## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS <br> FEBRUARY 1996 NEWS INTEREST INDEX <br> -- FINAL TOPLINE -- <br> February 22-25, 1996 <br> $\mathrm{N}=1,500$

Hello, I am $\qquad$ calling for Princeton Survey Research Associates in Princeton, New Jersey. We are conducting a telephone opinion survey for leading newspapers and TV stations around the country. I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home. [IF NO MALE, ASK: May I please speak with the oldest female, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home?]
Q. 1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as President? [IF DK ENTER AS

DK. 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 DK]

| Jan | Oct | Sept | Aug | June | April | Feb | Dec | Early <br> Oct | Sept | July | May | Jan | Early Jan | Dec | Oct | Sept | Aug | June | May | April | Feb |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | 1994 | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | 1994 | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | 1993 | $\underline{1993}$ |
| 50 | 48 | 45 | 44 | 50 | 47 | 44 | 41 | 38 | 41 | 45 | 46 | 51 | 48 | 48 | 44 | 49 | 39 | 39 | 45 | 49 | 56 |
| 43 | 42 | 42 | 44 | 40 | 43 | 44 | 47 | 47 | 52 | 46 | 42 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 42 | 35 | 46 | 43 | 37 | 29 | 25 |
| $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{13}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{9}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{17}{100}$ | $\frac{16}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{16}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{22}{100}$ | $\frac{19}{100}$ |

Q.1a 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.)

|  |  | Jan | Oct | Sept | Aug | June | April | March | Dec |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994^{1}}$ |
| 33 | Approve | 36 | 36 | 36 | 38 | 41 | 44 | 43 | 52 |
| 53 | Disapprove | 54 | 51 | 50 | 45 | 45 | 43 | 39 | 28 |
| $\frac{14}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{13}$ | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{17}$ | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{13}$ | $\underline{18}$ | $\underline{20}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

[^0]NOW A DIFFERENT KIND OF QUESTION...
Q.2a and Q.2b ASK FORM A ONLY

ROTATE ITEMS a. AND b.
Q.2FA As I mention a person's name, tell me what one word best describes your impression of that person. Tell me just the one best word that describes him or her. (ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES)
a.FA Bill Clinton
b.FA Lamar Alexander

## Q.2c AND Q.2d ASK FORM B ONLY

ROTATE ITEMS c. AND d.
Q.2FB As I mention a person's name, tell me what one word best describes your impression of that person. Tell me just the one best word that describes him or her. (ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES)
c.FB Patrick Buchanan
d.FB Bob Dole
**FOR THE TOP TWENTY-FIVE RESPONSES SEE PAGE 4.**

ASK ALL:
Q. 3 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?
[READ AND ROTATE LIST]

|  | Very Closely | Fairly Closely | Not too Closely | Not at all Closely | $\begin{gathered} \text { (VOL) } \\ \underline{\text { DK }} \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The situation in Bosnia | 21 | 43 | 22 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| January, 1996 ${ }^{2}$ | 37 | 45 | 13 | 5 | *=100 |
| September, 1995 | 15 | 40 | 25 | 19 | $1=100$ |
| August, 1995 | 16 | 36 | 26 | 21 | $1=100$ |
| June, 1995 | 22 | 42 | 22 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| March, 1995 | 11 | 27 | 36 | 25 | $1=100$ |
| February, 1995 | 8 | 33 | 32 | 26 | 1=100 |
| December, 1994 | 13 | 37 | 32 | 18 | *=100 |
| October, 1994 | 13 | 35 | 29 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| September, 1994 | 9 | 29 | 39 | 23 | *=100 |
| June, 1994 | 12 | 28 | 37 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| May, 1994 | 18 | 37 | 26 | 18 | 1=100 |
| January, 1994 | 12 | 31 | 32 | 25 | *=100 |
| Early January, 1994 | 15 | 38 | 30 | 17 | *=100 |
| December, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 31 | 21 | 1=100 |
| October, 1993 | 16 | 36 | 30 | 17 | $1=100$ |
| September, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 32 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| Early September, 1993 | 17 | 38 | 26 | 19 | *=100 |
| August, 1993 | 19 | 37 | 25 | 18 | $1=100$ |
| May, 1993 | 23 | 34 | 28 | 13 | $2=100$ |
| February, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 33 | 20 | *=100 |
| January, 1993 | 15 | 33 | 30 | 22 | *=100 |
| September, 1992 | 10 | 27 | 31 | 31 | $1=100$ |
| The Republican primary in New Hampshire |  |  |  |  |  |
| February, 1992 | 19 | 31 | 26 | 23 | $*=100$ $1=100$ |
| The recent IRA bombings in London ending the cease fire between Britain and the IRA | 13 | 34 | 28 | 24 | $1=100$ |
| New laws in Washington that ease regulations on the phone companies, cable companies, and other communication industries | 12 | 31 | 29 | 27 | $1=100$ |

