# More Clinton Leadership Wanted NOW THE GOP FACES CYNICAL, DISSATISFIED PUBLIC 

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## More Clinton Leadership Wanted NOW THE GOP FACES CYNICAL, DISSATISFIED PUBLIC

Americans see less gridlock in Washington after the first 100 days of the 104th Congress, but few think they will be helped personally by the new legislation that has been considered, and most remain very dissatisfied with progress being made on the nation's top problems.

A 59\% majority of the public thinks that the Republicans have kept their campaign promises and most ( $52 \%$ ) remain happy that the GOP won control of the Congress. But dissatisfaction with Republican policies continues to grow, and the public is as unhappy with the overall state of the nation as it was last year at this time. Only $23 \%$ voice satisfaction with the way things are going in the country, and at least six in ten think the country is losing ground on its most urgent problems.

The latest nationwide Times Mirror survey finds increased confidence in the Republican party's abilities, but a substantial wariness of its intentions. The telephone poll of 1800 adults found the belief that the GOP is the party best able to handle the nation's problems at an all time high. But the survey also found respondents thinking that the Democrats care more about them than the Republicans (by a $49 \%$ to $39 \%$ margin). Further, just $19 \%$ think they will be helped by the legislation passed by the new Republican-led Congress. More than one in three (37\%) believe they will be hurt, and about the same percentage ( $38 \%$ ) think they will not be affected by the Congressional actions. Enterpriser Republicans, who are largely economic conservatives, are the only group identified in the survey that thinks on balance they will benefit from GOP efforts.

The perceived losers are much clearer to the public. Majorities or clear pluralities see environmentalists, the poor, minorities, women, retired people, young families and abortion rights supporters being hurt by the GOP legislation considered so far.

## More Polarization

The polarization reflected in these perceptions is also found in the swelling percentage of Americans saying they disapprove of Republican policies. The current survey finds as many turning thumbs down (43\%) to the GOP's plans, as turning thumbs up (44\%). Women, blacks and people who earn less than $\$ 30,000$ are highly critical of the Republican efforts, while whites, men and more affluent groups remain strongly supportive. Many of the most important swing groups are either divided over GOP policies, or express disapproval. Overall, Independents divide $39 \%$ approve, $43 \%$ disapprove. However, New Economy Independents -- a largely middle age, female post-industrial working class group -- express strong disapproval. Older people are another politically potent group that has become disaffected. By a margin of $50 \%$ to $37 \%$, people 65 years of age and older disapprove of the plans and policies of the new Republican leaders.

A growing number of Americans have become displeased with Republican policies, yet are still glad that the GOP controls Congress. These fence sitters disapprove of both Bill Clinton and of Newt Gingrich, but most approve of Bob Dole. They are largely Independents who side with the GOP on its economic reforms such as the tax cut and the balanced budget amendment, but are critical of the party for its stand on cultural issues such as restoring the ban on gays in the military and cutting funding for PBS. Many 104th Congress fence sitters are New Economy Independents
who are also uncomfortable with safety net cuts, cuts to programs such as school lunch and tuition aid, and the proposed elimination of affirmative action.

## Democrats Come Together Over School Lunches

More broadly, the survey finds that many of the popular Contract With America positions are being overshadowed by more controversial GOP ideas that subsequently have captured the public's attention. For example, more respondents (49\%) said they heard or read a lot about Gingrich's proposal to restore a ban on gays in the military than any of the Contract proposals. And replacing the school lunch program with block grants drew about as much public attention (35\%) as term limits ( $40 \%$ ), welfare reform ( $36 \%$ ) and the balanced budget amendment (35\%). Swing voters such as New Economy Independents are highly critical of many of the non-Contract measures that have attracted so much attention. Further, these issues have energized various Democratic constituencies. All Democratic groups oppose and care a lot about ending the school lunch program.

Considering Contract items, minority groups in particular care a lot about and oppose Gingrich welfare reform and the food stamp proposals. Liberal, well-educated Seculars ${ }^{1}$ disapprove and care a lot about cuts to PBS and restoring the ban on gays in the military. Proposals to end affirmative action have angered both Seculars and members of minority groups.

The polling suggests that the public is more disposed to reforming welfare and safety net programs than to ending them. While critical of quotas and special advantages for one group over another, there was no consensus for ending all affirmative action programs, except among Republican-oriented groups and the socially conservative New Dealers. Similarly, reforming welfare to provide block grants to the states is broadly popular on the surface, as $57 \%$ say they approve of such a proposal. However, when respondents are asked to address the hard choices that states would face, a $68 \%$ majority of Americans oppose cuts in benefits to the poor. The poll also found broad opposition to ending federal fuel subsidies to poor people.

## The Gingrich Generation

The trend in opinion toward Newt Gingrich himself tracks well with growing discontent with Republican policies. Since mid-February the percentage expressing approval of Gingrich has increased from $38 \%$ to $43 \%$, but disapproval is up more sharply -- from $29 \%$ to $42 \%$. Gingrich is given better job evaluations by all Republican-leaning groups, especially by well-educated and affluent people. However, a generational factor is at work: younger people like the new Speaker, middle age people are divided about him, and older people tend to disapprove.

Times Mirror's typology analysis finds that while on balance Gingrich gets good grades from all the right-of-center groups and bad ones from all the left of center groups, he gets a surprisingly high $40 \%$ approval score from younger, moderate New Democrats and a relatively modest $58 \%$ approval rating from conservative Libertarians.

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## 'Let's Hear From Bill Clinton'

The latest Times Mirror Center survey has an equally mixed message for Bill Clinton. The President has been marginalized in the minds of many Americans. Most think that Bob Dole (55\%) and Newt Gingrich ( $57 \%$ ) have more power and influence in Washington politics than Clinton. Even a majority of Democrats think the President is less powerful than Newt Gingrich. However, an increasing number of people, composed mostly of Democrats, seniors, and the poor would like to see Clinton take the lead in solving the nation's problems. A few weeks ago the public divided evenly ( $40 \%$ to $40 \%$ ) as to whether the President or the GOP Congressional leaders should set the agenda. Now a $48 \%$ to $36 \%$ plurality called for greater Presidential leadership.

This coincides with a slight increase in the president's approval rating which rose to $47 \%$ in the current poll, his highest positive rating since early 1994. However, there was not a significant decline in Clinton's disapproval rating (43\%).

## No 100 Day Lift

There is no indication that the first 100 days of the Gingich Congress, despite its furious pace, has lifted the public's spirits about the state of the nation. A change of power in Washington usually causes more Americans to say, for at least a short period of time, that the country is headed in the right direction. Not so in the current Times Mirror survey, which found almost three out of four ( $74 \%$ ) respondents dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country today, slightly higher than a year ago ( $71 \%$ in March, 1994). Moreover, of 22 problem areas on which respondents were polled, majorities or pluralities said the nation was losing ground on fully 18 of them.

In an open-ended question early in the interview, crime was cited most often (23\%) as the biggest problem facing the country today. Other problem areas volunteered by respondents were the national deficit/balanced budget (13\%), morality and family values (10\%), drugs (9\%), welfare
abuse ( $9 \%$ ), and unemployment ( $9 \%$ ). The proportion citing welfare abuse quadrupled from $2 \%$ a year earlier, probably reflecting increased media coverage of efforts to reform the system.

## Still Dubious on the Economy

The public's reluctance to acknowledge an improved economy, noted in earlier polls, seems destined to endure until the next recession. Respondents cited unemployment as one of the top six problems facing the country. More of them now admit that progress is being made on the issue ( $27 \%$, compared to $18 \%$ in March, 1994), but a larger proportion, $37 \%$, believe the nation is still losing ground on this front. Similarly, more respondents now feel progress is being made on the availability of good paying jobs ( $17 \%$, compared to $10 \%$ in March, 1994), but more than half the public, $55 \%$, feel the country is losing ground here, too. Fully $61 \%$ said the nation is losing ground on the cost of living, essentially the same as a year earlier (59\%).

In other important areas, huge majorities of respondents felt the nation was losing ground in dealing with its problems, ranging from $77 \%$ who believed it was losing ground on crime, $70 \%$ on moral and ethical standards, $68 \%$ on the way the welfare system is working, $66 \%$ on drugs, and $60 \%$ on the budget deficit. On moral standards, welfare and drugs, the percentage believing the nation was losing ground rose over the past year, while on crime and the budget deficit, the percentage remained the same.

## Women Most Disenchanted

Crime was cited as a national problem by women of all ages much more than by men ( $28 \%$ vs. $18 \%$ ); and women saw the nation losing ground against crime more often than men ( $82 \%$ vs. $71 \%$ ). Similarly, women volunteered drugs as a national problem more often than men ( $11 \%$ vs. $7 \%$ ), and were more likely to say the country was losing ground in this battle ( $71 \%$ vs. $60 \%$ ). Nonwhites saw the nation losing the fight against drugs more often than whites ( $79 \%$ vs. $64 \%$ ) although there was no difference between non-whites and whites on losing ground on crime ( $77 \%$ for both).

Again, more women were convinced the nation was losing ground on moral and ethical standards than were men ( $75 \%$ vs $64 \%$ ), and more whites than non-whites ( $71 \%$ vs. $61 \%$ ) felt the same. Women more than men felt the nation was losing ground on families not staying together ( $77 \%$ vs. $73 \%$ ). Whites more than non-whites felt ground was being lost on the way the welfare system is working ( $68 \%$ vs. $61 \%$ ), and on the way the legal system is working ( $69 \%$ vs. $59 \%$ ).

Among the brighter spots in the public's thinking is the problem of environmental pollution: 43\% believe progress is being made on it, up from $37 \%$ in March, 1994. Americans also saw progress on racial, religious and ethnic conflict ( $27 \%$, up from $21 \%$ a year earlier), although fewer non-whites than whites held this view ( $20 \%$ vs. $28 \%$ ). The public saw little forward progress in combatting international terrorism, but far fewer now believe the nation is losing ground on the problem ( $36 \%$, compared to $53 \%$ a year earlier). Finally, while fewer Americans saw health care as one of the country's most important problems (5\%, compared to $14 \%$ in March, 1994) more than half of respondents ( $53 \%$ ) thought the nation was losing ground on the issue (compared to $49 \%$ a year earlier); prominent among them were middle age Americans, particularly women age 30-49.

