

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2005 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
FINAL TOPLINE
May 11-15, 2005
N=1502

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**]

	Dis- Don't				Dis- Don't		
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>approve</u>	<u>know</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>approve</u>	<u>know</u>
May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
2004				Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	2001			
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
2003				July, 2001	51	32	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100				
Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100				
Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100				
June, 2003	62	27	11=100				
May, 2003	65	27	8=100				
April 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100				
April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100				
April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100				
March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100				
March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100				
March 20-24, 2003	67	26	7=100				
March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100				
February, 2003	54	36	10=100				
January, 2003	58	32	10=100				
2002							
December, 2002	61	28	11=100				
Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100				

ASK FORM 1 [N=758]:

Q.2F1 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]**

		Jan	July	Mid-	Jan	Apr	Feb	Mar	May	Feb
		2005	2004	2004	2003	2003	2003	2002	2001	2001
24	War/War in Iraq	32	25	16	14	34	10 [▲]	-	--	--
15	Economy (general)	12	14	20	28	21	8	7	7	7
8	Social Security	4	1	--	1	--	--	3	1	1
8	Terrorism	10	8	14	9	16	24	1	*	*
7	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	7	8	13	10	6	4	5	6	6
7	Health care/costs	5	5	5	3	2	2	6	7	7
6	Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	5	7	5	3	5	4	2	5	5
6	Energy crisis/Rising gas/heating prices	--	2	--	--	1	1	22	4	4
4	Immigration	1	1	3	1	--	1	1	2	2
3	Morality/Ethics/Family values	5	4	3	4	5	8	6	12	12
2	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	3
2	Defense issues/Military spending/ National & homeland security	3	3	3	2	2	5	1	1	1
2	Deficit/National debt/Balanced budget	3	1	2	2	--	1	1	1	1
2	Crime/Gangs/Justice system	2	1	1	1	1	4	4	8	8
2	Inflation/Difference between wages/costs	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
2	Education	3	4	3	4	1	4	8	11	11
1	U.S. foreign policy/Intl affairs	1	4	2	--	--	--	2	2	2
1	Taxes	1	1	1	1	--	1	3	3	3
1	Homelessness	1	1	1	1	--	1	1	2	2
1	Drugs/Alcohol	1	1	1	1	2	4	4	6	6
1	Trade/Jobs moving overseas	1	2	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Too much foreign aid/ spend money at home	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1
6	Other									
1	None	1	1	1	1	1	1	*	2	2
5	Don't know/No answer	5	6	4	9	4	8	8	7	7
36	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/ INTERNATIONAL	49	41	37	29	54	39	3	5	5
31	(NET) ECONOMIC	24	26	35	41	29	16	40	26	26

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

ASK FORM 2 [N=744]:

Q.3F2 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 & World Report</i>		
		Feb	June	Sept	March	Dec	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
21	Not enough money/Paying bills/Making ends meet	30	26	22	28	27	22	20	24
10	Health care/High cost of health insurance	4	6	8	7	15	10	8	10
8	Economy/Recession/Business (general)	12	8	5	2	4	16	30	19
6	Unemployment/Low paying jobs	7	8	8	9	12	28	26	28
6	High gas/Fuel prices	3	9	--	--	--	--	--	--
5	Family/Personal/Health problems	16	3	5	8	5	2	3	4
5	High prices/High cost of living and housing	2	10	4	4	6	7	8	10
4	Taxes/High taxes	2	8	14	5	6	7	8	8
4	Social Security	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3	War/International affairs/Military service	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3	Issues facing the elderly	2	2	7	3	3	2	*	*
2	Child care/Costs of education	3	3	3	5	3	3	5	4
2	Time management/Not enough time or sleep	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Morality/Family values	1	2	3	1	1	2	*	*
1	Terrorism/Safety	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
8	Other	6	26	11	9	15	10	15	15
21	No problems/Don't know	12	18	21	28	16	12	7	11

ASK FORM 1 [N=758]:

ROTATE Q.4F1 AND Q.5F1

Q.4F1 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>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
May, 2005	35	50	15=100	April, 1996	39	46	15=100
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17=100	March, 1996	35	51	14=100
Early February, 2004	41	42	17=100	February, 1996	33	53	14=100
January, 2003	48	37	15=100	January, 1996	36	54	10=100
June, 2002	50	34	16=100	October, 1995	36	51	13=100
May, 2002	49	34	17=100	September, 1995	36	50	14=100
February, 2002	56	24	20=100	August, 1995	38	45	17=100
Early September, 2001	43	39	18=100	June, 1995	41	45	14=100
June, 2001	40	40	20=100	April, 1995	44	43	13=100
May, 2001	45	36	19=100	March, 1995	43	39	18=100
April, 2001	45	30	25=100	December, 1994	52	28	20=100
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				
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				
January, 1999	38	50	12=100				
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100				
November, 1998	41	48	11=100				
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=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				

Q.5F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic 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 Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 2001	49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100

ASK FORM 2 [N=744]:

Q.6F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way your own representative to the U.S. House in Congress is handling his or her job? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job your own representative in Congress is doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
May, 2005	49	23	28=100
September, 1993	54	24	22=100
August, 1993	52	26	22=100
March, 1992	45	37	18=100

ASK FORM 2 [N=744]:

Now thinking about George W. Bush...

