	48	70	17	5
< High School	64	57	57	62	7	5
<i>Family Income</i>						
\$50,000+	53	71	42	67	11	-4
\$30,000-49,999	62	65	48	70	14	5
\$20,000-29,999	66	65	53	68	13	3
< \$20,000	68	56	61	59	7	3
<i>Region</i>						
East	63	63	55	66	8	3
Midwest	62	62	45	66	17	4
South	61	64	50	68	11	4
West	61	63	50	64	11	1

	<i>July 1994</i>		<i>December 1994</i>			
	<i>Democratic Party</i>	<i>Republican Party</i>	<i>Democratic Party</i>	<i>Republican Party</i>	<i>Dem. Loss</i>	<i>GOP Gain</i>
<i>Community</i>						
Large City	66	57	56	62	10	5
Suburb	55	66	48	69	7	3
Small City/Town	63	63	51	67	12	4
Rural Area	63	67	44	68	19	-1
<i>Party Identification</i>						
Republican	27	94	17	95	10	1
Democrat	95	37	87	34	8	-3
Independent	60	64	50	68	10	4
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>						
Bush	33	90	19	93	14	3
Clinton	90	40	83	37	7	-3
Perot	55	67	36	79	19	12
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>						
Approve	88	50	81	48	7	-2
Disapprove	36	78	24	83	12	5
Don't Know	64	59	47	64	17	5

WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN SOLVING THE NATION'S PROBLEMS?

	<i>President Clinton</i>	<i>Republican Congressional Leaders</i>	<i>Both*</i>	<i>Don't Know/ Refused</i>
Total	39	42	10	8=100
Sex				
Male	38	46	10	6=100
Female	41	39	10	10=100
Race				
White	35	46	11	8=100
Black	68	18	6	8=100
Hispanic	48	34	9	9=100
Age				
18-29	41	48	7	4=100
30-49	38	42	11	9=100
50-64	39	39	13	9=100
65+	41	38	10	11=100
Education				
College Grad.	39	43	13	5=100
Some College	39	43	11	7=100
H.S. Grad.	36	43	10	11=100
< High School	45	41	6	8=100
Family Income				
\$50,000 +	36	46	13	5=100
\$30,000-49,999	42	42	9	7=100
\$20,000-29,999	38	43	12	7=100
< \$20,000	44	37	9	10=100

* Voluntary response

Question: Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems -- President Clinton, or the Republican congressional leaders?

	<i>President Clinton</i>	<i>Republican Congressional Leaders</i>	<i>Both*</i>	<i>Don't Know/ Refused</i>
<i>Region</i>				
East	40	36	12	12=100
Midwest	38	46	9	7=100
South	39	43	10	8=100
West	40	43	11	6=100
<i>Community</i>				
Large City	49	38	7	6=100
Suburb	41	43	9	7=100
Small City/Town	38	42	11	9=100
Rural Area	32	45	13	10=100
<i>Party Identification</i>				
Republican	16	69	10	5=100
Democrat	68	14	10	8=100
Independent	38	40	11	11=100
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>				
Bush	15	69	9	7=100
Clinton	66	15	13	6=100
Perot	29	50	14	7=100
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>				
Approve	67	15	12	6=100
Disapprove	17	68	9	6=100
Don't Know	32	33	12	23=100
<i>Voting Blocs</i>				
White Protestants	32	50	10	8=100
White Catholics	38	43	11	8=100
White, Evangelical Repubs.	15	70	9	6=100
Registered Voters	39	42	11	8=100
Independent Swing Voters**	36	42	12	10=100

** Independent, registered voters, under the age of 50 with a high school education

SUPPORT FOR PROPOSITION 187
By Demographics*

	<i>Favor</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
Total	52	42	6=100
Sex			
Male	57	38	5=100
Female	46	47	7=100
Race			
White	53	41	6=100
Black	40	58	2=100
Hispanic	47	44	9=100
Age			
18-29	47	49	4=100
30-49	54	41	5=100
50-64	57	36	7=100
65+	44	46	10=100
Education			
College Grad.	57	38	5=100
Some College	50	44	6=100
H.S. Grad.	52	43	5=100
< High School	48	43	9=100
Family Income			
\$50,000 +	58	38	4=100
\$30,000-49,999	54	40	6=100
\$20,000-29,999	51	43	6=100
< \$20,000	46	48	6=100
Region			
East	50	45	5=100
Midwest	54	39	7=100
South	51	43	6=100
West	51	43	6=100
High Illegal Immigrant Areas**	57	37	6=100

Question: Would you favor or oppose a law in your state that would eliminate education, health and welfare benefits for illegal immigrants and their children?

* California respondents removed (N=1385)

** Based on respondents in the following states: New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Florida, and Louisiana

	<i>Favor</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
<i>Community</i>			
Large City	42	53	5=100
Suburb	56	38	6=100
Small City/Town	53	40	7=100
Rural Area	53	41	6=100
<i>Party Identification</i>			
Republican	58	37	5=100
Democrat	42	52	6=100
Independent	55	39	6=100
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>			
Bush	59	38	3=100
Clinton	43	49	8=100
Perot	66	29	5=100
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>			
Approve	45	49	6=100
Disapprove	57	38	5=100
Don't Know	50	39	11=100
<i>Voting Blocs</i>			
White Protestants	54	39	7=100
White Catholics	54	43	3=100
White, Evangelical Repubs.	57	37	6=100
Registered Voters	53	41	6=100
Independent Swing Voters***	57	37	6=100

*** Independent, registered voters, under the age of 50, with a high school education

DECREASING FEDERAL BUDGET SPENDING INCREASES

	<i>Would Like To See Spending INCREASED:</i>					
	Environmental Protection		Military Defense		Programs for the Homeless	
	<i>1990</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1994</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	71	40	18	32	68	53
Sex						
Male	70	39	18	32	63	49
Female	72	41	19	31	72	57
Race						
White	71	39	17	31	65	50
Non-white	69	52	25	32	83	70
Age						
Under 30	78	51	17	26	74	61
30-49	73	40	18	28	69	54
50+	63	35	20	39	62	48
Education						
College Grad.	76	38	7	24	60	41
Some College	77	40	16	26	64	54
High School Grad.	69	39	23	33	69	55
< H.S. grad.	47	25	45	76	63	
Family Income						
\$50,000+	78	38	9	27	64	45
\$30,000-\$49,999	79	38	16	31	64	51
\$20,000-\$29,999	70	43	18	28	65	56
< \$20,000	65	44	23	37	73	59
Region						
East	65	45	10	29	66	54
Midwest	72	40	16	28	70	52
South	72	40	27	39	65	54
West	76	37	18	26	70	51
Party ID						
Republican	63	30	17	41	53	45
Democrat	73	47	21	25	76	62
Independent	75	43	17	27	71	53

Question: If you were making up the federal budget this year would you increase spending for (Name of Item), decrease spending for (Name of Item), or keep spending the same for this. What about for (Next Item)...