## The Public and The GOP Agenda

Three legislative areas considered by the new Congress emerge as most salient to the public. When asked on an unaided basis to name the most important thing the new Congress has accomplished, respondents most often cited efforts to balance the budget/cut spending (8\%), tax cuts ( $7 \%$ ), and welfare reform ( $6 \%$ ).

Ironically, the public is less aware of the line-item veto, although it is the only major provision of the Contract With America that passed both houses of Congress. Only 3\% volunteered the line-item veto as the most important thing to happen in the new Congress. The veto made an impact with one important GOP constituency, the Libertarians, $10 \%$ of whom cited it as most important. In comparison, the social conservative Moralists more often named welfare reform ( $11 \%$ ) and the Enterprisers singled out tax cuts more often (15\%).

Two key defeats of Contract With America proposals -- term limits for members of Congress and the balanced budget amendment -- did not make a major impact on the public. Merely $1 \%$ of respondents mentioned the failure of each of those measures as the most important thing that has happened in the new Congress.

## High Visibility Items

Six specific proposals tested in the survey are very familiar (i.e., respondents heard or read "a lot" about them) to at least a third of the public. Four of the best known proposals are Contract items -- term limits, welfare reform, a balanced budget amendment, and a middle class tax cut. But the two other best known proposals are non-Contract items dealing with more divisive issues: restoring the ban on gays in the military and replacing the federal school lunch program with block grants to the states. Gingrich floated the idea of restoring the gay ban to the news media a few days before interviewing for the survey began. As seen below, it was the most prominent issue in the public mind of any item tested.

# TOP SIX PROPOSALS IN PUBLIC FAMILIARITY 

## Percent Who Say They Heard Or Read A LOT About: <br> 49\% <br> 40

Restoring Ban On Gays in Military Term Limits For House and Senate Reforming Welfare With Block Grants To The States
Replacing Federal School Lunch Programs
With Block Grants To The States Balanced Budget Amendment Tax Cut For Middle Income Families

Term Limits for members of Congress wins public approval by a $60 \%$ to $40 \%$ margin overall. About four in ten ( $38 \%$ ) approve of term limits and care a lot about this issue. There is little downside politically to term limits legislation; opponents of term limits don't feel as strongly about this issue.

Welfare Reform that would shift responsibilities to the states, end cash payments after five years, and halt benefits for unmarried parents under 18 wins public approval by a $57 \%$ to $34 \%$ margin. Four in ten (41\%) approve of this GOP version of welfare reform and say they care a lot. The concept of shifting responsibility to the states is broadly popular: solid majorities believe their state would administer such programs more efficiently than the federal government ( $70 \%$ ) and is more likely to be fair to all groups ( $67 \%$ ). The public, however, is reluctant to cut benefits. If the shift means less federal money, only a quarter of the public ( $24 \%$ ) is willing to reduce aid to poor families and only one in six ( $17 \%$ ) would favor an increase in state taxes to make up the difference; but $51 \%$ would cut other items in the state budget for this purpose.

A Balanced Budget Amendment wins approval by a wide margin, $64 \%$ to $26 \%$; nearly half ( $47 \%$ ) approve and care a lot. Those opposed to the balanced budget amendment care less about this issue. Disapproval is highest among African-Americans (48\%).

A Middle Class Tax Cut, when presented without a specific definition, wins the highest approval level of any proposal included in the survey -- $71 \%$ approve vs. $24 \%$ disapprove. But what the public wants and what the GOP Congress is offering them are not the same; and other surveys indicate that Americans put deficit reduction ahead of tax cuts as a public priority. A Newsweek Poll completed last Friday found $53 \%$ of the public saying federal money saved through budget cuts should be used to reduce the deficit rather than to give most Americans a tax cut. Those who favored a tax cut overwhelmingly preferred limiting it to families with incomes under $\$ 95,000$, as the Democrats have proposed. The more specific tax cut proposal that passed the House -- providing a $\$ 500$ per-child tax for families with incomes up to $\$ 200,000$-- wins less approval ( $62 \%$ vs. $32 \%$ ). Overall, $40 \%$ approve and say they care a lot about having a tax cut.

## Gays, Lunch Issues Hurt the GOP

The two top non-Contract items are damaging to Gingrich and the Republicans in different ways. One could spur activism among liberals, the second hurts the party with swing voters and potential Democratic crossover voters.

Restoring the Ban on Gays in the Military is, ironically, causing problems for Gingrich much as it did for Clinton in his first 100 days. Unlike Contract items, which are being followed most closely by Republicans and others sympathetic to the GOP agenda, this proposal caught the attention of about as many Democrats ( $49 \%$ heard/read "a lot") and Independents (47\%) as Republicans (51\%). Most people are not inclined to change the
"don't ask, don't tell" compromise on gays in the military: 54\% disapprove of restoring the gay ban while $38 \%$ approve.

Replacing the School Lunch Program with block grants to the states evokes one of the most negative responses in the survey. The public disapproves of this proposal by a $58 \%$ to $35 \%$ margin. More than four in ten ( $43 \%$ ) disapprove and care a lot. The negative impact is greatest among blacks ( $68 \%$ disapprove, care a lot), Democrats ( $57 \%$ ) and people under 30 (52\%). This proposal wins the approval of a majority of '92 Bush voters (57\%), but is rejected by a majority of Perot and Clinton voters.

## Other GOP Agenda Items

Many other initiatives in the Contract with America that were passed by the House during the first 100 days are less familiar to the public. Fewer than three in ten adults have heard or read a lot about legal reform to limit the amount juries can award in personal injury lawsuits ( $28 \%$ ) and the line-item veto proposal (28\%).

No more than two in ten adults have heard or read a lot about doing away with unfunded mandates (19\%), limiting the use of U.S. troops under U.N. command (19\%) and reducing taxes for more affluent Social Security recipients ( $17 \%$ ). Only about one in ten adults ( $12 \%$ ) knows about the freeze on federal regulations to protect the environment, health or public safety.

In general, these lesser-known Contract proposals have attracted the most attention among the more Republican, male and affluent individuals who are the core supporters of the GOP agenda. All of these proposals are supported by a majority or a plurality, however. Of them, the public is most likely to care a lot about reducing taxes for more affluent people on Social Security. Unfunded mandates registers lowest as a matter of concern.

Of the remaining non-Contract items tested, cutting back the food stamp program, ending affirmative action, and reducing spending for public broadcasting are most familiar to the public. About three in ten adults report hearing a lot about each of these proposals. Cutting back the food stamp program wins approval by a $61 \%$ to $32 \%$ margin, ending affirmative action gets a mixed response ( $44 \%$ for and against) while cutting PBS evokes a negative response ( $60 \%$ disapprove vs. $30 \%$ approve).

## Image Improvement, No Partisanship Gains

After the first 100 days of the 104th Congress, the Republican Party's image for effectiveness is at a high point. By a margin of $42 \%$ to $32 \%$, the public now sees the GOP as better able to handle the country's top problem than the Democratic Party. The GOP also enjoys a whopping 19-point advantage over the Democrats as the party better able to manage the federal government well ( $49 \%$ vs. $30 \%$ ); and a 17-point advantage as the party better able to bring about the kind of changes the country needs ( $51 \%$ vs. $34 \%$ ).

But while the Republicans have been successful in winning people's respect, they have not succeeded in winning their allegiance. In terms of party identification, the parties are now at parity: $30 \%$ of Americans call themselves Republicans while 29\% call themselves Democrats. Times Mirror Center surveys conducted from December through March had shown the Republicans with
an advantage ranging from 3 to 7 points. The biggest decrease in self-identification with the GOP since December is seen among ' 92 Perot voters (a drop of 15 points) and residents of Midwestern states (-13), who have shifted back to pre-election levels of partisan identification.

## TABLES

## A Profile of GOP Supporters, Opponents and "Fence Sitters"

Happy GOP Controls Congress<br>Approve of Disapprove of GOP Policies GOP Policies

Unhappy with GOP Control

Party ID
Republican 60
Democrat
6
31

27
68
5

## Gingrich Approval

Approve 7
Disapprove 16
16
8
Don't Know 8
Dole Approval
Approve
82
Disapprove 10
Don't Know 8

POLICY VIEWS:
Middle Class Tax Cut
Approve 82
Disapprove 14
Don't know 4
Balanced Budget Amendment
Approve 79
79
62
Disapprove
15
Don't know 6
28
Don't know 6
79
18

5
59
34

## 71

22
7

21
68
11
14

## 65

42
$24 \quad 44$
$11 \quad 14$

59
38
$3 \quad 3$

CONTINUED...


# ATTENTION TO PROPOSALS IN THE "CONTRACT WITH AMERICA" 

## Term Limits

Term limits for House and Senate

Welfare/Social Programs
Welfare reform with block grants to states

Block grant proposal
for federal school lunch program

Cuts in federal
food stamp
program
Ending federal fuel subsidies to lowincome home owners

## Budget

Balanced budget amendment

Line-item veto
for the
President
Tax Cuts
Tax cut for middle income
families
\$500 per child
tax credit for families of incomes up to $\$ 200,000$

HOW MUCH HEARD OR READ ABOUT: $\underline{\text { L Lot }}$ Some Little/None/DK

40
39
$21=100$

36

35
43
$22=100$
$23=100$
41
$17=100$
$42=100$

42
$23=100$
$30=100$
42

33
55
$12=100$

Question: Now, l'd like to ask you about some specific proposals that have been debated by the new Congress. How much have you heard or read about this proposal -- a lot, only a little or nothing?