Q.7F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.F2 The economy	35	57	8=100
February, 2005	43	50	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7=100
Early September, 2004	44	49	7=100
August, 2004	42	52	6=100
July, 2004	42	52	6=100
June, 2004	43	50	7=100
Early April, 2004	39	53	8=100
Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6=100
September, 2003	43	48	9=100
February, 2003	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.F2 The situation in Iraq	37	56	7=100
February, 2005	40	53	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	37	56	7=100

Q.7F2 CONTINUED...		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
	Early September, 2004	47	45	8=100
	August, 2004	43	52	5=100
	July, 2004	42	53	5=100
	June, 2004	42	51	7=100
	Late April, 2004	44	48	8=100
	Early April, 2004	40	53	7=100
	Mid-January, 2004	59	37	4=100
	September, 2003	52	40	8=100
	April 10-16, 2003 ¹	77	17	6=100
	April 8-9, 2003	71	23	6=100
	--April 9, 2003	76	18	6=100
	--April 8, 2003	65	28	7=100
	April 2-7, 2003	73	21	6=100
	March 28-April 1, 2003	69	26	5=100
	March 25-27, 2003	73	23	4=100
	March 23-24, 2003	72	22	6=100
	March 20-22, 2003	70	23	7=100
	February, 2003	56	37	7=100
	January, 2003	56	36	8=100
	Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
c.F2	Terrorist threats	57	35	8=100
	February, 2005	59	34	7=100
	January, 2005	62	33	5=100
	Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11=100
	Early September, 2004	62	32	6=100
	August, 2004	58	37	5=100
	July, 2004	54	40	6=100
	June, 2004	56	35	9=100
	Late April, 2004	55	36	9=100
	Early April, 2004	53	38	9=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2=100
	September, 2003	64	28	8=100
	February, 2003	67	25	8=100
	January, 2003	69	23	8=100
	Early October, 2002	71	22	7=100
	June, 2002	74	18	8=100
	Mid-September, 2001 ²	85	6	9=100
	Clinton : Early September, 1998	72	20	8=100
d.F2	The nation's foreign policy	38	46	16=100
	February, 2005	43	46	11=100
	January, 2005	48	43	9=100
	Mid-October, 2004	37	49	14=100
	Early September, 2004	47	42	11=100
	August, 2004	42	49	9=100

¹ From March to April 2003 the item was worded: "... dealing with the war in Iraq?" The 1991 Gallup trend was worded "...George Bush is handling the situation in the Persian Gulf region."

² In Mid-September, 2001 the question was worded: "...dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington." In Early 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.7 CONTINUED...		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
	July, 2004	40	48	12=100
	Mid-January, 2004	53	36	11=100
	March, 2003	53	36	11=100
	Early April, 2002	69	20	11=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : October, 2001	81	14	5=100
	Early September, 2001	46	34	20=100
	August, 2001 ³	45	32	23=100
	Clinton : September, 1997	54	34	12=100
	Bush, Sr : May, 1990	58	30	12=100
e.F2	The environment	42	43	15=100
	February, 2005	42	43	15=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	53	37	10=100
	June, 2002	50	38	12=100
	Early September, 2001	42	42	16=100
	Bush, Sr : May, 1990	44	45	11=100
f.F2	Energy policy	31	49	20=100
	Early April, 2004	29	48	23=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2003	47	44	9=100
	June, 2002	41	39	20=100
	<i>CBS News</i> : August, 2001	43	42	15=100
g.F2	Social Security	29	59	12=100
	February, 2005	29	55	16=100
	June, 2002	36	42	22=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2002	47	40	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2001	49	31	20=100

³ In August 2001 roughly half of the U.S. sample was asked about Bush's handling of international policy, while the other half was asked about the handling of the nation's foreign policy. Results did not differ between question wordings.

