

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS
EARLY NOVEMBER TRACKING SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
October 31 - November 7, 2001
N = 1,000

Q.1 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. **[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE, WITH ITEM C ALWAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ITEM B]**

		Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
a.	The U.S. military effort in Afghanistan	45	36	12	6	1=100
	October 15-21, 2001	51	35	10	3	1=100
	January, 1991 ¹	67	28	4	1	0=100
b.	Terrorism attacks on the United States	63	26	6	3	2=100
	October 15-21, 2001	78	16	4	1	1=100
	Early October, 2001 ²	73	22	4	1	*=100
	Mid-September, 2001	74	22	3	1	*=100
	July, 1996 ³	69	23	6	2	*=100
	June, 1995 ⁴	58	32	8	2	*=100
c.	Reports of Anthrax cases around the country	47	35	13	4	1=100

Q.2 Do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage to the spread of Anthrax, too little coverage to Anthrax, or the right amount of coverage?

40	Too much coverage
7	Too little coverage
47	Right amount of coverage
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.3 In general, how well do you think the U.S. government is doing in reducing the threat of terrorism?
[READ]

	Oct 10-14 2001
35	Very well
46	Fairly well
9	Not too well
5	Not at all well
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

¹ In January 1991, the question was worded: "How closely have you been following news about the War in the Gulf?"

² In Early October 2001 and Mid-September 2001 the question was worded: "News about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington?"

³ In July 1996 the question was worded: "the crash of a Paris-bound TWA plane off the coast of New York."

⁴ In June 1995 the question was worded: "the Oklahoma City bombing."

More specifically ...

Q.4 How well is the MILITARY effort to destroy the terrorist groups going? [READ]

		Oct 15-21 <u>2001</u>	Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>
30	Very well	38	45
45	Fairly well	45	35
12	Not too well	9	6
4	Not at all well	2	4
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
100		100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=507]:

Q.5F1 How would you rate the job the government is doing in BUILDING DEFENSES at home to prevent future terrorist attacks? Would you say the government is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job? [READ]

		Oct 15-21 <u>2001</u>	Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>
15	Excellent	18	20
47	Good	51	47
25	Only fair	22	22
7	Poor	5	4
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=493]

Q.5F2 How would you rate the job the government is doing defending Americans at home from future terrorist attacks? Would you say the government is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job? [READ]

20	Excellent
50	Good
22	Only fair
4	Poor
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=507]:

Q.6F1 If you had to choose, what should get a higher priority now? [READ AND ROTATE]

		Oct 15-21 <u>2001</u>	Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>	Late Sept <u>2001</u>
42	Building our defenses at home to prevent future terrorist attacks	37	36	33
	-OR--			
42	Taking military action to destroy terrorist networks around the world	48	45	44
11	Both (VOL)	13	13	16
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=493]:

Q.6F2 If you had to choose, what should get a higher priority now? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

47	Strengthening our defenses at home to prevent future terrorist attacks
	--OR--
36	Taking military action to destroy terrorist networks around the world
13	Both (VOL)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.7 In the past few days, have you yourself felt depressed because of your concerns about terrorist attacks or the war against terrorism?

		Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>	Oct 1-3 <u>2001</u> ⁵	Mid-Sept <u>2001</u> ⁶	GULF WAR <u>Jan. 1991</u>
24	Yes		31	42	71
50					
75	No	66	57	27	49
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.8 All in all, how worried are you that you or someone in your family might become a victim of a terrorist attack? Would you say you are **[READ]**

		Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>	Late Sept <u>2001</u>	----- Gallup -----				
				9/14-15 <u>2001</u> ⁷	9/11 <u>2001</u> ⁸	Aug <u>1998</u>	July <u>1996</u>	April <u>1995</u> ⁹
13	Very worried	18	17	18	23	10	13	14
27	Somewhat worried	32	36	33	35	22	26	28
35	Not too worried	29	31	35	24	38	34	33
24	Not at all worried	19	15	13	16	29	27	24
0	Already victim (VOL)	0	*	*	1	--	--	--
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

5 In Early October 2001, the question was worded “ ... depressed by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?”

6 In Mid-September 2001, the question was worded “Have you yourself felt depressed by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?”

7 For the September 14-15 Gallup trend the question started with wording, “I’d like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred this past Tuesday in New York City and Washington, DC...”

8 For the September 11 Gallup trend the question started with wording, “I’d like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred today in New York City and Washington, DC...”

9 For the April 1995 Gallup trend the question was worded, “How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of a terrorist attack similar to the bombing in Oklahoma City?”

ASK NOV. 5-7 ONLY [N=454]:

Q.8a As of today, do you feel that your life... **[READ]**

		Oct 15-21 <u>2001</u>	<i>Newsweek</i> <u>9/27-28/01</u>
41	Has returned to normal	41	40
30	Is BEGINNING to return to normal	31	35
10	Still hasn't begun to return to normal	8	7
15	Will NEVER return to normal?	17	15
4	Don't know/Refused	3	3
100		100	100

On a different topic...

Q.9 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '3' OR '9' IN Q.9, ASK:

Q.9a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=774]:

	<u>Republican/ Lean Rep.</u>	<u>Democrat/ Lean Dem.</u>	<u>Other/ Undecided</u>
Early November, 2001	44	44	12=100
Early November, 2000	42	48	10=100
Early October, 2000	43	47	10=100
July, 2000	43	47	10=100
February, 2000	44	47	9=100
October, 1999	43	49	8=100
June, 1999	40	50	10=100
November, 1998	42	48	10=100
Late October, 1998	40	47	13=100
Early October, 1998	43	44	13=100
Early September, 1998	45	46	9=100
Late August, 1998	44	45	11=100
Early August, 1998	42	49	9=100
June, 1998	44	46	10=100
March, 1998	40	52	8=100
February, 1998	41	50	9=100
January, 1998	41	51	8=100
August, 1997	45	48	7=100
November, 1996 ¹⁰	44	48	8=100
October, 1996	42	49	9=100
Late September, 1996	43	49	8=100
Early September, 1996	43	51	6=100
July, 1996	46	47	7=100
June, 1996	44	50	6=100
March, 1996	44	49	7=100
January, 1996	46	47	7=100
October, 1995	48	48	4=100
August, 1995	50	43	7=100
November, 1994	45	43	12=100
October, 1994	47	44	9=100
Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
September, 1994	48	46	6=100
July, 1994	45	47	8=100

10 November 1996 trend based on likely voters.