

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
NOVEMBER 2005 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
FINAL TOPLINE
November 3 - 6, 2005
N=1,201

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>	Dis- approve	Don't know		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- approve	Don't know
November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	<i>March 13-16, 2003</i>	55	34	11=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>February, 2003</i>	54	36	10=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>January, 2003</i>	58	32	10=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	2002			
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	<i>December, 2002</i>	61	28	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	<i>Late October, 2002</i>	59	29	12=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	<i>Early October, 2002</i>	61	30	9=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	<i>Mid-September, 2002</i>	67	22	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	<i>Early September, 2002</i>	63	26	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	<i>Late August, 2002</i>	60	27	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	<i>August, 2002</i>	67	21	12=100
2004				<i>Late July, 2002</i>	65	25	10=100
<i>December, 2004</i>	48	44	8=100	<i>July, 2002</i>	67	21	12=100
<i>Mid-October, 2004</i>	44	48	8=100	<i>June, 2002</i>	70	20	10=100
<i>August, 2004</i>	46	45	9=100	<i>April, 2002</i>	69	18	13=100
<i>July, 2004</i>	46	46	8=100	<i>Early April, 2002</i>	74	16	10=100
<i>June, 2004</i>	48	43	9=100	<i>February, 2002</i>	78	13	9=100
<i>May, 2004</i>	44	48	8=100	<i>January, 2002</i>	80	11	9=100
<i>Late April, 2004</i>	48	43	9=100	2001			
<i>Early April, 2004</i>	43	47	10=100	<i>Mid-November, 2001</i>	84	9	7=100
<i>Late March, 2004</i>	47	44	9=100	<i>Early October, 2001</i>	84	8	8=100
<i>Mid-March, 2004</i>	46	47	7=100	<i>Late September, 2001</i>	86	7	7=100
<i>February, 2004</i>	48	44	8=100	<i>Mid-September, 2001</i>	80	9	11=100
<i>Mid-January, 2004</i>	56	34	10=100	<i>Early September, 2001</i>	51	34	15=100
<i>Early January, 2004</i>	58	35	7=100	<i>August, 2001</i>	50	32	18=100
2003				<i>July, 2001</i>	51	32	17=100
<i>December, 2003</i>	57	34	9=100	<i>June, 2001</i>	50	33	17=100
<i>November, 2003</i>	50	40	10=100	<i>May, 2001</i>	53	32	15=100
<i>October, 2003</i>	50	42	8=100	<i>April, 2001</i>	56	27	17=100
<i>September, 2003</i>	55	36	9=100	<i>March, 2001</i>	55	25	20=100
<i>Mid-August, 2003</i>	56	32	12=100	<i>February, 2001</i>	53	21	26=100
<i>Early August, 2003</i>	53	37	10=100				
<i>Mid-July, 2003</i>	58	32	10=100				
<i>Early July, 2003</i>	60	29	11=100				
<i>June, 2003</i>	62	27	11=100				
<i>May, 2003</i>	65	27	8=100				
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100				
<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100				
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100				
<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100				

ROTATE Q.2 AND Q.3

Q.2 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>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
November, 2005	33	50	17=100	July, 1996	38	48	14=100
Early October, 2005	32	52	16=100	June, 1996	36	50	14=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15=100	April, 1996	39	46	15=100
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15=100	March, 1996	35	51	14=100
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17=100	February, 1996	33	53	14=100
Early February, 2004	41	42	17=100	January, 1996	36	54	10=100
January, 2003	48	37	15=100	October, 1995	36	51	13=100
June, 2002	50	34	16=100	September, 1995	36	50	14=100
May, 2002	49	34	17=100	August, 1995	38	45	17=100
February, 2002	56	24	20=100	June, 1995	41	45	14=100
Early September, 2001	43	39	18=100	April, 1995	44	43	13=100
June, 2001	40	40	20=100	March, 1995	43	39	18=100
May, 2001	45	36	19=100	December, 1994	52	28	20=100
April, 2001	45	30	25=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				

Q.3 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>
November, 2005	36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-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 1 ONLY [N=589]:

Q.4F1 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**]