ASK ALL:

Q.8 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; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]

	Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
a. George W. Bush's proposal to deal with the Social Security system	36	36	17	10	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	38	34	16	11	1=100
February, 2005	31	36	20	13	*=100
Clinton: February, 1998 ⁴	24	38	26	12	*=100
January, 1997	29	35	22	13	1=100
b. The high price of gasoline these days	58	27	9	5	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	50	32	13	5	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	64	22	8	5	1=100
August, 2004	52	29	10	8	1=100
July, 2004	56	25	11	7	1=100
June, 2004	58	26	9	6	1=100
April, 2004	46	30	15	8	1=100
Early April, 2004	58	23	10	8	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	27	14	10	2=100
September, 2003	45	27	15	11	1=100
March, 2003	52	27	11	9	1=100
February, 2003	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 ⁵	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
c. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	30	39	19	11	1=100
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1=100
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*=100
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2=100
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1=100
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1=100
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1=100
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1=100
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*=100
January, 2003	40	35	13	11	1=100
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1=100

⁴ In February 1998, the story was listed as "Clinton's proposal to deal with the problem with Social Security." In January 1997 the story was listed as "Proposals to reform the Social Security System."

⁵ In August 1990 through June 2000 the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

Q.8 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/Ref
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	1=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

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=758]:

d.F1	News about the current situation in Iraq	42	42	11	5	*=100
	Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
	February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
	January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
	December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
	Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
	August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
	July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
	June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
	April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
	Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
	Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
	December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
	November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
	October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
	September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100

Q.8 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/Ref
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 ⁶	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 ⁷	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=744]:

e.F2	The selection of the new Pope	22	33	23	20	2=100
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NO QUESTION 9

ASK ALL:

Q.10 This year, have Republicans and Democrats in Washington been working together more to solve problems OR have they been bickering and opposing one another more than usual?

	Working <u>together more</u>	Bickering and opposing one another <u>more than usual</u>	Same as in past (VOL)	Don't Know/ <u>Refused</u>
May, 2005	13	64	8	15=100
January, 2005 ⁸ (Prospective)	30	59	4	7=100
June, 2004	21	60	7	12=100
October, 2003	21	55	10	14=100
May, 2002	44	31	8	17=100
January, 2002 (Prospective)	53	39	5	3=100
July, 2001	30	46	10	14=100
May, 2001	34	41	9	16=100
January, 2001 (Prospective)	41	50	4	5=100
July, 2000	21	54	10	15=100
August, 1999	20	68	4	8=100
August, 1998	27	51	8	14=100
November, 1997	38	45	7	10=100
August, 1997	43	46	3	8=100
June, 1997	34	49	6	11=100

⁶ From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

⁷ From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq." In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

⁸ In January 2005, January 2002 and January 2001 the question was worded "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?"

Q.10 CONTINUED...

	Working <u>together more</u>	Bickering and opposing one another <u>more than usual</u>	Same as in past (VOL)	Don't Know/ <u>Refused</u>
October, 1995	21	72	3	4=100
August, 1993	20	57	13	10=100

IF "2" IN Q.10, ASK:

Q.11 Who do you think is more to blame for this... Republicans or Democrats?

	<u>Jan 2002</u>
22 Republicans	10
18 Democrats	11
17 Both (VOL)	12
2 Neither (VOL)	2
<u>5</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
64%	39%

ASK ALL:

Q.12 Next, as I read you some problem areas, please tell me how you think each is affecting this country today. (First,) do you think the problem of **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** is ABOUT THE SAME as it has been, that the country is MAKING PROGRESS in this area, or that the country is LOSING GROUND?

	<u>Making Progress</u>	<u>About The Same</u>	<u>Losing Ground</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. The way the health care system is working	9	25	62	4=100
March, 2002	16	25	54	5=100
February, 2001	13	29	53	5=100
November, 1997	16	26	54	4=100
December, 1996	20	25	52	3=100
April, 1995	14	30	53	3=100
March, 1994	16	31	49	4=100
b. Political corruption	10	41	41	8=100
March, 2002	15	43	34	8=100
November, 1997	9	38	47	6=100
December, 1996	12	36	49	3=100
April, 1995	12	41	44	3=100
March, 1994	12	39	46	3=100
c. International terrorism	36	28	31	5=100
March, 2002	40	14	40	6=100
April, 1995	19	40	36	5=100
March, 1994	18	24	53	5=100
d. The availability of good-paying jobs	15	25	55	5=100
March, 2002	21	22	51	6=100
February, 2001	33	26	36	5=100
November, 1997	31	28	37	4=100
December, 1996	19	26	51	4=100
April, 1995	17	24	55	4=100
March, 1994	10	23	63	4=100

Q.12 CONTINUED...

