

FOR RELEASE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1995, A.M.

Public Yawns At 104th Congress So Far
**STRONG SUPPORT FOR MINIMUM WAGE HIKE
AND PRESERVING ENTITLEMENTS**

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

STRONG SUPPORT FOR MINIMUM WAGE HIKE AND PRESERVING ENTITLEMENTS

While the Contract for America is getting all the play in Washington these days, there is still a lot of New Deal thinking in the rest of the country. No fewer than 79% of respondents in the latest Times Mirror Center survey say they approve of Bill Clinton's proposal to increase the minimum wage - a level of affirmation that is very unusual for this administration. The poll also finds that although the public thinks taking steps to balance the budget deficit is more important than a middle class tax cut, by a 70% to 24% margin it feels that maintaining Social Security and Medicare benefits is more important than deficit reduction. Republicans, Democrats and Independents give about equally high priority to preserving these entitlements and all strongly approve of a hike in the minimum wage.

The telephone survey of 1209 adult Americans conducted this weekend finds the public not swept off its feet by the activities of the 104th Congress. At best, Americans say they are following the activities of the new Congress only fairly closely. And despite the dramatic transition in Washington, attitudes toward the GOP congressional leadership, and the Clinton Administration have changed little over the past two months,

Only 19% say they have been paying very close attention to the activities of the new Republican congressional leadership, and just 13% have followed very closely the debate in Congress about the balanced budget amendment.

The public continues to be optimistic that the Republican congressional leadership will be successful in getting its programs passed into law, but is no more so than it was in December. More Americans than in the earlier survey were familiar with the Contract for America (61% vs 48%), yet only 42% have a favorable reaction to it.

Pluralities think the Republican leadership has better ideas than Clinton and the Democrats about reducing the size of government, balancing the budget and reforming the political system. But Americans also think Clinton or the Democrats in Congress have better ideas than the GOP about reducing crime, improving the job situation, and cutting taxes for the middle class.

By a 56% to 37% margin, the public believes it is more important to take steps to balance the budget than to cut taxes for the middle class. The budget deficit is given higher priority than the much bally-hoed tax cut by every major political and demographic group identified in the survey.

As he has become much better known over the past few months, Newt Gingrich's favorable ratings have increased more (25% to 41%) than his negative ratings (28%

to 37%). Nevertheless, more Americans (64%) can identify Lance Ito as the O.J. Simpson judge than can name Gingrich as the new Speaker of the House (52%).

Presidential Ratings

Clinton's job approval ratings have improved somewhat since the end of 1994. More importantly, his current 55% favorable, 42% unfavorable personal rating is markedly better than was his December rating (51% to 46%.) Beside overwhelming support for his minimum wage proposal, the poll found 58 % approving of Clinton's imposition of trade sanctions on China. But the survey also showed 55% of the public disapproving of his executive order granting loan guarantees to Mexico. Opinion about Clinton's controversial nomination of Henry Foster for the post of Surgeon General was mixed (39% approve, 24% disapprove) .

Despite better ratings in the current survey, Clinton is still not seen as having achieved much in his two years in office. Fully 51% of Americans cannot cite a Bill Clinton accomplishment on an unprompted basis. Specifically, only 10% of respondents to the Times Mirror survey mentioned Clinton economic achievements in some form. The meager economic credit to Clinton does not square out with the extent of improvement in personal financial attitudes apparent over the past 24 months. In January of 1993 as Clinton took office, a 62% majority of Americans said they were in *only fair* or *poor* financial condition, compared to only 37% who saw themselves as being in *excellent* or *good* shape. The current poll finds many more Americans (47%) making a positive self evaluation, and significantly fewer rating their situation as only fair or poor (52%).

The trends observed in the poll regarding perceptions of wages are less positive. Only 41% of employed Americans say they now earn enough money to lead the kind of life they want - up only 5 percentage points since October 1992. Further, a rock steady one in four workers say that they neither now earn enough, nor expect to earn enough in the future to achieve their personal aspirations. (See Q. 23-24 on pp. 40-41)

The lack of linkage between one's economic situation and opinion of Clinton's performance is illustrated in the simple table below. People who say they are in excellent or good financial shape have about the same view of Clinton as people who are dissatisfied with their financial condition. Those who feel better about things are more often Republican while those who have made no progress are more likely to be Democrats and who have little to cheer about.

	FINANCIAL CONDITION:		
	<u>Exc/Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>
OPINION OF CLINTON:			
Approve	44	46	43
Disapprove	45	40	45
Dk	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100
PARTY IDENTIFICATION:			
Republican	41	26	22
Democrat	25	35	33
Independent	31	33	41

While Clinton has not been helped by the good economic news, he may not be able to escape the impact of less positive developments. The poll found widespread public knowledge of increasing interest rates and extensive public awareness of his unpopular decision to help Mexico. More than two in three respondents (68%) knew that the Federal Reserve had recently increased interest rates. And as many as 56% could identify Mexico on an unprompted basis as the recipient of U.S. loan guarantees.

Big Dole Lead

Bob Dole has almost as much popular support for the Republican nomination as Clinton has for the Democratic nomination. Almost half of Republicans (49%) name Dole as their *first choice* for the nomination, while slightly more than half of Democrats (54%) would like to see Clinton as their party's nominee in 1996. Phil Graham runs second for the GOP top spot polling at 13%, followed by Buchanan (7%), Gingrich (7%), Wilson (6%), Alexander (4%) and Specter (2%).

Al Gore is a stronger second place candidate than anyone on the GOP side. He polls at 17% as first choice for his party's nomination, but garners as much as 39% of the votes of Democrats as a second choice. Other first choice results were Jackson (9%), Gephardt (5%), Bradley (4%) and Kerrey (3%).