## Tax Cuts (Cont.)

Increase in social security earnings limit \& repeal of 1993 tax increase of upper income recipients

Legal Reform
Limit on personal injury jury awards

## National Security

Limit on use of U.S.
troops under U.N. command

## Regulations

Unfunded mandates

Freeze on new
federal regulations
to protect the
environment

## Other Items

Restoring ban on gays in the military

Ending of federal affirmative action programs

Cutting federal funding for public broadcasting

Ending of direct student loans by the federal government

Doing away with certain federal departments
$24=100$
59

47
$25=100$

$$
8=100
$$

$$
25=100
$$

$$
30=100
$$

$29=100$
$29=100$

# ATTENTION TO PROPOSALS IN THE <br> "CONTRACT WITH AMERICA" 

(By Typology Group)
(Percent Who Say They Heard Or Read A LOT)


New Economy<br>Total Enterprisers Moralists Libertarians Independents<br>Embittered Bystanders Seculars<br>New Democrats New Dealers Partisan Poor

## Budget

Balanced budget
amendment 35
35
62
38
44
30
29
8
46
30
33
28

Line-item veto
for the
President 28
51
20
37
25
24
6
42
20
25

## Tax Cuts

Tax cut for middle income
families 33

32
31
31
28
15
39
23
34
$\$ 500$ per child
tax credit for
families of
incomes up
to $\$ 200,000$

Increase in socia
security earnings
limit \& repeal of
1993 tax increase
of upper income
recipients 17
30
14
15
11
12
45
22
32
34

Legal Reform
Limit on personal
injury jury awards

48
27
39
27
22
9
27
19
41

## National Security

Limit on use of U.S. troops under U.N.
command 19

## Regulations

Unfunded mandates 19

35
16
27
15
18
5
29
13
17
16
Freeze on new
federal regulations
to protect the
environment 12
16
11

11
7
15
4
24
13
13

## Other Items

Restoring ban on
gays in the
military
Ending of federal
affirmative action
programs 3147
30
45
33
26
9
39
19
33
32
Cutting federal funding for public
broadcasting 29
47
19
37
30
25
8
53
22
22
24
Ending of direct student
loans by the federal
government 21
16
19
19
22
15
8
31
21
31
31
Doing away with
certain federal
departments 19
29
16
19
19

## APPROVAL OF NEWT GINGRICH <br> (Demographic Trend)



Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Newt Gingrich is handling his job as Speaker of the House?

FEB. 1995 MARCH 1995 APRIL 1995
1994 Vote
Republican
Democrat
Other/Didn't Vote

| $\underline{\text { App. }}$ | $\underline{\text { Dis. }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ | $\underline{\text { app. }}$ | $\underline{\text { Dis. }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ | $\underline{\text { App. }}$ | $\underline{\text { Dis. }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 65 | 15 | 20 | 71 | 19 | 10 | 66 | 24 | 10 |
| 24 | 51 | 25 | 21 | 63 | 16 | 27 | 64 | 9 |
| 28 | 28 | 44 | 39 | 36 | 25 | 39 | 41 | 20 |

Presidential Approval

| Approve |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Disapprove | 5 |

Don't know 20
GOP Leaders Approval
Approve

| 69 | 21 | 10 | 71 | 19 | 10 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 26 | 58 | 16 | 21 | 67 | 12 |
| 20 | 31 | 49 | 27 | 35 | 38 |

Typology Group

| Enterprisers | 77 | 15 | 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Moralists | 62 | 16 | 22 |
| Libertarians | 58 | 32 | 10 |
| New Economy |  |  |  |
| Independents | 30 | 55 | 15 |
| Embittered | 35 | 47 | 18 |
| Bystanders | 39 | 34 | 27 |
| Seculars | 19 | 72 | 9 |
| New Democrats | 40 | 50 | 10 |
| New Dealers | 28 | 61 | 11 |
| Partisan Poor | 25 | 57 | 18 |

## APPROVAL OF BOB DOLE

(Demographic Trend)


Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob Dole is handling his job as Senate Majority Leader?

## 1994 Vote

Republican
Democrat
Other/Didn't Vote
Presidential Approval
Approve
Disapprove
Don't know
GOP Leaders Approval
Approve
Disapprove
Don't know
Typology Group
Enterprisers
Moralists
Libertarians
New Economy Independents
Embittered
Bystanders
Seculars
New Democrats
New Dealers
Partisan Poor

72

72
35
38
$41 \quad 26$
$57 \quad 14$
22
12

33
29
66

77

| 77 | 14 | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 46 | 41 | 13 |
| 55 | 24 | 21 |


| 54 | 32 | 14 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

$69 \quad 18 \quad 13$
$42 \quad 22$
13 36
$78 \quad 12 \quad 10$
$44 \quad 40 \quad 16$
$47 \quad 18$
16
$18 \quad 35$

| 79 | 12 | 9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 75 | 9 | 16 |
| 69 | 20 | 11 |
|  |  |  |
| 52 | 29 | 19 |
| 55 | 27 | 18 |
| 51 | 19 | 30 |
| 43 | 42 | 15 |
| 60 | 27 | 13 |
| 43 | 49 | 8 |
| 45 | 38 | 17 |

# OPINION OF WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN SOLVING NATION'S PROBLEMS 

|  | President Clinton | GOP In <br> Congress | Both | DK | $N$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 48\% | 36\% | 12\% | $4 \%=100$ | (1800) |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 46 | 40 | 12 | $2=100$ | (900) |
| Female | 49 | 33 | 12 | $6=100$ | (900) |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 45 | 39 | 12 | $4=100$ | (1511) |
| Non-white | 71 | 17 | 8 | $4=100$ | (270) |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 45 | 42 | 10 | $3=100$ | (358) |
| 30-49 | 48 | 37 | 11 | $4=100$ | (763) |
| 50-64 | 46 | 36 | 14 | $4=100$ | (336) |
| 65+ | 51 | 28 | 12 | $9=100$ | (314) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 47 | 36 | 15 | $2=100$ | (505) |
| Some College | 45 | 40 | 11 | 4=100 | (439) |
| High School Grad. | 49 | 35 | 12 | 4=100 | (651) |
| < H.S. grad. | 50 | 35 | 7 | $8=100$ | (194) |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$50,000+ | 44 | 42 | 12 | $2=100$ | (479) |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 45 | 42 | 10 | $3=100$ | (460) |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 49 | 32 | 13 | $6=100$ | (323) |
| < \$20,000 | 54 | 31 | 10 | $5=100$ | (394) |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| East | 54 | 31 | 12 | $3=100$ | (369) |
| Midwest | 45 | 35 | 14 | $6=100$ | (442) |
| South | 46 | 40 | 9 | $5=100$ | (614) |
| West | 47 | 36 | 14 | $3=100$ | (375) |
| Party ID |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 22 | 66 | 10 | $2=100$ | (559) |
| Democrat | 78 | 10 | 8 | 4=100 | (509) |
| Independent | 46 | 35 | 14 | $5=100$ | (668) |
| 1992 Vote |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bush | 22 | 63 | 13 | $2=100$ | (510) |
| Clinton | 76 | 12 | 9 | $3=100$ | (619) |
| Perot | 36 | 42 | 16 | $6=100$ | (228) |

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

|  | President Clinton | GOP In <br> Congress | Both | DK | $N$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 Vote |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 28 | 59 | 11 | $2=100$ | (564) |
| Democrat | 73 | 14 | 9 | $4=100$ | (430) |
| Other/Didn't Vote | 49 | 34 | 11 | $6=100$ | (665) |
| Presidential Approval |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approve | 72 | 15 | 10 | $3=100$ | (837) |
| Disapprove | 24 | 61 | 12 | $3=100$ | (787) |
| Don't know | 38 | 33 | 12 | $17=100$ | (176) |
| GOP Leaders Approval |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approve | 32 | 55 | 11 | $2=100$ | (817) |
| Disapprove | 66 | 20 | 11 | $3=100$ | (751) |
| Don't know | 42 | 28 | 14 | $16=100$ | (232) |
| Political Vocalization |  |  |  |  |  |
| Listens To Talk Radio | 44 | 42 | 11 | $3=100$ | (348) |
| Contacted Washington | 43 | 39 | 14 | 4=100 | (247) |
| Both | 34 | 48 | 11 | $7=100$ | (80) |
| Neither | 49 | 36 | 13 | $2=100$ | (511) |
| Opinion of Contract |  |  |  |  |  |
| Favorable | 40 | 46 | 11 | $3=100$ | (1100) |
| Unfavorable | 67 | 19 | 11 | $3=100$ | (511) |
| Typology Group |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enterprisers | 16 | 71 | 11 | $2=100$ | (303) |
| Moralists | 30 | 55 | 13 | $2=100$ | (226) |
| Libertarians | 31 | 54 | 13 | $2=100$ | (114) |
| New Economy 27 (208) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Independents | 52 | 27 | 16 | $5=100$ | (298) |
| Embittered | 43 | 38 | 15 | $4=100$ | (133) |
| Bystanders | 46 | 38 | 7 | $9=100$ | (165) |
| Seculars | 75 | 13 | 10 | $2=100$ | (157) |
| New Democrats | 74 | 11 | 13 | $2=100$ | (146) |
| New Dealers | 69 | 16 | 9 | $6=100$ | (122) |
| Partisan Poor | 73 | 11 | 6 | $10=100$ | (136) |

# Who in Washington Should Take the Lead? <br> Percent who say Clinton 

|  | March 1995 | April 1995 | Diff. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 40 | 48 | +8 |
| Sex |  |  |  |
| Male | 37 | 46 | +9 |
| Female | 43 | 49 | +6 |
| Race |  |  |  |
| White | 37 | 45 | +8 |
| Non-White | 63 | 71 | +8 |
| Age |  |  |  |
| 18-29 | 46 | 46 | 0 |
| 30-49 | 38 | 48 | +10 |
| 50-64 | 42 | 46 | +4 |
| 65+ | 36 | 52 | +16 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 39 | 47 | +8 |
| Some College | 39 | 45 | +6 |
| H.S. Grad. | 38 | 49 | +11 |
| < High School | 48 | 50 | +2 |
| Family Income |  |  |  |
| \$50,000+ | 39 | 44 | +5 |
| \$30,000-49,999 | 40 | 45 | +5 |
| \$20,000-29,999 | 38 | 49 | +11 |
| <\$20,000 | 46 | 54 | +8 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| East | 45 | 54 | +9 |
| Midwest | 39 | 45 | +6 |
| South | 38 | 46 | +8 |
| West | 40 | 47 | +7 |

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

|  | March 1995 | April 1995 | Diff. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Party Identification |  |  |  |
| Republican | 19 | 22 | +3 |
| Democrat | 68 | 78 | +10 |
| Independent | 39 | 46 | +7 |
| 1992 Presidential Vote |  |  |  |
| Bush | 14 | 21 | +7 |
| Clinton | 67 | 76 | +9 |
| Perot | 35 | 36 | +1 |
| 1994 Congressional Vote |  |  |  |
| Republican | 20 | 28 | +8 |
| Democrat | 66 | 73 | +7 |
| Did not vote | 42 | 49 | +7 |
| Presidential Job Approval |  |  |  |
| Approve | 65 | 72 | +7 |
| Disapprove | 19 | 24 | +5 |
| Don't Know | 28 | 38 | +10 |
| GOP Leaders Approval |  |  |  |
| Approve | 25 | 32 | +7 |
| Disapprove | 62 | 66 | +4 |
| Don't Know | 32 | 42 | +10 |

# OPINION OF GOP POLICIES AND PROPOSALS AND FEELINGS ABOUT GOP CONTROL OF CONGRESS 



Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress?