b. The Republican primary

February, 1992
$12 \quad 31$
29
$1=100$

In previous month story was listed as "The deployment of US troops to Bosnia."

## Q. 3 Con't ...

| Very | Fairly | Not too | Not at all | (VOL) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Closely | Closely | $\underline{\text { Closely }}$ | $\underline{\text { Closely }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |

e. The return of Magic Johnson to the NBA
f. Recent major ups and downs in the stock market

12
$20 \quad 25$
33
*=100
16
26
25
g. Recent train crashes in Maryland, Colorado and New Jersey

40
24
11
$1=100$

## ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...

Q. $4 \quad$ Now I am going to read you the names of the candidates for the Republican nomination for President in 1996. AFTER I READ ALL THE NAMES, would you tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican party's candidate for President. (PROBE: PLEASE WAIT UNTIL I READ THE ENTIRE LIST OF NAMES BEFORE YOU RESPOND.) (READ AND ROTATE)
Q.4a And who would be your SECOND choice? (READ LIST AGAIN IF NEEDED) -- SKIP Q.4B

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "NONE OF THEM" OR "DON'T KNOW" ... ASK:
Q.4b Well as of today, to whom do you most lean? ${ }^{3}$

BASED ON REGISTERED REPUBLICAN/LEAN REPUBLICAN ${ }^{4}$ :

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ \underline{1996} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } \\ & 1995 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ \underline{1995} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ \underline{1995} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bob Dole |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Dole | 39 | 42 | 45 | 49 |
| Second Choice | 23 | 20 | 22 | 17 |
| Lamar Alexander |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Alexander | 15 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Second Choice | 17 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Patrick Buchanan |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Buchanan | 24 | 6 | 11 | 7 |
| Second Choice | 24 | 9 | 18 | 14 |
| Steve Forbes |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Forbes | 12 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Second Choice | 10 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Richard Lugar |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Lugar | 2 | 2 | 3 | n/a |
| Second Choice | 3 | 3 | 2 | n/a |
| Alan Keyes |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice/Lean Keyes | 4 | 2 | n/a | n/a |
| Second Choice | 4 | 2 | n/a | n/a |
| None of them |  |  |  |  |
| Lean | 2 | 4 | n/a | n/a |
| Second Choice | 6 | 5 | n/a | n/a |
| Don't know/Refused |  |  |  |  |
| First Choice | 2 | 7 | 14 | 12 |
| Second Choice | 5 | 16 | 16 | 29 |
|  | ( $\mathrm{N}=564$ ) |  |  |  |

[^1]Q.5-Q. 6 ASK FORM A ONLY
Q.5FA Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat and Bob Dole, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
Q.5aFA Do you LEAN most to Clinton, the Democrat or Dole, the Republican?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

|  | Jan |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1996}$ |
| 52 | Clinton/Lean Clinton | 53 |
| 44 | Dole/Lean Dole | 41 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Other/Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ |
| $\mathbf{( N = 5 6 7 )}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ |  |

Q.6FA In your opinion, which Republican candidate has the best chance of defeating Bill Clinton in the November presidential election...(INSERT NAME, ROTATE LIST)?
$49 \quad$ Bob Dole
22 Patrick Buchanan
10 Lamar Alexander
5 Steve Forbes
$7 \quad$ None of the Above
7 Don't Know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=750$ )
Q. 7-8 ASK FORM B ONLY