When the two front runners are paired off in a test election, Dole leads Clinton by a modest 52% to 45% margin. As shown in the table below, Dole gets more support from Republicans than Clinton does from Democrats, but Independents have a hard time choosing between the two potential presidential candidates.

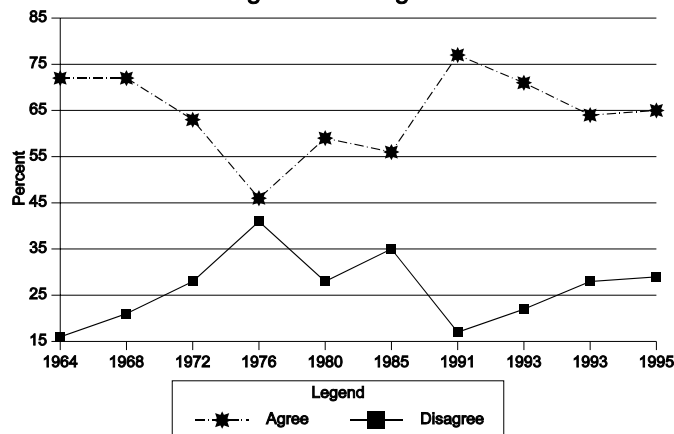
	<i>PARTY IDENTIFICATION:</i>		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>
<i>1996 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE:</i>			
Bill Clinton	11	79	48
Bob Dole	88	19	49
Undecided	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100

UN Support

Public attitudes toward the United Nations remain positive, although Americans are less supportive of the institution than they were in the afterglow of the Persian Gulf victory when public opinion of the UN crested. Two in three in the survey (65%) agreed with the statement that "the U.S. should cooperate fully with the UN." That sentiment had ranged from as high as 77% in mid-1991, to as low as 46% in 1976. In response to another poll question, 62% reported they had a favorable opinion of the UN, compared to 26% who reported an unfavorable view. In mid-1994, the UN boasted a more positive 76% favorable, 19% unfavorable opinion rating. Views of the UN are quite politicized. Clinton supporters and Democrats give the UN somewhat higher than average ratings (73% and 68%, respectively), while talk radio listeners, and those who voted Republican in the fall, are much less positive (53% and 51%, respectively).

UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali gets a largely negative rating among the third of the public able to evaluate him while American Ambassador Albright on balance gets a positive rating from those able to rate her. Both the UN and Albright have more positive images among people who follow foreign affairs issues closely, but opinion of Boutros-Ghali remains negative even among better informed Americans. (See Table on p. 22)

The U.S. Should Cooperate With The U.N.
Agree vs. Disagree



The News Interest Index

Unusually, no single news story has attracted the close attention of more than one out of four Americans this past month. The three most closely followed stories were the earthquake in Japan (25% paid very close attention), recent violence at abortion clinics (24%), and the O.J. Simpson trial (23%). Fewer than one in five paid very close attention to news about the balanced budget amendment and activities of the new Republican leadership. Stories followed the least closely were the civil war in Bosnia (8%), fighting in Chechnya (10%) and the debate over federal funding for public broadcasting and the arts (11%).

Interest in the Simpson case did not perk up with the start of the trial. The percentage of Americans following the O.J. Simpson trial very closely is virtually unchanged from the pre-trial period, and substantially lower than the 48% who were following the story closely when Simpson was first arrested back in June of 1994.

Although the O.J. trial has not engaged a majority of Americans, it has captured a large dedicated TV audience. Ten percent of those surveyed said they've watched *almost all* of the live coverage of the Simpson trial; another 13% say they've watched a lot of it. As much as 18% of the public says it looks forward to tuning in to the live coverage everyday. Nearly a third of women 50 years and older, and more than a third of African Americans say they are habitual viewers of live O.J. coverage.

Interest in news about the condition of the U.S. economy is at its lowest level in nearly four years. Only 23% of the public said they're following news reports about the condition of the economy very closely. This compares with 34% in early 1994 and nearly 50% in February of 1993.

Interest in the baseball strike does not seem to have increased in recent weeks, in spite of the intervention by the Clinton administration. Fewer people were following the baseball negotiations very closely this month than were last October. There also seems to be little interest in the "inside-the-Beltway" debate over the future of federal funding for public broadcasting and the arts. Roughly one in ten of those surveyed were following this story very closely.

PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	Earthquake In Japan	Violence At Abortion Clinics	Condition Of The U.S. Economy	O.J. Simpson Trial	N
<i>Total</i>	25	24	23	23	1209
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	23	20	28	21	601
Female	26	29	18	24	608
<i>Race</i>					
White	24	24	23	21	1012
*Hispanic	17	21	13	20	72
Black	27	29	18	37	101
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	16	19	11	23	239
30-49	20	24	23	19	515
50+	35	29	30	26	437
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	25	27	31	18	355
Other College	27	28	23	21	285
High School Grad	24	26	22	23	440
< H. S. Grad.	21	15	15	29	125
<i>Region</i>					
East	28	33	32	31	221
Midwest	25	22	20	22	321
South	23	24	22	21	449
West	22	21	19	17	218
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	25	24	24	20	402
Democrat	25	27	23	29	350
Independent	24	23	23	19	409

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.

CONTINUED...

PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	Activities Of New Republican Leaders	Clinton's Decision to Provide Loan Guarantees to Mexico	Debate Over Balanced Budget Amendment	Baseball Strike	N
<i>Total</i>	19	14	13	12	1209
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	21	18	15	15	601
Female	17	11	10	9	608
<i>Race</i>					
White	19	13	13	12	1012
*Hispanic	11	10	2	7	72
Black	18	22	12	17	101
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	8	8	7	12	239
30-49	18	12	10	10	515
50+	26	21	19	15	437
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	26	19	19	11	355
Other College	23	16	13	10	285
High School Grad	17	12	11	14	440
< H. S. Grad.	9	12	7	13	125
<i>Region</i>					
East	26	17	12	13	221
Midwest	15	13	11	14	321
South	18	15	15	13	449
West	17	12	12	8	218
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	26	14	16	12	402
Democrat	16	13	10	11	350
Independent	16	16	12	13	409

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.

CONTINUED...

PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	Federal Funding For PBS	Russia's Fighting In Chechnya	Civil War In Bosnia	N
<hr/>				
<i>Total</i>	11	10	8	1209
<i>Sex</i>				
Male	13	13	9	601
Female	9	7	8	608
<i>Race</i>				
White	11	10	8	1012
*Hispanic	3	3	7	72
Black	15	8	10	101
<i>Age</i>				
Under 30	2	5	8	239
30-49	11	10	7	515
50+	16	13	10	437
<i>Education</i>				
College Grad.	22	15	10	355
Other College	8	14	10	285
High School Grad	9	8	8	440
< H. S. Grad.	5	4	7	125
<i>Region</i>				
East	17	13	9	221
Midwest	10	7	9	321
South	9	9	8	449
West	9	11	8	218
<i>Party ID</i>				
Republican	10	10	8	402
Democrat	14	9	8	350
Independent	10	12	9	409

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.

TABLES

PUBLIC PRIORITIES

	<i>HIGHER PRIORITY:</i>		<i>MORE IMPORTANT:</i>		<i>(N)</i>
	<u>Cutting Taxes For Middle Class or</u>	<u>Steps To Reduce The Budget Deficit</u>	<u>Keeping Social Security/Medicare Benefits As Are or</u>	<u>Steps To Reduce The Budget Deficit</u>	
<i>Total</i>	37%	55%	70%	24%	(1209)
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	33	61	62	33	(601)
Female	42	50	77	16	(608)
<i>Race</i>					
White	37	56	68	25	(1012)
Non-white	43	50	79	18	(187)
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	43	54	67	30	(239)
30-49	38	55	65	29	(515)
50+	34	56	78	16	(437)
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	28	66	50	44	(355)
Some College	36	57	65	29	(285)
High School Grad.	40	52	77	18	(440)
< H.S. grad.	45	48	83	8	(125)
<i>Family Income</i>					
\$75,000+	32	65	51	42	(133)
\$50,000-\$74,999	32	61	55	39	(184)
\$30,000-\$49,999	37	57	74	23	(341)
\$20,000-\$29,999	39	57	72	20	(187)
< \$20,000	42	49	80	14	(254)
<i>Region</i>					
East	37	53	72	23	(221)
Midwest	37	58	70	24	(321)
South	39	54	72	23	(449)
West	35	58	63	29	(218)
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	38	55	61	32	(402)
Democrat	37	57	80	16	(350)
Independent	36	56	69	26	(409)
<i>Community Size</i>					
Large City	37	57	71	25	(223)
Suburb	35	57	65	31	(310)
Small City/Town	40	53	72	21	(421)
Rural Area	37	57	71	22	(247)

	HIGHER PRIORITY:		MORE IMPORTANT:		
	Cutting Taxes For Middle Class or	Steps To Reduce The Budget Deficit	Keeping Social Security/Medicare Benefits As Are or	Steps To Reduce The Budget Deficit	(N)
1992 Vote					
Bush	33	58	57	35	(304)
Clinton	34	60	73	22	(384)
Perot	38	54	68	28	(113)
1994 Vote					
For Congress					
Republican	32	59	56	37	(339)
Democrat	32	61	73	22	(277)
Didn't Vote	42	52	75	19	(579)
Pres. Approval					
Approve	37	57	76	20	(527)
Disapprove	38	54	63	30	(537)
Don't Know	36	56	71	22	(145)
Personal Finances					
Excellent or Good	30	65	60	34	(612)
Only Fair	46	47	78	16	(432)
Poor	39	49	81	13	(154)
Financial Situation					
Will Improve	39	57	67	27	(782)
Stay Same (VOL.)	29	61	72	19	(207)
Will Get Worse	40	49	75	20	(193)
Listens To Talk Radio					
Regularly	33	58	64	29	(223)
Sometimes	36	55	67	30	(312)
Rarely/Never	39	55	73	20	(671)

Question: What should be given a higher priority in 1995, cutting taxes for the middle class or taking steps to reduce the budget deficit?

What is more important, taking steps to reduce the budget deficit, or keeping Social Security and Medicare benefits as they are?

FINANCIAL WELL-BEING AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES

RATED PERSONAL FINANCIAL SHAPE AS:

<i><u>Political Indicators:</u></i>	<i><u>Excellent Or Good</u></i>	<i><u>Only Fair</u></i>	<i><u>Poor</u></i>
Total	47%	38%	14%
<i>Presidential Job Rating</i>			
Approve	44	46	43
Disapprove	45	40	45
No Opinion	11	14	12
<i>Attentiveness To Condition of Economy</i>			
Follow:			
Very Closely	26	19	21
Fairly Closely	43	43	29
Not Too Closely	19	25	24
Not At All Closely	11	12	25
<i>Congressional Job Rating</i>			
Sen. Majority Leader <u>Dole</u> :			
Approve	51	48	25
Disapprove	17	19	21
No Opinion	32	33	54
House Speaker <u>Gingrich</u> :			
Approve	43	34	28
Disapprove	28	29	33
No Opinion	30	37	39
<i>Best Ideas On Reducing Size/Role of Government</i>			
Rep. Congressional leaders	52	39	29
Dem. Congressional leaders	10	12	12
Bill Clinton	19	22	27
None/Don't Know	19	27	32
<i>Best Ideas On Cutting Taxes for Middle Class</i>			
Rep. Congressional leaders	37	27	18
Dem. Congressional leaders	15	15	14
Bill Clinton	27	33	33
None/Don't Know	21	25	35

