



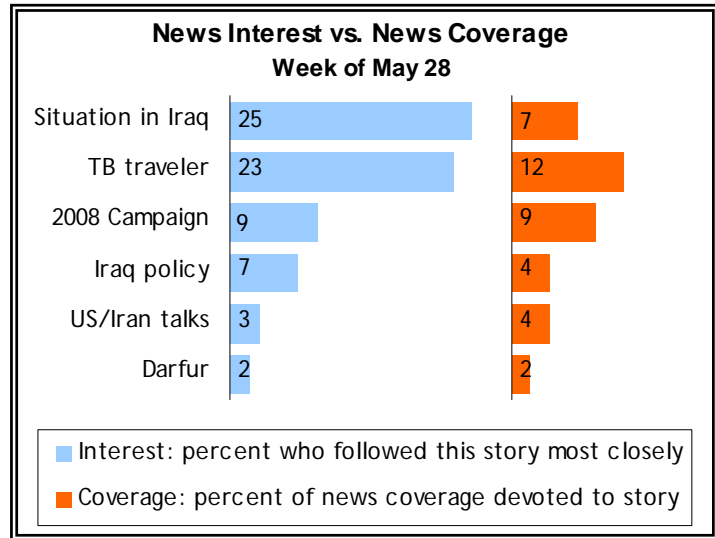
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
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**Public Wants More Coverage of Darfur**

**TUBERCULOSIS STORY: LOTS OF COVERAGE, LOTS OF INTEREST**

News about an Atlanta man infected with a dangerous form of tuberculosis drew a large audience last week. The saga of the man’s illness and his travels abroad was the second most closely followed news story of the week – trailing only the situation in Iraq. Nearly a quarter of the public (24%) paid very close attention to the tuberculosis story and 23% said it was the story they followed most closely. Public interest was fed by intense media coverage of the story. It was the most heavily covered news story of the week, comprising 12% of the national newshole.



Interest in news about the infected man and his travels did not reach the level of the SARS outbreak of 2003. In May of that year, 39% of the public was paying very close attention to news about SARS, though by June that number had fallen to 28%. Older Americans and those living in the Northeast and South are among the most interested in news about the TB saga. In addition, women are more likely than men to list this as the story they were following most closely last week.

Interest in the situation in Iraq remained high last week. Three-in-ten Americans followed events in Iraq very closely and 25% said this was the single news story they followed more closely than any other. The public continues to pay closer attention to events in Iraq than to the Iraq policy debate: 20% followed the policy debate very closely and 7% listed it as their top

story. The news media split its Iraq coverage last week among events on the ground (7%) and the impact of the war at home (4%), including coverage of Cindy Sheehan’s decision to put her anti-war efforts on hold, and the Iraq policy debate (4%).

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly *News Interest Index*, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center’s longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media’s agenda. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism’s *News Coverage Index*, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis.

### Public Still Focused on Democrats

Attention to the 2008 presidential campaign fell off slightly last week: 16% of the public paid very close attention to news about the campaign and 9% said it was the story they followed most closely. The campaign was the second most heavily covered news story of the week taking up 9% of the overall newshole.

When asked which candidate they had heard the most about in the news recently, the public named Democratic candidates over Republican ones by a better than four-to-one margin (54% vs. 13%). Even among Republicans, the Democratic candidates come out on top – 43% of Republicans name one of the leading Democratic candidates, compared with 28% who name a Republican. The GOP candidates have gained some recognition within their own party in recent weeks. A month ago, only 17% of Republicans named a GOP candidate when asked who they had heard the most about lately.

<i>Heard the most about in the news lately</i>	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Hillary Clinton	32	28	42	31
Barack Obama	20	14	26	21
John Edwards	2	1	2	2
Rudy Giuliani	4	10	1	3
Fred Thompson	4	8	2	4
Mitt Romney	3	6	*	3
John McCain	2	4	*	2
Other	3	4	3	2
No answer	30	25	24	32
	100	100	100	100

Hillary Clinton is the candidate who continues to get the most campaign buzz with the public. Nearly a third of Americans (32%) say she is the candidate they have heard the most about in the news recently. Barack Obama comes in second with 20% of the public naming him as the candidate they’ve heard the most about lately. The gap between Clinton and Obama has narrowed somewhat since late April when 41% named Clinton and 23% named Obama. Only 2% of the public says John Edwards is the candidate they’ve heard the most about recently (basically unchanged from late April).

On the GOP side, Fred Thompson’s public ruminations about whether or not he will join the race for president raised his visibility with the public. Four percent of the public – and 8% of Republicans – named Thompson as the candidate they had heard the most about lately, placing him on a par with Rudy Giuliani. Mitt Romney is named by 3% of the public, and John McCain is named by 2%.