		Mid- May <u>2005</u>	Jan <u>2005</u>	July <u>2004</u>	Mid- Jan <u>2004</u>	Apr <u>2003</u>	Feb <u>2003</u>	Mar <u>2002</u>	May <u>2001</u>	Feb <u>2001</u>
29	War/War in Iraq	24	32	25	16	14	34	10 [▲]	--	--
11	Economy (general)	15	12	14	20	28	21	8	7	7
7	Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	6	5	7	5	3	5	4	2	5
6	Terrorism	8	10	8	14	9	16	24	1	*
5	Health care/costs	7	5	5	5	3	2	2	6	7
4	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	3
4	Energy crisis/Rising gas/heating prices	6	--	2	--	--	1	1	22	4
4	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	7	7	8	13	10	6	4	5	6
3	Deficit/National debt/Balanced budget	2	3	1	2	2	--	1	1	1
3	U.S. foreign policy/Intl affairs	1	1	4	2	--	--	--	2	2
3	Morality/Ethics/Family values	3	5	4	3	4	5	8	6	12
	Defense issues/Military spending/ National & homeland security	2	3	3	3	2	2	5	1	1
2	Hurricane/disaster relief	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	Immigration	4	1	1	3	1	--	1	1	2
2	Trade/Jobs moving overseas	1	1	2	1	--	--	--	--	--
1	Homelessness	1	1	1	1	1	--	1	1	2
1	Inflation/Difference between wages/costs	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
1	Education	2	3	4	3	4	1	4	8	11
1	Social Security	8	4	1	--	1	--	--	3	1
1	Taxes	1	1	1	1	1	--	1	3	3
1	Drugs/Alcohol	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	4	6
	Too much foreign aid/ spend money at home	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
15	Other									
6	Don't know/No answer	5	5	6	4	9	4	8	8	7
42	(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/ INTERNATIONAL	36	49	41	37	29	54	39	3	5
24	(NET) ECONOMIC	31	24	26	35	41	29	16	40	26

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

Q.4XF2 What is the FIRST news story that comes to mind when you think about what's been in the news lately?
**[OPEN END. ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES, DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL.
 RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

FIRST STORY MENTIONED:

19 Iraq war/troop casualties
 14 Recent Hurricanes and response
 11 Libby/Cheney/Plame/White House scandal
 5 Supreme Court appointments
 3 Crime
 2 Other local news
 2 Bush's trip to South America/protest
 1 Weather/natural disasters
 1 Bird flu
 1 Death of Rosa Parks
 1 Gas prices
 1 Politics (general)
 1 Violence and protests in France
 1 Democrats holding closed door session in Senate
 1 Immigration/border issues
 1 Prince Charles and Camilla trip to the U.S.
 5 All others
30 Don't Know/Refused
 100

ASK ALL:

Q.5 In your view, has George W. Bush lived up to his campaign promise to restore integrity to the White House, or not?

36 Yes, lived up to his promise
 56 No, has not
8 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused
 100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=589]:

Q.6F1 In your opinion, are the news organizations you are familiar with being fair or unfair to the Bush administration?

	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Unfair</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
G.W. Bush: November, 2005	50	31	19=100
G.W. Bush: Early July, 2003	62	24	14=100
G.W. Bush: February, 2001	65	19	16=100
Clinton: Early September, 1998	52	40	8=100
Clinton: February, 1998	49	44	7=100
Clinton: September, 1994	67	26	7=100
Clinton: May, 1994	52	36	12=100
Clinton: August, 1993	66	21	13=100
Clinton: June, 1993	51	43	6=100
Clinton: February, 1993	72	17	11=100
Bush, Sr.: January, 1992	77	15	8=100
Bush, Sr.: November, 1990	72	15	13=100
Bush, Sr.: January, 1990	76	14	10=100
Bush, Sr.: August, 1989	82	12	6=100
Reagan: January, 1988	66	21	13=100
Reagan: January, 1987	67	25	8=100
Reagan: July, 1985	78	12	10=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

Q.7F2 Do you think the press has been too critical of the Bush Administration policies and performance so far, not critical enough or do you think that the press has handled this about right?