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The survey results are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 1,511 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period December 1-4, 1994. 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 3 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.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY IN DETAIL

The sample for this survey is a random digit sample of telephone numbers selected from telephone exchanges in the continental United States. The random digit aspect of the sample is used to avoid "listing" bias and provides representation of both listed and unlisted numbers (including not-yet-listed). The design of the sample ensures this representation by random generation of the last two digits of telephone numbers selected on the basis of their area code, telephone exchange, and bank number.

The telephone exchanges were selected with probabilities proportional to their size. The first eight digits of the sampled telephone numbers (area code, telephone exchange, bank number) were selected to be proportionally stratified by county and by telephone exchange within county. That is, the number of telephone numbers randomly sampled from within a given county is proportional to that county's share of telephone households in the U.S. Estimates of the number of telephone households within each county are derived from 1990 Census data on residential telephone incidence that have been updated with state-level information on new telephone installations and county-level projections of the number of households. Only working banks of telephone numbers are selected. A working bank is defined as 100 contiguous telephone numbers containing three or more residential listings.

The sample was released for interviewing in replicates. Using replicates to control the release of sample to the field ensures that the complete call procedures are followed for the entire sample.

At least three attempts were made to complete an interview at every sampled telephone number. The calls were staggered over times of day and days of the week to maximize the chances of making a contact with a potential respondent. All interview breakoffs and refusals were re-contacted at least once in order to attempt to convert them to completed interviews. In each contacted household, interviewers asked to speak with the "youngest male 18 or older who is at home". If there is no eligible man at home, interviewers asked to speak with "the oldest woman 18 or older who lives in the household". This systematic respondent selection technique has been shown empirically to produce samples that closely mirror the population in terms of age and gender.

Non-response in telephone interview surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population, and these subgroups are likely to vary also on questions of substantive interest. In order to compensate for these known biases, the sample data are weighted in analysis.

The demographic weighting parameters are derived from a special analysis of the most recently available Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (March 1992). This analysis produced population parameters for the demographic characteristics of households with adults 18 or older, which are then compared with the sample characteristics to construct sample weights. The analysis only included households in the continental United States that contain a telephone.

The weights are derived using an iterative technique that simultaneously balances the distributions of all weighting parameters. After an optimum sample balancing solution is reached, the weights were constrained to fall within the range of 1 to 5. This constraint is useful to ensure that individual respondents do not exert an inordinate effect on the survey's overall results.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

TIMES MIRROR CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS
NEWS INTEREST INDEX
DECEMBER 1-4, 1994
N = 1,511

INTRODUCTION: Hello, I am _____ calling from the Princeton Survey Research Associates from Princeton, New Jersey. We are conducting a telephone opinion survey for leading newspapers and tv stations around the country. I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home (IF NO MALE, ASK: May I please speak with the oldest female, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home?)

MY FIRST QUESTION IS ...

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as president? (IF "DON'T KNOW", ENTER AS CODE 9. IF "DEPENDS," PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as president? IF STILL "DEPENDS," ENTER AS CODE 9.)

	Nov 1994	Oct 1994	Early Oct 1994	Sept 1994	July 1994	May 1994	Mar 1994	Jan 1994	Early Jan 1994	Dec 1993	Oct 1993	Sept 1993	Early Sept 1993	Aug 1993	June 1993	May 1993	April 1993	Feb 1993
41 Approve	48	41	38	41	45	46	45	51	48	48	44	49	43	39	39	45	49	56
47 Disapprove	40	47	47	52	46	42	42	35	35	36	42	35	43	46	43	37	29	25
<u>12</u> Don't know 100	<u>12</u> 100	<u>12</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100	<u>7</u> 100	<u>9</u> 100	<u>12</u> 100	<u>13</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>17</u> 100	<u>16</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>16</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>22</u> 100	<u>19</u> 100

Q.2 Looking ahead, so far as you are concerned, do you think that 1995 will be better or worse than 1994?

		Gallup End Of Year Trend								
		Dec <u>1993</u>	Dec <u>1992</u>	Dec <u>1991</u>	Dec <u>1990</u>	Dec <u>1986</u>	Dec <u>1985</u>	Dec <u>1984</u>	Dec <u>1982</u>	Dec <u>1981</u>
59	Better	64	61	61	48	53	64	61	50	41
28	Worse	20	11	31	42	25	20	20	32	44
<u>13</u> 100	DK/Refused	<u>16</u> 100	<u>28</u> 100	<u>8</u> 100	<u>10</u> 100	<u>22</u> 100	<u>17</u> 100	<u>19</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100

Q.3 Also looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected, or would you like to see a Republican candidate, or Independent candidate be elected President in 1996?

		Dec <u>1993</u>
28	Clinton -- GO TO Q.4	28
35	Republican -- GO TO Q.4	22
15	Independent -- GO TO Q.4	12
<u>22</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>38</u> 100

IF ANSWERED "DON'T KNOW" IN Q.3, ASK:

Q.3a Do you LEAN most to Clinton, a Republican candidate or an Independent candidate?

BASED ON COMBINED RESPONSES FOR Q.3 AND Q.3a:

33	Clinton/Lean Clinton
40	Republican/Lean Republican
18	Independent/Lean Independent
<u>9</u> 100	Don't know/Refused

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q.4 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. **(READ AND ROTATE LIST)** How closely did you follow news stories about ... **(READ Don't know/Refused Scale IF NECESSARY)?**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. The civil war in Bosnia	13	37	32	18	*=100
October, 1994	13	35	29	22	1=100
September, 1994	9	29	39	23	*=100
June, 1994	12	28	37	22	1=100
May, 1994	18	37	26	18	1=100
January, 1994	12	31	32	25	*=100
Early January, 1994	15	38	30	17	*=100
December, 1993	15	32	31	21	1=100
October, 1993	16	36	30	17	1=100
September, 1993	15	32	32	20	1=100
Early September, 1993	17	38	26	19	*=100
August, 1993	19	37	25	18	1=100
May, 1993	23	34	28	13	2=100
February, 1993	15	32	33	20	*=100
January, 1993	15	33	30	22	*=100
September, 1992	10	27	31	31	1=100
b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	28	43	20	9	*=100
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1=100
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*=100
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1=100
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1=100
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*=100
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1=100
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*=100
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1=100
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*=100
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*=100
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1=100
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*=100
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	*=100
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*=100
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*=100
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*=100
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1=100

Q.4 con't ...

