

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JANUARY 2001 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
FINAL TOPLINE
January 3-7, 2001
N = 1,258

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]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
January, 2001	61	30	9=100
July, 2000	55	34	11=100
June, 2000	56	35	9=100
May, 2000	57	33	10=100
April, 2000	57	31	12=100
March, 2000	57	35	8=100
February, 2000	58	33	9=100
January, 2000	56	35	9=100
December, 1999	55	35	10=100
October, 1999	59	34	7=100
Late September, 1999	59	33	8=100
September, 1999	56	36	8=100
August, 1999	60	32	8=100
July, 1999	58	31	11=100
June, 1999	55	35	10=100
May, 1999	56	34	10=100
April, 1999	56	38	6=100
March, 1999	62	31	7=100
February, 1999	64	30	6=100
Mid-January, 1999	66	29	5=100
January, 1999	63	30	7=100
Late December, 1998	71	27	2=100
Early December, 1998	61	32	7=100
November, 1998	65	29	6=100
September 21-22, 1998	62	33	5=100
September 19-20, 1998	55	36	9=100
Early September, 1998	61	33	6=100
Late August, 1998	62	32	6=100
Early August, 1998	63	28	9=100
June, 1998	59	32	9=100
May, 1998	62	28	10=100
April, 1998	62	28	10=100
March, 1998	65	26	9=100
Early February, 1998	71	26	3=100
January, 1998	61	30	9=100
November, 1997	58	31	11=100
September, 1997	58	29	13=100
August, 1997	59	32	9=100
June, 1997	54	34	12=100
May, 1997	57	34	9=100
April, 1997	55	34	11=100
February, 1997	60	32	8=100

Q.1 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
Early February, 1997	57	30	13=100
January, 1997	59	31	10=100
November, 1996	57	34	9=100
July, 1996	54	38	8=100
June, 1996	54	38	8=100
April, 1996	53	39	8=100
March, 1996	55	38	7=100
February, 1996	51	39	10=100
January, 1996	50	43	7=100
October, 1995	48	42	10=100
September, 1995	45	42	13=100
August, 1995	44	44	12=100
June, 1995	50	40	10=100
April, 1995	47	43	10=100
March, 1995	44	44	12=100
February, 1995	44	44	12=100
December, 1994	41	47	12=100
November, 1994	48	40	12=100
October, 1994	41	47	12=100
Early October, 1994	38	47	15=100
September, 1994	41	52	7=100
July, 1994	45	46	9=100
June, 1994	42	44	14=100
May, 1994	46	42	12=100
March, 1994	45	42	13=100
January, 1994	51	35	14=100
Early January, 1994	48	35	17=100
December, 1993	48	36	16=100
October, 1993	44	42	14=100
September, 1993	49	35	16=100
Early September, 1993	43	43	14=100
August, 1993	39	46	15=100
May, 1993	39	43	18=100
Early May, 1993	45	37	18=100
April, 1993	49	29	22=100
February, 1993	56	25	19=100

Q.2 Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

		<i>ABC/W. Post</i>	<i>L.A. Times</i>
		Bush	Reagan
		<u>Dec 1992</u>	<u>July 1988</u>
61	Approve	49	56
40	Very strongly	20	23
19	Not so strongly	29	33
2	Don't know	--	--
30	Disapprove	48	38
9	Not so strongly	24	20
21	Very strongly	24	18
*	Don't know	--	--
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
January, 2001	43	36	21=100
July, 2000	36	46	18=100
May, 2000	40	42	18=100
March, 2000	38	43	19=100
February, 2000	40	43	17=100
January, 2000	39	41	20=100
December, 1999	38	42	20=100
October, 1999	34	50	16=100
Late September, 1999	34	46	20=100
September, 1999	35	48	17=100
August, 1999	40	44	16=100
July, 1999	36	45	19=100
June, 1999	37	46	17=100
May, 1999	38	44	18=100
March, 1999	38	47	15=100
February, 1999	37	51	12=100
Mid-January, 1999	36	51	13=100
January, 1999	38	50	12=100
Late December, 1998	39	56	5=100
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100
November, 1998	41	48	11=100
September 21-22, 1998	44	44	12=100
September 19-20, 1998	46	41	13=100
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100
Late August, 1998	48	36	16=100
Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100
June, 1998	42	38	20=100
May, 1998	40	41	19=100
April, 1998	41	40	19=100
March, 1998	43	39	18=100
January, 1998	43	41	16=100
November, 1997	41	43	16=100
August, 1997	42	44	14=100
June, 1997	33	50	17=100
May, 1997	40	44	16=100
April, 1997	40	44	16=100
February, 1997	44	42	14=100
January, 1997	38	47	15=100
November, 1996	40	43	17=100
July, 1996	38	48	14=100
June, 1996	36	50	14=100
April, 1996	39	46	15=100
March, 1996	35	51	14=100
February, 1996	33	53	14=100
January, 1996	36	54	10=100
October, 1995	36	51	13=100
September, 1995	36	50	14=100
August, 1995	38	45	17=100
June, 1995	41	45	14=100

Q.3 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

On another subject...