		<u>Making Progress</u>	<u>About The Same</u>	<u>Losing Ground</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
e.	The quality of public education	20	26	50	4=100
	March, 2002	27	22	45	6=100
	February, 2001	23	20	53	4=100
	November, 1997	26	26	46	2=100
	December, 1996	24	22	52	2=100
	April, 1995	18	20	60	2=100
	March, 1994	17	19	61	3=100
f.	Environmental pollution	21	35	37	7=100
	November, 1997	38	32	27	3=100
	December, 1996	42	26	30	2=100
	April, 1995	43	26	30	1=100
	March, 1994	37	26	34	3=100
	March, 1989	32	20	42	6=100
g.	Illegal drugs	14	34	46	6=100
	February, 2001 ⁹	13	29	54	4=100
	November, 1997	15	25	58	2=100
	December, 1996	13	21	64	2=100
	April, 1995	10	22	66	2=100
	March, 1994	13	22	62	3=100
	March, 1989	17	12	69	2=100
h.	Illegal immigration	11	29	52	8=100
	November, 1997	13	29	48	10=100
	December, 1996	15	32	47	6=100
	April, 1995	9	23	62	6=100
	March, 1994	9	22	58	11=100
i.	The federal budget deficit	6	19	65	10=100
	November, 1997	32	30	29	9=100
	December, 1996	23	24	48	5=100
	April 1995	15	21	60	4=100
	March 1994	11	21	60	8=100
	March 1989	16	27	56	7=100
j.	The financial condition of Social Security	6	25	63	6=100
k.	The financial condition of Medicare	5	26	56	13=100
<i>TREND FOR COMPARISON – December, 1996</i>					
	The financial soundness of Social Security and Medicare	10	21	65	4=100

⁹ In February 2001 and earlier the item was listed as “drugs.”

Thinking again about news stories...

Q.13 How closely did you follow news about the debate over changing Senate rules to stop the Democrats from using the filibuster against some of President Bush's judicial nominees--very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

14	Very closely
20	Fairly closely
26	Not too closely
39	Not at all closely
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.14 How do you feel about this issue—do you favor or oppose changing the rules of the Senate to stop the use of filibusters against judicial nominees?

28	Favor
37	Oppose
<u>35</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.15 Who is more responsible for this situation ... is it **[ROTATE OPTIONS]** President Bush for nominating judges who are too conservative, or is it the Democrats for using Senate rules to block a majority vote that they would lose?

38	Bush
34	The Democrats
<u>28</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.16 Have you seen, read or heard any advertisements that take sides on this issue?

22	Yes
77	No
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.17 Have you received any telephone calls from groups or organizations with a point of view about this issue?

3	Yes
97	No
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.18 Here are a couple of statements about the situation in the Senate. For each, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree with it. [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]

	----- AGREE -----			----- DISAGREE -----			DK/
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Completely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Completely</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a. The Republicans won the last election so President Bush should be able to appoint anyone he wants to the federal courts if a majority of Senators agree.	53	20	33	43	20	23	4=100
b. The minority party ought to be able to block some of the judges they feel strongly about because judges are appointed to the federal courts for life terms.	62	22	40	30	11	19	8=100

Thinking again about news stories...

Q.19 How closely did you follow news about ethics complaints made against the House majority leader Tom DeLay --very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	<i>Newt Gingrich</i>	<i>Jim Wright</i>
	<u>Jan 1997¹⁰</u>	<u>May 1989</u>
8 Very closely	23	15
21 Fairly closely	35	30
28 Not too closely	22	25
42 Not at all closely	19	30
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
100	100	100

Q.20 From what you've heard or read, do you think that Tom DeLay is guilty of violating the ethical standards of the House, or don't you think so?

31	Yes, guilty
19	No, don't think so
<u>50</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.21 How much, if anything, have you heard about a proposal that would allow younger workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in private retirement accounts, which might include stocks or mutual funds — have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all?

	Late	Mid-			Early ¹¹	(RVs)	
	March	March	Feb	Dec	Sept	Sept	
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2000</u>	
42	A lot	48	46	43	23	19	26
39	A little	41	32	35	43	41	43
19	Nothing at all	11	22	21	33	39	30
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

¹⁰ In January 1997 the question was asked as part of a series and was worded: "Charges that Newt Gingrich violated House ethics rules?" In May 1989 the question was asked as part of a series and was worded: "The ethics committee's investigation of Speaker of the House Jim Wright?"

¹¹ In Early September 2004 and 2000 the question was worded: "... portion of their payroll taxes in private retirement accounts, which might include stocks or mutual funds, rather than having all of it go toward Social Security."

Q.22 Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

		Late March <u>2005</u>	Mid- March <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2005</u>	Dec <u>2004</u>	Early Sept <u>2004</u>	(RVs) Sept <u>2000</u>
47	Favor	46	44	46	54	58	70
40	Oppose	44	40	38	30	26	21
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

IF 'FAVOR' (1 IN Q.22) ASK:

Q.23FAV Do you feel strongly about this, or do you think you could change your mind?

		Mid-March <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2005</u>
25	Feel strongly / won't change mind	24	24
22	Could change mind / don't feel strongly	19	21
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
47%		44%	46%

IF 'OPPOSE' (2 IN Q.22):

Q.23OPP Do you feel strongly about this, or do you think you could change your mind?

