

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**FEBRUARY 2003 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**February 12 - 18, 2003**  
**Total N=1254**  
**Pre-UN Weapons Inspection Report, February 12 - 13 (N=632)**  
**Post-UN Weapons Inspection Report, February 14 - 18 (N=622)**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush 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 George W. Bush is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
February, 2003	54	36	10=100
January, 2003	58	32	10=100
December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
August, 2002	67	21	12=100
Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
July, 2002	67	21	12=100
June, 2002	70	20	10=100
April, 2002	69	18	13=100
Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
February, 2002	78	13	9=100
January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
August, 2001	50	32	18=100
July, 2001	51	32	17=100
June, 2001	50	33	17=100
May, 2001	53	32	15=100
April, 2001	56	27	17=100
March, 2001	55	25	20=100
February, 2001	53	21	26=100

Q.2 Generally, how would you say things are these days in your life -- would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?

		<i>NORC</i>			
		<u>Sept</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>1990</u>
29	Very happy	34	17	12	33
51	Pretty happy	53	48	52	58
17	Not too happy	11	34	33	9
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> For January 1991 and February 1990 the question was worded, "Taken all together, how would you say things are these days..."

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.3 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

	March 2002	May 2001	Feb 2001	Aug 1999	June 1999	May 1998	Nov 1997	July 1996	June 1995	Mar 1994	Dec 1993	June 1993	Jan 1992	May 1990	Feb 1989	April 1987
34 War/Iraq	10 <sup>▲</sup>	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
21 Economy (general)	8	7	7	2	3	4	4	4	5	4	6	17	43	5	4	7
16 Terrorism	24	1	*	*	*	*	*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
6 Unemployment/Lack of jobs	4	5	6	3	4	6	6	7	10	12	15	19	22	7	9	13
5 Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	4	2	4	3	3	5	4	8	6	5	2	5	2	2	1	0
5 Morality/Ethics/Family values	8	6	12	13	11	10	9	13	12	10	6	7	3	5	2	3
Defense issues/Military spending																
2 National & homeland security	5	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2 Health care/costs	2	6	7	9	3	4	5	4	7	14	14	11	3	3	1	*
2 Drugs/Alcohol	4	4	6	6	5	7	7	8	5	10	8	5	4	37	23	6
1 Energy crisis/Rising gas/heating prices	1	22	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 North Korea	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 Education	4	8	11	8	7	9	5	6	6	5	5	5	2	4	4	0
1 Peace in the world/Peace	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Inflation/Difference																
1 between wages/costs	1	1	3	1	*	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	3
1 Crime/Gangs/Justice system	4	4	8	12	11	13	12	19	22	31	25	7	3	7	8	3
1 Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	3	1	3	4	6
13 Other																
1 None	1	*	2	*	1	*	1	*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4 Don't know/No answer	8	8	7	11	11	12	7	6	3	4	6	2	3	1	3	3
<b>54 DEFENSE/TERRORISM/ INTERNATIONAL (NET)</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>29 ECONOMIC (NET)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.4 What is the biggest problem facing you and your family these days? **[OPEN END. RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

	<i>(RVs)</i>				<i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>		
	June 2001	Sept 1996	March 1994	Dec 1993	Aug 1992	May 1992	Jan 1992
30 Not enough money/Paying bills/Making ends meet	26	22	28	27	22	20	24
16 Family/Personal/Health problems	3	5	8	5	2	3	4
12 Economy/Recession/Business (general)	8	5	2	4	16	30	19
9 War/International affairs/Military service	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
7 Unemployment/Low paying jobs	8	8	9	12	28	26	28
4 Health care/High cost of health insurance	6	8	7	15	10	8	10
3 Child care/Costs of education	3	3	5	3	3	5	4
3 Time management/Not enough time or sleep	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3 High gas/Fuel prices	9	--	--	--	--	--	--
2 Issues facing the elderly	2	7	3	3	2	*	*
2 High prices/High cost of living and housing	10	4	4	6	7	8	10
2 Taxes/High taxes	8	14	5	6	7	8	8
1 Morality/Family values	2	3	1	1	2	*	*
1 Terrorism/Safety	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
6 Other	26	11	9	15	10	15	15
12 No problems/Don't know	18	21	28	16	12	7	11

**ASK ALL:**

Q.5 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]

	Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	42	33	15	10	*=100
January, 2003	40	35	13	11	1=100
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1=100
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1=100
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1=100
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2=100
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1=100
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1=100
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0=100
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1=100
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1=100
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2=100
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*=100
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*=100
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1=100
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*=100
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1=100
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*=100
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1=100
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1=100
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*=100
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1=100
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*=100
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1=100
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*=100
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*=100
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1=100
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*=100
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	*=100
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*=100
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*=100
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*=100
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1=100
Early January, 1991	36	40	16	7	1=100
b. Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq	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
Early September, 2002 <sup>2</sup>	48	29	15	6	2=100
Early January, 1991	59	31	7	2	1=100

<sup>2</sup> In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "...U.S. will invade Iraq." In Early January 1991 the story was listed as "Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf."