Q.4 I'd like your views on the state of the nation. All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	4=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
<i>Late February, 1991 (Gallup)</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>3=100</i>
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

NO QUESTION 5

Q.6 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. George W. Bush's cabinet choices and other high level appointments	26	32	24	17	1=100
January, 1993 (Clinton)	24	42	22	11	1=100
b. Renewed efforts at reaching a peace agreement in the Middle East	21	32	29	17	1=100
Early October, 1998 ¹	21	40	27	12	*=100
c. Cold winter weather and storms in the Northeast and Midwest	42	31	15	11	1=100
January, 1999 ²	37	34	17	12	*=100
Early December, 1998 ³	39	35	13	12	1=100
d. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	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

1 Based on registered voters.

2 In January 1999 question was worded "Cold winter weather and storms in the Midwest."

3 In December 1998 question was worded "Unseasonable weather patterns."

Q.7 Now I would like to ask you about some things that have been in the news. Not everyone will have heard about them... Can you recall the names of any one that George W. Bush has chosen for his cabinet or appointed to other high level government posts?

		<u>Jan 1993</u>	
43	Yes		21
<u>57</u>	No/Don't Know/Refused	<u>79</u>	
100		100	

IF YES IN Q.7, ASK:

Q.7a Which names can you recall? (**OPEN-END; ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**)

33	Colin Powell
8	John Ashcroft
4	Condoleezza Rice
3	Christine Whitman
3	Tommy Thompson
2	Donald Rumsfeld
2	Linda Chavez
1	Spencer Abraham
1	Norman Mineta
1	Gale Norton
*	Donald Evans
*	Mel Martinez
*	Alberto Gonzales
*	Rod Paige
*	Ann Veneman
*	Anthony Principi
*	Andrew Card
*	Karen Hughes
*	Paul O'Neill
*	Karl Rove

ASK ALL:

Q.8 Do you happen to know whether the Republicans in Congress now have a BIGGER majority than they did before the election OR is the Congress now more NARROWLY divided?

16	Republicans have a bigger majority now
59	Congress is more narrowly divided
<u>25</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

On another subject...

Q.9 How do you think President Bill Clinton will go down in history... as an outstanding president, above average, average, below average, or poor?

		----- Gallup -----		
			Bush	Reagan
		<u>Feb 1999</u>	<u>Jan 1993</u>	<u>Jan 1989</u>
12	Outstanding	11	6	17
32	Above average	29	30	42
32	Average	27	51	25
10	Below average	13	8	9
11	Poor	18	4	5
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.10 Thinking ahead, what do you think Bill Clinton will be most remembered for after he has left office?
(ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES; PROBE FOR CLARITY)

		<u>March 1998</u>
74	SCANDALS (NET)	57
43	Lewinsky/Impeachment (Sub-Net)	6
39	Monica Lewinsky incident/case/relationship	5
4	Impeachment	--
*	Avoiding impeachment/Staying in office/Ability to recover from scandal	1
18	Other Personal/Sex Scandals (Sub-Net)	38
14	Infidelity/Problems with Women/Sexual Exploits/Girlfriends	33
4	Personal life/Conduct/Personal troubles	2
*	Slandorous allegations/Allegations by women of an affair/harassment	3
*	Sexual harassment case/scandal/incident	2
14	Scandals	18
1	Lack of integrity/morals	1
*	Corrupting/disgracing/cheapening the White House	1
*	Whitewater	1
14	ECONOMY/BUDGET DEFICIT (NET)	14
13	Economy (Sub-Net)	11
12	The economy/Good management of the economy	9
1	Decrease in unemployment	3
*	Stock market	*
*	Inflation	*
1	Balancing the budget/Handling the deficit/Decrease in national debt	5
6	FOREIGN POLICY (NET)	4
2	Middle East peace process	--
2	Efforts for peace	--
1	Improvements in foreign policy/world affairs	1
*	Iraq situation/No loss of life/Ensuring peace	3
5	OTHER POSITIVE COMMENTS (NET)	8
2	Good job he has done/Accomplishments	6
2	Good/Great president	--
1	His concern for the common man/working people/poor/less fortunate	2
*	Good communicator	--
3	OTHER NEGATIVE COMMENTS (NET)	3
2	Lying/Lack of honesty/Ability to spin the truth	3
1	Negative personal comment	--
1	DOMESTIC POLICY (NET)	5
3	Don't Know/Can't think of anything	13

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=636]:

Q.11F1 In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Clinton Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

		Jan	Aug	Jan	Early	-- Reagan --	
		2000	1999	1999	Sept	May	Newsweek
					1998	1987	Feb 1987
60	Accomplishments will outweigh failures	51	56	50	52	46	52
27	Failures will outweigh accomplishments	37	38	34	35	41	38
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=622]:

Q.12F2 In the long run, do you think Bill Clinton will mostly be remembered for his accomplishments as president or for the impeachment and other scandals involving his administration?