		Mid-March <u>2005</u>	Feb <u>2005</u>
27	Feel strongly / won't change mind	28	26
12	Could change mind / don't feel strongly	11	12
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
40%		40%	38%

ASK FORM 1 [N=758]:

Q.24F1 One proposal for dealing with Social Security's financial situation is to keep the system as it is now for lower income retirees, but limit the growth of future benefits for wealthy and middle income retirees. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

53	Favor
36	Oppose
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 2 [N=744]:

Q.24F2 George W. Bush has proposed dealing with Social Security's financial situation by keeping the system as it is now for lower income retirees, but limiting the growth of future benefits for wealthy and middle income retirees. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

45	Favor
43	Oppose
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK ALL:

ROTATE Q.25/Q.26 BLOCK WITH Q.27/Q.28 BLOCK

On a different subject...

Q.25 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know/Refused</u>
May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1=100
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1=100
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1=100
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1=100
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2=100
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1=100
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2=100
Late February, 2004	2	29	42	26	1=100
February 9-12, 2004 (Gallup)	2	31	46	21	0=100
January 12-15, 2004 (Gallup)	3	34	42	21	0=100
January 2-5, 2004 (Gallup)	3	40	41	16	*=100
December 11-14, 2003 (Gallup)	3	34	44	19	*=100
November 3-5, 2003 (Gallup)	2	28	49	21	*=100
October 24-26, 2003 (Gallup)	2	24	44	30	*=100
October 6-8, 2003 (Gallup)	2	20	50	27	1=100
September 8-10, 2003 (Gallup)	1	20	49	30	*=100
August 4-6, 2003 (Gallup)	1	24	52	23	*=100
February 17-19, 2003 (Gallup)	1	17	48	34	*=100
February 4-6, 2002 (Gallup)	2	26	55	16	1=100
March 5-7, 2001 (Gallup)	3	43	43	10	1=100
January 7-10, 2000 (Gallup)	19	52	23	5	1=100
January 15-17, 1999 (Gallup)	14	55	27	4	*=100
March 20-22, 1998 (Gallup)	20	46	27	7	*=100
Jan 31 - Feb 2, 1997 (Gallup)	4	38	43	15	*=100
March 15-17, 1996 (Gallup)	2	31	48	18	1=100
May 11-14, 1995 (Gallup)	2	27	50	20	1=100
January 15-17, 1994 (Gallup)	*	22	54	24	*=100
February 12-14, 1993 (Gallup)	*	14	46	39	1=100
January 3-6, 1992 (Gallup)	*	12	46	41	1=100

Q.26 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>Don't Know/Refused</u>
May, 2005	18	24	55	3=100
January, 2005	27	18	52	3=100
August, 2004	36	9	47	8=100
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8=100
September, 2003	37	17	43	3=100
May, 2003	43	19	35	3=100
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7=100
January, 2003	30	20	44	6=100
Early October, 2002	34	18	42	6=100
June, 2002	30	20	46	4=100
January, 2002	44	17	36	3=100
January, 2001 <i>Newsweek</i>	18	33	44	5=100

Q.26 CONTINUED...

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
June, 2000	15	24	55	6=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5=100
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4=100
May, 1990	18	31	45	6=100
February, 1989	25	22	49	4=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9=100
May, 1988	24	20	46	10=100
January, 1988	22	26	45	7=100
January, 1984 <i>Newsweek</i> (RVs)	35	13	49	3=100

Thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.27 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1=100
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1=100
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1=100
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1=100
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4=100
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1=100
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1=100
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2=100
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2=100
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1=100
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2=100
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1=100
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1=100
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1=100
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1=100
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1=100
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1=100
January, 1993 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	4	33	46	16	1=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	6	34	40	19	1=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	5	30	47	17	1=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	4	35	45	15	1=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	4	32	45	18	1=100

Q.28 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?

	<u>Improve A lot</u>	<u>Improve Some</u>	<u>Get a Little Worse</u>	<u>Get a lot Worse</u>	<u>Stay the Same (VOL.)</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4=100
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3=100
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6=100
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3=100
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7=100
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4=100
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6=100
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4=100

Q.28 CONTINUED...