ROTATE QUESTIONS 7/7a AND 8/8a
ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...
Q.7FB Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat and Patrick Buchanan, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
Q.7aFB Do you LEAN most to Clinton, the Democrat or Buchanan, the Republican?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

59 Clinton/Lean Clinton

36 Buchanan/Lean Buchanan
5 Other/Don't Know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=564$ )
Q.8FB Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat and Lamar Alexander, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
Q.8aFB Do you LEAN most to Clinton, the Democrat or Alexander, the Republican?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

## 54 Clinton/Lean Clinton

42 Alexander/Lean Alexander

4 Other/Don't Know/Refused
100
( $\mathrm{N}=564$ )
Q. 9 Now I'd like your views on some people and things in the news. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of who or what I name. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... (INSERT ITEM. ROTATE) is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? (INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND CAN'T RATE")


## Q. 9 Con't ...

| Very | Mostly | Mostly | Very | Never |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Favor- <br> able | Favorable | Unfavorable | Unfavor- <br> able | Heard of | Can't <br> Rate |
| 9 | 50 | 24 | 10 | 1 | $6=100$ |
| 6 | 54 | 29 | 7 | - | $4=100$ |
| 8 | 62 | 19 | 5 | * | $6=100$ |
| 8 | 57 | 22 | 6 | 0 | $7=100$ |
| 6 | 53 | 27 | 5 | * | $9=100$ |
| 8 | 50 | 24 | 7 | 1 | $10=100$ |
| 17 | 37 | 27 | 14 | * | $5=100$ |
| 14 | 43 | 28 | 10 | * | $5=100$ |
| 9 | 37 | 30 | 17 | * | $7=100$ |
| 10 | 40 | 23 | 11 | 2 | $14=100$ |
| 8 | 51 | 18 | 4 | 2 | $17=100$ |
| 5 | 33 | 30 | 11 | 2 | $19=100$ |
| 33 | 49 | 12 | 4 | * | $2=100$ |
| 30 | 57 | 8 | 3 | * | $2=100$ |
| 32 | 53 | 8 | 2 | 0 | $5=100$ |
| 18 | 55 | 15 | 6 | * | $6=100$ |
| 17 | 63 | 12 | 4 | 0 | $4=100$ |
| 19 | 54 | 11 | 5 | * | $11=100$ |
| 24 | 53 | 13 | 5 | * | $5=100$ |
| 19 | 46 | 20 | 9 | 1 | $5=100$ |
| 14 | 53 | 20 | 8 | * | $5=100$ |
| 13 | 49 | 18 | 8 | * | $12=100$ |
| 21 | 55 | 14 | 5 | 1 | $4=100$ |
| 21 | 52 | 13 | 4 | 0 | $10=100$ |
| 15 | 55 | 13 | 6 | 1 | $10=100$ |
| 13 | 26 | 23 | 15 | 11 | $12=100$ |
| 10 | 33 | 22 | 10 | 11 | $14=100$ |
| 12 | 31 | 19 | 19 | 7 | $12=100$ |

NOW THINKING ABOUT THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN...
Q. 13 All in all, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the presidential campaign so far; excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

| Sept | May | March | Feb |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |


| 16 | Excellent | 12 | 10 | 12 | 11 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 45 | Good | 45 | 44 | 51 | 45 |
| 25 | Only fair | 27 | 33 | 28 | 32 |
| 10 | Poor | 11 | 10 | 6 | 7 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |  |  |

Q. 14 How have you been getting most of your news about the presidential election campaign? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from computer on-line sources? (ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS. IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES)

|  | Nov | Sept | Jun | May | March | Feb |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |
| 85 | Television -- GO TO Q.14a | 82 | 83 | 84 | 86 | 83 | 80 |
| 56 | Newspapers | 57 | 49 | 55 | 51 | 48 | 49 |
| 21 | Radio | 12 | 13 | 18 | 17 | 14 | 18 |
| 5 | Magazines | 9 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| 2 | On-line sources | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| 1 | Other | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | Can't say | 1 | 1 | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 |

## IF TELEVISION:

Q.14a Do you get most of your news about the presidential campaign from network tv news, from local tv news, or from CNN? (ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS) ${ }^{5}$

|  | Nov | Sept | June | May | March | Feb |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |
| 50 | Network | 55 | 37 | 50 | 46 | 41 | 40 |
| 52 | Local | 29 | 36 | 38 | 40 | 32 | 37 |
| 39 | CNN | 29 | 33 | 34 | 34 | 30 | 29 |
| 4 | Other (VOL.) | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| $*$ | Can't say | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

ASK ALL:
NOW SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES...
Q. 15 Do you happen to know which Republican candidate won the New Hampshire primary?