RATED PERSONAL FINANCIAL SHAPE AS:

<i>Political Indicators:</i>	<i>Excellent Or Good</i>	<i>Only Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<i>Best Ideas On Balancing Federal Budget And Reducing the Deficit</i>			
Rep. Congressional leaders	49	34	28
Dem. Congressional leaders	10	13	14
Bill Clinton	19	24	26
None/Don't Know	22	29	32
<i>Best Ideas On Improving The Job Situation</i>			
Rep. Congressional leaders	37	29	20
Dem. Congressional leaders	14	14	12
Bill Clinton	28	31	36
None/Don't Know	21	26	32
<i>Party Identification</i>			
Republican	41	26	22
Democrat	25	35	33
Independent	31	33	41
<i>1992 Vote</i>			
Bush	30	17	11
Clinton	30	32	30
Perot	9	9	9
<i>1994 Congressional Vote</i>			
Republican	33	20	17
Democrat	21	22	19

Question: How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape?

Clinton Policy Decisions

	<i>Executive Order Granting Loan Guarantees to Mexico</i>		<i>Decision to Impose Trade Sanctions on China</i>	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>
Total	30	55	58	19
Sex				
Male	36	56	64	21
Female	25	55	51	18
Race				
White	29	56	59	19
Non-white	38	49	52	21
Age				
18-29	26	53	53	19
30-49	30	57	60	18
50-64	31	59	62	20
65+	34	50	51	26
Education				
College Grad.	46	43	67	16
Some College	30	53	64	15
H.S. Grad.	25	60	56	20
< High School	21	64	40	29
Family Income				
\$50,000+	38	52	69	16
\$30,000-49,999	33	55	65	14
\$20,000-29,000	24	59	56	22
<\$20,000	24	55	44	25
Region				
East	34	52	61	20
Midwest	29	58	58	19
South	28	58	52	23
West	31	52	63	15

Question:

Do you approve or disapprove of President Clinton's executive order granting loan guarantees to Mexico?... And how do you feel about his decision to impose trade sanctions on China?

	<i>Executive Order Granting Loan Guarantees to Mexico</i>		<i>Decision to Impose Trade Sanctions on China</i>	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>
<i>Community</i>				
Large City	33	52	60	18
Suburb	33	55	63	17
Small City/Town	31	54	55	21
Rural Area	22	61	53	22
<i>Party Identification</i>				
Republican	25	64	59	23
Democrat	34	49	57	20
Independent	33	54	60	16
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>				
Bush	30	63	65	19
Clinton	40	45	66	15
Perot	30	59	67	16
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>				
Approve	40	44	61	18
Disapprove	23	66	57	22
Don't Know	22	57	46	16
<i>1994 Congressional Vote</i>				
Republican	29	63	63	20
Democrat	44	42	68	14
Did not vote	25	57	50	21

Clinton Policy Decisions (Continued)

	<i>Proposal to Raise The Minimum Wage</i>		<i>Decision to Send U.S. Troops to Haiti</i>	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>
Total	79	18	47	47
Sex				
Male	75	23	54	44
Female	83	14	42	50
Race				
White	77	20	47	47
Non-white	93	5	48	49
Age				
18-29	81	15	45	47
30-49	79	18	51	45
50-64	79	18	51	43
65+	78	22	37	55
Education				
College Grad.	70	27	56	40
Some College	74	24	49	47
H.S. Grad.	85	12	46	49
< High School	85	14	37	53
Family Income				
\$50,000+	69	28	55	42
\$30,000-49,999	79	20	53	44
\$20,000-29,000	84	13	45	48
<\$20,000	88	9	39	51
Region				
East	81	17	45	50
Midwest	78	20	47	47
South	79	18	47	47
West	79	19	51	44

Question:

Do you approve or disapprove of President Clinton's proposal to raise the minimum wage?... And how do you feel about his decision last September to send U.S. troops to Haiti?

	<i>Proposal to Raise The Minimum Wage</i>		<i>Decision to Send U.S. Troops to Haiti</i>	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>
<i>Community</i>				
Large City	82	16	54	39
Suburb	78	19	54	43
Small City/Town	81	16	41	51
Rural Area	76	22	45	51
<i>Party Identification</i>				
Republican	66	31	41	55
Democrat	92	7	54	39
Independent	80	17	49	46
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>				
Bush	56	42	41	57
Clinton	91	8	56	38
Perot	76	22	41	53
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>				
Approve	89	9	57	38
Disapprove	68	29	37	58
Don't Know	84	10	48	42
<i>1994 Congressional Vote</i>				
Republican	60	38	40	57
Democrat	87	13	58	36
Did not vote	86	11	46	47

Candidate Preferences for 1996 Presidential Nomination
The Democratic Field: First Choices
 (Based on Dem/Lean Dem Only)