**Q.5 CONTINUED...**

		Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
c.	The work of United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq	43	33	15	8	1=100
	January, 2003	34	41	14	10	1=100
	December, 2002	35	39	15	10	1=100
	August, 1998 <sup>3</sup>	18	31	23	27	1=100
	February, 1998	36	40	16	8	*=100
	January, 1998	32	35	18	15	*=100
	December, 1997	34	33	15	17	1=100
	November, 1997	44	32	10	13	1=100
	October, 1991	35	38	15	11	1=100
d.	The recent "code orange" alert about the increased risk of a terrorist attack	39	35	16	9	1=100
	Early September, 2002 <sup>4</sup>	39	29	16	15	1=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

e.F1	The break up and loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia	46	36	13	4	1=100
	July, 1986 <sup>5</sup>	80	16	3	1	*=100
f.F1	North Korea's nuclear weapons program	33	34	18	13	2=100
	January, 2003	33	34	18	14	1=100
	Late October, 2002 <sup>6</sup>	25	31	23	20	1=100
	June, 1994	27	33	26	14	*=100
g.F1	George W. Bush's State of the Union Address	36	24	15	24	1=100
	January, 1994	26	25	18	31	*=100
	February, 1992	26	26	20	27	1=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

h.F2	George W. Bush's tax cut and economic stimulus plan	26	33	23	16	2=100
	January, 2003	28	34	21	15	2=100
	February, 2002 <sup>7</sup>	17	31	28	23	1=100
	April, 2001	24	38	20	18	*=100
	February, 2001	31	35	19	14	1=100
	February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
	September, 1992 (RVs)	28	44	18	9	1=100

<sup>3</sup> In August 1998 the story was listed as "The current dispute with Iraq over UN weapons inspections." In February 1998 the story was listed as "The conflict in Iraq over UN weapons inspectors and U.S. threats to retaliate with air strikes." In January 1998 the story was listed as "The conflict in Iraq over UN weapons inspectors." In November and December 1997 the story was listed as "(the conflict over) Iraq's refusal to let Americans participate in weapons inspections." In October 1991 the story was listed as "The standoff in Baghdad between the Iraqis and UN weapons inspectors."

<sup>4</sup> In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "The Homeland Security office issuing a "code orange" alert about the increased risk of a terrorist attack."

<sup>5</sup> In July 1986 the story was listed as "The explosion of the space shuttle Challenger."

<sup>6</sup> In Late October 2002 the story was listed as "North Korea's admission that it has been secretly developing nuclear weapons." In June 1994 the story was listed as "Reports about North Korea's building of nuclear weapons and refusal to allow UN inspections."

<sup>7</sup> In February 2002 and April 2001 the story was listed as "The debate in Congress over George W. Bush's budget and tax cut plan." In February 2001 the story was listed as "George W. Bush's tax-cut plan." In February 1993 the story was listed as "Bill Clinton's economic plan." In September 1992 the story was listed as "George Bush's plan to improve the economy by cutting government spending and cutting taxes?" Results are based on registered voters.

**Q.5 CONTINUED...**

		Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
i.F2	The high price of gasoline these days	53	25	12	9	1=100
	June, 2001	56	31	7	5	1=100
	May, 2001	61	26	6	6	1=100
	Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1=100
	June, 2000 <sup>8</sup>	61	25	9	5	*=100
	March, 2000	58	28	10	4	*=100
	October, 1990	62	26	8	4	*=100
	September, 1990	56	28	11	5	*=100
	August, 1990	57	27	10	5	1=100