62 Buchanan

10 Other answer
$\underline{28}$ Don't Know/Refused
100
Q.15a Do you happen to know which Republican candidate has been spending millions of dollars of his own money to finance his presidential campaign?

61 Steve Forbes
11 Other answer
28 Don't know/Refused
100

The percentages for the current survey are not comparable to the trend because of a difference in the probe.
Q.15b Do you happen to know which Republican candidate has been wearing a red and black flannel shirt while campaigning?

31 Lamar Alexander
11 Other answer

58 Don't Know/Refused
100
Q. 16 While the presidential campaign has just begun, the Republican candidates are already beginning to talk about certain issues. As I read from a list tell me whether or not you have heard of this theme.
(ROTATE ITEMS a/b, c/d)
a. "We should develop a new tax system in this country where all Americans making more than $\$ 36,000$ a year would pay a flat tax rate of $17 \%$."

75 Heard of -- GO TO Q.16b

25 Has not -- GO TO Q.16c
100
b. Which candidate do you most associate with this theme? (DO NOT READ RESPONSES)

46 Steve Forbes (correct answer)

3 Patrick Buchanan
3 Bob Dole

2 Lamar Alexander

2 Bill Clinton

* $\quad$ Richard Lugar

1 Other (SPECIFY)

18 Don't know/Refused
75

## ASK ALL:

c. $\quad$ II represent the working people of this country who are losing their jobs because of things like NAFTA and GATT and trade deals that have caused factories here to shut down and sent jobs overseas."

70 Heard of -- GO TO Q.16d
30 Has not -- GO TO Q. 17
100
d. Which candidate do you most associate with this theme? (DO NOT READ RESPONSES)

37 Patrick Buchanan (correct answer)
4 Bob Dole
3 Bill Clinton

3 Lamar Alexander

2 Steve Forbes

* Richard Lugar

1 Other (SPECIFY)
20 Don't know/Refused
70

## ASK ALL: ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q. 17 When you think about the way election campaigns are run, what kinds of things bother you or concern you?
(DO NOT READ LIST; CODE ALL THAT APPLY) (PROBE) Anything else?
Comm. for the Study of the Amer. Electorate July 1994

9 Candidates are not truthful/honest
$7 \quad$ False campaign promises/candidates don't live up to campaign promises
6 Media coverage is biased/only hear media's interpretation
6 Nothing/it's fine the way it is

5 Disagree with position on specific issues
5 Fighting among themselves/partisan bickering/politics 2
5 System favors wealthy candidates $\quad 6$
3 Elections and campaigns too long/too much campaigning
Dislike the current primary system/"Delegate votes" system/
3 People feel like their votes don't count
No concern for public/Only interested in selves/
2 Only interested in reelection
2 Interest groups have too much influence
1 Political Action Committees/PACs have too much influence

1 Public money should not be used to finance campaigns
1 Need better candidates who are willing to run
1 Too many perks/high salaries/extravagant lifestyle
-- Term Limits

* Incumbents have advantage/incumbents get reelected easily

6 Other (SPECIFY) 12

20

Negative Advertising 25

Too much money is spent on campaigns 22

No talk about issues/don't know where they stand 4

## NO QUESTION 18

Q. 19 As I read a list of different aspects of election campaigns, please tell me how much each one bothers you personally. First, how much does (INSERT AND ROTATE) bother you -- very much, somewhat, not too much, or not at all? ${ }^{6}$

| Very | Some- | Not <br> too | Not |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Much | what | Much | At all | DK |