	Improve <u>A lot</u>	Improve <u>Some</u>	Get a <u>Little Worse</u>	Get a lot <u>Worse</u>	Stay the Same (VOL.)	Don't Know/ <u>Refused</u>
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4=100
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8=100
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4=100
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4=100
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4=100
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3=100
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3=100
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	9	51	14	3	15	8=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	6	50	20	5	14	5=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	8	49	22	4	13	4=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	9	46	19	5	16	5=100

Q.29 Next, I'd like to ask you some more about the nation's economy. First do you think **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE)** is/are a very big problem, a big problem, a small problem, or not a problem for the nation's economy today? **[HOW ABOUT...]**

	<u>Very big problem</u>	<u>Big problem</u>	<u>Small problem</u>	<u>Not a problem</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
a. The job situation	25	46	21	5	3=100
b. Inflation	17	43	26	9	5=100
c. Interest rates	12	31	31	20	6=100
d. Gasoline prices	44	41	11	3	1=100
e. The trade deficit	19	44	16	5	16=100
f. The federal budget deficit	31	47	13	3	6=100

Q.30 Do you think now is a very good, good, bad, or very bad time to invest in the stock market?

3	Very good
42	Good
32	Bad
8	Very bad
<u>15</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.31 Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community or are jobs difficult to find?

	<u>Plenty of jobs available</u>	<u>Jobs are difficult to find</u>	<u>Lots of some jobs, few of others (VOL)</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
May, 2005	30	60	6	4=100
January, 2005	32	58	5	5=100
Mid-September, 2004	31	52	6	11=100
August, 2004	34	55	4	7=100

Q.31 CONTINUED...

	Plenty of <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others (VOL)</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Late April, 2004	30	57	4	9 =100
Late February, 2004	31	59	5	6 =100
Mid-January, 2004	27	60	6	7 =100
October, 2003	24	66	5	5 =100
June, 2002	31	59	4	6 =100
June, 2001	42	44	8	6 =100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	15	76	6	3 =100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	16	77	4	3 =100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	12	79	6	3 =100

Q.32 What's your impression about the real estate market in your community? Is housing very affordable, fairly affordable, not too affordable, or not at all affordable?

	<u>June 2001</u>
9 Very affordable	9
40 Fairly affordable	48
30 Not too affordable	25
18 Not at all affordable	12
<u>3</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>
100	100

Thinking now about your own situation....

Q.33 Have there been times during the last year when you did not have enough money [INSERT ITEM] your family needed?

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS A-C FIRST]		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	To buy food	18	82	*=100
	June, 2003	16	83	1=100
	September, 2002	15	84	1=100
	June, 2001	16	84	*=100
	<i>Gallup: May, 1998</i>	11	89	*=100
	June, 1997	19	81	*=100
	<i>Gallup: June, 1989</i>	13	87	*=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1987</i>	15	84	1=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1984</i>	20	79	1=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1976</i>	14	86	*=100
b.	To buy clothing	22	77	1=100
	September, 2002	19	80	1=100
	June, 2001	21	78	1=100
	<i>Gallup: May, 1998</i>	18	82	*=100
	<i>Gallup: June, 1989</i>	17	83	*=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1987</i>	19	80	1=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1984</i>	26	73	1=100
	<i>Gallup: January, 1976</i>	19	81	*=100
c.	To pay for medical and health care	29	70	1=100
	June, 2003	25	75	*=100
	September, 2002	26	73	1=100
	June, 2001	27	72	1=100
	<i>Gallup: May, 1998</i>	22	78	*=100
	June, 1997	23	76	1=100

Q.33 CONTINUED...

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
<i>Gallup: June, 1989</i>	21	79	*=100
<i>Gallup: January, 1987</i>	21	78	1=100
<i>Gallup: January, 1984</i>	25	74	1=100
<i>Gallup: January, 1976</i>	15	85	*=100

[ITEM D ALWAYS LAST]

d.	To pay for gasoline or other transportation costs	22	77	1=100
	June, 2001	25	74	1=100

EMPLOY Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Not employed</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
May, 2005	51	12	37	*=100
February, 2005	53	12	35	*=100
May, 2004	54	10	35	1=100
Late February, 2004	49	12	39	*=100
June, 2002	55	10	35	*=100
June, 2001	54	11	35	*=100
January, 2001	52	12	35	1=100
Late September, 1999	56	13	31	*=100
August, 1999	58	11	30	1=100
Early September, 1998	55	12	33	*=100
November, 1997	55	12	33	*=100
May, 1997	53	12	35	*=100
June, 1996	57	13	30	*=100
February, 1995	55	11	34	*=100
July, 1994	55	12	33	*=100
March, 1994	53	14	32	1=100

IF "NOT EMPLOYED" (3 IN EMPLOY) ASK:

EMPLOY2 Is that because you are a student, because you are retired, because you choose not to work, or because you've lost or quit a job?

	<u>Feb 2005</u>	<u>June 2002</u>	<u>June 2001</u>
3 Student	3	2	n/a
19 Retired	17	19	17
5 Choose not to work	6	4	4
3 Lost or quit a job	2	4	4
7 Other reason (VOL)	7	6	10
<u>0</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>
37%	35%	35%	35%

IF EMPLOYED (1 OR 2 IN EMPLOY) ASK [N=873]:

EMPLOY3 Are you self-employed, do you work for someone else, or do you do both?