**Q.5a-i RANK ORDERED SUMMARY TABLE**

Very closely %	Fairly closely %	
62	25	b. Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq
53	24	i.F2 The high price of gasoline these days
46	36	e.F1 The break up and loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia
43	33	c. The work of United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq
42	33	a. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
40	35	d. The recent "code orange" alert about the increased risk of a terrorist attack
36	24	g.F1 George W. Bush's State of the Union Address
33	34	f.F1 North Korea's nuclear weapons program
26	33	h.F2 George W. Bush's tax cut and economic stimulus plan

**ASK ALL:**

Q.6 In general, how would you rate the job the press is doing in **[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE; READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]**? And how would you rate the job the press has done **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	Don't Know
a.	Providing up to date reports on the latest developments in the Iraq crisis	22	44	22	6	5=100
	Early January, 1991	27	47	18	4	4=100
b.	Reporting about how the American public feels about the crisis in Iraq	13	35	31	16	5=100
	Early January, 1991	9	36	35	15	5=100
c.	Covering the debate in the UN and other countries about how to deal with Iraq	16	42	27	11	5=100
d.	Covering the debate in Washington over the use of force in Iraq	15	42	27	9	6=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

e.F1	Covering the break up and loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia					
	February 2003 Based on Total	34	43	13	3	6=100
	February 2003 (Based on Very/Fairly)	39	43	12	3	3=100 (N=528)
	July, 1986 <sup>9</sup> (Based on Very/Fairly)	57	33	7	2	*=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

f.F2	Covering the debate in Washington over tax cuts and economic stimulus plans	5	34	37	15	9=100
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<sup>8</sup> In August 1990 through June 2000 the question was worded "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

<sup>9</sup> This item was asked of those who followed the Challenger explosion story "very closely" or "fairly closely."

**NO QUESTION 7**

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY:**

**ASKED FEBRUARY 15-18, 2003 [N=217]:**

Q.8F2 If there is an American military action in Iraq, do you think a pool of American reporters should be allowed to accompany American forces into combat zones or do you think the press should be restricted?

		Early <i>L.A. Times</i>	
		Jan	Nov
		1991 <sup>10</sup>	1983
49	Allow reporters	57	63
45	Restrict them	34	28
6	Don't know/Refused	9	9
100		100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.9 How have you been getting most of your news about national and international issues? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

		Jan	Jan	Early	Feb	Oct	Jan	Jan	Sept	Jan	Sept	Jan	Early
		2003	2002	Sept	2001	1999	1999	1996	1995	1994	1993	1993	Jan
				2001									1991 <sup>11</sup>
83	Television	81	82	74	76	80	82	88	82	83	83	83	82
42	Newspapers	44	42	45	40	48	42	61	63	51	60	52	40
19	Radio	22	21	18	16	19	18	25	20	15	17	17	15
4	Magazines	4	3	6	4	5	4	8	10	10	9	5	4
15	Internet <sup>12</sup>	17	14	13	10	11	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
3	Other (VOL.)	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	5	3	1	1
*	Don't know/Refused	1	*	*	1	*	*	*	1	1	*	1	*

[IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.9 ASK

Q.10. IF NOT, SKIP TO Q.12]

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:

Q.10F1 Do you get most of your news about national and international issues from network TV news such as ABC, NBC and CBS, from local TV news, or from cable news networks? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE]

33	Network TV news
20	Local TV news
35	Cable news
2	Other (VOL.)
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

<sup>10</sup> In Early January 1991 the question was worded, "If there is an American invasion of Kuwait or Iraq do you think a pool of American reporters should be allowed to accompany American forces into combat zones or do you think the press should be restricted the way they were in Grenada?" In November 1983 the L.A. Times question was worded, "Do you think the press should continue to accompany American soldiers into combat zones or do you think the press should be restricted from now on, the way they were in Grenada."

<sup>11</sup> In early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

<sup>12</sup> Beginning in February 2001, "Internet" was substituted for "computer online sources."

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.11F2 Do you get most of your news about national and international issues from network TV news such as ABC, NBC and CBS, from local TV news, or from cable news networks such as CNN, MSNBC, and the Fox News Channel? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE]

32 Network TV news  
 16 Local TV news  
 43 Cable news  
 2 Other (VOL.)  
 2 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about President Bush...