Now, on another subject, in general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S.
Congress?


# TOP SIX AREAS COUNTRY IS LOSING GROUND ON 



Question: Next, as I read you some problem areas, please tell me how you think each is affecting this country TODAY. First, do you think the problem of ... is ABOUT THE SAME today, is the country MAKING PROGRESS in this area, or is the country LOSING GROUND?

# PERCENT WHO SAY COUNTRY IS LOSING GROUND ON: <br> Families Moral/Ethical Legal Welfare <br> Crime Split Up Standards System System Drugs 

1994 Vote
Republican
Democrat
Other/Didn't Vote
Presidential Approval
Approve

Approve 73
Disapprove 8
Don't know 78
GOP Leaders Approval

| Approve | 74 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Disapprove | 80 |

Don't know 79
Political Vocalization
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Listens To Talk Radio } & 73 \\ \text { Contacted }\end{array}$
Both 73

Neither 78
Opinion of Contract

| Favorable | 75 | 76 | 66 | 68 | 68 | 64 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Unfavorable | 81 | 77 | 76 | 62 | 66 | 69 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Typology Group | 79 | 81 | 78 | 81 | 82 | 69 |
| Enterprisers | 75 | 78 | 74 | 66 | 66 | 65 |
| Moralists | 64 | 67 | 70 | 63 | 71 | 51 |
| Libertarians |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Econ. |  |  | 73 | 76 | 65 | 71 |
| Independents | 85 | 74 | 79 | 71 | 75 | 84 |
| Embittered | 89 | 88 | 50 | 61 | 62 |  |
| Bystanders | 78 | 72 | 50 | 55 | 52 | 50 |
| Seculars | 65 | 64 | 56 | 58 | 57 |  |
| New Democrats | 72 | 70 | 61 | 57 | 60 | 53 |
| New Dealers | 73 | 69 | 71 | 70 | 70 | 71 |
| Partisan Poor | 76 | 79 | 72 | 68 | 63 | 69 |

# PARTY BETTER ABLE TO HANDLE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM 

(Demographic Trend)


Question: Which political party do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you just mentioned -- the Republicans or the Democrats?

1994 Vote
Republican
Other/Didn't Vote
Presidential Approval Approve
Disapprove
Don't know
GOP Leaders Approval
Approve
Disapprove
Don't know
Political Vocalization
Listens To Talk Radio
Contacted Washington
Both
Neither
Opinion of Contract
Favorable
Unfavorable
Never heard Of
Can't Rate
Typology Group

| Enterprisers | 79 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Moralists | 65 |

Libertarians 54
New Economy
Independents 30
Embittered 28
Bystanders 27
Seculars 10
New Democrats 16
New Dealers
Partisan Poor
10

N/A
N/A
N/A

15
24

N/A
71

48
56

N/A
55
N/A
19

13
72
15
38

22
66
$+7$
$+7$
+8
-1
-2
-1
$+14$
45

28
22
N/A

85
$+6$
$+11$
$+3$
0
$+13$
$+15$
0
-6
0

# PARTISAN SELF-IDENTIFICATION <br> (Demographic Trend) 

|  | Percent Who Say REPUBLICAN: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | July 1994 | Dec. 1994 | April 1995 |
| Total | 29\% | 35\% | 30\% |
| Sex |  |  |  |
| Male | 30 | 37 | 31 |
| Female | 27 | 33 | 30 |
| Race |  |  |  |
| White | 32 | 39 | 34 |
| Non-white | 9 | 14 | 8 |
| Age |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 30 | 36 | 27 |
| 30-49 | 29 | 35 | 31 |
| 50-64 | 26 | 35 | 31 |
| 65+ | 28 | 34 | 30 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 36 | 38 | 34 |
| Some College | 31 | 40 | 30 |
| High School Grad. | 28 | 34 | 31 |
| < H.S. grad. | 19 | 27 | 24 |
| Family Income |  |  |  |
| \$50,000+ | 39 | 42 | 38 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 31 | 36 | 36 |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 26 | 34 | 25 |
| < \$20,000 | 21 | 26 | 21 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| East | 27 | 30 | 28 |
| Midwest | 28 | 41 | 28 |
| South | 30 | 34 | 33 |
| West | 28 | 34 | 30 |
| 1992 Vote |  |  |  |
| Bush | 66 | 71 | 67 |
| Clinton | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| Perot | 24 | 40 | 25 |
| 1994 Vote |  |  |  |
| Republican | N/A | N/A | 61 |
| Democrat | N/A | N/A | 6 |
| Other/Didn't Vote | N/A | N/A | 23 |

Question: In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

Percent Who Say REPUBLICAN:
July 1994
Dec. 1994
April 1995
Presidential Approval
Approve 12
$12 \quad 14$
14
12
Disapprove 47
Don't know 18
54
51
33
23
GOP Leaders Approval
Approve
N/A
Disapprove
Don't know
N/A
N/A
N/A
54

Political Vocalization
Listens To Talk Radio
40
Contacted Washington
35
Both
47
Neither
25
Opinion of Contract
Favorable
N/A
Unfavorable N/A
Never heard Of
Can't Rate
N/A
N/A
N/A
40
N/A 34
N/A 35
N/A 45
N/A 35

N/
N/
N/
12
N/A
29
11

# OPINION ABOUT A THIRD PARTY 

(By Typology Group)

|  | JULY 1994 |  | MARCH 1995 Percent |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Should <br> Have | Shouldn't <br> Have/DK | Should <br> Have | Shouldn't <br> Have/DK | Change In <br> Should Have |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $53 \%$ | $47 \%=100$ | $57 \%$ | $43 \%=100$ | +3 |
| Typology Group |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enterprisers | 43 | $57=100$ | 49 | $51=100$ | +6 |
| Moralists | 47 | $53=100$ | 51 | $49=100$ | +4 |
| Libertarians | 62 | $38=100$ | 60 | $40=100$ | -2 |
| New Economy |  |  |  |  |  |
| Independents | 68 | $32=100$ | 68 | $32=100$ | 0 |
| Embittered | 56 | $44=100$ | 57 | $43=100$ | +1 |
| Bystanders | 56 | $44=100$ | 57 | $43=100$ | +1 |
| Seculars | 62 | $38=100$ | 64 | $36=100$ | +2 |
| New Democrats | 45 | $55=100$ | 58 | $42=100$ | +13 |
| New Dealers | 44 | $56=100$ | 55 | $45=100$ | +11 |
| Partisan Poor | 37 | $63=100$ | 51 | $49=100$ | +14 |

Question: Some people say we should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans. Do you agree or disagree?

## 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 1,800 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period April 6-9, 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 2.5 percentage points. For results based on form one or form two respondents only ( $\mathrm{N}=900$ ), one can say with $95 \%$ confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## 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 1993). 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.

## ABOUT THE TIMES MIRROR TYPOLOGY

The Times Mirror Center in 1987 developed a unique voter classification system based on three major elements -- party affiliation, political participation, and personal values and attitudes -- and using the statistical technique called "cluster analysis." The new typology in 1995 is built on the same foundation, with minor modifications.

Nine values and attitudes were measured, including attitudes toward government, environmentalism, business, social welfare, social policy issues, religion, race relations, the military; feelings of political alienation.

The analysis segmented the American public into ten groups -- three Republican, four Democrat, and three in between:

## The Divided Right

- Enterprisers ( $15 \%$ of adult population): Affluent, well-educated, and predominantly white. This classic Republican group is mainly characterized as pro-business, anti-government, anti-social welfare.
- Moralists (13\%): Middle-aged, middle-income, predominantly white, religious (more than four in 10 are Evangelicals). This core Republican group is also socially intolerant and anti-social welfare, militaristic, anti-big business and anti-big government. Former Democrats drawn to the GOP's religious and cultural conservatism have almost doubled its size since 1987.
- Libertarians (6\%): Highly-educated, affluent, predominately white male. This group has Republican lineage but is uncomfortable with today's GOP, particularly its religious right. Probusiness, anti-government, anti-social welfare but highly tolerant, very low on religious faith, cynical about politicians.


## The Detached Center

- New Economy Independents (17\%): Average income, young to middle aged, mostly female. This group is unanchored in either party and most supported Perot in 1992. It has many conflicting values: strongly environmentalist but not believers in government regulation; pro-social welfare but not very sympathetic to blacks; inclined to fundamental religious beliefs but highly tolerant of homosexuals.
- Bystanders (11\%): Very young, poorly educated, with low income. This group opts out of the political process or are not eligible to vote (high Hispanic concentration). Slightly more female than male, its only claimed commitment is to environmentalism.
- The Embittered (7\%): Low income, low education, middle-aged. Nearly one in five of this group are black, four in ten have children under 18. Old ties to Democrats have eroded but the Embittered feel unwelcome in the GOP. They distrust government, politicians, corporations. They are religious and socially intolerant. They strongly blame discrimination for lack of black progress, but are not strongly in favor of social welfare programs.
- Seculars (8\%): Highly educated, sophisticated, affluent, mostly white baby boomers and Generation X. The most socially tolerant group, driven by social issues, it is the only one to embrace the "liberal" label. Very low in religious faith. Highly pro-environment, moderately pro-government, distrusting of business. Drifting from the Democrats but not attracted to Republicans.
- New Democrats (9\%): Mostly female, average income and education, as many white Evangelical Protestants as white Catholics. Religious but not intolerant, more pro-business than other Democratic groups, they reject discrimination as a major barrier to black progress, are progovernment and environmentalist.
- New Dealers (7\%): Oldest group of typology (one in three over 65), average education and low income. Once part of FDR's coalition, beneficiary of government programs, this group is now turned off by politics. Strongly conservative on race and social welfare, strong on religion, moderate on social tolerance, pro-America, distrusts politicians and business.
- Partisan Poor ( $8 \%$ ): Very poor ( $39 \%$ with household income under $\$ 20,000$ a year), disadvantaged, nearly four in ten in the south. This second-oldest typology group, rooted in New Deal coalition, believes more government spending on the poor is needed. One third are non-whites. Very religious and socially intolerant.


