

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**JANUARY 2007 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**January 10-15, 2007**  
**N=1708**

**QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 17 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

Q.18 I'd like to ask you some questions about priorities for President Bush and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important or should it not be done? (First,) should **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM DIFFERENCES)** be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? (What about **(INSERT ITEM)?**)

		Top	Important	Not too	Should not	
	<u>SUMMARY TABLE*</u>	<u>priority</u>	<u>but lower</u>	<u>important</u>	<u>be done</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
i.F1	Defending the country from future terrorist attacks	80	16	2	1	1=100
l.F2	Improving the educational system	69	25	4	1	1=100
f.F1	Reducing health care costs	68	24	4	3	1=100
s.F2	Strengthening the nation's economy	68	25	4	2	1=100
m.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	64	28	5	2	1=100
n.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	63	31	3	1	2=100
c.F1	Reducing crime	62	31	5	1	1=100
e.F1	Protecting the environment	57	32	9	1	1=100
a.F1	Improving the job situation	57	30	10	1	2=100
t.F2	Dealing with the nation's energy problem	57	35	6	1	1=100
q.F2	Providing health insurance to the uninsured	56	31	7	4	2=100
k.F1	Dealing with the issue of illegal immigration	55	29	11	3	2=100
o.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	55	36	6	2	1=100
g.F1	Increasing the minimum wage	53	29	12	4	2=100
b.F1	Reducing the budget deficit	53	33	7	2	4=100
u.F2	Making it tougher for illegal immigrants to enter U.S.	51	31	10	6	2=100
d.F1	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	48	35	10	4	3=100
p.F2	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	47	30	12	8	3=100
r.F2	Strengthening the U.S. military	46	35	10	5	4=100
w.F2	Dealing with global warming	38	34	16	8	4=100
h.F1	Making recent federal income tax cuts permanent	36	32	12	12	8=100
v.F2	Reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups in Washington	35	30	23	4	8=100
j.F1	Dealing with global trade issues	34	46	12	2	6=100

\* For complete trends on Q.18a-w see the January 22, 2007 report, "Broad Support for Political Compromise in Washington."

**QUESTIONS 19 THROUGH 26 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

On a different subject...

Q.27 From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?

**IF "YES" (1 IN Q.27) ASK:**

Q.28 Do you believe that the earth is getting warmer [READ AND ROTATE]?

		<u>Aug</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>July</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2006</u>
77	Yes	77	79	70
47	Mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels, OR	47	50	41
20	Mostly because of natural patterns in the earth's environment	20	23	21
10	Don't know/Refused	10	6	8
16	No	17	17	20
1	Mixed/some evidence (VOL)	1	1	1
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.29 In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

		<u>July</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2006</u>
45	Very serious	43	41
32	Somewhat serious	36	33
12	Not too serious	11	13
8	Not a problem	9	11
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100

**IF SEE GLOBAL WARMING AS PROBLEM (Q.29=1,2,3), ASK:**

Q.30 Do you think global warming is a problem that requires immediate government action, or don't you think it requires immediate government action?

		<u>July</u> <u>2006</u>
<b>BASED ON TOTAL:</b>		
55	Yes, it is a problem that requires immediate government action	61
31	No, don't think global warming requires immediate government action	26
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3
<u>11</u>	(Global warming not a problem/DK) [4 and 9 in Q.29]	<u>10</u>
100		100

Q.30a Should people like yourself be doing more to help reduce global warming, or is there not much that individuals like yourself can do?

<b>BASED ON TOTAL:</b>		
60	Should be doing more	
26	Not much individuals can do	
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	
<u>11</u>	(Global warming not a problem/DK) [4 and 9 in Q.29]	
100		

**QUESTIONS 31 THROUGH 51 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**