		Early <u>July 2003</u>	Clinton <u>June 1993</u>
32	Press too critical	25	35
28	Not critical enough	23	12
34	About right	48	49
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100

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]

		<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	News about the current situation in Iraq	41	40	13	6	*=100
	Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
	Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
	July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
	June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
	Mid-May, 2005	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
	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 ¹	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

¹ From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

Q.8 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/Ref
March 13-16, 2003 ²	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 1 ONLY [N=589]:

b.F1 The high price of gasoline these days	61	27	9	2	1=100
Late October, 2005	67	23	7	3	*=100
Early October, 2005	65	25	6	3	1=100
Early September, 2005	71	19	7	3	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	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 ³	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

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

c.F2 Oil companies reporting large profits over the past few months	37	33	16	13	1=100
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ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=589]:

d.F1 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	35	39	17	9	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	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

² 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."

³ 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
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
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 2 ONLY [N=612]:					
e.F2 The impact of Hurricane Wilma on Mexico and Florida	34	37	21	8	*=100
Late October, 2005 <i>Impact of Katrina and Rita</i>	69	24	5	2	*=100
Early October, 2005 <i>Impact of Katrina and Rita</i>	73	21	4	2	*=100
Early September, 2005 <i>Impact of Katrina</i>	70	21	7	2	*=100
July, 2005 <i>Hurricanes affecting the Gulf Coast</i>	38	37	17	8	*=100
Early October, 2002 <i>Gulf of Mexico & Louisiana</i>	38	34	18	10	*=100
ASK ALL:					
f. The nomination of Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court	21	28	24	25	2=100
Early October, 2005 <i>Nomination of Harriet Miers</i>	22	33	21	23	1=100
Early September, 2005 <i>Nomination of John Roberts</i>	18	26	25	29	2=100
August, 1993 <i>Nomination of Ruth Bader Ginsburg</i>	18	30	27	24	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
October, 1991 <i>Nomination of Clarence Thomas</i>	28	35	18	18	1=100
July, 1991 <i>Nomination of Clarence Thomas</i>	33	33	19	14	1=100
August, 1990 <i>Nomination of David Souter</i>	16	27	27	29	1=100
September, 1987 <i>Nomination of Robert Bork</i>	17	23	29	29	2=100
g. The indictment of Vice President Cheney's Chief of Staff Lewis "Scooter" Libby					
Early October, 2005 ⁴ <i>Indictment of Tom DeLay</i>	24	29	23	23	1=100
	18	25	26	30	1=100
h. The outbreak of bird flu in Asia and Europe					
Late October, 2005	22	37	25	15	1=100
January, 2004 <i>Mad cow disease in Washington state</i>	22	33	24	20	1=100
June, 2003 <i>SARS spread from Asia</i>	29	42	19	9	1=100
May, 2003 <i>SARS spread from Asia</i>	28	44	19	8	1=100
Early September, 2001 <i>Mad cow disease in Europe</i>	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 2001 <i>Foot-and-mouth disease in Europe</i>	18	34	27	20	1=100
January, 1998 <i>Outbreak of an Asian flu</i>	22	33	22	22	1=100
	19	36	25	20	*=100

ASKED NOVEMBER 4-6 ONLY [N=828]:

i. The death of Rosa Parks	25	37	22	15	1=100
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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 ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

	Television	News- papers	Radio	Magazines	Internet	Other (VOL)	Don't Know/ Refused
November, 2005	73	36	16	2	20	2	*
Early Sept, 2005⁵ (Hurricane Katrina)	89	35	17	*	21	3	*
June, 2005	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
March, 2003 (War in Iraq)	89	24	19	*	11	2	*
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)	90	11	14	*	5	1	1
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*

⁴ In Early October 2005 the story was listed as "The criminal indictment of House Majority Leader Tom DeLay for campaign finance violations"

⁵ In Early September 2005, the question was worded "news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina." In March 2003, the question was worded "news about the war in Iraq," and in Mid-September 2001, the question was worded "news about the terrorist attacks." In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

Q.9 CONTINUED...

	Television	News- papers	Radio	Magazines	Internet	Other (VOL)	Don't Know/ Refused
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995 ⁶	82	63	20	10	--	1	1
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

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

Q.9a Do you get most of your news about national and international issues from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 8 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON TOTAL:		<i>Hurricane Katrina</i>						
		Early Sept 2005 ⁷	June 2005	Dec 2004	Oct 2003	Aug 2003	Early July 2003	Jan 2002
16	Local news programming	19	13	15	17	17	17	16
14	ABC Network news	14	12	11	12	12	12	11
12	CBS Network news	8	9	9	8	10	11	11
15	NBC Network news	12	12	14	13	15	14	15
24	CNN Cable news	31	18	20	20	26	27	28
8	MSNBC Cable news	9	5	6	6	7	9	8
22	The Fox News Cable Channel	22	16	19	17	18	22	16
5	CNBC Cable news	3	2	3	-- ⁸	3	3	4
3	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	3	4	3	4	4	3	2

IF '5' INTERNET AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.9, ASK [N=236]:

Q.9b When you get news online, do you read the websites of local or national newspapers, or not?