## THE QUESTIONNAIRE

# TIMES MIRROR CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS <br> THE GOP CONGRESS: 1ST 100 DAYS SURVEY 

-- FINAL TOPLINE --
$\mathrm{N}=1,800$ adults $18+$ nationwide
N=900 Form 1
N=900 Form 2
Quotas: half male, half female for each Form 1-2
Field period: 4/6-9/95
INTRODUCTION: Hello, my name is $\qquad$ and I'm calling for Princeton Survey Research of Princeton, New Jersey. We're conducting a national opinion survey for leading newspapers, radio, and TV stations.

I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male age 18 or older, who is now at home. (IF NO MALE AT HOME NOW: Then, may I speak with the oldest female age 18 or older who is now at home) (REPEAT
INTRODUCTION IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER THE TELEPHONE.)

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.)

March Feb Dec Oct Oct Sept July May Mar Jan Jan Dec Oct Sept Aug June May April Feb $\underline{1995} \underline{1995} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1994} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993} \underline{1993}$

| 47 | Approve | 44 | 44 | 41 | 41 | 38 | 41 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 51 | 48 | 48 | 44 | 49 | 39 | 39 | 45 | 49 | 56 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 43 | Disapprove | 44 | 44 | 47 | 47 | 47 | 52 | 46 | 42 | 42 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 42 | 35 | 46 | 43 | 37 | 29 | 25 |
| $\frac{10}{100}$ | Don't know | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{9}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{13}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{17}{100}$ | $\frac{16}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | 16 | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{22}{100}$ | $\frac{19}{100}$ |

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress? (IF 'DON'T KNOW", ENTER AS CODE 9. IF " DEPENDS," PROBE ONCE WITH: OVERALL, do you approve or disapprove of the proposals and policies of the Republican leaders in Congress? IF STILL "DEPENDS," ENTER AS CODE 9.)

| March | Dec |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}^{2}$ |


| 44 | Approve | 43 | 52 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 43 | Disapprove | 39 | 28 |
| $\frac{13}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{18}$ | $\underline{100}$ |
| 100 |  |  |  |

[^1]
## ASK ALL:

5. All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } \\ \underline{1994} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ \underline{1993} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Early } \\ \text { Sept } \\ 1993 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | June $\underline{1993}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ \underline{1993} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ 1992 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1991 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | May | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ \underline{1989} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct } \\ \underline{1988} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & \underline{1988} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ \underline{1988} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 23 | Satisfied | 24 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 22 | 39 | 28 | 34 | 41 | 45 | 56 | 41 | 39 |
| 74 | Dissatisfied | 73 | 71 | 73 | 75 | 71 | 50 | 68 | 61 | 54 | 50 | 40 | 54 | 55 |
| $\frac{3}{100}$ | No Opinion | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{11}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{6}{100}$ |

6. What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today? (RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE.

PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER)

|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct } \\ & 1994 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | July $\underline{1994}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } \\ & 1994 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar } \\ & \underline{1994} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec } \\ & \underline{1993} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Sept $1993$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } \\ & \underline{1993} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1993 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan } \\ & \underline{1992} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | May $\underline{1990}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Feb } \\ & 1989 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1987 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 23 | Crime/Gangs/Justice system | 28 | 26 | 22 | 31 | 25 | 15 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 3 |
| 5 | Health care (cost/accessibility) | 10 | 14 | 20 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 3 | 1 | * |
| 9 | Unemployment/Lack of jobs | 9 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 22 | 7 | 9 | 13 |
| 10 | Morality/Ethics/ <br> Family values | 8 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 9 | Drugs/Alcohol | 2 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 37 | 23 | 6 |
| 6 | Dissatisfaction with government/Politics | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 13 | Deficit/National debt/ Balanced budget | 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 17 | 4 | 11 | 19 | 12 |
| 7 | Education | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 5 | Economy (general) | 7 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 17 | 18 | 43 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | Taxes | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 2 | Racism | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Homeless | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 10 | * |
| 3 | Poverty | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | Inflation/Difference between wages/Costs | 2 | 2 | * | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | Too much foreign aid/ Spend money at home | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | * | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | Environment/Pollution | * | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | * | 2 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| 9 | Welfare abuse | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 1 | AIDS | * | 1 | 2 | 2 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 1 | Issues related to elderly | * | * | * | 1 | 1 | * | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |

6. con't ...

|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct } \\ & \underline{1994} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | July <br> 1994 | June $\underline{1994}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar } \\ & \underline{1994} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec } \\ & \underline{1993} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sept } \\ & 1993 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } \\ & \underline{1993} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1993 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan } \\ & 1992 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & \underline{1990} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Feb $\underline{1989}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1987 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | Other Social Issues | 0 | * | 0 | * | 3 | 4 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 3 | Other domestic | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| 1 | Other international | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 22 |
| 3 | Other | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2 | * | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 1 |
| 3 | Don't know/No answer | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 30 | ECONOMIC (NET) | 27 | 26 | 22 | 26 | 33 | 47 | 53 | 58 | 76 | 26 | 28 | 35 |
| 6 | POVERTY/HOMELESS (NET) | 7 | 7 | 4 | 6 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| $\underset{(1800)}{2}$ | DEFENSE/INTER- <br> NATIONAL (NET) | $\underset{(2052)}{5}$ | $\begin{gathered} 7 \\ (3800) \end{gathered}$ | $\underset{(511)}{4}$ | $\underset{(989)}{2}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (1479) \end{gathered}$ | $\underset{(2000)}{4}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (1507) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (1011) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (1220) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (3004) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (2048) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} * \\ (4244) \end{gathered}$ |

## 'DON'T KNOW/REFUSED" IN Q. 6 GO TO Q.8:

7. Which political party do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you just mentioned -- the Republicans or the Democrats?

|  | July | Mar | June | Jan | May | May | Jan | May |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1992^{3}}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |  |
| 42 | Republicans | 36 | 29 | 28 | 32 | 29 | 26 | 30 | 28 |
| 32 | Democrats | 33 | 29 | 35 | 41 | 30 | 38 | 35 | 38 |
| 17 | No difference (VOL) | 16 | 26 | 23 | 12 | 31 | 22 | 24 | 24 |
| $\frac{9}{100}$ | Don't know | $\underline{15}$ | $\underline{16}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{11}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ |

( $\mathrm{N}=1757$ )

[^2]
## ASK ALL:

8. Next, as I read you some problem areas, please tell me how you think each is affecting this country TODAY. (First,) do you think the problem of...(INSERT ITEM. ROTATE STARTING POINT) is ABOUT THE SAME today, is the country MAKING PROGRESS in this area, or is the country LOSING GROUND?

|  |  | About The Same | Making Progress | Losing Ground | Don't <br> Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ITEMS a-k FOR FORM 1 ONLY: ( $\mathrm{N}=900$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Crime | 13 | 9 | 77 | $1=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 15 | 7 | 77 | $1=100$ |
|  | March 1989 | 19 | 15 | 64 | $2=100$ |
| b. | Drugs | 22 | 10 | 66 | $2=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 22 | 13 | 62 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1989 | 12 | 17 | 69 | $2=100$ |
| c. | AIDS | 22 | 25 | 48 | $5=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 22 | 23 | 49 | $6=100$ |
|  | March 1989 | 17 | 38 | 40 | $5=100$ |
| d. | The way the health care system is working | 30 | 14 | 53 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 31 | 16 | 49 | $4=100$ |
| e. | Environmental pollution | 26 | 43 | 30 | $1=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 26 | 37 | 34 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1989 | 20 | 32 | 42 | $6=100$ |
| f. | Conflict among racial, religious or ethnic groups | 36 | 27 | 35 | $2=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 32 | 21 | 41 | $3=100$ |
| g. | Political corruption | 41 | 12 | 44 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 39 | 12 | 46 | $3=100$ |
| h. | Low moral and ethical standards | 20 | 7 | 70 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 29 | 6 | 63 | $2=100$ |
| i. | Families not staying together | 18 | 5 | 75 | $2=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 22 | 6 | 69 | $3=100$ |
| j. | International terrorism | 40 | 19 | 36 | $5=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 24 | 18 | 53 | $5=100$ |
| k. | Poverty, hunger and homelessness | 30 | 11 | 57 | $2=100$ |
|  | March 1994 | 32 | 9 | 56 | $3=100$ |
|  | March 1989 | 23 | 22 | 53 | $2=100$ |


| About <br> The | Making | Losing | Don't |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Same | $\underline{\text { Progress }}$ | $\underline{\text { Ground }}$ | $\underline{\text { Know }}$ |

ASK ITEMS I-v FOR FORM 2 ONLY: (N=900)

1. The cost of living 28 March 199432
m. Unemployment

32
March 1994
33
n. The availability of good-paying jobs March 1994

24
23
o. Lack of respect for religion

25
26
10
$613=100$
March 1994
$595=100$
p. Discrimination against minorities March 1994

32
32

| 60 | $2=100$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 61 | $3=100$ |