28	Remembered for his accomplishments as president
67	Remembered for the impeachment and other scandals involving his administration
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.13 Thinking about the major problems facing the country, would you say President Clinton has made progress toward solving these problems, tried but failed to solve these problems, not addressed these problems, or made these problems even worse?

		Early Sept	Oct
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1995</u>
52	Made progress	45	24
27	Tried but failed	34	50
9	Not addressed	9	11
6	Made problems worse	9	12
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100

Q.14 For each of these areas of national interest, tell me if you think the Clinton Administration has MADE PROGRESS in solving problems, TRIED BUT FAILED to solve problems, DID NOT DEAL WITH problems, or CREATED problems for the next president. First, (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE)...

ASK ITEMS a. THRU i. OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=636]:

		Made <u>Progress</u>	Tried but <u>Failed</u>	Did not deal <u>with Problems</u>	Created <u>Problems</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
a.F1	Budget deficit	56	17	4	8	15=100
b.F1	Trade policy	41	20	6	10	23=100
c.F1	Federal taxes	29	25	16	13	17=100
d.F1	Unemployment	66	15	6	5	8=100
e.F1	Race relations	50	17	15	6	12=100
f.F1	The gap between rich and poor	26	28	22	12	12=100
g.F1	Drug problems	28	39	19	4	10=100
h.F1	Public education	43	28	13	6	10=100
i.F1	Morality	18	25	15	30	12=100

ASK ITEMS j. THRU q. OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=622]:

j.F2	Crime	42	26	14	6	12=100
k.F2	The situation in the Middle East	30	51	3	7	9=100
l.F2	Health care	27	43	11	12	7=100
m.F2	Economic prosperity	61	14	5	9	11=100
n.F2	The welfare system	43	24	11	12	10=100
o.F2	The financial stability of Social Security and Medicare	36	31	13	10	10=100
p.F2	World peace and stability	47	33	4	7	9=100
q.F2	The proper use of American military forces around the world	40	21	10	16	13=100

On a different subject...

Q.15 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

		Jan <u>1999</u>	May <u>1997</u>	Feb <u>1995</u>	March <u>1994</u>	<i>U.S. News & World Report</i>			
						Oct <u>1992</u>	Aug <u>1992</u>	May <u>1992</u>	Jan <u>1992</u>
11	Improve a lot	17	12	11	10	9	6	8	9
46	Improve some	55	56	53	57	51	50	49	46
12	Stay the same (VOL)	14	17	17	16	15	14	13	16
18	Get a little worse	7	10	13	11	14	20	22	19
9	Get a lot worse	3	2	3	3	3	5	4	5
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.16 Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

		Late		Early									
		Sept	Aug	Sept	Nov	May	June	Feb	July	March			
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>			
52	Full-time	56	58	55	55	53	57	55	55	53			
12	Part-time	13	11	12	12	12	13	11	12	14			
35	Not employed	31	30	33	33	35	30	34	33	32			
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>			
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100			

Q.17 and Q.18 BASED ON THOSE EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME [N=837]:

Q.17 Do you now earn enough money to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		Late		Early									<i>U.S. News & World Report</i>			
		Sept	Aug	Sept	Nov	May	June	Feb	July	Mar	Oct	Aug	May	Jan		
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>		
43	Yes	42	39	43	41	46	44	41	40	44	36	33	34	39		
56	No	58	60	57	59	54	56	58	60	56	63	66	65	61		
<u>1</u>	DK/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>		
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		

IF "2" DO NOT NOW EARN ENOUGH MONEY IN Q.17 ASK:

Q.18 Do you think you will be able to earn enough money in the future to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		Late		Early									<i>U.S. News & World Report</i>			
		Sept	Aug	Sept	Nov	May	June	Feb	July	March	Oct	Aug	May	Jan		
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>		
33	Yes	33	38	36	33	34	34	35	34	33	35	36	34	34		
21	No	23	19	20	24	18	20	20	24	20	36	25	28	22		
<u>2</u>	DK/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>		
56%		58%	60%	57%	59%	54%	56%	58%	60%	56%	63%	66%	65%	61%		

ASK ALL:

Q.19 Over the next 12 months, do you think the stock market is most likely to go up a lot, go up some, stay about the same, go down some, or go down a lot?