		June 2005
67	Yes	62
32	No	36
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>
100		100

ASK IF FOLLOWED BIRD FLU VERY, FAIRLY, NOT TOO CLOSELY (1-3 IN Q.8h) [N=1,046]:

F.1 In your view, is too much, too little, or the right amount of attention being paid to the possibility of a bird flu outbreak in America?

22	Too much
29	Too little
42	Right amount
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

⁶ In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

⁷ In Early September 2005, the question was worded: "Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from..."

⁸ In October 2003, CNBC Cable news item was not asked due to programming error.

F.2 How much confidence do you have in the federal government to deal with a possible outbreak of bird flu in America? **[READ]**

9	A great deal
39	A fair amount
33	Not very much
16	No confidence at all
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

F.3 How worried are you that you or someone in your family will be exposed to the bird flu? **[READ]**

		SARS
		May
		<u>2003</u> ⁹
11	Very worried	9
27	Somewhat worried	28
38	Not too worried	29
23	Not worried at all	34
<u>1</u>	No opinion (VOL.)	*
100		100

On a different subject...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=589]:

Q.10F1 Some people think that by criticizing leaders, news organizations keep political leaders from doing their job. Others think that such criticism is worth it because it keeps political leaders from doing things that should not be done. Which position is closer to your opinion?

	<u>Keeps leaders from doing their job</u>	<u>Keeps leaders from doing things that shouldn't be done</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
November, 2005	22	62	16=100
June, 2005	28	60	12=100
Early July, 2003	29	54	17=100
July, 2002	26	59	15=100
Mid-November, 2001	32	54	14=100
Early September, 2001	25	60	15=100
February, 1999	31	58	11=100
Early February, 1998	39	55	6=100
February, 1997	32	56	12=100
Late January, 1994	24	66	10=100
Early January, 1994	18	69	13=100
August, 1989	23	68	9=100
December, 1986	26	60	14=100
July, 1985	17	67	16=100

⁹ In May 2003, the question was worded "One last question about the new disease know as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS. How worried are you that you or someone in your family will be exposed to SARS..."

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

Q.11F2 Some people think that in investigating possible wrongdoing by political leaders, news organizations keep leaders from doing their job. Others think such investigations are worth it because they keep political leaders from doing things that should not be done. Which position is closer to your opinion?

25	Investigations keep political leaders from doing their job
61	Investigations keep leaders from doing things that should not be done
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.12 When it comes to national policy, who do you think George W. Bush is listening to more... **[READ AND ROTATE]**

		Early						
		Oct	July	Jan	May	Jan	Jan	Jan
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
53	Conservative members of his party	57	53	54	49	41	38	48
	OR							
27	Moderate members of his party	27	23	27	32	35	40	37
<u>20</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>16</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Last week a grand jury investigating the leak of a CIA agent's identity indicted the vice president's adviser Lewis Libby on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.

ASK IF FOLLOWED NEWS ABOUT LIBBY INDICTMENT AT ALL (1,2,3 IN Q8g) [N=964]:

Q.13 Thinking back to when you FIRST heard about the indictment, what ONE WORD best describes your reaction to the news? (OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE)*

89	Not surprised/unsurprised
82	Surprised
58	Shocked
24	Disappointed
23	Disgusted
21	Expected
21	Good
15	Disbelief/unbelievable
14	Finally
12	About time
11	Traitor/treason
11	Guilty
11	Typical
9	Wow
9	Indifferent
8	Outraged
8	Ridiculous
8	Watergate
8	Happy
7	Not shocked

* The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.