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
c. The deployment of U.S. forces to Haiti	31	39	19	11	*=100
October, 1994 ²	38	41	13	8	*=100
September, 1994 ³	23	37	26	14	*=100
d. Passage of Proposition 187, the California law that bars education, health and welfare benefits from illegal immigrants and their children	26	32	22	20	*=100
e. The debate over the international trade agreement called GATT	16	28	27	28	1=100
October, 1994	8	18	29	43	2=100
f. The O.J. Simpson case	23	29	25	22	1=100
October, 1994	25	32	24	17	2=100
September, 1994	30	33	22	15	*=100
June, 1994 ⁴	48	29	16	6	1=100
g. Recent comments by Sen. Jesse Helms about President Clinton	19	21	27	32	1=100
h. News about the outcome of the elections ⁵	41	36	13	10	*=100
October, 1994	23	34	23	19	1=100
September, 1994	19	34	29	18	*=100
November, 1990	38	34	17	11	*=100

² In previous month story was listed as "The U.S. intervention in Haiti."

³ In previous month story was listed as "Discussion of U.S. invasion of Haiti."

⁴ In previous month story was listed as "The arrest of O.J. Simpson for the alleged murder of his former wife and a male companion."

⁵ In previous months story was listed as "News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district."

NOW A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT LAST MONTH'S ELECTIONS...

Q.5 All things considered, how satisfied were you with the outcome of the elections in your state?

		Nov <u>1990</u>
29	Very satisfied	25
41	Somewhat satisfied	48
16	Not very satisfied	12
10	Not at all satisfied	10
<u>4</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u> 100

Q.6 During the fall election campaign, did you feel you learned enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice between the candidates, or did you find it difficult to choose because you felt you did not learn enough from the campaign?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

		Nov <u>1992⁶</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>	June <u>1990⁷</u>
48	Learned enough	77	54	56
50	Did not learn enough	20	43	38
<u>2</u> 100 (N=1102)	Don't know/refused	<u>3</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>6</u> 100

Q.7 Generally, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican party won control of the U.S. Congress?

57	Happy
31	Unhappy
<u>12</u> 100	Don't know/refused

⁶ Presidential race in 1992.

⁷ Race between Feinstein and VandeKamp in 1990.

Q.8 As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

52 Approve
28 Disapprove
20 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.9 Generally, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

62 Successful
24 Unsuccessful
4 **(DO NOT READ)** Will get some
10 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.10 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems -- President Clinton, or the Republican Congressional leaders?

39 President Clinton
43 Republican Congressional Leaders
10 Both **(VOL.)**
8 Don't Know/Refused
100

Q.11 Next year should the Democratic leaders in Washington...
BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND INDEPENDENTS:

<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	
61	69	Try as best they can to work with Republican leaders to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters?
		OR
33	24	Should they stand up to the Republicans on issues that are important to Democratic supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	100	
(N=442)	(N=471)	

Q.12 A few questions about priorities for President Clinton and the new Congress next year.... As I read from a list tell me if you think the item that I read should be a priority. First... **(READ AND ROTATE)** should this be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or not done?

		<u>Top Priority</u>	<u>Important, but lower Priority</u>	<u>Not Too Important</u>	<u>Not Be Done</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a.	Stricter control of handguns	46	25	14	13	2=100
b.	Improving the job situation	64	27	5	2	2=100
c.	Reforming health care	54	27	9	7	3=100
d.	Cutting the capital gains tax	27	38	16	7	12=100
e.	Reducing crime	78	17	2	1	2=100
f.	Reforming the welfare system	66	25	5	2	2=100
g.	Reducing the budget deficit	65	26	5	1	3=100
h.	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	53	32	9	3	3=100
i.	Limiting the number of terms a member of Congress can serve	33	31	23	8	5=100
j.	Passing a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget	51	32	8	5	4=100
k.	Passing a constitutional amendment that would allow prayer in public schools	33	27	19	19	2=100

Q.13 I'd like your views on some people, organizations and things in the news. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of who or what I name. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... (INSERT ITEM. ROTATE START) is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable? (INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")

		<u>Very Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Unfavorable</u>	<u>Very Unfavorable</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a.	Bill Clinton	17	34	24	22	0	3=100
	July, 1994	15	43	25	16	*	1=100
	May, 1993	18	42	23	12	0	5=100
	July, 1992	17	42	25	9	0	7=100
	June, 1992	10	36	33	14	1	6=100
	May, 1992	11	42	32	10	*	5=100
	March, 1992	10	43	29	11	1	6=100
	February, 1992	15	44	24	7	2	8=100
	January, 1992	9	28	11	4	27	21=100
	November, 1991	5	25	8	2	39	21=100
b.	Hillary Clinton	17	33	25	20	1	4=100
	July, 1994	19	38	22	18	1	2=100
	May, 1993	19	41	18	11	1	10=100
c.	The Democratic party	13	37	31	13	*	6=100
	July, 1994	13	49	27	7	*	4=100
	May, 1993	14	43	25	9	0	9=100
	July, 1992	17	44	24	9	*	6=100
d.	The Republican party	21	46	19	8	*	6=100
	July, 1994	12	51	25	8	*	4=100
	May, 1993	12	42	25	10	0	11=100
	July, 1992	9	37	31	17	*	6=100
e.	The Contract for America	11	24	8	5	42	10=100
f.	Jack Kemp	10	33	14	4	19	20=100
	July, 1994	9	32	10	2	30	17=100
	June, 1992	9	26	21	5	18	21=100
g.	Phil Gramm	7	24	12	7	33	17=100
h.	Newt Gingrich	7	18	15	13	30	17=100
	July, 1994	2	12	8	4	65	9=100
i.	Lamar Alexander	3	13	8	3	57	16=100
j.	Bob Dole	17	41	18	10	5	9=100
	July, 1994	14	45	19	9	6	7=100
	May, 1993	11	37	20	8	11	13=100
	May, 1990	7	45	15	5	13	15=100
	May, 1987	9	51	11	3	9	17=100

Q.13 con't ...

		<u>Very Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Unfavorable</u>	<u>Very Unfavorable</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
k.	Jesse Helms	5	24	25	22	8	16=100
l.	Dick Cheney	10	32	14	5	21	18=100
m.	Dan Quayle	13	33	28	18	1	7=100
	July, 1994	10	39	31	15	1	4=100
	June, 1992	7	26	34	27	1	5=100
	November, 1991	9	40	28	15	1	7=100
	May, 1990	6	41	24	15	4	10=100
	⁸ October, 1988	10	33	21	24	*	12=100
	September, 1988	9	32	17	15	2	25=100
	August, 1988	12	38	19	9	2	20=100
n.	Colin Powell	31	38	7	2	11	11=100
	July, 1994	33	41	6	2	10	8=100
	June, 1992	30	35	11	4	10	10=100
	March, 1991	51	28	2	1	7	11=100
o.	Arlen Specter	4	17	12	6	44	17=100

Q.14 Would you like to see other candidates challenge Bill Clinton for the Democratic party's presidential nomination or not?