13	Self-employed/own a business
76	Work for someone else
11	Both
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

IF WORK FOR SOMEONE ELSE OR BOTH (2 or 3 in EMPLOY3) ASK [N=747]:

EMPLOY4 Do you work for an annual salary or are you paid by the hour?

37	Salary
59	Hourly
2	Both (VOL.)
2	Other / piecework / by the job (VOL.)
*	Don't know/Refused
<u>100</u>	

ASK ALL:

EMPLOY5 Do you or does anyone else in your household work at more than one job?

		<u>June 2002</u>	<u>June 2001</u>
17	Yes	15	14
83	No	85	86
*	Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>
<u>100</u>		100	100

EMPLOY6 Over the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or someone in your household has been without a job and looking for work, or not?

		<u>Dec¹²</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Mid-Oct</u> <u>2004</u>
31	Yes	37	36
69	No	63	63
*	Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>100</u>		100	100

IF EMPLOYED PART-TIME (EMPLOY EQ 2):

EMPLOY7 Would you prefer to be working full time, or not?

		<u>Late Feb</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Early Feb</u> <u>2004</u>
5	Prefer full time work	4	4
7	Would not prefer full time work	8	9
*	Don't know/Ref.	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>
12%		12%	13%

¹²

In December and Mid-October 2004 the question was asked as part of a list of items.

ASK IF 1 OR 2 “EMPLOYED FULL OR PART TIME” IN EMPLOY:

Q.34 Do you now earn enough money to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2005	40	59	1=100
May, 2004	51	48	1=100
Late February, 2004	53	46	1=100
June, 2002	43	56	1=100
January, 2001	43	56	1=100
Late September, 1999	42	58	*=100
August, 1999	39	60	1=100
Early September, 1998	43	57	*=100
November, 1997	41	59	*=100
May, 1997	46	54	*=100
June, 1996	44	56	*=100
February, 1995	41	58	1=100
July, 1994	40	60	*=100
March, 1994	44	56	*=100
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	36	63	1=100
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	33	66	1=100
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	34	65	1=100
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	39	61	*=100

ASK IF 2 ‘NO’ IN Q.34:

Q.35 Do you think you will be able to earn enough money in the future to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2005	35	22	2=59%
May, 2004	25	19	4=48%
Late February, 2004	26	19	1=46%
June, 2002	30	23	3=56%
January, 2001	33	21	2=56%
Late September, 1999	33	23	2=58%
August, 1999	38	19	3=60%
Early September, 1998	36	20	1=57%
November, 1997	33	24	2=59%
May, 1997	34	18	2=54%
June, 1996	34	20	2=56%
February, 1995	35	20	3=58%
July, 1994	34	24	2=60%
March, 1994	33	20	3=56%
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	35	36	5=63%
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	36	25	5=66%
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	34	28	3=65%
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News & W. Report</i>	34	22	5=61%

ASK ALL:

Q.36 I'd like you to think about some concerns that people may have. How concerned are you, if at all, about **[INSERT ITEM: RANDOMIZE]**? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this? What about **[NEXT ITEM]**...?

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not too Concerned	Not at all Concerned	Does Not Apply (VOL)	Don't Know
a. Not having enough money for your retirement	47	25	11	14	2	1=100
January, 2004	50	24	10	12	3	1=100
February, 2003	56	20	9	11	3	*=100
June, 2002	54	25	10	10	1	*=100
February, 2001	55	24	10	9	1	1=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	55	24	11	8	1	1=100
October, 1999	51	27	13	8	1	*=100
May, 1997	42	26	15	13	3	1=100
October, 1996 (RVs)	56	24	11	7	1	1=100
March, 1996	59	23	9	7	2	*=100
October, 1995	48	29	10	8	4	1=100
March, 1994 ¹³	42	29	14	12	3	1=100
May, 1988	34	35	15	8	4	4=100

BASED ON THOSE WHO GIVE AN ANSWER [N=1190]:

b. Being unable to save enough money to put a child through college	46	20	11	23=100	–	–
January, 2004	46	23	13	18=100	–	–
February, 2003	55	19	9	17=100	–	–
June, 2002	52	19	10	19=100	–	–
September, 2000 (RVs)	52	25	10	13=100	–	–
October, 1999	50	24	12	14=100	–	–
May, 1997	48	22	12	18=100	–	–
October, 1996 (RVs)	53	21	11	15=100	–	–
October, 1995	52	22	11	15=100	–	–
March, 1994	51	22	11	16=100	–	–
May, 1988	34	34	16	16=100	–	–
c. Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick	49	18	13	18	1	1=100
January, 2004	53	18	15	12	1	1=100
February, 2003	59	17	10	12	2	1=100
June, 2002	61	18	10	10	1	*=100
February, 2001	60	18	9	11	1	1=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	63	19	8	8	2	*=100
October, 1999	60	19	13	7	1	*=100
May, 1997	50	20	16	13	1	*=100
October, 1996 (RVs)	61	18	12	7	1	1=100
March, 1996	68	16	10	6	*	*=100
October, 1995	66	17	9	7	1	*=100
March, 1994	50	22	15	11	1	1=100