		<i>-- Newsweek --</i>	
		Dec	Sept
		<u>2000</u>	<u>1997</u>
34	Total Go up	29	32
4	Go up a lot	6	--
30	Go up some	23	--
26	Stay about the same	25	33
30	Total Go Down	26	16
23	Go down some	20	--
7	Go down a lot	6	--
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
100		100	100

On another subject...

Q.20 Do you approve or disapprove of the job President-elect Bush has done so far in explaining his policies and plans for the future to the American people?

		<i>Gallup</i>	
		Clinton	Bush
		<u>Jan 1993</u>	<u>March 1989</u>
50	Approve	62	65
36	Disapprove	24	28
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

ROTATE Q.21 AND Q.22

Q.21 In the long run, do you think George W. Bush will be a successful or unsuccessful president, or do you think it is too early to tell?

26	Successful
15	Unsuccessful
58	Too early to tell
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.22 In the long run, do you think Dick Cheney will be a successful or unsuccessful vice president, or do you think it is too early to tell?

31	Successful
7	Unsuccessful
59	Too early to tell
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=636]:

Q.23F1 So far, would you say you approve or disapprove of George W. Bush's cabinet choices and other high level appointments?

		<i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	<i>ABC</i>	<i>Harris</i>
		Clinton	Bush	Reagan
		<u>Jan 1993</u>	<u>Jan 1989</u>	<u>Jan 1981⁴</u>
58	Approve	64	59	52
16	Disapprove	15	15	34
<u>26</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>21</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>14</u>
100		100	100	100

4

Question worded: "Now let me ask you about President-elect Reagan's Cabinet appointments. How would you rate his appointment of... the cabinet as a whole? Would you say it was an excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor appointment?"

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=622]:

Q.23aF2 What's your opinion of the cabinet choices and other high level appointments George W. Bush has made so far... Do you think they are too conservative, too moderate or about right?

21	Too conservative
7	Too moderate
50	About right
<u>22</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.24 Do you think it's a good thing or a bad thing that many of George W. Bush's top advisors worked in his father's administration?

56	Good thing
29	Bad thing
<u>15</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.25 How much influence do you think Dick Cheney is having within the Bush Administration... too much, too little or about the right amount?

12	Too much
12	Too little
58	Right amount
<u>18</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.26 I'd like to ask you some questions about priorities for President-elect Bush and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a priority. (First,) should **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE; OBSERVE FORM DIFFERENCES)** be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? What about... **(INSERT ITEM)**?⁵

		Top	Important	Not too	Should Not	
		Priority	But lower	Important	Be Done	DK/Ref.
			Priority			
ASK ITEMS a THRU j OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=636]:						
a.F1	Improving the job situation	60	30	6	2	2=100
	January, 2000 ⁶	41	35	16	4	4=100
	July, 1999	54	30	10	3	3=100
	January, 1999	50	34	10	2	4=100
	January, 1998	54	32	10	3	1=100
	January, 1997	66	26	5	2	1=100
	December, 1994	64	27	5	2	2=100
b.F1	Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans	66	22	4	5	3=100
	January, 2000	56	30	7	3	4=100
	July, 1999	57	29	7	4	3=100
c.F1	Reducing crime	76	19	3	2	*=100
	January, 2000	69	24	4	1	2=100
	July, 1999	76	20	2	1	1=100
	January, 1999	70	24	3	1	2=100
	January, 1998	71	25	2	1	1=100
	January, 1997	70	25	3	2	*=100
	December, 1994	78	17	2	1	2=100
d.F1	Paying off the national debt	54	32	8	2	4=100
	January, 2000	44	38	11	3	4=100
	July, 1999	45	41	10	2	2=100
	January, 1999	42	43	10	1	4=100
	January, 1998	46	40	9	3	2=100
e.F1	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	66	26	4	3	1=100
	January, 2000	54	34	7	3	2=100
	July, 1999	57	30	8	4	1=100
	January, 1999	52	33	8	3	4=100
	January, 1998	54	33	8	3	2=100
	January, 1997	42	38	10	8	2=100
	December, 1994	53	32	9	3	3=100

⁵ In July 1999 the question was worded: "Now a few questions about national issues. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a priority..."

⁶ Trends from January 2000 and all previous years are not entirely comparable due to a change in the placement of this question within the survey.

Q.26 CONTINUED ...