		Republican	Democrat	Independent
76	Yes	81	66	81
19	No	14	30	15
<u>5</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT ...

Q.15 Over the past few years have we made significant progress in reducing the federal budget deficit or not?

		<u>Feb 1989</u>
26	Yes	15
65	No	77
<u>9</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u> 100

⁸ 1988 Trends based on Registered Voters.

Q.16 If you were making up the federal budget this year would you increase spending for **(NAME OF ITEM)**, decrease spending for **(NAME OF ITEM)** or keep spending the same for this. What about for **(NEXT ITEM)** ...?

		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Keep Same</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a.	Environmental protection	40	40	17	3=100
	May, 1990	71	24	3	2=100
	May, 1987	59	34	4	3=100
b.	Financial aid for college students	41	43	13	3=100
	May, 1990	51	37	10	2=100
	May, 1987	43	41	13	3=100
c.	Social Security	46	45	7	2=100
	May, 1990	63	32	3	2=100
	May, 1987	64	31	3	2=100
d.	Research on Aids	55	33	9	3=100
	May, 1990	59	30	8	3=100
	May, 1987	69	21	7	3=100
e.	Government assistance for the unemployed	25	49	23	3=100
	Feb, 1989	26	57	14	3=100
	May, 1987	41	41	15	3=100
f.	Scientific research	37	44	15	4=100
	May, 1990	51	37	9	3=100
	May, 1987	45	42	9	4=100
g.	Programs that assist blacks and other minorities	27	48	20	5=100
	May, 1990	35	42	20	3=100
	May, 1987	35	44	18	3=100
h.	Health care	52	33	11	4=100
	August, 1990	74	6	18	2=100
	May, 1990	80	16	3	1=100
	May, 1987	72	23	3	2=100
i.	Combatting crime	71	23	4	2=100
j.	The public school systems	64	28	6	2=100
	May, 1990	76	20	3	1=100
	May, 1987	69	25	4	2=100
k.	Military defense	31	44	23	2=100
	August, 1990	23	31	43	3=100
	May, 1990	18	39	40	3=100
	May, 1987	24	44	29	3=100

Q.16 con't ...

		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Keep Same</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
l.	Programs for the homeless	53	34	9	4=100
	May, 1990	67	25	6	2=100
	May, 1987	67	25	5	3=100
m.	Farm subsidies ⁹	27	36	29	8=100
	May, 1990	50	34	13	3=100
	May, 1987	58	28	10	4=100
n.	Re-training programs for displaced workers	50	36	10	4=100

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q.17 Right now, which is more important for President Clinton to focus on: domestic policy or foreign policy?

		<u>Oct 1993</u>
85	Domestic policy	76
7	Foreign policy	13
2	Neither (VOL.)	*
4	Both (VOL.)	7
<u>2</u> 100	Can't say/Don't know	<u>4</u> 100

⁹ Stated as "Aid to farmers" in trends.

Q.18 Do you think the United States plays a more important and powerful role as a world leader today compared to ten years ago, a less important role, or about as important a role as a world leader as it did ten years ago?

		Chicago Council on Foreign Relations		
		Oct <u>1993</u>	Sept <u>1993</u>	Nov <u>1990</u>
40	More important	37	37	37
27	Less important	26	30	35
29	As important	33	31	24
<u>4</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100	<u>4</u> 100

Q.19 Do you think the NATO Alliance should be maintained or is the Alliance not necessary anymore?

		Gallup May 30-June 2 <u>1991</u>
60	Maintained	62
27	Not necessary	17
<u>13</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>21</u> 100

Q.20 In the past ten years, do you think the ability of the U.S. to compete economically in the world market place has improved, gotten worse, or hasn't it changed much?

		May <u>1990</u>	Jan <u>1989</u>
27	Improved	20	21
38	Worsened	51	47
31	Hasn't changed	25	27
<u>4</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u> 100	<u>5</u> 100

ASK Q.21 ONLY IF FOLLOWED GATT DEBATE "VERY CLOSELY" OR "FAIRLY CLOSELY" IN Q.4E:

Q.21 Do you support or oppose the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, called the GATT treaty, which would bring the United States and 123 other nations into a system with common rules for international trade?

64 Support

28 Oppose

8 Don't know/Refused

100

(N=712)

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q.22 To the best of your knowledge, which side appears to be winning the war in Bosnia -- the Serbs, or the Muslims?

50 Serbs

9 Muslims

4 Neither (**VOL.**)

37 Don't know/Refused

100

Q.23 Would you favor or oppose a law in your state that would eliminate education, health and welfare benefits for illegal immigrants and their children?

53 Favor

41 Oppose

6 Don't know/Refused

100

TIMES MIRROR DATABASE

PUBLIC ATTENTIVENESS TO MAJOR NEWS STORIES (1986 - 1994)