ASK ALL:

| a. | The amount of money politicians spend on campaigns | 56 | 17 | 13 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | July, 1994 | 69 | 16 | 7 | 7 | $1=100$ |
| ASK ITEMS b. AND c. OF FORM A ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=750$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b.FA | Political advertising on television | 32 | 24 | 26 | 17 | $1=100$ |
|  | July, 1994 | 31 | 29 | 23 | 16 | $1=100$ |
| c.FA | What politicians say to get elected | 53 | 25 | 11 | 10 | $1=100$ |
|  | July, 1994 | 61 | 23 | 9 | 5 | $2=100$ |
| ASK ITEMS d. AND e. OF FORM B ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=750$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d.FB | News coverage about campaigns | 15 | 26 | 30 | 27 | $2=100$ |
|  | July, 1994 | 23 | 31 | 25 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| e.FB | Negative campaigning | 60 | 17 | 11 | 10 | $2=100$ |

## ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...

Q. 20 As you may know, Patrick Buchanan recently won the New Hampshire primary. What is your reaction to his victory? Would you say you are very pleased, pleased, DISpleased, or very displeased?

8 Very pleased
36 Pleased
25 Displeased
15 Very displeased

3 Unaware of Buchanan's victory (VOL.)
13 Don't know/Refused 100

All trend data are from public opinion surveys conducted for The Committee for the Study of the American Electorate.
Q. 21 As a result of Patrick Buchanan's victory in the New Hampshire primary, are you more interested or less interested in the presidential race, or hasn't it made any difference?

31 More interested

4 Less interested

63 Has not made a difference
2 Don't know/Refused 100

## NO QUESTION 22

## ASK ALL:

Q. 23 Do you tend to mostly agree or mostly disagree with what Patrick Buchanan says about (INSERT ITEM. ROTATE LIST), or aren't you aware of his position on this issue?

|  |  | Mostly <br> Agree | Mostly <br> Disagree | Unaware <br> Position | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Trade agreements, such as NAFTA and GATT | 21 | 27 | 48 | $4=100$ |
| b. | Abortion | 21 | 31 | 45 | $3=100$ |
| c. | Religion and morality | 28 | 24 | 45 | $3=100$ |
| d. | Corporate layoffs | 17 | 19 | 61 | $3=100$ |
| e. | Homosexuality | 20 | 29 | 48 | $3=00$ |

## ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...

Q. 24 There are different ways for people to vote, and some prefer one way over another. If you had the choice of voting in a booth at a polling place on election day OR voting through the mail during the weeks leading up to election day, which would you prefer?

54 Voting in booth

43 Voting by mail
2 Neither (VOL.)
$\frac{1}{10}$ Don't know/Refused 100

## ASK FORM A ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=750$ ]:

Q.25FA Recently a special Senate election in Oregon was conducted entirely by mail. Some people believe voting by mail should be an option in all elections, because it is a good way to increase voter turnout at a time when people are busy with work, family and travel. Do you think this is a good argument for making voting by mail an option, or not?

69 Yes
29 No
$\underline{2}$ Don't know/Refused
100

## ASK FORM A ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=750$ ]:

Q.26FA Others believe voting by mail should NOT be an option, because going out to the polls is an important tradition, because voting by mail may lead to corruption in voting, and because it allows people to vote before a campaign is finished. Do you think these are good arguments for not allowing voting by mail?

| 69 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 30 | No |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

## ASK FORM A ONLY [N=750]:

Q.27FA All things considered, do you favor or oppose changing the election laws to allow everyone to vote by mail?

| 44 | Favor |
| :--- | :--- |
| 51 | Oppose |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

## ASK FORM B ONLY [N=750]:

Q.27a

FB Currently most states do not allow voting by mail except for absentees. Overall, do you favor or oppose changing the election laws to allow everyone to vote by mail?

48 Favor
47 Oppose
5 Don't know/Refused 100

## ASK ALL:

## ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q. 28 How often if ever do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues and politics -- regularly, sometimes, rarely or never?

| 19 | Regularly |
| :---: | :--- |
| 24 | Sometimes |
| 27 | Rarely |
| 30 | Never |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't Know/Refused |

Q. 29 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school or at home on at least an occasional basis?

Jan 1996

60 Uses a PC at home, work or school 59
40 Does not use PC 41
$\frac{0}{100} \quad$ Don't know/Refused $\underline{0}$

IF YES:
Q. 30 Do you ever use a computer at work, school or home to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?

## BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

|  |  | 1996 <br> 21 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 39 | Goes on-line | 21 |
| $*$ | Don't know/Refused | 38 |
| $\frac{40}{100}$ | Not a computer user | 0 |
|  |  | $\frac{41}{100}$ |

## IF YES:

Q. 31 Do you ever go on-line to get information on current events, public issues and politics? IF YES: How often do you go on-line for this type of information... every day, 3 to 5 days per week, 1 or 2 days per week, once every few weeks, less often, or never?

## BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

|  |  | Jan <br> 1996 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 1 | Everyday | 2 |
| 2 | $3-5$ days/week | 2 |
| 4 | $1-2$ days/week | 3 |
| 3 | Once every few weeks | 3 |
| 2 | Less Often | 1 |
| 9 | No/Never | 10 |
| 0 | Don't know/Refused | $*$ |
| 39 | PC user, Does not go on-line | 38 |
| $\frac{40}{100}$ | Not a computer user | $\underline{41}$ |

## IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED 1,2,3 OR 4 IN Q.31:

Q.31a Do you ever go on-line to get information about the 1996 presidential campaign? IF YES: How often do you go on-line for this type of information... every day, 3 to 5 days per week, 1 or 2 days per week, once every few weeks, less often, or never?

## BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

| $*$ | Everyday |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 3-5 days/week |
| 2 | $1-2$ days/week <br> 1 |
| $*$ | Once every few weeks |
| 6 | Less Often |
| 0 | No/Never |
| 11 | Don't know/Refused |
| 39 | PC user, Does not go on-line |
| $\frac{40}{100}$ | Not a computer user |

D. 10 In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or Independent?

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

## IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN D.10, ASK:

D. 11 As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|  |  | Oct | April | Nov | Oct | July | June | May | Feb | May | Jan | May |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |
| 13 | Republican | 14 | 18 | 13 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 13 |
| 13 | Democratic | 16 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 13 |
| $\frac{12}{38}$ | Neither | $\frac{10}{40}$ | $\frac{9}{41}$ | $\frac{15}{41}$ | $\frac{8}{34}$ | $\frac{7}{38}$ | $\frac{13}{40}$ | $\frac{13}{39}$ | $\frac{11}{31}$ | $\frac{10}{34}$ | $\frac{10}{34}$ | $\frac{12}{38}$ |

## ASK ALL:

D. 18 If there is a primary election in your state this year, how likely is it that you will vote in either the Republican or Democratic primary for President? Is it very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?

## BASED ON REPUBLICAN/LEAN REPUBLICAN:

| 62 | Very likely |
| :--- | :--- |
| 18 | Somewhat likely |
| 7 | Not too likely |
| 10 | Not at all likely |
| 1 | No primary (VOL.) |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |
| $\mathbf{( N = 6 9 4 )}$ |  |

D. 19 How often would you say you vote...(READ)

|  | Oct | April | Nov | Oct | July | June | May | Nov | May | Feb | Jan | May |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1991}$ | $\underline{1990}$ | $\underline{1989}$ | $\frac{1988}{}$ | $\frac{1987}{2}$ |  |
| 32 | Always | 41 | 42 | 43 | 43 | 40 | 47 | 41 | 38 | 33 | 45 | 39 | 34 |
| 34 | Nearly always | 32 | 29 | 24 | 28 | 30 | 26 | 32 | 37 | 35 | 30 | 33 | 37 |
| 15 | Part of the time | 12 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 11 |
| 11 | Seldom | 11 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| 1 | (VOL.) Other | $*$ | $*$ | 1 | 5 | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | (VOL.) Never vote | 3 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{*}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ | $\frac{1}{100}$ |


[^0]:    1 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?"

[^1]:    3
    In 1995 respondents were not asked "Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?" if they answered "none of them" or "don't know" as their first choice.

    4
    The 1995 percentages are based on Republican/Lean Republican only.