$8 \quad 59 \quad 1=100$
$27 \quad 37 \quad 4=100$
$18 \quad 44 \quad 5=100$

| 17 | 55 | $4=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 10 | 63 | $4=100$ |

$$
5=100
$$

$$
26 \quad 2=100
$$

$$
25 \quad 5=100
$$

q. The way the welfare system is working

17

$$
67 \quad 3=100
$$ March 1994

23

| 13 | 67 | $3=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 11 | 60 | $6=100$ |

$$
60 \quad 6=100
$$

r. The quality of public education

20
19
18
17
s. The federal budget deficit

21
March 1994
March 1989
21
27

23
22 March 1994
u. The way the legal system is working

22
v. The way the federal tax system is working 33
$9 \quad 61 \quad 2=100$
$4=100$

$$
=100
$$

$60 \quad 2=100$
$613=100$

| 15 | 60 | $4=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 11 | 60 | $8=100$ |
| 16 | 56 | $7=100$ |

$9 \quad 62 \quad 6=100$ $11=100$
9. I'm going to read you some pairs of statements that will help us understand how you feel about a number of things. As I read each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views -- even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is... (READ AND ROTATE) AFTER
CHOICE IS MADE, PROBE: Do you feel STRONGLY about that, or not?

|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | 63 | Government is almost always wasteful and inefficient | 64 | 66 |
|  | 51 | Strongly | 54 | 54 |
|  | 12 | Not Strongly | 10 | 12 |
|  | 34 | Government often does a better job than people give it credit for | 32 | 31 |
|  | 19 | Strongly | 19 | 17 |
|  | 15 | Not Strongly | 13 | 14 |
|  | $\frac{3}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ |
| b. | 43 | Government regulation of business is necessary to protect the public interest | 38 | 41 |
|  | 25 | Strongly | 24 | 24 |
|  | 18 | Not Strongly | 14 | 17 |
|  | 51 | Government regulation of business usually does more harm than good | 55 | 54 |
|  | 38 | Strongly | 41 | 39 |
|  | 13 | Not Strongly | 14 | 15 |
|  | $\frac{6}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ |
| c. | 52 | Poor people today have it easy because they can get government benefits without doing anything in return | 48 | 53 |
|  | 37 | Strongly | 35 | 37 |
|  | 15 | Not Strongly | 13 | 16 |
|  | 39 | Poor people have hard lives because government benefits don't go far enough to help them live decently | 41 | 39 |
|  | 28 | Strongly | 31 | 27 |
|  | 11 | Not Strongly | 10 | 12 |
|  | $\underline{9}$ | Neither/Don't know | 11 | $\underline{8}$ |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |
| d. |  | The government should do more to help needy |  |  |
|  | 46 | Americans, even if it means going deeper into debt | 50 | 48 |
|  | 33 | Strongly | 39 | 35 |
|  | 13 | Not Strongly | 11 | 13 |
|  | 47 | The government today can't afford to do much more to help the needy | 43 | 47 |
|  | 34 | Strongly | 31 | 32 |
|  | 13 | Not Strongly | 12 | 15 |
|  | 7 | Neither/Don't know | 7 | 5 |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

## 9. con't ...

|  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| e. | 70 | The position of blacks in American society has improved in recent years | 67 | 72 |
|  | 52 | Strongly | 50 | 52 |
|  | 18 | Not Strongly | 17 | 20 |
|  | 26 | There hasn't been much real progress for blacks in recent years | 27 | 25 |
|  | 19 | Strongly | 20 | 18 |
|  | 7 | Not Strongly | 7 | 7 |
|  | $\frac{4}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{6}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ |
| f. | 34 | Racial discrimination is the main reason why many black people can't get ahead these days | 34 | 32 |
|  | 21 | Strongly | 24 | 20 |
|  | 13 | Not Strongly | 10 | 12 |
|  | 56 | Blacks who can't get ahead in this country are mostly responsible for their own condition | 54 | 59 |
|  | 40 | Strongly | 40 | 43 |
|  | 16 | Not Strongly | 14 | 16 |
|  | $\underline{10}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\underline{12}$ | $\underline{9}$ |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |
| 1. | 35 | The best way to ensure peace is through military strength | 40 | 36 |
|  | 27 | Strongly | 32 | 28 |
|  | 8 | Not Strongly | 8 | 8 |
|  | 58 | Good diplomacy is the best way to ensure peace | 52 | 58 |
|  | 46 | Strongly | 43 | 46 |
|  | 12 | Not Strongly | 9 | 12 |
|  | 7 | Neither/Don't know | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{6}$ |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |
| j. | 49 | We should all be willing to fight for our country, whether it is right or wrong | 47 | 52 |
|  | 39 | Strongly | 39 | 43 |
|  | 10 | Not Strongly | 8 | 9 |
|  | 47 | It's acceptable to refuse to fight in a war you believe is morally wrong | 47 | 45 |
|  | 38 | Strongly | 37 | 35 |
|  | 9 | Not Strongly | 10 | 10 |
|  | $\underline{4}$ | Neither/Don't know |  | $\underline{3}$ |
|  | 100 |  | $100$ | 100 |

## 9. con't ...

|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| m. | 75 | Too much power is concentrated in the hands of a few large companies | 73 | 76 |
|  | 59 | Strongly | 58 | 59 |
|  | 16 | Not Strongly | 15 | 17 |
|  | 20 | The largest companies do NOT have too much power | 20 | 19 |
|  | 10 | Strongly | 10 | 9 |
|  | 10 | Not Strongly | 10 | 10 |
|  | $\frac{5}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{7}{10 n}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ |
| n. | 51 | Business corporations make too much profit | 50 | 52 |
|  | 42 | Strongly | 40 | 43 |
|  | 9 | Not Strongly | 10 | 9 |
|  | 44 | Most corporations make a fair and reasonable amount of profit | 44 | 43 |
|  | 26 | Strongly | 28 | 27 |
|  | 18 | Not Strongly | 16 | 16 |
|  | $\frac{5}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{6}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ |
| o. | 76 | Elected officials in Washington lose touch with the people pretty quickly | 74 | 71 |
|  | 64 | Strongly | 61 | 58 |
|  | 12 | Not Strongly | 13 | 13 |
|  | 21 | Elected officials in Washington try hard to stay in touch with voters back home | 22 | 25 |
|  | 12 | Strongly | 13 | 14 |
|  | 9 | Not Strongly | 9 | 11 |
|  | $\underline{3}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{4}$ |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |
| p. | 32 | Most elected officials care what people like me think | 29 | 34 |
|  | 18 | Strongly | 17 | 18 |
|  | 14 | Not Strongly | 12 | 16 |
|  | 64 | Most elected officials don't care what people like me think | 68 | 64 |
|  | 53 | Strongly | 56 | 51 |
|  | 11 | Not Strongly | 12 | 13 |
|  | $\underline{4}$ | Neither/Don't know | 3 | $\underline{2}$ |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

10. Now, on another subject...In general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Congress?

|  |  | March <br>  <br> 52 | Dec <br> 55 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{1994}{57}$ |  |  |  |
| 36 | Uappy | 31 | 31 |
| $\frac{12}{100}$ | Don't know/refused | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{12}$ |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |

## ASK Q.11f1 OF FORM 1 ONLY. FORM 2 GO TO Q.11f2:

11f1. What do you think is the most important thing that has happened in the new Congress during its first 100 hundred days in office? (RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER)

7 Change/No more business as usual
2 Reducing federal government/Shifting power to state
6 Trying to balance budget/Cut spending
7 Tax cuts

3 Line-item veto
1 Term limits

6 Welfare reform

1 Congressional reform
4 Contract with America

3 Health care reform

2 Working together as a group
1 Republican infighting
1 Failure to pass term limits
1 Failure to pass balanced budget amendment
1 Negative comment about Newt Gingrich
6 All other mentions
16 Nothing

37 Don't know/Refused
( $\mathrm{N}=900$ )

## ASK Q.11f2 OF FORM 2 ONLY. FORM 1 GO TO Q.12/13:

11f2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the new Congress has accomplished during its first 100 days? (RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER)

5 Change/No more business as usual
2 Reducing federal government/Shifting power to state
8 Trying to balance budget/Cut spending
7 Tax cuts
3 Line-item veto
1 Term limits
6 Welfare reform
1 Congressional reform
3 Contract with America
5 All other mentions

23 Nothing
38 Don't know/Refused
( $\mathrm{N}=900$ )

ASK ALL (ROTATE Q'S 12-13):
12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Newt Gingrich is handling his job as Speaker of the House?
March Feb
$1995 \quad 1995$

Approve
Disapprove29
$\underline{19} \quad \underline{33}$
100

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

|  |  | Feb |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1995}$ |
| 59 | Approve | 45 |
| 25 | Disapprove | 19 |
| $\underline{16}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{36}$ |
| 100 |  | $(\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{5 9 9})$ |

14. In general, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

|  |  | Feb | Dec |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ |
| 63 | Successful | 61 | 62 |
| 28 | Unsuccessful | 20 | 24 |
| 3 | Will get some (DO NOT READ) | 5 | 4 |
| $\frac{6}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{10}$ |

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

|  | March <br>  <br> 48 | Feb | Dec |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 36 | President Clinton | $\frac{1995}{40}$ | $\frac{1995}{40}$ | $\frac{1994}{39}$ |
| 12 | Both (VOL.) | 40 | 38 | 43 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't Know/Refused | 10 | 16 | 10 |
|  |  | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
| 100 | 100 | 100 |  |  |

## ASK Q. 16 OF FORM 1 ONLY. FORM 2 GO TO Q.17:

16. Who do you think has more power and influence in Washington politics TODAY -- President Clinton or House Speaker Newt Gingrich?

35 Clinton
57 Gingrich
2 Both equally (VOL)
6 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=900$ )

## ASK Q. 17 OF FORM 2 ONLY. FORM 1 GO TO Q.18:

17. Who do you think has more power and influence in Washington politics TODAY -- President Clinton or Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole?