		Top Priority	Important But lower Priority	Not too Important	Should Not Be Done	DK/Ref.
f.F1	Reforming the campaign finance system	37	32	18	6	7=100
	January, 2000	32	34	20	6	8=100
	July, 1999	28	37	23	7	5=100
	January, 1999	29	36	21	6	8=100
	January, 1998	32	34	24	5	5=100
	January, 1997	31	37	23	5	4=100
g.F1	Developing a national missile defense system to protect against missile attacks	41	32	14	9	4=100
h.F1	Strengthening gun control laws	47	24	11	16	2=100
	January, 2000	46	25	16	11	2=100
	July, 1999	51	23	11	12	3=100
i.F1	Adding prescription drug benefits to Medicare coverage	73	19	4	2	2=100
	January, 2000	54	31	9	3	3=100
j.F1	Protecting the environment	63	30	3	3	1=100
	January, 2000	54	37	6	2	1=100
	July, 1999	59	32	7	1	1=100
	January, 1999	52	39	7	1	1=100
	January, 1998	53	37	8	1	1=100
	January, 1997	54	35	8	2	1=100
ASK ITEMS k THRU t OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=622]:						
k.F2	Improving the educational system	78	17	1	3	1=100
	January, 2000	77	18	3	1	1=100
	July, 1999	74	19	4	1	2=100
	January, 1999	74	22	2	1	1=100
	January, 1998	78	17	3	2	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	3	2	*=100
l.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	74	21	1	2	2=100
	January, 2000	69	27	2	1	1=100
	July, 1999	73	23	3	*	1=100
	January, 1999	71	24	3	1	1=100
	January, 1998	71	24	4	1	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	2	2	1=100
m.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	71	24	2	1	2=100
	January, 2000	64	30	3	1	2=100
	July, 1999	71	24	3	1	1=100
	January, 1999	62	33	2	1	2=100
	January, 1998	64	31	3	1	1=100
	January, 1997	64	31	3	1	1=100

Q.26 CONTINUED ...

		Top <u>Priority</u>	Important But lower <u>Priority</u>	Not too <u>Important</u>	Should Not <u>Be Done</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
n.F2	Working to reduce racial tensions	52	35	7	3	3=100
	January, 2000	46	40	10	2	2=100
	July, 1999	49	37	8	4	2=100
	January, 1999	49	35	11	3	2=100
	January, 1998	41	38	13	7	1=100
	January, 1997	50	34	9	5	2=100
o.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	63	28	6	1	2=100
	January, 2000	55	38	4	1	2=100
	July, 1999	60	33	5	1	1=100
	January, 1999	57	37	4	1	1=100
	January, 1998	57	34	6	2	1=100
	January, 1997	57	35	6	2	*=100
p.F2	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	51	27	10	7	5=100
	January, 2000	48	34	9	6	3=100
	July, 1999	55	28	8	5	4=100
	January, 1999	50	31	10	5	4=100
	January, 1998	48	31	13	6	2=100
	January, 1997	52	29	10	6	3=100
q.F2	Strengthening the US military	48	37	8	5	2=100
r.F2	Dealing with global trade issues	37	46	8	3	6=100
	January, 2000	30	48	14	1	7=100
s.F2	Keeping the economy strong	81	15	2	1	1=100
	January, 2000	70	25	3	1	1=100
t.F2	Providing health insurance to the uninsured	61	31	4	2	2=100
	January, 2000	55	32	8	2	3=100

Q.27 Now I'd like your opinion of some people and things in the news. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE IN BLOCKS: a. THRU e. AND f. THRU n.)** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **(INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")**

	Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
a. The Republican Party	13	43	22	13	*	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	11	42	28	12	0	7=100
August, 1999	8	45	31	12	*	4=100
February, 1999	7	37	36	15	0	5=100
January, 1999	10	34	27	23	0	6=100
Early December, 1998	11	35	27	20	*	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	9	43	28	14	0	6=100
Early September, 1998	9	47	26	11	*	7=100
March, 1998	10	40	31	12	*	7=100
August, 1997	9	38	36	11	*	6=100
June, 1997	8	43	31	11	1	6=100
January, 1997	8	44	33	10	*	5=100
October, 1995	10	42	28	16	*	4=100
December, 1994	21	46	19	8	*	6=100
July, 1994	12	51	25	8	*	4=100
May, 1993	12	42	25	10	0	11=100
July, 1992	9	37	31	17	*	6=100
b. The Democratic Party	18	42	21	9	1	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	16	44	23	12	*	5=100
August, 1999	14	45	28	9	*	4=100
February, 1999	11	47	26	11	0	5=100
January, 1999	14	41	26	12	0	7=100
Early December, 1998	18	41	24	10	0	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	11	45	29	9	*	6=100
Early September, 1998	13	47	25	8	*	7=100
March, 1998	15	43	26	10	*	6=100
August, 1997	11	41	32	10	0	6=100
June, 1997	10	51	25	8	*	6=100
January, 1997	13	47	28	7	*	5=100
October, 1995	9	40	37	11	0	3=100
December, 1994	13	37	31	13	*	6=100
July, 1994	13	49	27	7	*	4=100
May, 1993	14	43	25	9	0	9=100
July, 1992	17	44	24	9	*	6=100

Q.27 CONTINUED ...