¹³ 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.36 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Concerned</u>	Somewhat <u>Concerned</u>	Not too <u>Concerned</u>	Not at all <u>Concerned</u>	Does Not Apply (VOL)	Don't Know
d. Losing your job or taking a cut in pay	30	14	14	25	17	*=100
January, 2004	35	15	15	19	16	*=100
February, 2003	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 ¹⁴	18	16	23	18	22	3=100
e. Going too deeply into debt	39	19	16	25	1	*=100
January, 2004	41	20	17	19	2	1=100

Q.37 Thinking about the money you owe on credit cards and installment loans excluding your mortgage, would you say you... **(READ)**

	Late Feb <u>2004</u>	<i>U.S. News & World Report</i> <u>June 2001</u>	<i>U.S. News & World Report</i> <u>Jan 1992</u>
10 Owe a lot more than you can afford	9	13	7
15 Owe a little more than you can afford	13	15	14
33 Owe about what you can afford	29	31	32
22 OR owe less than you can afford?	23	18	19
13 Do not have any debts (VOL)	20	12	16
5 No credit cards or loans (VOL)	5	10	11
<u>2</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100	100

NO Q.38

Q.39 Do you have a retirement plan besides Social Security? **[IF YES: Is any of your retirement money in the stock market through stocks, mutual funds or a 401k plan?]**

	<u>Early Oct 2002</u>
46 Yes, retirement plan in the stock market	47
13 Yes, but not in stock market	13
40 No, no retirement plan	37
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100	100

Q.40 **[IF 1,2 IN Q.39 READ: Aside from retirement accounts...]** Do you currently own shares in a mutual fund that includes stock?

	<u>Early Oct 2002</u>
37 Yes	36
61 No	60
<u>2</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
100	100

¹⁴ In May 1988 the item was worded: "Losing your job."

Q.41 Do you currently own stock in any INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES besides a company that you or someone else in your household works for?

		<u>Early Oct 2002</u>
23	Yes	23
75	No	74
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

Q.42 Within the past year, have you made changes to your investments -- that is -- decided to buy or sell any stocks or shares in a mutual fund? [IF YES ASK: Have you made any changes within the past six months?]

		<u>Early Oct 2002</u>
12	Yes, within past six months	12
10	Yes, within past year	8
75	No changes in the past year	77
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

Now, just a few questions for statistical purposes only.

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

<i>Trend</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) No	(VOL) Other	<u>Don't know</u>
				<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	
May, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
Late March, 2005	29	32	36	2	*	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
February, 2005	31	32	30	4	1	2=100
January, 2005	32	33	30	4	*	1=100
December, 2004	31	34	30	3	*	2=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
Late September, 2004	29	30	31	6	*	4=100
Mid-September, 2004	29	31	30	5	*	5=100
Early September, 2004	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
August, 2004	31	35	27	4	*	3=100
July, 2004	29	33	32	3	*	3=100
June, 2004	30	34	31	3	*	2=100
May, 2004	29	35	26	5	1	4=100
Early May, 2004	27	34	31	4	1	3=100
Late April, 2004	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
Early April, 2004	31	32	28	4	1	4=100
Late March, 2004	30	34	28	4	*	4=100
March, 2004	27	35	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-February, 2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
Early February, 2004	31	33	31	3	*	2=100
Mid-January, 2004	31	31	31	4	1	2=100
Early January, 2004	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
<i>Yearly Totals</i>						
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100

PARTY CONTINUED...

<i>Trend</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL)	(VOL)	<u>Don't know</u>
				No Preference	Other Party	
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100
				No Preference/		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>		
1996	29	33	33	5=100		
1995	32	30	34	4=100		
1994	30	32	34	4=100		
1993	27	34	34	5=100		
1992	28	33	35	4=100		
1991	31	32	33	4=100		
1990	31	33	30	6=100		
				Independent/		
				<u>No Pref/Oth/DK</u>		
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			

(All party identification trends based on general public.)

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Refused to lean</u>
May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%

ASK ALL:

HEALTH Do you currently have health insurance, or not?

		<u>Dec 1993</u>	<u>Sept 1993</u>	<u>April 1993</u>
85	Yes, have health insurance	86	85	85
14	No	14	15	15
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*
100		100	100	100

BANK Have you ever had to declare bankruptcy, or hasn't this happened to you?

10	Yes
89	No
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	