PERCENT FOLLOWED VERY CLOSELY

- 80 Explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger (July 86)
- 73 Destruction caused by the San Francisco earthquake (Nov 89)
- 70 Verdict in Rodney King case and following riots and disturbances (May 92)
- 69 Little girl in Texas who was rescued after falling into a well (Oct 87)
- 67 War's end and the homecoming of U.S. forces from the Gulf (March 91)
- 66 Hurricane Andrew (Sept 92)
- 66 Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to Saudi Arabia (Aug 90)
- 65 The Floods in the Midwest (Aug 93)
- 63 Earthquake in Southern California (Jan 94)
- 63 Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to the Persian Gulf (Oct 90)
- 63 Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to the Persian Gulf (Sept 90)
- 62 Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf (Nov 90)
- 62 Recent increases in the price of gasoline (Oct 90)
- 60 Invasion of Panama (Jan 90)
- 60 Destruction caused by Hurricane Hugo (Oct 89)
- 59 Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf (Jan 91)
- 58 U.S. air strikes against Libya (July 86)
- 57 The plight of the American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq (Sept 90)
- 57 Recent increase in the price of gasoline (Aug 90)
- 56 Recent increases in the price of gasoline (Sept 90)
- 53 Crash of a United Airlines DC-10 in Sioux City, Iowa (Aug 89)
- 52 Deployment of U.S. Forces to Somalia (Jan 93)
- 52 Alaska Oil Spill (May 89)
- 51 News about cold weather in Northeast and Midwest (Jan 94)
- 51 The release of American hostages and other westerners from Iraq and Kuwait (Jan 91)
- 51 Supreme Court decision of flag burning (July 89)
- 50 Waco, Texas Incident (May 93)
- 50 Opening of the Berlin Wall between East and West Germany (Nov 89)
- 50 Flight of the space shuttle (Oct 88)
- 49 Clinton Admin.'s health care reform proposal (Sept 93)
- 49 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Mar 93)
- 49 The plight of American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq and Kuwait (Nov 90)
- 49 Murder of Marine Lt. Col. Higgins in Lebanon, and negotiations to free the other hostages
in the Mideast (Aug 89)
- 49 Drought and its effects on American farmers (Aug 88)
- 49 Bill Clinton's economic plan (Mar 93)
- 48 The arrest of O.J. Simpson for the alleged murder of his former wife and a male companion
(June 94)
- 48 TWA hostage crisis that took place last summer in Beirut, Lebanon (July 86)
- 47 Rodney King trial and verdict in Los Angeles (May 93)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 47 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Apr 92)
- 47 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Feb 92)
- 47 Breakup of the Soviet Union following the failed coup to depose of Mikhail Gorbachev (Oct 91)
- 47 The plight of American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq and Kuwait (Oct 90)
- 47 Political upheaval in China (July 89)
- 47 Supreme Court decision on abortion (July 89)
- 46 Videotaped beating by Los Angeles police of a suspect they apprehended in an auto chase (March 91)
- 46 Nuclear accident at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union (July 86)
- 46 Freeing of two Americans who had been held hostage in the Mideast (May 90)
- 45 Attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan (Jan 94)
- 45 The Clinton administration's health care reform proposals (Dec 93)
- 45 Bill Clinton's attempts to lift the ban on gays in the military (Mar 93)
- 44 The fires in southern California (Dec 93)
- 44 Clinton Administration's health care reform proposals (Oct 93)
- 44 Bill Clinton's decision to ease ban on homosexuals in the military (Aug 93)
- 44 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 92)
- 44 The release of the last American hostages being held in Lebanon (Dec 91)
- 43 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Sept 92)
- 43 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Dec 91)
- 43 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (Oct 88)
- 42 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 93)
- 42 The presidential election campaign (Sept 92)
- 42 Hot weather this summer and the greenhouse effect (Aug 88)
- 42 Downing of an Iranian passenger plane by a U.S. Navy ship (Aug 88)
- 41 NEWS ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTIONS (DEC 94)**
- 41 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Aug 93)
- 41 News regarding harassment charges raised against supreme court nominee Clarence Thomas (Oct 91)
- 40 Amtrack train wreck (Sept 93)
- 40 Bush administration's plan to deal with this country's drug problem (Sept 89)
- 40 The stock market crash (Oct 87)

- 39 Passage of NAFTA (Dec 93)
- 39 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 92)
- 39 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Nov 90)
- 39 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (Aug 88)
- 38 The U.S. Intervention in Haiti (Oct 94)
- 38 Clinton administration's health care reform proposals (Jan 94)
- 38 President Bush's heart problem (May 91)
- 38 News about the candidates and elections in your state (Nov 90)
- 38 Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the U.S. for a Summit meeting (June 90)
- 38 Drug use and efforts to combat it (Jan 90)
- 38 U.S. Navy escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Persian Gulf (Sept 87)
- 37 Clinton administration's health care reform proposals (May 94)
- 37 Passage of Brady gun bill (Dec 93)
- 37 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Sept 93)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 37 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 93)
- 37 U.S. Navy escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Persian Gulf (Oct 87)
- 37 Stories about Dan Quayle, the Republican Vice-Presidential candidate (Aug 88)
- 37 Sentencing of Oliver North (July 89)
- 36 The Movement of Iraqi Troops Toward the Kuwait Border (Oct 94)
- 36 Congressional ban on assault weapons (May 94)
- 36 Death and funeral of Richard M. Nixon (May 94)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Dec 93)
- 36 Tourists murders in Florida (Sept 93)
- 36 Congressional check bouncing scandal (Apr 92)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Oct 91)
- 36 The situation of the Kurds in northern Iraq and allied attempts to help them (May 91)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (March 91)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 91)
- 36 The murder of five people by a serial killer around the University of Florida campus in Gainesville (Sept 90)
- 35 Race for the Democratic presidential nomination (Apr 92)
- 35 Federal Reserve Bank's interest rate reduction (Jan 92)
- 35 The major job cuts announced by General Motors (Jan 92)
- 35 The Standoff in Baghdad between the Iraqis and UN weapons inspectors (Oct 91)
- 35 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (July 91)
- 35 Attempts to change the abortion laws (Dec 89)
- 35 Hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise ship in the Mediterranean (July 86)
- 35 Explosion and fire on the U.S. Battleship Iowa (May 89)
- 34 The Clinton administration's health care reform proposals (June 94)
- 34 Reports about condition of the U.S. Economy (Jan 94)
- 34 Situation in Somalia (Oct 93)
- 34 Statements by Japanese leaders that American workers are lazy (Feb 92)
- 34 Civil war in Iraq between Shiite Iraqis and forces loyal to Saddam Hussein (March 91)
- 34 Congressional and administration efforts to reach a budget deficit agreement (Nov 90)
- 34 Attempts by Congress and the Administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit (Oct 90)
- 34 Reports about flooding in Texas and other southwestern states (June 90)
- 34 The war between the Colombian government and the major drug traffickers (Sept 89)
- 33 Condition of the U.S. Economy (May 94)
- 33 Condition of the U.S. economy (Oct 93)
- 33 The winter Olympics (Feb 92)
- 33 The nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court of Clarence Thomas to replace retiring Justice Thurgood Marshall (July 91)
- 33 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 91)
- 33 Crash of the Colombian airliner near Kennedy airport in New York (Feb 90)
- 33 Congressional hearings about the Iran-Contra affair (Sept 87)
- 33 Guilty verdict in the trial of televangelist Jim Bakker (Oct 89)
- 32 The Debate in Congress about Health Care Reform (Oct 94)
- 32 The Clinton administration's health care reform proposals (Sept 94)
- 32 Caning of American youth in Singapore (May 94)
- 32 The Presidential election campaign (May 92)
- 32 Mike Tyson's rape trial (Feb 92)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 32 Criticisms of George Bush for being inconsistent in what he said about taxes and what he said about Persian Gulf policy (Nov 90)
- 31 DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. FORCES TO HAITI (DEC 94)**
- 31 Mikhail Gorbachev's resignation as the Soviet Union came to an official end (Jan 92)
- 31 Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (Dec 91)
- 31 President Bush's announcement of major nuclear arms reductions (Oct 91)
- 31 The closing of military bases around the country (July 91)
- 31 Celebration of Earth Day (May 90)
- 31 The World Series (Oct 88)
- 31 Flight of East German refugees to West Germany (Oct 89)
- 31 Oliver North trial (May 89)
- 30 The O.J. Simpson case (Sept 94)
- 30 Passage of the crime bill in Congress (Sept 94)
- 30 The debate in Congress over Bill Clinton's budget (Aug 93)
- 30 Reports about the White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (May 93)
- 30 The end of Mikhail Gorbachev's rule, as a new commonwealth was formed to replace the Soviet Union (Dec 91)
- 30 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Aug 90)
- 30 Freeing of jailed black South African leader Nelson Mandela (March 90)
- 30 Banishment of Pete Rose from baseball for life (Sept 89)
- 30 The Democratic convention (Aug 88)
- 30 President Bush's call for higher taxes to help reduce the federal deficit (July 90)