ASK ALL:

Q.14 How important an issue do you think this whole situation is to the nation... [READ]

		---- Clinton lied under oath ----						— Clinton had affair — — CBS —			
		Sept ¹⁰ 21-22	Sept 19-20	Sept 11-15	Early Sept	Late Aug	Early Aug	Late Feb	Early Feb	Jan 26	Jan 24-25
		1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998
44	Great importance	37	42	37	34	33	27	22	25	39	40
35	Some importance	19	23	22	20	23	21	25	27	28	21
18	Very little importance	42	33	38	42	42	46	50	45	28	35
1	None (VOL)	--	--	1	3	2	3	3	1	2	3
<u>2</u>	DK/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.15 From what you've heard and read, do you think Lewis Libby is guilty or not guilty of the charges brought against him?

42	Guilty
15	Not guilty
<u>43</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

Q.16 Do you think news organizations are giving too much, too little, or the right amount of coverage to the investigation into the leak of a CIA agent's identity?

		<i>Lewinsky</i> ¹¹		---- Whitewater Investigation ----				<i>Iran Contra</i>
		Dec 1998	Aug 1998	May 1997	Aug 1995	March 1994	<i>Newsweek</i> March 1994	Jan 1987
31	Too much	64	69	43	45	55	44	44
21	Too little	2	4	14	15	7	10	9
39	About the right amount	31	26	39	37	33	36	43
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

¹⁰ Interviews from September 19-20 were conducted prior to the release of Bill Clinton's videotaped grand jury testimony. Interviews from September 21-22 were conducted following the release of the videotape. Interviews from September 11-15 were conducted after the release of the Starr Report. From August to September 1998 the question was worded "Now, a few questions about the allegation that President Clinton lied under oath about a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky. Thinking specifically about this allegation..." In Late February 1998 and earlier the question was worded "Thinking about these allegations against President Clinton [that he had an affair with former White House intern, Monica Lewinsky], how important an issue do you think this whole situation is to the nation..."

¹¹ In 1998 the question was worded: "Do you think the media is giving TOO MUCH attention to the investigation of President Clinton, TOO LITTLE attention, or about the right amount?" From 1994 to 1997 the question was worded: "...to the Whitewater case and the White House handling of it..." In 1987 the question was worded: "...have given the Iran-Contra affair..."

On a different subject...

Q.17 How important is the president's choice of the next Supreme Court justice to you personally? [READ]

		Mid- Sept <u>2005</u> ¹²	July <u>2005</u>	June <u>2005</u>	Late March <u>2005</u>
47	Very important	48	47	47	38
28	Somewhat important	34	30	29	36
13	Not too important	9	14	14	15
11	Not at all important	7	8	8	8
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.18 From what you've seen and heard so far, do you think the Senate should or should not confirm Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court?

		<i>Harriet Miers</i> Early Oct <u>2005</u>	<i>-- John Roberts --</i> Mid-Sept <u>2005</u>	Early Sept <u>2005</u>
40	Should	33	46	35
23	Should not	27	21	19
<u>37</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>40</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>46</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.19 Do you worry that Samuel Alito would make the Supreme Court too conservative, not conservative enough, or don't you worry about this?

		<i>Harriet Miers</i> <u>Early Oct 2005</u>	<i>Chief Justice John Robersts</i> <u>Early Oct 2005</u>	<i>Next Supreme Court Appointment</i> <u>July 2005</u> ¹³
25	Too conservative	18	20	31
6	Not conservative enough	8	9	19
56	Don't worry about this	56	60	44
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.20 As I read some issues the Supreme Court may rule on over the coming years, please tell me how important each issue is to you personally. First, are court decisions on [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLIT] very important, fairly important, not too important, or not at all important to you?

		Very Important	Fairly Important	Not too Important	Not at all Important	DK/Ref
a.	Abortion	62	20	8	8	2=100
	July, 2005	63	21	8	7	1=100
b.	Affirmative action	38	37	12	7	6=100
	July, 2005	43	35	12	7	3=100
c.	Issues related to homosexuality	36	20	20	21	3=100

¹² In mid-September 2005 the question was asked about both choices: "How important are the President's choices of the next Supreme Court Justice to you personally?"

¹³ In July 2005 the question was worded "Do you worry that the president's next Supreme Court appointment will make the court ..."