## 36 Clinton

55 Dole
2 Both equally (VOL)
7 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=900$ )
18. How closely have you been following news stories about the activities of the new Republican leaders in Congress? Would you say...(READ)

| March | Feb |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ |

14 Very closely 2319

42 Fairly closely $\quad 38 \quad 32$
33 Not too closely, OR 22
11 Not at all closely? $17 \quad 26$
$\frac{*}{100} \quad$ Don't know/Refused $\quad \stackrel{*}{100} \quad \stackrel{*}{100}$
19. In dealing with Congress, do you think President Clinton...(READ)

25 Should go along with the Republicans more often?

27 Should challenge the Republicans more often?
41 Is handling the situation about right?
2 Neither (VOL)
5 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)
100
20. From what you have seen or heard about events in the new Congress, in general, do you think the Republicans are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, or not?

> Newsweek
> Jan. 1995

59 Yes, keeping promises 41
30 No, not keeping promises 30
11 Don't know/Refused $\underline{29}$
$100 \quad 100$
21. On balance, do you think the new Congress has accomplished more than you expected in its first 100 days, less than you expected, or about what you expected?

Newsweek
Asked about Clinton
April 1993

More than expected
7
12 Less than expected 24
65 About what was expected 65
$\frac{5}{100}$ Don't know/Refused $\quad \frac{4}{100}$
22. What is your overall opinion of the "Contract with America" -- would you say it is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable or very UNfavorable? (INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE'")

|  |  | Feb <br> $\underline{1995}$ | Dec <br> 1994 <br> 10 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Very favorable | 12 | 11 |
| 20 | Mostly favorable | 30 | 24 |
| 8 | Mery unfavorable | 12 | 8 |
| 4 | Never heard of | 7 | 5 |
| $\frac{7}{100}$ | Can't Rate/Don't know | 22 | 42 |
|  |  | 17 | $\underline{10}$ |
| 100 |  |  |  |

INTRO TO Q'S 23-25: NOW I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN DEBATED BY THE NEW CONGRESS.
23. The (first one/next one) is...(INSERT ITEM. ROTATE START). How much have you heard or read about this proposal -- a lot, only a little or nothing? CONTINUE WITH Q'S 24-25 BEFORE REPEATING QUESTION FOR NEXT ITEM

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { A } \\ \underline{\text { Lot }} \end{gathered}$ | A <br> Little/Some | Not Aware/DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ITEMS a-j FOR FORM 1 ONLY: ( $\mathrm{N}=900$ ) |  |  |  |  |
| a. | A tax cut for middle income families | 33 | 55 | $12=100$ |
| b. | Raising the Social Security earnings limit and repealing the 1993 tax increase for upper-income people receiving Social Security. | 17 | 59 | $24=100$ |
| c. | Replacing the federal school lunch program with block grants to let states use the money as they wish. | 35 | 43 | $22=100$ |
| d. | Cutting back the federal food stamp program and shifting some responsibilities for it to states. | 31 | 52 | $17=100$ |
| e. | Term limits of 12 years for members of the U.S. House and Senate | 40 | 39 | $21=100$ |
| NO ITEM F |  |  |  |  |
| g. | Making it harder for Congress to require states and cities to do things without providing federal money to pay the costs. | 19 | 46 | $35=100$ |
| h. | Giving a $\$ 500$ per-child tax credit to families with incomes less than $\$ 200,000$. | 30 | 45 | $25=100$ |
| i. | Cutting federal funding for public broadcasting | 29 | 41 | $30=100$ |
| j. | Giving the president a line-item veto to reject some items in a congressional spending bill | 28 | 42 | $30=100$ |


| A | A | Not |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lot | $\underline{\text { Little/Some }}$ | Aware/DK |

ASK ITEMS k-t FOR FORM 2 ONLY: ( $\mathbf{N = 9 0 0 )}$
k. Doing away with entire federal departments, such as Housing and Urban Development, Education,
and Energy.

1. A constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget by the year 2002 .
m . Reforming welfare to provide block grants to states that would end cash benefits after 5 years and stop cash benefits for all unmarried parents under 18 .
n. Ending federal affirmative action programs giving special treatment to women, blacks and other minorities.
p. Putting a freeze on new federal regulations to protect the environment, health or safety from November 1994 through the rest of 1995 .
q. Limiting the use of U.S. troops under United Nations command

19
r. Ending direct student loans by the federal government
s. Ending federal fuel subsidies to low-income home owners
t. Restoring the ban on gays in the military
o. Legal reform to limit the amount juries can award in personal injury lawsuits.
p.

53
42

$$
23=100
$$

$28=100$
41

$$
23=100
$$

52
$29=100$
$25=100$
$\square$

49

43
$8=100$
24. Do you approve or disapprove of this proposal? (RE-READ ITEM IF NECESSARY)
25. Is this an issue you personally care a lot about, one way or the other? (RE-READ ITEM IF NECESSARY)

---Approve--- ---Disapprove--
Care Don't Care Don't
Total A lot Care Total A lot Care DK

## ASK ITEMS a-j FOR FORM 1 ONLY: (N=900)

a. A tax cut for middle income families
b. Raising the Social Security earnings limit and repealing the 1993 tax increase for upper-income people receiving Social Security.
c. Replacing the federal school lunch program with block grants to let states use the money as they wish.
d. Cutting back the federal food stamp program and shifting some responsibilities for it to states.
e. Term limits of 12 years for members of the U.S. House and Senate

## NO ITEM F

g. Making it harder for Congress to require states and cities to do things without providing federal money to pay the costs.
h. Giving a $\$ 500$ per-child tax credit to families with incomes less than $\$ 200,000$.
i. Cutting federal funding for public broadcasting
j. Giving the president a line-item veto to reject some items in a congressional spending bill
$\begin{array}{lllllll}45 & 24 & 21 & 38 & 15 & 23 & 17\end{array}$

| 62 | 40 | 22 | 32 | 19 | 13 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 30 | 12 | 18 | 60 | 35 | 25 | 10 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$\begin{array}{lllllll}61 & 40 & 21 & 27 & 10 & 17 & 12\end{array}$

| --Approve-- <br> Care Don't | C--Disapprove--- <br> Care Don't |
| :---: | :---: |
| Total |  |
| $\underline{\text { A lot }}$ Care | Total A lot Care |

## ASK ITEMS k-t FOR FORM 2 ONLY: (N=900)

k. Doing away with entire federal departments, such as Housing and Urban Development, Education, and Energy.

1. A constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget by the year 2002 .
m. Reforming welfare to provide block grants to states that would end cash benefits after 5 years and stop cash benefits for all unmarried parents under 18.
n. Ending federal affirmative action programs giving special treatment to women, blacks and other minorities.
o. Legal reform to limit the amount juries can award in personal injury lawsuits.
p. Putting a freeze on new federal regulations to protect the environment, health or safety from November 1994 through the rest of 1995.
q. Limiting the use of U.S. troops under United Nations command
s. Ending federal fuel subsidies to low-income home owners
t. Restoring the ban on gays in the military
$\begin{array}{lllllll}54 & 31 & 23 & 35 & 17 & 18 & 11\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}26 & 12 & 14 & 67 & 48 & 19 & 7\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}29 & 18 & 11 & 57 & 35 & 22 & 14\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}64 & 47 & 17 & 26 & 14 & 12 & 10\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}57 & 41 & 16 & 34 & 21 & 13 & 9\end{array}$

| 44 | 27 | 17 | 44 | 27 | 17 | 12 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$\begin{array}{lllllll}59 & 35 & 24 & 31 & 14 & 17 & 10\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}45 & 28 & 17 & 38 & 23 & 15 & 17\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}30 & 14 & 16 & 56 & 29 & 27 & 14\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}38 & 19 & 19 & 54 & 22 & 32 & 8\end{array}$
26. Please tell me if you think, on balance, each of the following groups would be helped, hurt, or not much affected by legislation considered by the new Congress so far. (First,) do you think...(READ AND ROTATE) would be helped, hurt or not much affected?

|  | Helped | Hurt | Not Much Affect | Don't <br> Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ITEMS a-f FOR FORM 1 ONLY: (N-900) |  |  |  |  |
| a. The wealthy | 45 | 7 | 43 | $5=100$ |
| b. The middle class | 30 | 34 | 31 | $5=100$ |
| c. The poor | 21 | 55 | 19 | $5=100$ |
| d. Large corporations | 45 | 9 | 39 | $7=100$ |
| e. Small businesses | 27 | 43 | 23 | $7=100$ |
| f. Minorities | 20 | 41 | 31 | $8=100$ |
| ASK ITEMS g-k FOR FORM 2 ONLY: ( $\mathrm{N}=900$ ) |  |  |  |  |
| g. Women | 17 | 37 | 37 | $9=100$ |
| h. Retired people | 13 | 52 | 27 | $8=100$ |
| i. Families with young children | 25 | 46 | 21 | $8=100$ |
| j. Supporters of abortion rights | 12 | 40 | 33 | $15=100$ |
| k. Environmentalists | 16 | 45 | 31 | $8=100$ |
| ASK ALL, ALWAYS READ LAST: |  |  |  |  |
| 1. People like you | 19 | 37 | 38 | $6=100$ |

## ASK Q.27f1 OF FORM 1 ONLY. FORM 2 GO TO Q.27f2:

27f1. Which of the following levels of government is more likely to administer social programs efficiently?

## Gallup

Sept
$\underline{1981}$
23 The federal government in Washington 18
$70 \quad$ The government in your state? 67
2 Neither (VOL) 8
$\frac{5}{100}$ Don't know/Refused $\quad \frac{7}{100}$
( $\mathrm{N}=900$ )

## ASK Q. 27 f 2 OF FORM 2 ONLY. FORM 2 GO TO Q.28:

27f2. Which of the following levels of government is more likely to be fair to all groups in administering social programs?

26 The federal government in Washington
67 The government in your state?
3 Neither (VOL)
4 Don't know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=\mathbf{9 0 0}$ )

27n. If federal programs that now give financial assistance to poor families are replaced by block grants to states, that money may not be enough to cover all poor families in your state who were eligible for federal assistance. If this happens, do you think it would be BEST for your state to...(READ)

24 A) Cut back on the amount of government financial aid most poor families receive?
B) Avoid cuts in aid to poor families by reducing state spending in other needed areas?
C) Avoid cuts in aid to poor families by raising state taxes?