- 29 The flight of Cuban refugees (Sept 94)
- 29 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Sept 90)
- 29 Reports about the fires in Southern California (July 90)
- 29 Lithuania's declaration of independence from the Soviet Union and Moscow's response (April 90)
- 29 Suicide in Boston of Charles Stuart who murdered his pregnant wife and blamed it on a black man (Feb 90)
- 29 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Jan 90)
- 29 Political changes in East Germany and the flight of refugees to West Germany (Nov 89)
- 29 Attack and sexual assault on a female jogger in Central Park, New York, by a group of youths (May 89)
- 29 Failed coup attempt against Panamanian strongman Noriega (Oct 89)
- 28 REPORTS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE U.S. ECONOMY (DEC 94)**
- 28 Reports about the White House task force on health care headed by Hillary Clinton (June 93)
- 28 Accounts about U.S. troops in Somalia (Mar 93)
- 28 Creation of White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (Mar 93)
- 28 Supreme Court deliberations re legality of PA abortion restrictions (May 92)
- 28 The death of 87 people in a fire at a social club in the Bronx, New York (April 90)
- 28 Political changes taking place in the Soviet Union (March 90)
- 28 Arrest of Washington's Mayor Barry on drug use charges (Feb 90)
- 28 The revolution in Romania (Jan 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 28 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Dec 89)
- 28 Problems at nuclear reactor plants (Oct 88)
- 28 The end of Gary Hart's candidacy and the Donna Rice allegations (Sept 87)
- 27 Reports about the Condition of the U.S. Economy (Oct 94)
- 27 Reports about N. Korea's building of nuclear weapons and refusal to allow UN inspections (June 94)
- 27 Reports about the White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (Aug 93)
- 27 Republican opposition to Bill Clinton's economic stimulus package (May 93)
- 27 The Clinton administration's decision to allow women to serve in naval and air combat roles (May 93)
- 27 William Kennedy Smith rape trial (Dec 91)
- 27 Deployment of U.S. marines to Liberia to protect the lives of Americans caught in the civil war (Aug 90)
- 27 Lithuania's declaration of independence from the Soviet Union and Moscow's response (May 90)
- 27 Acquittal of the owners of the McMartin Day Care Center in California who were charged with sexually abusing children (Feb 90)
- 27 The NFL playoffs (Jan 90)
- 27 The Republican convention (Aug 88)
- 26 *PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 187 (DEC 94)***
- 26 Bill Clinton's State of the Union address (Jan 94)
- 26 Trial of Lorena Bobbitt for sexual mutilation of husband (Jan 94)
- 26 Court ruling that ordered baby Jessica to her natural parents (Aug 93)
- 26 Networks decision to broadcast parental warning before violent programs (Aug 93)
- 26 The Clinton administration's policies about the situation in Bosnia (June 93)
- 26 Russia and the U.S. reach an agreement to sharply reduce their nuclear arsenals (Jan 93)
- 26 President Bush's state of the union address (Feb 92)
- 26 Charges that the White House Chief of Staff used military airplanes and government cars for personal trips (July 91)
- 26 Concerns about Dan Quayle's ability to serve as President (May 91)
- 26 Bush/Gorbachev summit meeting in Helsinki (Sept 90)
- 26 The death of Hank Gathers, a college basketball player, during a game (April 90)
- 26 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Feb 90)
- 26 Passage in Congress of a bill to bail out ailing savings and loan institutions (Aug 89)
- 25 The O.J. Simpson Case (Oct 94)
- 25 Reports about the condition of the U.S. Economy (June 94)
- 25 Case of Virginia woman accused of sexually mutilating her husband (Dec 93)
- 25 Supreme court decision allowing laws that bar federally funded agencies from discussing abortion (July 91)
- 25 Supreme Court's hearing of arguments in a Missouri abortion case (May 89)
- 24 The debate about whether to use U.S. airstrikes against Serbian forces in Bosnia (May 93)
- 24 Controversy over Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood hiring illegal aliens (Mar 93)
- 24 Bill Clinton's cabinet choices and other high level appointments (Jan 93)
- 24 Race for the Republican presidential nomination (Apr 92)
- 24 The breast implant controversy (Feb 92)
- 24 Charges that Reagan campaign officials made a deal with Iran to hold up release of the hostages until after the 1980 Presidential campaign (July 91)
- 24 Charges that White House Chief of Staff used military airplanes for personal trips (May 91)
- 24 Supreme Court decision that found laws against flag burning unconstitutional and the attempt in Congress to amend the Constitution (July 90)
- 24 Nelson Mandela's visit to the U.S. (July 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 24 Deployment of the Hubble Space Telescope (May 90)
- 24 Difficulties the government is having in getting people to fill out Census forms (May 90)
- 24 The NCAA Basketball playoffs (April 90)
- 24 Supreme Court decision regarding a person's right to die (July 90)
- 23 THE O.J. SIMPSON CASE (DEC 94)**
- 23 News about Candidates and Election Campaigns in Your State and District (Oct 94)
- 23 Discussion of a U.S. invasion of Haiti (Sept 94)
- 23 Peace accords between Israel & PLO (Sept 93)
- 23 Civil war in Bosnia (May 93)
- 23 George Bush's presidential pardon of Weinberger and five others involved in Iran Contra affair (Jan 93)
- 23 Cyclone that devastated Bangladesh (May 91)
- 23 Attempt in Idaho to pass a bill that would severely restrict abortions (April 90)
- 23 Greyhound bus drivers' strike (April 90)
- 23 Discussion of the reunification of Germany (March 90)
- 23 The World Series (Nov 89)
- 22 Questions about Bill and Hillary Clinton's failed Whitewater real estate investment in Arkansas (May 94)
- 22 Election in South Africa (May 94)
- 22 Bill Clinton's economic conference in Little Rock with leading economists, policy experts and business leaders (Jan 93)
- 22 Protests and demonstrations at abortion clinics in Wichita, Kansas (Oct 91)
- 22 Congressional hearings about U.S. Persian Gulf policy (Jan 91)
- 22 Reunification of Germany (Oct 90)
- 22 Washington Mayor Barry's trial (July 90)
- 22 The 54 year old Oregon woman suffering from Alzheimer's who ended her life by using a suicide machine (July 90)
- 22 President Bush's visit to Colombia to attend a drug summit (March 90)
- 22 The Super Bowl (Feb 90)
- 22 Letter bombings of federal judges (Jan 90)
- 22 Discoveries made by the spacecraft Voyager 2 (Sept 89)
- 22 Trial of televangelist Jim Bakker (Sept 89)
- 22 April hijacking of a Kuwaiti airplane by Shiite Moslems (May 88)
- 22 Cease fire in the war between Iran and Iraq (Aug 88)
- 22 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (May 88)
- 22 Charges that Pete Rose has bet on baseball games (July 89)
- 21 Debate about NAFTA (Oct 93)
- 21 Debate about NAFTA (Sept 93)
- 21 Bill Clinton's nomination and then withdrawal of Lani Guinier as civil rights division head (June 93)
- 21 U.S. and its allies establishing a no fly zone over the skies of southern Iraq (Sept 92)
- 21 Execution in CA of convicted killer Robert Alton Harris (May 92)
- 21 Alleged rape of a young woman at the Kennedy family's Palm Beach estate (May 91)
- 21 Controversy surrounding the way Roseanne Barr sang the National Anthem at a San Diego Padres baseball game (Aug 90)
- 21 Tensions between Moscow and the Baltic Republics of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania who wish to secede from the Soviet Union (June 90)
- 21 Discussions about German reunification (April 90)
- 21 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany and other countries of Eastern and Central Europe (March 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 21 Scandal involving HUD (Aug 89)
- 20 Mikhail Gorbachev's political problems in the Soviet Union (March 91)
- 20 Resignation of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the election of her successor (Jan 91)
- 20 The murder on a New York subway platform of a Utah man attempting to protect his family from attack by teenage muggers (Sept 90)
- 20 Earthquake in Iran (July 90)
- 20 Gorbachev/Bush summit (Dec 89)
- 20 Attempts by the U.S. government to depose General Noriega in Panama (May 88)
- 20 Post-season baseball playoffs (Oct 89)