The public has remained more focused on Democratic candidates than Republicans in spite of the fact that news organizations are now providing more coverage to Republican candidates than Democrats. In May, 57% of the coverage was devoted to Republican candidates and only 30% was focused on Democrats, according to data from the Project for Excellence in Journalism.

**Campaign Coverage Shifts to GOP Candidates**

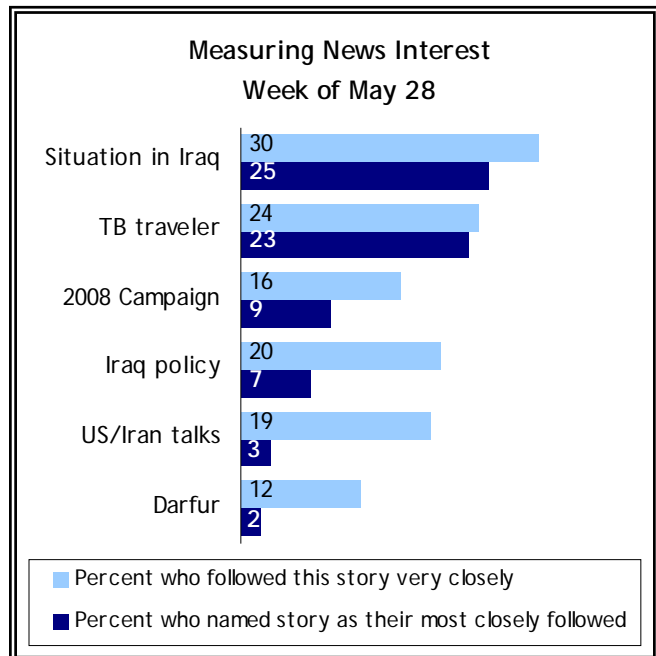
	January-		
	March	April	May
<i>Focus of campaign coverage:</i>	%	%	%
Mostly Democrats	61	54	30
Mostly Republicans	24	28	57
Both parties	13	16	12
Other issues	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

Based on data from the Project for Excellence in Journalism. Numbers represent the percent of campaign coverage (time/space) devoted to each party.

During the first three months of the year, media coverage of the campaign focused much more heavily on the Democratic field than on the GOP candidates (61% vs. 24%). In April, the balance of coverage was similar – 54% of campaign news focused mostly on Democratic candidates, and 28% focused on Republicans.

### Too Little Coverage of Darfur

Two foreign policy stories rounded out the news index for the week. The historic talks between the United States and Iran regarding the situation in Iraq were followed very closely by 19% of the public. Only 3% said this was the story they followed most closely. Interest in U.S.-Iranian relations was higher in February of this year when tensions were mounting between the two nations.



Darfur was back in the news last week as President Bush announced that the U.S. would impose new sanctions against Sudan. Only 12% of the public followed news about Darfur very closely and 2% listed this as their most closely followed story. However, there are signs that the public would like to hear more about the violence in Darfur.

When asked whether news organizations are giving too much, too little, or the right amount of coverage to ethnic violence in Darfur, a plurality of the public (49%), says the issue is getting too little coverage. Only 10% say Darfur has gotten too much coverage and 27% say it has gotten the right amount of coverage.

None of the other top stories of the week are viewed as being under-covered. Fully a third of the public says the 2008 presidential campaign is receiving too much coverage (only 12% say it is not getting enough coverage). More than a quarter (26%) say news about the Atlanta man with tuberculosis was over-covered (only 14% say too little coverage).

Media Coverage of Top Stories				
---Amount of Media Coverage---				
	Too <u>little</u> %	Too <u>much</u> %	Right <u>amount</u> %	Don't <u>know</u> %
Darfur	49	10	27	14=100
US/Iran talks	32	13	45	10=100
Situation in Iraq	23	23	47	7=100
Iraq policy debate	21	25	45	9=100
TB traveler	14	26	50	10=100
Campaign	12	33	47	8=100

In evaluating coverage of the war in Iraq, there are clear partisan patterns. Republicans are much more likely than Democrats to say events in Iraq have been over-covered (31% vs. 14%) while Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say the war has gotten too little coverage (32% vs. 16%). The same pattern can be seen on coverage of the Iraq policy debate.

While a plurality of the public (45%) says news organizations gave the right amount of coverage to the recent talks between the U.S. and Iran, nearly a third say this story received too little coverage.

## About the News Interest Index

The *News Interest Index* is a weekly survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press aimed at gauging the public's interest in and reaction to major news events.

This project has been undertaken in conjunction with the Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, an ongoing content analysis of the news. The News Coverage Index catalogues the news from top news organizations across five major sectors of the media: newspapers, network television, cable television, radio and the internet. Each week (from Sunday through Friday) PEJ will compile this data to identify the top stories for the week. The News Interest Index survey will collect data from Friday through Monday to gauge public interest in the most covered stories of the week.