Q.12 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling [INSERT ITEM, ROTATE]

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. The economy	43	48	9=100
January, 2003	47	45	8=100
Early October, 2002	49	40	11=100
June, 2002	53	36	11=100
January, 2002	60	28	12=100
Early September, 2001	47	44	9=100
February, 2001	50	22	28=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early September, 1998	71	23	6=100
<b>Clinton:</b> September, 1997	60	34	6=100
<b>Clinton:</b> January, 1996	50	42	8=100
<b>Clinton:</b> June, 1995	46	46	8=100
<b>Clinton:</b> October, 1994	45	46	9=100
<b>Clinton:</b> July, 1994	38	56	6=100
<b>Bush, Sr.:</b> August, 1990	40	52	8=100
<b>Bush, Sr.:</b> May, 1990	42	47	11=100
b. The situation with Iraq	56	37	7=100
January, 2003	56	36	8=100
Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
<b>Clinton:</b> February, 1998*	58	32	10=100
<b>Clinton:</b> September, 1996*	55	25	20=100
<b>Clinton:</b> October, 1994*	59	33	8=100
<b>Bush, Sr.:</b> September, 1991*	64	30	6=100
* <i>Gallup/CNN/USA Today trend</i>			
c. The situation with North Korea	48	34	18=100
January, 2003	53	27	20=100
October, 1994 <sup>13</sup>	49	31	20=100
June, 1994 <i>Newsweek</i>	31	42	27=100
d. Terrorist threats	67	25	8=100
January, 2003	69	23	8=100
Early October, 2002	71	22	7=100
June, 2002	74	18	8=100
<b>Clinton:</b> September, 1998 <sup>14</sup>	72	20	8=100
e. Relationships with major allies	55	34	11=100

<sup>13</sup> In October 1994 the question was worded, "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is dealing with North Korea?"

<sup>14</sup> In September 1998 the question was worded, "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling current threats from international terrorist groups?"

**Q.12 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
f. Tax policy	42	44	14=100
June, 2002	45	39	16=100
<i>FOX News: 1/02*</i>	58	28	14=100
<i>FOX News: 6/01*</i>	59	29	12=100
<i>FOX News: 3/01*</i>	54	31	15=100

\* Based on Registered Voters

**NO QUESTION 13**

Q.14 I'd like you to think about some concerns that people may have. How concerned are you, if at all, about [INSERT ITEM: ROTATE]? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this? What about [NEXT ITEM]...?

	<u>Very Concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat Concerned</u>	<u>Not too Concerned</u>	<u>Not at all Concerned</u>	<u>Does Not Apply (VOL)</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. Not having enough money for your retirement?						
June, 2002	56	20	9	11	3	*=100
February, 2001	54	25	10	10	1	*=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	55	24	10	9	1	1=100
October, 1999	55	24	11	8	1	1=100
May, 1997	51	27	13	8	1	*=100
October, 1996 (RVs)	42	26	15	13	3	1=100
March, 1996	56	24	11	7	1	1=100
October, 1995	59	23	9	7	2	*=100
March, 1994 <sup>15</sup>	48	29	10	8	4	1=100
May, 1988	42	29	14	12	3	1=100
	34	35	15	8	4	4=100

**BASED ON THOSE WHO GIVE AN ANSWER [N=967]:**

b. Being unable to save enough money to put a child through college?						
June, 2002	55	19	9	17=100	-	-
September, 2000 (RVs)	52	19	10	19=100	-	-
October, 1999	52	25	10	13=100	-	-
May, 1997	50	24	12	14=100	-	-
October, 1996 (RVs)	48	22	12	18=100	-	-
October, 1995	53	21	11	15=100	-	-
March, 1994	52	22	11	15=100	-	-
May, 1988	51	22	11	16=100	-	-
	34	34	16	16=100	-	-
c. Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick?						
June, 2002	59	17	10	12	2	1=100
February, 2001	61	18	10	10	1	*=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	18	9	11	1	1=100
October, 1999	63	19	8	8	2	*=100
May, 1997	60	19	13	7	1	*=100
October, 1996 (RVs)	50	20	16	13	1	*=100
March, 1996	61	18	12	7	1	1=100
October, 1995	68	16	10	6	*	*=100
March, 1994	66	17	9	7	1	*=100
	50	22	15	11	1	1=100

<sup>15</sup> In March 1994 the question started with, "Now I'd like you to think about the future. As I read some different things that might affect your personal future, please tell me how concerned you are about each one happening to you."