19 RECENT COMMENTS BY SEN. JESSE HELMS ABOUT PRESIDENT CLINTON (DEC 94)

- 19 News about the candidates and election campaigns in your state (Sept 94)
- 19 Yeltsin's conflict with the Russian Parliament (Oct 93)
- 19 Confrontation between Haitian military leaders and the U.S. and UN (Oct 93)
- 19 The civil war in Bosnia (Aug 93)
- 19 The Republican primary in New Hampshire (Feb 92)
- 19 The Democratic primary in New Hampshire (Feb 92)
- 19 Attempts by Congress and the Administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit (Aug 90)
- 19 Elections in Nicaragua (March 90)
- 19 Coup attempt against the Filipino government (Dec 89)
- 19 Attempts in Congress to repeal the new catastrophic health insurance plan (Oct 89)
- 19 Incidents of racial violence in New York City and Virginia Beach (Sept 89)
- 19 Discussions of a U.S. Soviet arms agreement (Sept 87)
- 18 The civil war in Bosnia (May 94)
- 18 Reports of sexual abuses by Catholic priests (Dec 93)
- 18 Yeltsin's decision to dissolve Russian Parliament (Sept 93)
- 18 Nomination of Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court (Aug 93)
- 18 The controversy over Bill Clinton's \$200 haircut on the runway in Los Angeles (June 93)
- 18 Tennis star Arthur Ashe's announcement that he has AIDS (May 92)
- 18 News about the candidates and election campaigns in your state (Oct 90)
- 18 Special meetings between the Bush Administration and Congressional Leaders to find ways to reduce the federal deficit (June 90)
- 18 Continuing news about the Savings and Loan scandal (June 90)
- 18 Reports about renewed inflation and rising interest rates (May 90)
- 18 Senator Moynihan's proposal to cut social security taxes (Feb 90)
- 18 The stock market crash (May 88)
- 18 Conflict in the Middle East between Palestinians and the Israelis in the occupied territories (May 88)
- 17 Retirement of Michael Jordan (Oct 93)
- 17 President Bush's decision to lift the trade embargo on South Africa (July 91)
- 17 Racial tension in New York City resulting from the Bensonhurst trial verdict and the black boycott of Korean grocers (June 90)
- 17 Discussions between the American and Japanese governments about trade issues (April 90)
- 17 A custody case involving a mother who went to jail and a little child taken to New Zealand by her grandparents (March 90)
- 17 Nomination of Robert Bork to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court (Sept 87)
- 16 THE DEBATE OVER THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT CALLED GATT (DEC 94)**
- 16 Civil war in Bosnia (Oct 93)
- 16 The gay march on Washington (May 93)

PERCENT FOLLOWED VERY CLOSELY

- 16 David Duke's announcement that he will run for the Republican presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 16 Nomination of David Souter to the U.S. Supreme Court to replace Justice William Brennan (Aug 90)
- 16 Washington DC Mayor Marion Barry's trial ending in a mistrial (Aug 90)
- 16 Financial troubles of Donald Trump (July 90)
- 16 Dispute between the President and Congress over allowing Chinese students to remain in America (Feb 90)
- 15 The Sinking of the Finnish Ferry Boat in the Baltic Sea (Oct 94)
- 15 The Baseball Strike (Oct 94)
- 15 Paula Jones' sexual harassment charges against Bill Clinton (May 94)
- 15 Civil war in Bosnia (Dec 93)
- 15 Michael Jackson's personal problems (Dec 93)
- 15 Civil war in Bosnia (Sept 93)
- 15 The civil war in Bosnia (Mar 93)
- 15 The civil war in Bosnia (Jan 93)
- 15 Charges that Ark. Governor Clinton has had extra-marital affairs (Feb 92)
- 15 President Bush's decision to postpone loan guarantees to Israel (Oct 91)
- 15 Resignation of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze (Jan 91)
- 15 Senate confirmation of Supreme Court Justice David Souter (Oct 90)
- 15 Controversy over the exclusion of blacks from membership in many country clubs at which national golf championship matches are played (Aug 90)
- 15 Education Summit held by Bush and the nation's Governors (Oct 89)
- 15 Ethics committee's investigation of Speaker of the House Jim Wright (May 89)
- 15 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Oct 87)
- 15 Conflict of interest allegations about Attorney General Ed Meese (May 88)
- 15 Scandal involving HUD (July 89)
- 14 Continued unrest and violence in Haiti (May 94)
- 14 Questions about Bill and Hillary Clinton's failed Whitewater real estate Investment in Arkansas (Jan 94)
- 14 Resignation of head of national United Way on charges of financial wrong-doing (Apr 92)
- 14 President Bush's educational reform plan (May 91)
- 14 Political unrest and the worsening economic situation in the Soviet Union (May 91)
- 14 Renewed fighting between government and the rebels in El Salvador (Dec 89)
- 14 House approval of a cut in the capital gains tax (Oct 89)
- 14 Spy scandal involving a U.S. Diplomat in Vienna (Aug 89)
- 14 Coverage of Democratic and Republican candidates for the Presidential nomination (Sept 87)
- 14 Pending divorce between Mike Tyson and Robin Givens (Oct 88)
- 13 ***THE CIVIL WAR IN BOSNIA (DEC 94)***
- 13 The Civil War in Bosnia (Oct 94)
- 13 The baseball strike (Sept 94)
- 13 Gore's program to reform federal government (Sept 93)
- 13 Embezzlement charges made against Congressman Rostenkowski (Aug 93)
- 13 Suicide of White House aide Vincent Foster, Jr. (Aug 93)
- 13 The controversy over the management of the White House travel office (June 93)
- 13 Attacks on foreigners in Germany by neo-nazis (Jan 93)
- 13 Debate and discussion about the free trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada (Sept 92)
- 13 Referendum on ending white rule in South Africa (Apr 92)
- 13 Celebration of Earth Day (May 92)