	<u>Bill Clinton</u>	<u>Al Gore</u>	<u>Jesse Jackson</u>	<u>Dick Gephardt</u>	<u>Bill Bradley</u>	<u>Bob Kerrey</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>N</u>
Total	54	17	9	5	4	3	8=100	(501)
Sex								
Male	53	18	8	5	7	4	5=100	(218)
Female	54	17	10	5	2	3	9=100	(283)
Age								
18-29	48	23	19	4	3	1	2=100	(100)
30-49	51	17	9	6	5	4	8=100	(208)
50-64	58	15	5	7	5	2	8=100	(101)
65+	63	13	3	4	2	4	11=100	(87)
Education								
College Grad.	53	15	5	4	10	8	5=100	(151)
Some College	51	17	15	9	3	1	4=100	(102)
H.S. Grad./ < H.S.	55	18	9	4	3	2	9=100	(246)
Family Income								
\$50,000+	53	11	4	8	13	8	3=100	(112)
\$30,000-49,999	54	19	8	5	3	2	9=100	(145)
\$20,000-29,000	49	18	16	4	2	4	7=100	(81)
<\$20,000	55	19	10	6	1	1	8=100	(120)
Region								
East	59	12	0	6	10	2	11=100	(95)
Midwest	55	18	10	6	2	4	5=100	(133)
South	46	24	12	6	3	2	7=100	(178)
West	58	11	13	1	3	6	8=100	(95)
Community								
Large City	53	14	15	3	5	3	7=100	(107)
Suburb	55	15	9	4	7	5	5=100	(121)
Small City/Town	54	19	6	7	4	2	8=100	(174)
Rural Area	54	21	7	5	2	2	9=100	(97)
Listen to Talk Radio								
Regularly	42	21	3	8	9	7	10=100	(71)
Sometimes	56	13	11	6	7	2	5=100	(124)
Rarely/Never	55	18	10	4	2	3	8=100	(305)

Question:

Now I'm going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the Democratic nomination for President in 1996. After I read all the names would you tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Democratic party's candidate for President.

Candidate Preferences for 1996 Presidential Nomination
The Republican Field: First Choice
 (Based on Rep/Lean Rep Only)

	<u><i>Bob Dole</i></u>	<u><i>Phil Gramm</i></u>	<u><i>Newt Gingrich</i></u>	<u><i>Patrick Buchanan</i></u>	<u><i>Pete Wilson</i></u>	<u><i>Lamar Alexander</i></u>	<u><i>Arlen Specter</i></u>	<u><i>Don't Know</i></u>	<u><i>N</i></u>
Total	49	13	7	7	5	4	3	12=100	(607)
Sex									
Male	48	16	7	7	6	4	3	9=100	(331)
Female	51	9	8	6	5	3	2	16=100	(276)
Age									
18-29	39	13	12	14	4	3	1	14=100	(122)
30-49	50	12	8	6	6	3	2	13=100	(257)
50-64	55	10	4	5	3	5	7	11=100	(112)
65+	56	17	1	0	9	4	2	11=100	(107)
Education									
College Grad.	50	15	5	7	8	5	2	8=100	(181)
Some College	48	14	11	10	6	1	*	10=100	(164)
H.S. Grad./ < H.S.	50	11	7	5	4	4	4	15=100	(262)
Family Income									
\$50,000+	51	19	5	5	5	4	2	9=100	(189)
\$30,000-49,999	54	12	7	6	6	2	2	11=100	(172)
\$20,000-29,000	44	6	7	12	6	7	4	14=100	(95)
<\$20,000	46	8	10	8	6	2	1	19=100	(98)
Region									
East	57	9	4	7	2	2	10	9=100	(104)
Midwest	51	7	9	9	2	2	1	19=100	(165)
South	48	18	6	8	4	6	1	9=100	(236)
West	43	13	11	3	15	2	1	12=100	(102)
Community									
Large City	43	14	4	5	9	1	2	22=100	(95)
Suburb	50	11	11	7	5	4	3	9=100	(163)
Small City/Town	49	15	4	8	6	3	3	12=100	(215)
Rural Area	51	10	11	6	3	7	1	11=100	(130)
Listen to Talk Radio									
Regularly	47	20	9	5	7	1	3	8=100	(139)
Sometimes	50	13	6	8	7	5	2	9=100	(159)
Rarely/Never	50	10	7	7	4	4	2	16=100	(307)

Question: Now I'm going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the Republican nomination for President in 1996. After I read all the names would you please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican party's candidate for President.

1996 Presidential Trial Heat
(includes Leaners)

	<u>Bill Clinton</u>	<u>Bob Dole</u>	<u>Other/ Don't Know</u>
Total	45	52	3=100
Sex			
Male	41	56	3=100
Female	48	49	3=100
Race			
White	41	56	3=100
Non-white	68	29	3=100
Age			
18-29	48	51	1=100
30-49	43	53	4=100
50-64	44	54	2=100
65+	46	51	3=100
Education			
College Grad.	47	51	2=100
Some College	38	61	1=100
H.S. Grad.	44	52	4=100
< High School	52	46	2=100
Family Income			
\$50,000+	34	64	2=100
\$30,000-49,999	47	51	2=100
\$20,000-29,000	50	49	1=100
<\$20,000	50	46	4=100
Region			
East	53	46	1=100
Midwest	44	54	2=100
South	40	57	3=100
West	47	49	4=100

Question: Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat and Bob Dole, the Republican. Who would you like to see win?... As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Clinton, the Democrat or Dole, the Republican?