Results for the weekly surveys are based on telephone interviews among a nationwide sample of approximately 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, conducted under the direction of ORC (Opinion Research Corporation). For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling 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, and that results based on subgroups will have larger margins of error.

For more information about the Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, go to [www.journalism.org](http://www.journalism.org).

## About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of six projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director  
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research  
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors  
Carolyn Funk, Richard Wike and Kim Parker, Senior Researchers  
Nilanthi Samaranyake, Survey and Data Manager  
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James Albrightain, Executive Assistant

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**JUNE 1-4, 2007 NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**N=1,044**

Q.1 There are already many candidates for the 2008 presidential election. Can you tell me the name of the candidate you've heard the MOST about in the news lately? [OPEN-END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY]

		April 27-30, <u>2007</u>	March 16-19, <u>2007</u>
32	Hillary Clinton	41	37
20	Barack Obama	23	24
2	John Edwards	3	1
4	Rudy Giuliani	3	3
4	Fred Thompson	*	0
3	Mitt Romney	1	1
2	John McCain	4	3
1	George W. Bush	1	2
2	Other	1	4
<u>30</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>23</u>	<u>25</u>
100		100	100

Q.2 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]

		<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
a.	News about the current situation and events in Iraq	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	May 24-27, 2007	<b>33</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	May 18-21, 2007	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	May 11-14, 2007	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	May 4-7, 2007	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	April 27-30, 2007	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	April 20-23, 2007	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	April 12-16, 2007	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	April 5-9, 2007	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	March 30-April 2, 2007	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	March 23-26, 2007 <sup>1</sup>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	March 16-19, 2007	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	March 9-12, 2007	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	March 2-5, 2007	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	February 23-26, 2007	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	February 16-19, 2007	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
	February 9-12, 2007	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	February 2-5, 2007	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	January 26-29, 2007	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
	January 19-22, 2007	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>

<sup>1</sup> From May, 2003 to March 23-26, 2007, the story was listed as "News about the current situation in Iraq."

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
<b>January 12-15, 2007</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1=100</b>
January, 2007	46	40	8	5	1=100
<b>January 5-8, 2007</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0=100</b>
December, 2006	42	39	12	7	*=100
<b>November 30-December 3, 2006</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
Mid-November, 2006	44	38	12	6	*=100
September, 2006	33	43	14	8	2=100
August, 2006	41	39	12	7	1=100
June, 2006	37	43	13	6	1=100
May, 2006	42	35	15	7	1=100
April, 2006	43	36	13	7	1=100
March, 2006	43	38	12	6	1=100
February, 2006	39	42	12	6	1=100
January, 2006	40	40	12	7	1=100
December, 2005	45	38	11	5	1=100
Early November, 2005	41	40	13	6	*=100
Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 <sup>2</sup>	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 <sup>3</sup>	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100

<sup>2</sup> From March 20-24, 2003 to April 11-16, 2003, the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

<sup>3</sup> From Early October, 2002, to March 13-16, 2003, the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq."

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
Early September, 2002 <sup>4</sup>	48	29	15	6	2=100
b. The debate in Washington over U.S. policy in Iraq	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2=100</b>
<b>May 24-27, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 18-21, 2007</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 11-14, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 4-7, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 27-30, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 20-23, 2007</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 12-16, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 5-9, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 30-April 2, 2007</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<b>January 12-15, 2007: President Bush's proposal to increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
c. Recent talks between the United States and Iran	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 23-26, 2007<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>
d. News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election	<b>16</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 24-27, 2007</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 18-21, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 11-14, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 4-7, 2007</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 27-30, 2007</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 20-23, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 12-16, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 5-9, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 30-April 2, 2007</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>March 23-26, 2007</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>March 9-12, 2007</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 23-26, 2007</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 9-12, 2007</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 26-29, 2007</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 19-22, 2007<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>2004 Presidential Election</b>					
November, 2004 (RVs)	52	36	8	4	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	30	12	11	1=100
August, 2004	32	38	16	14	*=100

<sup>4</sup> In Early September, 2002, the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

<sup>5</sup> For February 23-26, 2007 and February 2-5, 2007, the story was listed as "Mounting tensions between the United States and Iran." For February 16-19, 2007, the story was listed as "Reports that Iran may be supplying weapons to insurgents in Iraq."

<sup>6</sup> January 19-22, 2007 asked about "Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2008."