**Q.14 CONTINUED...**

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not too Concerned	Not at all Concerned	Does Not Apply (VOL)	Don't Know
<b>BASED ON THOSE WHO GIVE AN ANSWER [N=827]:</b>						
d. Not having adequate child care when you go to work?	42	13	13	32=100	-	-
June, 2002	37	17	13	33=100	-	-
September, 2000 (RVs)	43	21	11	25=100	-	-
October, 1995	42	22	15	21=100	-	-
March, 1994	35	22	15	28=100	-	-
May, 1988	35	22	20	23=100	-	-
e. Losing your job or taking a cut in pay	41	12	13	18	16	*=100
June, 2002	40	15	15	19	11	*=100
February, 2001	34	14	15	27	9	1=100
May, 1997	30	15	19	20	16	*=100
March, 1996	47	16	14	15	8	*=100
October, 1995	34	17	16	17	16	*=100
March, 1994	28	16	14	21	21	*=100
May, 1988 <sup>16</sup>	18	16	23	18	22	3=100
f. Having to care for an aging parent or relative	44	20	12	13	10	1=100
March, 1994	33	28	15	14	10	*=100
May, 1988	20	32	26	14	6	2=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.15F1 How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? [READ]

	Jan 2003	Dec 2002	Early Oct 2002	Late Aug 2002	June 2002	Jan 2002	Dec 2001	Oct 15-21 2001	Oct 10-14 2001	Early Oct 2001
34 Very worried	18	31	20	16	32	20	13	29	27	28
41 Somewhat worried	50	42	46	46	44	42	39	42	40	45
17 Not too worried	23	18	22	25	17	28	27	18	19	15
7 Not at all worried	8	8	11	12	7	9	19	10	12	11
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.16F2 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]

	Very Worried	Somewhat Worried	Not too Worried	Not at all Worried	(VOL.) Already a Victim	DK/Ref
February, 2003	22	29	30	18	0	1=100
January, 2003	11	30	37	21	*	1=100
Late August, 2002	12	28	35	24	*	1=100
June, 2002	17	28	36	19	*	*=100
January, 2002	12	26	38	24	*	*=100
Early November, 2001	13	27	35	24	0	1=100
Mid-October, 2001	18	32	29	19	0	2=100
Late September, 2001	17	36	31	15	*	1=100
<b>Gallup: 9/14-15/01<sup>17</sup></b>	18	33	35	13	*	1=100

<sup>16</sup> In May 1988 the question just asked: losing your job.

<sup>17</sup> For the September 14-15 Gallup trend the question started with, "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred this past Tuesday in New York City and Washington, DC..."

**Q.16 CONTINUED...**

	Very Worried	Somewhat Worried	Not too Worried	Not at all Worried	(VOL.) Already a Victim	DK/Ref
Gallup: 9/11/01 <sup>18</sup>	23	35	24	16	1	1=100
Gallup: August, 1998	10	22	38	29	--	1=100
Gallup: July, 1996	13	26	34	27	--	*=100
Gallup: April, 1995 <sup>19</sup>	14	28	33	24	--	1=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17 Since the terrorist attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001, have you personally taken steps to prepare your home for an emergency situation, such as storing supplies or creating a protected area where your family can go for shelter?

**IF YES IN Q.17:**

Q.18 Have made any preparations within the past week -- since the recent code orange alert about the risk of a terrorist attack?

		Newsweek <sup>20</sup> Nov 2001
23	Yes	22
8	Yes, taken steps within the past week	
15	No, already prepared	
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	
77	No	77
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1
100		100

**NO QUESTION 19**

**ASK ALL:**

On the subject of Iraq...

Q.20 How much have you yourself thought about whether the US should use military force to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq? [READ]

*Pre	Post	Total		Jan 2003	Dec 2002	Early Oct 2002	Mid-Sept 2002	Late Aug 2002	Early Jan 1991 <sup>21</sup>
59	55	58	A Great deal	56	58	54	55	46	66
27	27	27	Some	29	29	32	27	35	24
7	9	8	Only a little – OR –	8	8	8	9	11	6
6	7	6	Not at all	6	4	5	6	6	2
1	2	1	Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	3	2	2
100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100

\* "Pre" refers to the period of interviewing from February 12 to 13, 2003 (N=632) that preceded Chief UN Weapons Inspectors Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei's reports to the UN Security Council on the status of Iraqi compliance with weapons inspections. "Post" refers to the period of interviewing from February 14 to 18, 2003 (N=622) after the reports to the UN Security Council.

<sup>18</sup> For the September 11 Gallup trend the question started with, "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred today in New York City and Washington, DC..."

<sup>19</sup> 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?"