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
c.	Congress	10	54	18	5	1	12=100
	September, 2000 (RVs)	8	53	27	5	*	7=100
	August, 1999	8	55	27	7	*	3=100
	June, 1999	9	47	30	9	*	5=100
	February, 1999	4	48	36	8	0	4=100
	January, 1999	7	41	30	15	0	7=100
	Early December, 1998	11	41	29	12	0	7=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	7	55	25	8	0	5=100
	Early September, 1998	7	59	22	5	0	7=100
	October, 1997	5	48	33	11	0	3=100
	August 1997	6	44	33	11	0	6=100
	June, 1997	4	48	34	8	0	6=100
	May, 1997	5	44	32	10	*	9=100
	February, 1997	6	46	31	9	*	8=100
	January, 1997	6	50	32	8	*	4=100
	June, 1996	6	39	38	12	*	5=100
	April, 1996	6	39	37	13	0	5=100
	January, 1996	4	38	38	16	*	4=100
	October, 1995	4	38	42	13	0	3=100
	August, 1995	5	40	34	13	*	7=100
	June, 1995	8	45	31	11	*	5=100
	February, 1995	10	44	27	10	0	9=100
	July, 1994	7	46	34	9	*	4=100
	May, 1993	8	35	35	13	0	9=100
	November, 1991	7	44	34	9	0	6=100
	March, 1991	16	50	19	7	0	8=100
	May, 1990	6	53	25	9	1	6=100
	May, 1988	8	56	23	5	0	8=100
	January, 1988	6	58	25	4	0	7=100
	May, 1987	10	64	16	4	*	6=100
	January, 1987	7	52	23	8	0	10=100
	June, 1985	9	58	21	5	*	7=100
d.	The Supreme Court	18	50	13	8	1	10=100
	October, 1997	13	64	12	6	*	5=100
	May, 1997	16	56	17	5	0	6=100
	July, 1994	18	62	13	3	*	4=100
	May, 1993	17	56	14	4	0	9=100
	November, 1991	18	54	16	5	0	7=100
	May, 1990	10	55	18	7	1	9=100
	January, 1988	14	65	11	2	*	8=100
	May, 1987	13	63	15	2	*	7=100
	<i>Roper</i> , March 1985	17	47	21	7		8=100

Q.27 CONTINUED ...

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
e.	The military	32	50	9	3	0	6=100
	August, 1999	30	59	8	2	*	1=100
	June, 1999	36	47	11	2	0	4=100
	Early September, 1998	29	57	7	3	0	4=100
	October, 1997	22	56	13	5	0	4=100
	May, 1997	23	57	11	5	0	4=100
	February, 1996	33	49	12	4	*	2=100
	July, 1994	30	57	8	3	*	2=100
	May, 1993	32	53	8	2	0	5=100
	March, 1991	60	34	2	2	0	2=100
	May, 1990	18	55	15	6	*	6=100
	January, 1988	20	57	14	3	*	6=100
	April, 1987	17	63	12	4	0	4=100
	January, 1987	19	54	11	5	*	11=100
	July, 1986	32	53	7	3	0	5=100
	June, 1985	24	53	13	5	*	5=100

ASK ITEMS f. THRU j. OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=636]:

f.F1	Bill Clinton	23	41	17	17	0	2=100
	May, 2000	17	31	19	28	*	5=100
	March, 1999	21	34	19	23	*	3=100
	December, 1998	23	32	19	24	0	2=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	15	37	20	24	0	4=100
	Early September, 1998	18	39	18	23	0	2=100
	Late August, 1998	18	36	20	24	0	2=100
	March, 1998	22	40	19	16	*	3=100
	November, 1997	19	44	21	14	0	2=100
	October, 1997	15	47	20	16	*	2=100
	September, 1997	18	44	21	14	0	3=100
	August, 1997	16	45	21	17	0	1=100
	April, 1997	17	44	21	16	*	2=100
	January, 1997	17	49	18	14	*	2=100
	October, 1996 (RVs)	12	45	22	19	0	2=100
	June, 1996	16	45	23	14	*	2=100
	April, 1996	16	41	24	16	0	3=100
	February, 1996	20	35	22	21	0	2=100
	January, 1996	13	43	27	15	0	2=100
	August, 1995	13	36	29	20	0	2=100
	February, 1995	14	41	25	17	0	3=100
	December, 1994	17	34	24	22	0	3=100
	July, 1994	15	43	25	16	*	1=100
	May, 1993	18	42	23	12	0	5=100
	July, 1992	17	42	25	9	0	7=100
	June, 1992	10	36	33	14	1	6=100
	May, 1992	11	42	32	10	*	5=100
	March, 1992	10	43	29	11	1	6=100
	February, 1992	15	44	24	7	2	8=100
	January, 1992	9	28	11	4	27	21=100
	November, 1991	5	25	8	2	39	21=100

Q.27 CONTINUED ...