	<u><i>Bill Clinton</i></u>	<u><i>Bob Dole</i></u>	<u><i>Other/ Don't Know</i></u>
<i>Community</i>			
Large City	59	39	2=100
Suburb	45	53	2=100
Small City/Town	43	54	3=100
Rural Area	38	58	4=100
<i>Party Identification</i>			
Republican	11	88	1=100
Democrat	79	19	2=100
Independent	48	49	3=100
<i>1992 Presidential Vote</i>			
Bush	8	91	1=100
Clinton	79	19	2=100
Perot	25	70	5=100
<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>			
Approve	76	22	2=100
Disapprove	11	87	2=100
Don't Know	53	39	8=100
<i>1994 Congressional Vote</i>			
Republican	14	85	1=100
Democrat	79	19	2=100
Did not vote	46	50	4=100

INTERNATIONAL ATTITUDES BY ATTENTIVENESS TO FOREIGN NEWS

LEVEL OF ATTENTIVENESS TO FOREIGN NEWS¹:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Low</u>
<i>Ratings of Individuals</i>				
<u>Boutros-Ghali:</u>				
Favorable	14	25	14	7
Unfavorable	20	26	23	13
Don't know	<u>66</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>80</u>
	100	100	100	100
<u>Albright:</u>				
Favorable	18	27	18	10
Unfavorable	16	17	15	14
Don't know	<u>66</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>76</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Ratings of Organizations</i>				
<u>United Nations:</u>				
Favorable	62	61	62	62
Unfavorable	26	36	27	18
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>
	100	100	100	100
<u>CIA:</u>				
Favorable	43	47	43	41
Unfavorable	35	38	38	28
Don't know	<u>22</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>31</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>U.S. Should Cooperate With The UN</i>				
Agree	65	63	66	66
Disagree	29	34	29	23
Don't Know	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>View of Giving Financial Aid to Russia</i>				
Favor	36	47	36	27
Oppose	58	48	58	66
Don't Know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>View of Spending On National Defense</i>				
Expand	19	24	22	10
Keep Same	56	53	57	57
Cut Back	24	22	20	31
Don't Know	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

¹Twenty-seven percent of the public had a "high" level of attentiveness to foreign news, 42% a "medium" level and 31% a "low" level.

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 1,209 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period February 9-12, 1995. 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 - FEBRUARY 1995
TOPLINE
February 9-12, 1995
N = 1,209

INTRODUCTION: Hello, I am _____ calling from 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 3. 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 3.)

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

Q.2 In the long run, do you think Bill Clinton will be a successful or unsuccessful President, or do you think it is too early to tell?

		Oct 1994	May 1994	Jan 1994	Oct 1993	Sept 1993	Aug 1993
18	Successful	14	21	21	18	22	13
34	Unsuccessful	35	26	19	25	22	25
43	Too early to tell	48	52	57	56	54	60
<u>5</u> 100	Can't say/Refused	<u>3</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100	<u>2</u> 100

Q.3 In your opinion, what has been the most important thing Bill Clinton has accomplished as president so far?

		<u>Oct 1994</u>	<u>Dec 1993</u>	<u>Aug 1993</u>
51	None/Hasn't accomplished anything/Don't know	50	40	54
8	Health care reform	18	21	7
4	Crime bill	7	*	*
1	Haiti	6	*	*
6	Economic plan/Easing deficit/Budget	5	3	10
3	NAFTA	5	19	*
0	Assert America in foreign policy	4	*	*
2	Help people get back to work	2	1	2
2	Brady Bill	2	8	*
2	Tries hard/Attempts to do right thing	2	3	4
2	Get people excited/Stimulate enthusiasm	1	3	4
1	Mideast peace talks	1	*	*
1	Accomplishments limited by gridlock/Opposition	1	*	1
*	Family leave bill	1	*	1
1	National service/Student loan program	*	*	*
0	Handling of Midwest floods	*	*	4
1	Cabinet appointments	*	*	2
1	Lifting ban on abortion counseling	*	*	1
1	Lifting ban on gays in military	*	1	6
3	Bombing of Iraq/Not passive to hostility	0	*	5
4	Help people economically	0	0	0
3	Welfare reform	0	0	0
2	Bringing about change in government	0	0	0
2	Other trade agreements	0	0	0
9	Other	2	4	4

IN FOLLOWING FIVE KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS, DO NOT SUGGEST ANSWERS

Now I would like to ask you a few questions about some things that have been in the news. Not everyone will have heard about them.

Q.4 Do you happen to know the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives?

52 Newt Gingrich

4 Incorrect answer

44 Don't Know/Refused
100

Q.5 Do you happen to know the name of the judge in the O.J. Simpson murder trial?

64 Lance Ito

4 Incorrect answer

32 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.6 Do you happen to know the name of the country where the currency was collapsing and the United States made loan guarantees to help stabilize the situation?

56 Mexico

6 Incorrect answer

38 Don't Know/Refused
100

Q.7 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 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	8	33	32	26	1=100
December, 1994	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 U.S. economy	23	41	22	13	1=100
December, 1994	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. 7 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 O.J. Simpson trial	23	33	24	19	1=100
December, 1994	23	29	25	22	1=100
October, 1994	25	32	24	17	2=100
September, 1994	30	33	22	15	*=100
June, 1994 ²	48	29	16	6	1=100
d. The debate in Congress over the Balanced Budget Amendment	12	31	28	28	1=100
e. The earthquake in Japan	25	47	20	8	*=100
f. Russia's fighting in Chechnya (CHETCH-NEE-A)	10	27	27	35	1=100
g. The activities of the new Republican leaders in Congress	19	32	23	26	*=100
h. Recent violence in abortion clinics	24	45	19	11	1=100
i. President Clinton's decision to provide loan guarantees to Mexico	14	35	28	22	1=100
j. Negotiations to end the baseball strike ³	12	26	26	35	1=100
October, 1994	15	20	26	38	1=100
September, 1994	13	21	28	38	*=100
k. The debate about federal funding for public broadcasting and the arts	11	22	23	43	1=100

² 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."

³ In previous month story was listed as "The baseball strike."

Q.8 How much of the live coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial, if any, have you watched?

- 10 Almost all of it
- 13 A lot of it
- 29 Some of it
- 31 Hardly any of it (**GO TO Q.10**)
- 17 None of it (**GO TO Q.10**)
- $\frac{*}{100}$ Don't know/Refused (**GO TO Q.10**)

ASK Q.9 ONLY OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED ALL, A LOT, OR SOME IN Q.8

Q.9 Each day do you look forward to tuning into the O.J. Simpson trial or aren't you that interested?