PERCENT FOLLOWED VERY CLOSELY

- 13 End of UAW strike against Caterpillar Tractor (May 92)
- 13 The BCCI international banking scandal (Oct 91)
- 13 U.S. Department of Education prohibition of racially based college scholarships (Jan 91)
- 13 Worsening economic conditions in the Soviet Union (Sept 90)
- 13 Civil unrest and ethnic violence in Soviet Azerbaijan (Feb 90)
- 13 Resumption of fighting in Nicaragua between the Contras and government forces (Nov 89)
- 13 Elections in Virginia, New Jersey, New York City and other localities (Nov 89)
- 13 News about the Republican candidates for the Presidential nomination (Oct 88)
- 12 The civil war in Bosnia (June 94)
- 12 Tribal massacre in Rwanda (May 94)
- 12 Trial of Menendez brothers for murder of their parents (Jan 94)
- 12 Civil war in Bosnia (Jan 94)
- 12 The debate in Congress over Bill Clinton's budget (June 93)
- 12 Nomination of Robert Gates to head the CIA (Oct 91)
- 12 News about the democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Oct 91)
- 12 Russian President Boris Yeltsin's election victory and visit to the U.S. (July 91)
- 12 The findings of the committee that investigated five senators for doing favors for Charles Keating in exchange for campaign contributions (March 91)
- 12 Major League Baseball's decision to force George Steinbrenner to give up active control of the New York Yankees (Aug 90)
- 12 Pledge of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress to end the armed struggle in South Africa (Aug 90)
- 12 Marital breakup of Donald and Ivana Trump (March 90)
- 12 Solidarity's role in governing Poland (July 89)
- 11 The Outbreak of Plague in India (Oct 94)
- 11 Bill Clinton's summit meetings in Europe and Russia(JAN 94)
- 11 Announcement from London that marriage between Prince Charles and Diana is over (Jan 93)
- 11 Civil War and famine in Somalia (Sept 92)
- 11 The controversy re Governor Clinton's joining ROTC to avoid the draft in 1969 (Feb 92)
- 11 The outbreak of civil war in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia (Jan 92)
- 11 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Jan 92)
- 11 Debate in Washington about a new civil rights bill (July 91)
- 11 Conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (July 91)
- 11 The incident in Gaza in which a deranged Israeli killed seven Palestinians and the West bank riots that followed (June 90)
- 11 Legalization of banned black opposition groups in South Africa and the promise to free Nelson Mandela (Feb 90)
- 10 The voter referendum in Russia (May 93)
- 10 Israel's expulsion of 400 muslim fundamentalists following the murder of an Israeli soldier in the West Bank (Jan 93)
- 10 Civil war in Bosnia (Sept 92)
- 10 Mario Cuomo's decision not to seek the Democratic presidential nomination (Jan 92)
- 10 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 10 Japanese purchase of Rockefeller center in New York City (Dec 89)
- 10 The spending and tax proposals made by Congressman Dan Rostenkowski to help reduce the budget deficit (April 90)
- 10 Academy Awards (April 90)

- 9 The civil war in Bosnia (Sept 94)
- 9 The World Population Conference in Cairo (Sept 94)

PERCENT FOLLOWED VERY CLOSELY

- 9 Discovery of scientific evidence of the beginnings of the universe (May 92)
- 9 Purchase of entertainment giant, MCA by the Japanese consumer electronics company, Matsushita (Jan 91)
- 9 The investigation of five U.S. Senators for doing favors for Charles Keating in exchange for campaign contributions (Jan 91)
- 9 Aids conference in San Francisco (July 90)
- 9 May day protests in Moscow (May 90)
- 9 Bankruptcy of Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. (March 90)
- 9 Trial of Hotel owner Leona Helmsley for tax evasion (Sept 89)
- 9 Stories about the 20th anniversary of the Woodstock Music Festival (Aug 89)
- 8 The Debate over the International Trade Agreement Called Gatt (Oct 94)
- 8 The IRA cease-fire announcement (Sept 94)
- 8 The resignation of White House Chief of Staff John Sununu (Dec 91)
- 8 Conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (Oct 91)
- 8 The release of the Kitty Kelley biography of Nancy Reagan (May 91)
- 8 The murder in New York city of Jewish militant rabbi Meir Kahane (Nov 90)
- 7 Suicide of rock star Kurt Cobain (May 94)
- 7 Bobby Inman's withdrawal as nominee for Secretary of Defense (Jan 94)
- 7 Summit meeting in Seattle between Bill Clinton and leaders of Asian nations (Dec 93)
- 7 G7 Summit meeting in Tokyo (Aug 93)
- 7 Trial of alleged N.Y. mafia boss John Gotti (Apr 92)
- 7 First reports from the 1990 U.S. census (Sept 90)
- 7 Pat Buchanan's announcement that he will run for the Republican presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 6 Stock market crash in Japan (May 92)
- 6 William Bennett's change of mind about heading the Republican National Committee (Jan 91)
- 6 Continuing political unrest in the Ukraine and in other republics of the Soviet Union (Nov 90)
- 6 United Nations Children's Summit held in New York (Oct 90)
- 6 Elections in Romania (June 90)
- 6 The visit to the United States of Vaclav Havel, the new president of Czechoslovakia (March 90)
- 6 Trip of high ranking officials to China (Jan 90)
- 6 Scandal involving the Japanese Prime Minister and other high ranking officials (May 89)
- 6 The scandal involving Congressman Barney Frank and a male prostitute (Oct 89)
- 5 Passage of the National Service Act (Sept 93)
- 5 Scandals in the British royal family involving the Duchess of York - Fergie and Princess Diana (Sept 92)
- 5 The conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (Dec 91)
- 4 Marital break-up of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson (Apr 92)
- 4 Dismissal of Pakistan's Prime Minister Bhutto by Pakistan's President (Aug 90)
- 4 Civil war in Cambodia (May 90)
- 3 Woody Allen and Mia Farrow's family breakup (Sept 92)
- 2 Tom Cruise's separation from his wife (April 90)