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
g.F1	Hillary Clinton	25	35	19	16	*	5=100
	May, 2000	15	34	20	22	1	8=100
	Early December, 1998	32	34	16	15	*	3=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	24	34	18	18	*	6=100
	Early September, 1998	24	40	18	13	0	5=100
	Late August, 1998	25	38	21	13	*	3=100
	March, 1998	26	39	17	14	*	4=100
	January, 1997	17	40	23	17	*	3=100
	June, 1996	13	40	26	17	*	4=100
	April, 1996	12	37	27	19	0	5=100
	February, 1996	14	28	27	27	0	4=100
	January, 1996	10	32	28	26	0	4=100
	October, 1995	14	44	24	14	--	4=100
	August, 1995	16	33	25	22	*	4=100
	December, 1994	17	33	25	20	1	4=100
	July, 1994	19	38	22	18	1	2=100
	May, 1993	19	41	18	11	1	10=100
h.F1	George W. Bush	24	36	21	12	0	7=100
	May, 2000	18	40	19	12	1	10=100
	March, 1999 ⁷	21	40	14	7	4	14=100
	November, 1997	13	41	12	6	9	19=100
i.F1	Al Gore	22	35	20	19	*	4=100
	May, 2000	13	37	23	15	1	11=100
	March, 1999	12	35	26	17	2	8=100
	December, 1998	18	40	22	11	1	8=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	37	25	13	1	8=100
	Early September, 1998	13	44	22	13	1	7=100
	Late August, 1998	11	44	23	14	1	7=100
	March, 1998	17	42	19	11	2	9=100
	November, 1997	12	43	26	12	1	6=100
	September, 1997	11	35	28	15	1	10=100
	August, 1997	15	39	22	15	1	8=100
	April, 1997	12	45	24	12	1	6=100
	January, 1997	18	47	21	8	1	5=100
	July, 1994	18	49	19	7	2	5=100
	August, 1992	22	44	15	5	2	12=100
	July, 1992 ⁸	15	32	14	5	6	28=100
	September, 1987	6	23	11	3	23	34=100

⁷ In March 1999 and November 1997 the category was listed: "Texas Governor George W. Bush."

⁸ July 1992 trend based on 461 respondents asked on July 9, 1992 only.

Q.27 CONTINUED ...

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
j.F1	Dick Cheney	20	42	13	5	2	18=100
	December, 1994	10	32	14	5	21	18=100
	March, 1991 ⁹	33	35	4	2	10	16=100
	May, 1990	3	17	8	3	44	25=100

ASK ITEMS k. THRU n. OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=622]:

k.F2	Joe Lieberman	17	38	16	5	6	18=100
l.F2	Madeleine Albright	19	41	14	5	8	13=100
	May, 2000	12	36	11	7	16	18=100
	March, 1999 ¹⁰	20	43	14	8	6	9=100
	April, 1997	16	49	10	4	6	15=100
	January, 1997	13	44	12	4	9	18=100
	February, 1995	2	16	11	5	47	19=100
m.F2	Colin Powell	45	35	6	3	4	7=100
	October, 1995	21	55	11	3	2	8=100
	August, 1995	26	36	12	5	7	14=100
	February, 1995	31	36	8	3	12	10=100
	December, 1994	31	38	7	2	11	11=100
	July, 1994	33	41	6	2	10	8=100
	June, 1992	30	35	11	4	10	10=100
	March, 1991	51	28	2	1	7	11=100
n.F2	John McCain	18	41	12	3	9	17=100
	May, 2000	14	40	15	5	11	15=100
	ABC/WP: February, 2000		60		21		19=100
	CNN/USA Today/						
	Gallup: December, 1999 ¹¹		57		11	14	18=100

⁹ In March 1991 and May 1990, the category was listed: "Richard Cheney."

¹⁰ In March 1999 and April 1997, the category was listed: "Secretary of State Madeleine Albright." In January 1997 the category was listed: "Secretary of State designate, Madeleine Albright."

¹¹ In December 1999, the category was listed: "Arizona Senator John McCain."