- 18 Look forward to tuning in
 - 31 Not that interested
 - $\frac{3}{52}$ Don't know/Refused
- (N=609)

NOW ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

ASK Q.10 OF FORM 1 ONLY

Q.10 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Newt Gingrich is handling his job as Speaker of the House?

- 38 Approve
 - 29 Disapprove
 - $\frac{33}{100}$ Don't know/Refused
- (N=610)

ASK Q.11 OF FORM 2 ONLY

Q.11 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob Dole is handling his job as Senate Majority Leader?

- 45 Approve
 - 19 Disapprove
 - $\frac{36}{100}$ Don't know/Refused
- (N=599)

ASK ALL

Q.12 Generally, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

		<u>Dec</u> <u>1994</u>
61	Successful	62
20	Unsuccessful	24
5	Will get some (DO NOT READ)	4
<u>14</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u> 100

Q.13 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems -- President Clinton or the Republican congressional leaders?

		<u>Dec</u> <u>1994</u>
40	President Clinton	39
38	Republican congressional leaders	43
16	Both/Neither/Other (DO NOT READ)	10
<u>6</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u> 100

Q.14 As I read a list of issues please tell me who you think has the best ideas. (First,) on the issue of... **(READ AND ROTATE)** who has the best ideas -- Republican congressional leaders, Democratic congressional leaders, or Bill Clinton? **REPEAT FOR NEXT ITEM:** And who has the best ideas on...

	Republican Congressional <u>Leaders</u>	Democratic Congressional <u>Leaders</u>	Bill <u>Clinton</u>	(VOL) None Of the <u>Above</u>	Don't <u>Know</u>
a. Reforming the welfare system	40	12	26	6	16=100
b. Reducing the size and role of the federal government	44	11	21	5	19=100
c. Cutting taxes for the middle class	30	15	30	8	17=100
d. Balancing the federal budget and reducing the deficit	40	12	22	9	17=100
e. Reforming Congress and the political system	43	10	17	8	22=100
f. Reducing crime	32	12	27	9	20=100
g. Improving the job situation	32	14	30	7	17=100

Q.15 Now 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 a-h and i-m)** 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	14	41	25	17	0	3=100
December, 1994	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. Bob Dole	17	41	18	10	4	10=100
December, 1994	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
c. Newt Gingrich	12	29	22	15	10	12=100
December, 1994	7	18	15	13	30	17=100
July, 1994	2	12	8	4	65	9=100
d. Warren Christopher	5	28	15	6	26	20=100
e. Boutros Boutros-Ghali (Boo-Troce Boo-Troce Golly)	2	12	13	7	49	17=100
f. Colin Powell	31	36	8	3	12	10=100
December, 1994	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
g. Madeleine Albright	2	16	11	5	47	19=100

Q.15 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>
h. Ross Perot	12	26	34	20	1	7=100
July, 1994	13	38	29	16	1	3=100
May, 1993	21	43	21	10	*	5=100
July, 1992	18	30	21	14	1	16=100
June, 1992	18	35	18	8	5	16=100
May, 1992	11	39	20	7	2	21=100
March, 1992	11	18	15	6	29	21=100
i. The Contract with America	12	30	12	7	22	17=100
December, 1994	11	24	8	5	42	10=100
j. Congress	10	44	27	10	0	9=100
July, 1994	7	46	34	9	*	4=100
May, 1993	8	35	35	13	0	9=100
November, 1991	7	44	34	9	0	6=100
May, 1990	6	53	25	9	1	6=100
May, 1988	8	56	23	5	0	8=100
January, 1988	6	58	25	4	0	7=100
May, 1987	10	64	16	4	*	6=100
January, 1987	7	52	23	8	0	10=100
June, 1985	9	58	21	5	*	7=100
k. The United Nations	13	49	18	8	*	12=100
July, 1994	21	55	14	5	1	4=100
May, 1993	21	52	13	4	0	10=100
May, 1990	15	55	13	6	1	10=100
l. The U.S. Court System	8	35	31	19	0	7=100
m. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)	9	34	24	11	1	21=100

ROTATE Q.16 AND Q.17. RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NAMES.

Q.16 I am going to read to you the names of some possible candidates for the Democratic nomination for President in 1996. After I read all the names would you tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Democratic party's candidate for President... And who would be your second choice?

	<u>1st choice</u>	<u>2nd choice</u>
Bill Clinton	54	14
Al Gore	17	39
Dick Gephardt	5	9
Bob Kerrey	3	4
Jesse Jackson	9	12
Bill Bradley	4	7
Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100
	(N=501)	(N=501)

Q.17 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the Republican nomination for President in 1996. After I read all the names would you tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican party's candidate for President... And who would be your second choice?

	<u>1st choice</u>	<u>2nd choice</u>
Bob Dole	49	17
Phil Gramm	13	11
Lamar Alexander	4	4
Patrick Buchanan	7	14
Arlen Specter	2	3
Newt Gingrich	7	17
Pete Wilson	6	5
Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>29</u>
	100	100
	(N=607)	(N=607)

Q.18 Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat and Bob Dole, the Republican. Who would you like to see win?

Q.19 As of TODAY, do you LEAN most to Clinton, the Democrat or Dole, the Republican?

45 Clinton -- **GO TO Q.20**

52 Dole -- **GO TO Q.20**

1 Other candidate (**VOL.**)

$\frac{2}{100}$ Don't know/Refused

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q.20 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in... (**READ**)

		U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT						
		Mar	Dec	Jan	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
8	Excellent shape?	5	5	4	6	5	4	4
39	Good shape?	41	34	33	34	30	35	32
38	Only fair shape?	40	45	46	40	47	45	45
14	OR poor shape?	13	15	16	19	17	15	18
$\frac{1}{100}$	Don't know/Refused	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{100}$

Q.21 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse, or get a lot worse?