<sup>20</sup> In November 2001 the Newsweek question was asked as part of a series and was worded, "We're interested in how, if at all, people's lives are changing since the terrorist attacks of September 11th..."

<sup>21</sup> In Early January 1991 the question was worded "How much thought have you given to the question of whether the U.S. should use military force against Iraq if it does not withdraw its forces from Kuwait?"

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.21/23F1 Would you favor or oppose taking military action in Iraq to end Saddam Hussein's rule? **[IF FAVOR, ASK Should we attack Iraq only if our major allies agree to join us, or attack Iraq even if allies do not want to join us?]**

		Late Early Mid- Late							----- Gallup <sup>22</sup> -----				
		Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Oct	Sept	Aug	June	Nov	Feb	June	March
		<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>
66	Favor	68	65	62	55	62	64	64	59	74	52	70	55
	38 Even if allies won't join	26	--	--	27	--	33	30	--	--	--	--	--
	22 Only if allies agree	37	--	--	23	--	25	30	--	--	--	--	--
	6 Don't know/Refused	5	--	--	5	--	6	4	--	--	--	--	--
26	Oppose	25	25	26	34	28	23	21	34	20	42	27	40
8	Don't know/Refused	7	10	12	11	10	13	15	7	6	6	3	5
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.22/23F2 If President Bush decides that it is necessary to use military force, would you favor or oppose taking military action in Iraq to end Saddam Hussein's rule? **[IF FAVOR, ASK Should we attack Iraq only if our major allies agree to join us, or attack Iraq even if allies do not want to join us?]**

69	Favor
	41 Even if allies won't join
	23 Only if allies agree
	5 Don't know/Refused
26	Oppose
5	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.24F1 Do you think George W. Bush has explained clearly what's at stake as to why the U.S. might use military force to end the rule of Saddam Hussein, or do you think he has not explained the reasons clearly enough?

		Jan	Dec	Late Oct	Mid-Sept	Late Aug	NY Times
		<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>Aug 1990</u> <sup>23</sup>
53	Explained clearly	42	48	48	52	37	50
40	Not clearly	53	45	45	37	52	41
7	Don't know/Refused	5	7	7	11	11	9
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.25F2 Do you think Colin Powell has explained clearly what's at stake as to why the U.S. might use military force to end the rule of Saddam Hussein, or do you think he has not explained the reasons clearly enough?

61	Explained clearly
30	Not clearly
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

<sup>22</sup> Gallup trend was worded "Would you favor or oppose sending American troops back to the Persian Gulf in order to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?"

<sup>23</sup> New York Times trend was worded "Do you think George Bush has explained clearly what's at stake and why the U.S. is sending troops to Saudi Arabia, or do you think ..."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.26 Should the U.S. first get a United Nations resolution to use force before taking military action against Iraq or don't you think the U.S. needs to do this?

**IF "SHOULD GET UN RESOLUTION" ASK:**

Q.27 If the U.S. and most of its allies back using force against Iraq, but the UN resolution is vetoed by one or two countries who oppose it – what should the U.S. do? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>	
56	58	57	Should first get a UN resolution
21	22	22	Not use force because the UN has not approved it
31	30	30	Use force if it feels it is the right thing to do
4	6	5	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL. DO NOT READ</b> )
33	33	33	Does not need to do this
*	*	*	Should not use force in Iraq ( <b>VOL.</b> )
11	9	10	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	100	100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.28 In your opinion, what do you think the UN weapons inspections have shown so far... **[READ ALL THREE OPTIONS; ROTATE ITEMS 1 & 2]**

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>	
4	5	4	That Iraq will cooperate and can be peacefully disarmed
63	52	58	That Iraq will not cooperate and can not be peacefully disarmed
			--OR--
29	39	34	That it is too early to tell
4	4	4	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL. DO NOT READ</b> )
100	100	100	

Q.29 Based on what you've heard or read, have the UN weapons inspectors found PROOF that Iraq is trying to hide weapons of mass destruction, or not?

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>	
66	57	61	Yes, Have found proof
22	30	27	No, Have not
12	13	12	Don't know/Refused
100	100	100	

**NO QUESTION 30 THRU 31**

**ROTATE QUESTIONS 32 THROUGH 37**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.32 And what's your opinion, based on what you've heard or read: Do you believe that Saddam Hussein helped the terrorists in the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, or don't you think he was involved?