**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
July, 2004	29	37	18	15	1=100
April, 2004	31	33	19	16	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	35	34	18	13	*=100
Late February, 2004	24	40	23	12	1=100
Early February, 2004 <sup>7</sup>	29	37	20	13	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	16	30	27	26	1=100
Early January, 2004	14	32	30	23	1=100
December, 2003	16	26	27	30	1=100
November, 2003	11	26	34	28	1=100
October, 2003	12	27	28	32	1=100
September, 2003	17	25	30	27	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	12	27	27	33	1=100
May, 2003	8	19	31	41	1=100
January, 2003	14	28	29	28	1=100
<b>2000 Presidential Election</b>					
Early November, 2000 (RVs)	39	44	12	5	*=100
Mid-October, 2000 (RVs)	40	37	15	8	*=100
Early October, 2000 (RVs)	42	36	15	6	1=100
September, 2000	22	42	21	15	*=100
July, 2000	21	38	20	20	1=100
June, 2000	23	32	23	21	1=100
May, 2000	18	33	26	23	*=100
April, 2000	18	39	22	20	1=100
March, 2000	26	41	19	13	1=100
February, 2000	26	36	21	17	*=100
January, 2000	19	34	28	18	1=100
December, 1999	16	36	24	23	1=100
October, 1999	17	32	28	22	1=100
September, 1999	15	31	33	20	1=100
July, 1999	15	38	24	22	1=100
June, 1999	11	25	29	34	1=100
<b>1996 Presidential Election</b>					
November, 1996 (RVs)	34	45	15	6	*=100
October, 1996	31	39	18	12	*=100
Early September, 1996	24	36	23	17	*=100
July, 1996	22	40	23	14	1=100
March, 1996	26	41	20	13	*=100
January, 1996	10	34	31	24	1=100
September, 1995	12	36	30	22	*=100
August, 1995	13	34	28	25	*=100
June, 1995	11	31	31	26	1=100
<b>1992 Presidential Election</b>					
October, 1992 (RVs)	55	36	7	2	0=100
September, 1992 (RVs)	47	36	11	6	*=100
August, 1992 (RVs)	36	51	11	2	0=100

<sup>7</sup>

From May 2003 to Early February 2004 and in March 1992, the story was listed as “The race for the Democratic nomination.” In January 2003, the story was listed as “Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2004.” In September 2000, Early September and July 1996, and May 1992, the question asked about “the presidential election campaign.” In January, March and April 1996, the story was listed as “News about the Republican presidential candidates.” In August 1992, the story was listed as “News about the presidential election.” In July 1992, the story was listed as “News about the presidential campaign.” In January 1992, the story was listed as “News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination.” In 1988, the story was introduced as being from “this past year” and was listed as “News about the presidential campaign in 1988.”

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
July, 1992	20	45	26	9	*=100
May, 1992	32	44	16	8	*=100
March, 1992	35	40	16	9	*=100
January, 1992	11	25	36	27	1=100
December, 1991	10	28	32	30	*=100
<b>1988 Presidential Election</b>					
October, 1988 (RVs)	43	44	11	2	*=100
August, 1988 (RVs)	39	45	13	3	*=100
May, 1988	22	46	23	6	3=100
November, 1987	15	28	35	21	1=100
September, 1987	14	34	37	14	1=100
<b>e. Ethnic violence in the Darfur region of Sudan</b>					
December, 2006	13	23	29	34	1=100
May, 2006	16	22	27	33	2=100
July, 2004 <sup>8</sup>	14	22	27	35	2=100
<b>f. An Atlanta man with a dangerous form of tuberculosis who traveled to Europe against the advice of government health officials</b>					
	<b>24</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2=100</b>

Q.3 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? [DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE. IF "IRAQ" UNSPECIFIED, PROBE: "Do you mean events IN Iraq or the debate over Iraq POLICY?"]

- 25 News about the current situation and events in Iraq
- 23 An Atlanta man with a dangerous form of tuberculosis who traveled to Europe against the advice of government health officials
- 9 News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election
- 7 The debate in Washington over U.S. policy in Iraq
- 3 Recent talks between the United States and Iran
- 2 Ethnic violence in the Darfur region of Sudan
- 11 Some other story (SPECIFY)
- 20 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Q.4 Do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage, too little coverage, or the right amount of coverage to [INSERT ITEM, ROTATE]?

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
a. News about the current situation and events in Iraq	23	23	47	7=100
b. The debate in Washington over U.S. policy in Iraq	25	21	45	9=100
c. Recent talks between the United States and Iran	13	32	45	10=100
d. News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election	33	12	47	8=100

<sup>8</sup> In July, 2004, the story was listed as "Ethnic violence in Sudan."

**Q.4 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Too much coverage</u>	<u>Too little coverage</u>	<u>Right amount of coverage</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
e. Ethnic violence in the Darfur region of Sudan	10	49	27	14=100
f. An Atlanta man with a dangerous form of tuberculosis who traveled to Europe against the advice of government health officials	26	14	50	10=100