		U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT				
		March	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
11	Improve a lot	10	9	6	8	9
53	Improve some	57	51	50	49	46
17	Stay the same (VOL.)	16	15	14	13	16
13	Get a little worse	11	14	20	22	19
3	Get a lot worse	3	3	5	4	5
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

Q.22 Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

		March
		<u>1994</u>
55	Full-time	53
11	Part-time	14
34	Not employed	32
<u>*</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100		100

Q.S 23 -24 BASED ON EMPLOYED RESPONDENTS

Q.23 Do you now earn enough money to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT				
		March	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
41	Yes	44	36	33	34	39
58	No	56	63	66	65	61
<u>1</u>	Don't know	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100
(N=816)						

Q.24 Do you think you will be able to earn enough money in the future to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT				
		March	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
35	Yes	33	35	36	34	34
20	No	20	23	25	28	22
<u>3</u> 58	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u> 54%	<u>5</u> 63%	<u>5</u> 66%	<u>3</u> 65%	<u>5</u> 61%
(N=816)		(N=2001)	(N=817)	(N=777)	(N=852)	(N=1002)

Q.25 Do you happen to know if the Federal Reserve Bank has raised or lowered interest rates in recent months, or have interest rates stayed the same?

68	Raised rates
4	Lowered rates
7	Kept rates same
<u>21</u> 100	Don't know/Refused

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q.26 Please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree with the following statement... The United States should cooperate fully with the United Nations?

		Oct	April							
		<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1991⁴</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1964</u>
65	Agree	64	71	77	56	59	46	63	72	72
29	Disagree	28	22	17	35	28	41	28	21	16
<u>6</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u> 100	<u>7</u> 100	<u>6</u> 100	<u>9</u> 100	<u>13</u> 100	<u>13</u> 100	<u>9</u> 100	<u>7</u> 100	<u>12</u> 100

⁴ All trend data are from public opinion surveys conducted by Potomac Associates, The Gallup Organization and the Institute for International Social Research.

Q.27 Do you favor or oppose the U.S. giving financial aid to Russia?

		May <u>1992</u>
36	Favor	43
58	Oppose	51
<u>6</u> 100	Don't know	<u>6</u> 100

Q.28 Do you think that we should expand our spending on national defense, keep it about the same, or cut it back?

		CHICAGO COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS				
		Sept <u>1993</u>	Oct-Nov <u>1990</u>	Oct-Nov <u>1986</u>	Oct-Nov <u>1982</u>	Nov <u>1978</u>
19	Expand	10	12	21	22	32
56	Keep same	52	53	55	52	45
24	Cut back	36	32	23	24	16
<u>1</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>3</u> 100	<u>7</u> 100
		(N=2000)	(N=1662)	(N=1585)	(N=1547)	(N=1546)

Q.29 What should be given a higher priority in 1995, cutting taxes for the middle class or taking steps to reduce the budget deficit?

37	Cutting taxes for the middle class
56	Taking steps to reduce the budget deficit
4	Both equally (VOL.)
<u>3</u> 100	Don't know/Refused

Q.30 What is more important, taking steps to reduce the budget deficit or keeping Social Security and Medicare benefits as they are?

- 24 Taking steps to reduce the budget deficit
- 70 Keeping Social Security and Medicare benefits as they are
- 2 Both equally (VOL.)
- $\frac{4}{100}$ Don't know/Refused

Q.31 Now I am going to read you a list of policy decisions made by the Clinton administration. Please tell me if you approve or disapprove of each of the following. If you are unaware of the decision please tell me that. (First,) do you approve or disapprove of President Clinton's... **(READ AND ROTATE) REPEAT FOR NEXT ITEM:** And how do you feel about his...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Unaware/ Never Heard of</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
a. Executive order granting loan guarantees to Mexico	30	55	7	8=100
b. Decision to impose trade sanctions on China	58	19	13	10=100
c. Choice of Henry Foster to be the new Surgeon General	39	24	19	18=100
d. Proposal to raise the minimum wage	79	18	1	2=100
e. Decision last September to send U.S. troops to Haiti	47	47	2	4=100

Q.32 How often if ever do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues and politics -- regularly, sometimes, rarely or never?

- 17 Regularly
- 26 Sometimes
- 27 Rarely
- 30 Never
- $\frac{*}{100}$ Don't know/Refused

TIMES MIRROR DATABASE

PUBLIC ATTENTIVENESS TO MAJOR NEWS STORIES

(1986 - 1995)

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 EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN (FEB 95)**
- 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 RECENT VIOLENCE IN ABORTION CLINICS (FEB 95)**
- 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 *REPORTS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE U.S. ECONOMY (FEB 95)***
- 23 *THE O.J. SIMPSON CASE (FEB 95)***
- 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 THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NEW REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN CONGRESS (FEB 95)

- 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 *PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DECISION TO PROVIDE LOAN GUARANTEES TO MEXICO (FEB 95)***
- 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 DEBATE IN CONGRESS OVER THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT
(FEB 95)**
- 12 NEGOTIATIONS TO END THE BASEBALL STRIKE (FEB 95)**
- 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 DEBATE ABOUT FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE ARTS
(FEB 95)**
- 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 RUSSIA'S FIGHTING IN CHECHNYA (FEB 95)**
- 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)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 9 The civil war in Bosnia (Sept 94)
- 9 The World Population Conference in Cairo (Sept 94)
- 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 CIVIL WAR IN BOSNIA (FEB 95)**
- 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)