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Early Oct</u>
58	57	57	Helped the terrorists	66
25	27	27	Was not involved	21
17	16	16	Don't know/Refused	13
100	100	100		100

Q.33 From what you've heard or read... if the U.S. attacks Iraq, would most of the Iraqi people support Saddam Hussein, or would most of the Iraqi people turn against Hussein?

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>		Early Oct <u>2002</u>
46	42	44	Most will support Hussein	45
37	40	39	Most will turn against Hussein	37
17	18	17	Don't know/Refused	18
100	100	100		100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.34F1 In your opinion, if the U.S. takes military action against Iraq, how much, if at all, will it hurt the image of the United States among Muslim nations? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

		Early Oct <u>2002</u>
51	A lot	48
23	A little --OR--	29
19	Not much at all	17
7	Don't know/Refused	6
100		100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.35F2 In your opinion, if the U.S. takes military action against Iraq, how much, if at all, will it hurt the image of the United States in Western Europe? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

40	A lot	
31	A little --OR--	
23	Not much at all	
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL, DO NOT READ)	
100		

**NO QUESTION 36**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.37 If the U.S. takes military action against Iraq, would you favor or oppose a major American effort in Iraq after the war to rebuild the country and establish a stable government?

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>		Early Oct <u>2002</u>
63	64	63	Favor	60
30	28	30	Oppose	32
7	8	7	Don't know/Refused	8
100	100	100		100

Q.38 From your point of view, does the U.S. now have enough international support to use military force against Iraq or do you think it still has to convince more of its allies to go along?

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>	
41	34	37	Has enough international support
52	58	56	Still has to convince more
7	8	7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	

Q.39 Currently, some of our allies have said they do not support military action in Iraq. Is this because the leaders of these countries **[READ AND ROTATE]**?

Pre	Post	Total	
31	33	33	Favor other ways of dealing with Saddam Hussein and Iraq <b>[or because they ...]</b>
45	45	45	Don't want to pay the costs and risk the casualties involved in war
12	10	11	Other/Mixed ( <b>VOL.</b> )
12	12	11	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	100	100	

Q.40 From what you have heard or read, what's your impression of what a war with Iraq would be like? Do you think it would be a long war or a quick one?

Pre	Post	Total		Late Aug 2002	Early Jan 1991
41	43	43	Long	52	30
52	49	49	Quick	38	57
7	8	8	Don't know/Refused	10	13
100	100	100		100	100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.41F1 Have you heard too much, too little, or the right amount about the views of Americans who oppose taking military action in Iraq?

		Late Jan 1991 <sup>24</sup>	Early Jan 1991	Sept 1990
24	Too much	47	18	15
42	Too little	13	42	40
30	Right amount	33	31	35
4	Don't know/Refused	7	9	10
100		100	100	100

Q.42F1 Do you think the military should exert more control over how news organizations report about the war or do you think that most decisions about how to report about the war should be left to news organizations themselves?

		Mid- Nov 2001	Mid Oct 2001	Late Jan 1991	Oct 1986 <sup>25</sup>
40	Give military more control	50	59	57	29
50	News organizations should decide	40	28	34	64
10	Don't know/Refused	10	13	9	7
100		100	100	100	100

<sup>24</sup> In Late January 1991 the question was worded, "...Americans who oppose the War in the Gulf?" In Early January 1991 and September 1990 the question was worded, "...Americans who oppose sending U.S. forces to the Gulf?"

<sup>25</sup> In October 1986 the question was worded "Some people feel that the government should have more control over how news organizations report on terrorist incidents. Others feel that most decisions on how to report the story should be made by the news organizations themselves. Which comes closer to your opinion?"

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.43F2 Which is more important to you: that the government be able to censor news stories it feels threaten national security OR that the news media be able to report stories they feel are in the national interest?

		Mid-Nov <u>2001</u>	March <u>1991</u>	Aug <u>1989</u>	June <u>1985</u>	Oct <u>1985</u>
42	Government able to censor	53	58	40	44	38
50	News media able to report	39	32	52	38	50
2	Both equal (VOL)	4	5	5	9	6
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.44 In your opinion, which is better... that news coverage of a war be pro-American or that news coverage of a war be neutral?

		Mid-Nov <u>2001</u>	March <u>1991</u>
16	Pro-American	30	22
78	Neutral	64	71
<u>6</u>	No opinion/Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

**NO QUESTION 45 THRU 46**

**ASK ALL:**

And in general...