1 Other (VOL)
7 Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)
100
28. Now I'm going to read you some more pairs of statements. As I read each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views -- even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is... (READ AND ROTATE) AFTER CHOICE IS MADE, PROBE: Do you feel STRONGLY about that, or not?
q.

|  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | July $1994$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 74 | This country should do whatever it takes to protect the environment | 77 | 78 |
| 63 | Strongly | 65 | 62 |
| 11 | Not Strongly | 12 | 16 |
| 22 | This country has gone too far in its efforts to protect the environment | 19 | 19 |
| 15 | Strongly | 13 | 12 |
| 7 | Not Strongly | 6 | 7 |
| 4 | Neither/Don't know | 4 | $\underline{3}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |
| 39 | Stricter environmental laws and regulations cost too many jobs and hurt the economy | 32 | 33 |
| 28 | Strongly | 23 | 21 |
| 11 | Not Strongly | 9 | 12 |
| 57 | Stricter environmental laws and regulations are worth the cost | 62 | 62 |
| 44 | Strongly | 49 | 45 |
| 13 | Not Strongly | 13 | 17 |
| 4 | Neither/Don't know | 6 | 5 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

u.

47
Homosexuality is a way of life that should be accepted by society

48
41
49
v.

55
46
33
46
26

Strongly
Not Strongly
Homosexuality is a way of life that should be
48
discouraged by society
Strongly
40
8
$\frac{5}{100}$
Books that contain dangerous ideas should be
45

5
Public school libraries should be allowed to
53
44 carry any books they want

Strongly
Not Strongly
30
17

Not Strongly
Neither/Don't know banned from public school libraries

Strongly
Not Strongly

2 Neither/Don't know

## 28. con't ...

|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ \underline{1994} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| w. | 83 | Miracles are performed by the power of God | 82 | 84 |
|  | 76 | Strongly | 73 | 72 |
|  | 7 | Not Strongly | 9 | 12 |
|  | 12 | There is no such thing as a miracle performed by God | 12 | 12 |
|  | 7 | Strongly | 8 | 7 |
|  | 5 | Not Strongly | 4 | 5 |
|  | $\frac{5}{100}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\frac{6}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ |
| x. |  | We will all be called before God on Judgment |  |  |
|  | 81 | Day to answer for our sins | 80 | 80 |
|  | 75 | Strongly | 74 | 71 |
|  | 6 | Not Strongly | 6 | 9 |
|  | 14 | I don't believe we will have to answer for our sins on Judgment Day | 14 | 16 |
|  | 9 | Strongly | 10 | 9 |
|  | 5 | Not Strongly | 4 | 7 |
|  | $\underline{5}$ | Neither/Don't know | $\underline{6}$ | 4 |
|  | 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

29. In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

|  |  |  | Mar | Feb | Dec | Nov | Oct | Oct | July | June | May | Feb | May | Jan May |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\frac{1988}{1987}$ |  |  |
| 30 | Republican | 35 | 33 | 35 | 28 | 31 | 33 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 31 | 28 | 27 | 25 |  |
| 29 | Democrat | 28 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 30 | 33 | 32 | 33 | 38 | 38 | 39 | 37 |  |
| 37 | Independent | 32 | 33 | 30 | 35 | 33 | 32 | 35 | 36 | 28 | 23 | 26 | 26 | 28 |  |
| 3 | No preference | - | - | - | 4 | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 8 |  |
| $*$ | Other party | 2 | 2 | 2 | $*$ | $*$ | 2 | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ |  |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know |  | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ | $\frac{2}{100}$ |

30. Do you consider yourself a STRONG Republican, or NOT a strong Republican?

| Oct | July | June | May | Feb | May | Jan | May |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |


| 15 | Strong | 16 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 11 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\frac{15}{30}$ | Not strong | $\frac{15}{31}$ | $\frac{16}{29}$ | $\frac{17}{28}$ | $\frac{15}{28}$ | $\frac{16}{31}$ | $\frac{15}{28}$ | $\frac{15}{27}$ | $\frac{14}{25}$ |

31. Do you consider yourself a STRONG Democrat, or NOT a strong Democrat?

| Oct | July | June | May | Feb | May | Jan | May |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |


| 14 | Strong | 18 | 15 | 14 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 18 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\frac{15}{29}$ | Not strong | $\frac{14}{32}$ | $\frac{18}{33}$ | $\frac{18}{32}$ | $\frac{17}{33}$ | $\frac{21}{38}$ | $\frac{19}{38}$ | $\frac{20}{39}$ | $\frac{19}{37}$ |

32. As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

| Nov | Oct | July | June | May | Feb | May | Jan | May |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |


| 18 | Republican | 13 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 13 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14 | Democratic | 13 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 13 |
| $\frac{9}{41}$ | Neither | $\frac{15}{41}$ | $\frac{8}{34}$ | $\frac{7}{38}$ | $\frac{13}{40}$ | $\frac{13}{39}$ | $\frac{11}{31}$ | $\frac{10}{34}$ | $\frac{10}{34}$ | $\frac{12}{38}$ |

33. I'm going to read you some phrases. Please tell me if you think each one better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders. (First,) which party do you think is better described by the phrase... (INSERT ITEM. ROTATE START)?
a. Able to manage the Federal government well July, 1994
May, 1990
May, 1988
January, 1988
May, 1987

| Republican <br> Party | Democratic <br> Party | Both <br> Equally |  | Non't |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Neither | $\underline{\text { Know }}$ |  |  |  |

b. Can bring about the kind of changes

| the country needs | 51 | 34 | 4 | 7 | $4=100$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| July, 1994 | 39 | 42 | 4 | 10 | $5=100$ |
| May, 1990 | 27 | 31 | 13 | 18 | $11=100$ |
| May, 1988 | 27 | 43 | 9 | 11 | $10=100$ |
| January, 1988 | 28 | 37 | 14 | 11 | $10=100$ |
| May, 1987 | 26 | 36 | 14 | 14 | $10=100$ |
| Is concerned with the needs of people like me | 39 | 49 | 2 | 7 | $3=100$ |
| July, 1994 | 35 | 49 | 4 | 8 | $4=100$ |
| May, 1990 | 21 | 42 | 12 | 18 | $7=100$ |
| May, 1988 | 23 | 51 | 8 | 11 | $7=100$ |
| January, 1988 | 22 | 47 | 11 | 13 | $7=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Governs in an honest and ethical way | 35 | 36 | 4 | 19 | $6=100$ |
| July, 1994 | 32 | 35 | 6 | 21 | $6=100$ |

d. Governs in an honest and ethical way

32
34. How often, if ever, do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues and politics...(READ)

19 Regularly
30 Sometimes

24 Rarely
27 OR never?
$\frac{*}{100} \quad$ Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)
35. Have you EVER called, sent a letter, or faxed a letter to your Congressional representative or Senator to express your opinion on an issue?
36. Have you done so SINCE JANUARY 1ST, 1995?

| 45 | Yes |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 12 |  | Yes |
| 33 |  | No |
| $*$ |  | Don't know/Refused |
| 55 | No |  |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |  |

37. Some people say we should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans. Do you agree or disagree?

|  | ABC/Washington |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
|  | Post $^{4}$ |  |
| July | Sept |  |
| $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1984}$ | $\underline{1982}$ |


| 57 | Agree | 53 | 41 | 44 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 38 | Disagree | 43 | 48 | 44 |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{11}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ |

[^3]38. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs...(READ)

|  | Nov | Oct | July | May | Feb | May | Jan | May |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 43 | Most of the time | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |
| 35 | Some of the time | 30 | 45 | 46 | 39 | 47 | 37 | 37 | 41 |
| 16 | Only now and then | 13 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 14 | 17 | 18 | 15 |
| 6 | Hardly at all | 7 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| $\frac{3}{100}$ | Don't know | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | 100 | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ |
| 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

39. In the 1992 presidential election, when Clinton ran against Bush and Perot, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote? IF YES, ASK: Did you vote for Clinton, Bush or Perot?

| 34 | Yes, Clinton |
| :--- | :--- |
| 26 | Yes, Bush |
| 13 | Yes, Perot |
| 1 | Yes, other candidate |
| 1 | Yes, don't remember which candidate |
| 23 | No, didn't vote/Too young |
| $*$ | Don't remember if voted |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Refused |

40. In the 1994 elections for Congress last November, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

62 Yes, voted

37 No, didn't vote/Too young -- GO TO Q. 43
$\frac{1}{100}$ Don't Remember if voted/Refused -- GO TO Q. 43
41. Are you absolutely certain you voted, or is there a chance you didn't vote?
42. Did you happen to vote for a Republican or a Democratic candidate for Congress in your district?
50 Republican

40 Democrat
2 Other/Independent candidate
1 Didn't vote for Congress
5 Don't Remember which candidate

2 Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=1101$ )
43. These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register... Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district, or haven't you been able to register so far?
44. Are you absolutely certain you are registered to vote, or is there a chance your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

|  |  | Early |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Nov | Oct | Oct | July | June |
| 76 | Yes, registered | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |
| 74 | Absolutely sure | 73 | 77 | 76 | 79 | 76 |
| 2 | Chance | 70 | 74 | 72 | 75 | 73 |
| 0 | Don't know | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 23 | No | 1 | 0 | $*$ | 0 | 0 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Not sure/Don't know | 26 | 22 | 23 | 20 | 23 |
|  |  | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ |

45. How often would you say you vote...(READ)

|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1994 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | June <br> 1992 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1992 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1991 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1990 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ 1989 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ 1988 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1987 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 42 | Always | 43 | 43 | 40 | 47 | 41 | 38 | 33 | 45 | 39 | 34 |
| 29 | Nearly always | 24 | 28 | 30 | 26 | 32 | 37 | 35 | 30 | 33 | 37 |
| 12 | Part of the time | 11 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 11 |
| 11 | Seldom | 13 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| * | (VOL.) Other | 1 | 5 | * | 1 | * | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | (VOL.) Never vote | 8 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| $\stackrel{*}{100}$ | Don't know | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\stackrel{*}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ See Methodology section for a more detailed description of the Times Mirror typology groups.

[^1]:    2 In December the question asked "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?"

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Based on registered voters.

[^3]:    4 Trends based on a somewhat different question wording: "Tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with [the following statement], or if perhaps, you have no opinion about the statement -- 'We should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans.'"