Q.28 Usually, when there is a new president, certain groups gain influence in Washington, while other groups lose influence... As I read from a list, tell me if you think these groups will gain influence, lose influence or not be affected by George W. Bush's taking office? First... **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE a. THROUGH k. — ITEM I. SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST)**

		<u>Gain</u>	<u>Lose</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.	Environmentalists	24	40	25	11=100
	January, 1993	67	7	16	10=100
b.	Feminists	18	38	29	15=100
	January, 1993	66	6	18	10=100
c.	Older people	46	26	22	6=100
	January, 1993	42	25	26	7=100
d.	Washington lobbyists	35	17	28	20=100
	January, 1993	23	31	29	17=100
e.	Blacks	30	29	31	10=100
	January, 1993	66	6	19	9=100
f.	Union leaders	26	38	24	12=100
	January, 1993	35	24	28	13=100
g.	Business corporations	66	9	17	8=100
	January, 1993	34	33	21	12=100
h.	Poor people	29	40	23	8=100
	January, 1993	61	12	19	8=100
i.	Children	50	18	24	8=100
	January, 1993	62	6	22	10=100
j.	Conservative Christians	51	11	27	11=100
k.	The military	72	4	16	8=100
l.	People like yourself	35	26	33	6=100
	January, 1993	43	22	27	8=100

Q.29 This coming year, do you think Republicans and Democrats in Washington will work together more to solve problems OR do you think they will bicker and oppose one another more than usual?

41 Work together
 50 Bicker and oppose one another more than usual
 4 Same as in the past (VOL)
5 Don't know/Refused
 100

Q.30 When it comes to national policy, who do you think George W. Bush is listening to more... **(READ, ROTATE)**

48 Conservative members of his party
 OR
 37 Moderate members of his party
 15 Don't know/Refused
 100

Q.31 As I read a list of issues, please tell me which party you think has the best ideas. (First), on the issue of **(READ AND ROTATE)** who has the best ideas... the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?
REPEAT FOR NEXT ITEM: And who has the best ideas on...

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL) <u>Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound January, 1999	36 27	44 46	7 7	13=100 20=100
b.	Cutting taxes for the middle class January, 1999	41 32	42 45	6 6	11=100 17=100
c.	Improving the educational system January, 1999	40 26	41 46	7 7	12=100 21=100
d.	Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans January, 1999	30 25	47 46	7 7	16=100 22=100
e.	Providing prescription drug benefits to senior citizens on Medicare	30	49	5	16=100
f.	Dealing with the global economy January, 1999	39 33	37 38	5 6	19=100 23=100
g.	Improving morality in this country January, 1999	49 37	26 29	11 17	14=100 17=100

Finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only...

Q.32 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
January, 2001	71	29	*=100
July, 2000	68	31	1=100
June, 2000	68	31	1=100
April, 2000	68	32	*=100
March, 2000 ¹²	72	28	0=100
February, 2000	67	33	*=100
January, 2000	68	32	*=100
December, 1999	67	33	*=100
October, 1999	67	33	*=100
Late September, 1999	68	32	*=100
September, 1999	70	30	*=100
August, 1999	67	33	*=100
July, 1999	68	32	*=100
June, 1999	64	35	1=100
May, 1999	66	33	1=100
April, 1999	71	29	*=100
March, 1999	68	32	*=100
February, 1999	68	32	*=100
January, 1999	69	31	*=100
Early December, 1998	64	36	*=100
Early September, 1998	64	36	*=100
Late August, 1998	66	34	0=100
Early August, 1998	66	34	*=100
April, 1998	61	39	*=100
January, 1998	65	35	*=100
November, 1997	66	34	*=100
June, 1997	60	40	0=100
Early September, 1996	56	44	*=100
July, 1996	56	44	*=100
April, 1996	58	42	*=100
March, 1996	61	39	*=100
February, 1996	60	40	0=100
January, 1996	59	41	0=100

12

In March 2000, "or anywhere else" was added to the question wording.

IF "1, YES" (USE A COMPUTER) IN Q.32, ASK:

Q.33 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

	<u>Goes Online</u>	<u>Doesn't Go Online</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
January, 2001	61	39	0=100
July, 2000	55	45	*=100
June, 2000	56	44	*=100
April, 2000	54	46	*=100
March, 2000	61	39	0=100
February, 2000	52	48	0=100
January, 2000	52	48	*=100
December, 1999	53	47	0=100
October, 1999	50	50	0=100
Late September, 1999	52	48	*=100
September, 1999	53	47	0=100
August, 1999	52	48	0=100
July, 1999	49	51	0=100
June, 1999	50	50	*=100
May, 1999	48	52	0=100
April, 1999	51	49	*=100
March, 1999	49	51	*=100
February, 1999	49	51	*=100
January, 1999	47	53	*=100
Early December, 1998	42	58	0=100
November, 1998	37	63	*=100
Early September, 1998	42	58	*=100
Late August, 1998	43	57	*=100
Early August, 1998	41	59	*=100
April, 1998	36	64	0=100
January, 1998	37	63	0=100
November, 1997	36	63	1=100
July, 1996	23	77	0=100
April, 1996	21	79	*=100
March, 1996	22	78	0=100
February, 1996	21	79	*=100
January, 1996	21	79	0=100
June, 1995 ¹³	14	86	*=100

13

The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions:

(1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?)

(2) Do you, yourself, ever use a computer at (work) (school) (work or school) to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?