Q.47 Thinking about a possible war with Iraq, how worried are you that [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] – a great deal, a fair amount, or not much? ... How worried are you that [INSERT NEXT ITEM, REPEAT RESPONSE CATEGORIES FOR EACH ITEM]?<sup>26</sup>

				A Great <u>Deal</u>	A Fair <u>Amount</u>	Not <u>Much</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
<u>56</u>	<u>54</u>	a.	U.S. forces might sustain a lot of casualties	55	25	18	2=100
			Late October, 2002	52	28	18	2=100
			Late January, 1991	57	30	12	1=100
67	66	b.	Iraq might use biological or chemical weapons against U.S. troops	66	24	9	1=100
			Late October, 2002	59	26	13	2=100
44	47	c.	Many Iraqi civilians might be killed	47	28	23	2=100
			Late October, 2002	40	30	27	3=100
			Late January, 1991	33	35	28	4=100
55	57	d.	This might increase the chances of a terrorist attack within the U.S.	57	25	16	2=100
			Late October, 2002	51	26	20	3=100
			Late January, 1991 <sup>27</sup>	33	38	28	1=100
40	38	e.	It will take a long time to make Iraq a stable and peaceful country after the war	40	30	26	4=100
			Late October, 2002	43	25	27	5=100
46	44	f.	It might lead to an all-out war in the Middle East	46	26	26	2=100
			Late October, 2002	46	27	25	2=100

<sup>26</sup> Trend questions were asked after the onset of the Gulf War in 1991.

<sup>27</sup> In 1991 the item was "terrorists might strike within the U.S."

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.48 As you may know, President Bush has proposed large increases in the budget for military defense and homeland security. Which one of the following do you think is the BEST way to pay for these increases, if they are to happen? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

<u>Total</u>	<u>Feb 2002</u>
23 Add to the budget deficit	24
21 Reduce spending on domestic programs [OR]	22
40 Postpone or reduce last year's tax cuts	42
1 None (VOL)	2
1 Multiple (VOL)	*
2 Other (VOL)	1
<u>12</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.49 As you may know, President Bush has proposed large increases in the budget for military defense and homeland security. Which one of the following do you think is the BEST way to pay for these increases, if they are to happen? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

<u>Total</u>
31 Add to the budget deficit
28 Reduce spending on domestic programs [OR]
23 Increase taxes
5 None [VOL, DO NOT READ]
3 Multiple [VOL, DO NOT READ]
3 Other [VOL, DO NOT READ]
<u>7</u> Don't know/Refused [VOL, DO NOT READ]
100

**ASK ALL:**

All in all...

Q.50 If you had to choose, what should get a higher priority now? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Late Aug 2002</u>	<u>Early June 2002</u>	<u>Oct Jan 2002</u>	<u>Oct Nov 2001</u>	<u>Late 15-21 2001</u>	<u>10-14 2001</u>	<u>Sept 2001</u>
44	46	46	Building our defenses at home to prevent future terrorist attacks	51	51	44	42	37	36	33
			OR							
41	39	39	Taking military action to destroy terrorist networks around the world	30	34	40	42	48	45	44
9	7	8	Both (VOL)	13	8	12	11	13	13	16
6	8	7	Don't know/Refused	6	7	4	5	2	6	7
100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=629]:**

Q.51F1 Do you think the partnership between the U.S. and Western Europe should remain as close as it has been or do you think that the U.S. should take a more independent approach to security and diplomatic affairs than it has in the past?

		----- April 2002 <sup>28</sup> -----			
		<u>Britain</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>France</u>
62	Remain as close	48	36	44	33
29	More independent	47	59	51	60
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=625]:**

Q.52F2 Do you think the partnership between the U.S. and Western Europe is as close as it has been in the past, or are they moving apart?

24	As close as it has been
66	Moving apart
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK ALL:**

And on one last topic...

Q.53 How much, if anything, have you heard about a Federal Communications Commission proposal to reduce current limits on the number of news outlets one company can own ... a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

3	A lot
23	A little
72	Nothing at all
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.54 Currently federal rules limit how many news outlets a company can own nationally and in any one community. What's your opinion -- do you think allowing companies to own more TV, radio and newspaper outlets in a community would have a positive or negative impact on the country, or wouldn't it make much difference?

11	Positive
34	Negative
46	Wouldn't make much difference
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

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<sup>28</sup>

In April 2002 the question was worded, "Do you think the partnership between the U.S. and Western Europe should remain as close as it has been or do you think that Western Europe should take a more independent approach to security and diplomatic affairs than it has in the past?"