Q.20 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Important</u>	Fairly <u>Important</u>	Not too <u>Important</u>	Not at all <u>Important</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=589]:					
d.F1	The rights of people held in custody as terrorist suspects				
	57	23	10	6	4=100
	July, 2005				
	62	21	10	6	1=100

ASK ALL:

e.	The amount of money courts can award in personal injury lawsuits				
	44	34	14	6	2=100
	July, 2005				
	49	31	13	5	2=100
f.	Whether to allow religious displays on government property				
	46	25	16	10	3=100
	July, 2005				
	55	25	11	8	1=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

g.F2	How terrorist suspects should be treated				
	60	24	8	5	3=100

Q.21 When Senators ask Supreme Court nominees questions about issues like abortion that may come before the court, do you think **[INSERT ITEM, ROTATE]** or do you think **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		Early Oct <u>2005</u>
60	Nominees should be required to answer those questions	55
35	Nominees should be allowed to not comment on those questions	39
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused [VOL]	<u>6</u>
100		100

Q.22 Do you worry that Samuel Alito would go too far in restricting access to abortions, not go far enough, or don't you worry about this?

25	Go too far
12	Not go far enough
47	Don't worry about this
<u>16</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

On a different subject...

Q.23 A few weeks ago, Iraq held a nationwide vote on the country's constitution. How much have you heard about this... A lot, a little, or nothing at all?

		Early Oct <u>2005</u>	Jan <u>2005</u> ¹⁴	June <u>2004</u>
22	A lot	21	46	42
52	A little	50	40	40
25	Nothing at all	28	13	17
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100

¹⁴ In early October 2005 the question was worded: "On October 15th, Iraq is scheduled to have a nationwide vote on the country's proposed constitution. How much have you heard about this..." In January 2005 question was worded "On January 30th, Iraq is scheduled to have its first nationwide elections..." In June 2004 the question was worded: "On June 30th, the U.S. is planning to hand over civilian authority to Iraqi leaders. How much have you heard about this..."

Q.24 In this election, the Iraqi people voted “yes” on the new constitution. Do you think this will lead to a MORE stable situation, a LESS stable situation, or will the situation in Iraq not change much?

		<i>Before Oct 15th Vote</i>		<i>Before Jan 30th Elections</i>	
		Early Oct	Feb ¹⁵	Jan	
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	
30	More stable	29	47	29	
6	Less stable	10	7	14	
56	Situation will not change much	51	40	49	
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	
100		100	100	100	

Q.25 Before the war the U.S. and Britain claimed that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. These weapons have not been found. Why do you think they made this claim: **[READ AND ROTATE]**

ASK IF ‘LIED TO PROVIDE A REASON’ (Q25=2)

Q.26 Do you think U.S. and British leaders knew Iraq had no weapons, or did they simply choose to believe only the intelligence that supported going to war?

		Feb ¹⁶
		<u>2004</u>
41	Was it mostly because they were themselves misinformed by bad intelligence	49
	OR	
43	Was it mostly because they lied to provide a reason for invading Iraq	31
17	Knew Iraq had no weapons	22
24	Chose to believe only the intelligence that supported going to war	9
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	*
5	WMD might still be found (VOL)	9
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>11</u>
100		100

NO QUESTION 27

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=589]:

Q.28F1 In 1973 the Roe versus Wade decision established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, at least in the first three months of pregnancy. Would you like to see the Supreme Court completely overturn its Roe versus Wade decision, or not?

		-----Gallup-----					
		July	June	Jan	March	Aug ¹⁷	Oct
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1989</u>
26	Yes, overturn Roe versus Wade	29	30	31	36	34	33
65	No, not overturn Roe versus Wade	65	63	62	60	60	61
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

¹⁵ In early October 2005 the question was worded: “If the proposed constitution is approved...” In January and February 2005 the question was worded “All in all, do you think the January elections in Iraq will lead to a MORE stable situation, a LESS stable situation, or will the situation in Iraq not change much?”

¹⁶ In February 2004 the question included “These weapons have yet to be found.”

¹⁷ Gallup trend from August 1992 is based on registered voters.

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=612]:

Q.29F2 In 1973 the Roe versus Wade decision established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, at least in the first three months of pregnancy. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its Roe versus Wade decision, or not?

32 Yes, overturn Roe versus Wade
 57 No, not overturn Roe versus Wade
11 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

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)	(VOL)	<u>Don't know</u>
				No	Other	
				<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	
November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-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
				(VOL)	(VOL)	
				No	Other	
<i>Yearly Totals</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
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
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		

PARTY CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent/ No Pref/Oth/DK</u>
1989	33	33	34=100
1987	26	35	39=100

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>
November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-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%