# PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS JUNE 2000 VOTER ATTITUDES SURVEY — 21ST CENTURY VOTER

— FINAL TOPLINE — June 14 - 28, 2000 N=2,174

# FORM 1, ASK Q.1 THEN Q.2; FORM 2, ASK Q.2, THEN Q.1 My first question is...

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>	<b>Disapprove</b>	Don't Know
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

# Q.1 CONTINUED ...

	Approve	<u>Disapprove</u>	Don't Know
April, 1997	55	34	11=100
February, 1997	60	32	8=100
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

On another subject...
Q.2 Now 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?

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	No Opinion
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
Late February, 1991 (Gallup)	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

Q.3 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 ITEMS]

		Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	(VOL.)
		closely	closely	closely	closely	DK/Ref.
a.	News about candidates for the 2000					
	presidential election	23	32	23	21	1=100
	April, 2000	18	33	26	23	*=100
	Early April, 2000	18	39	22	20	1=100
	March, 2000	26	41	19	13	1 = 100
	February, 2000	26	36	21	17	*=100
	January, 2000	19	34	28	18	1=100
	December, 1999	16	36	24	23	1 = 100
	October, 1999	17	32	28	22	1=100
	September, 1999	15	31	33	20	1=100
	July, 1999	15	38	24	22	1 = 100
	June, 1999	11	25	29	34	1=100
	July, 1996	22	40	23	14	1=100
	July, 1992	20	45	26	9	*=100
	May, 1988	22	46	23	6	3=100
b.	A federal judge's ruling that the computer company Microsoft should be broken up into two separate companies, because it engaged					
	in unfair business practices	28	37	17	17	1=100
	May, 2000 <sup>1</sup>	16	33	26	25	*=100
c.	Recent increases in the price of gasoline	61	25	9	5	*=100
С.	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
d.	The recent summit in Moscow between President					
u.	Clinton and Russian President Putin	9	20	28	42	1=100
	April, 1997 <sup>2</sup>	6	20	33	40	1=100
	Aprii, 1997	U	20	55	40	1-100
e.	Reports that computer files containing nuclear secrets are missing from Los Alamos national					
	laboratory	25	27	19	28	1=100

In May 2000, the story was listed as "The government's recommendation that the computer software company Microsoft should be broken up into two separate companies, because it engaged in unfair business practices."

In April 1997, the story was listed as "The recent summit in Helsinki between President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin."

Q.4 How much thought have you given to the coming Presidential election — quite a lot or only a little?

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]:**

					Late	Early								Gal	lup	
		May	Nov	Oct	Sept	Sept	July	June	Oct	Sept	Aug	June	Nov	Oct	Aug	Sept
		<u>2000</u>	<u>1996</u>	1996	1996	1996	1996	<u>1996</u>	1992	<u>1992</u>	<u> 1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	1988	1988	<u>1988</u>	<u>1988</u>
46	Quite a lot	48	67	65	61	56	55	50	77	69	72	63	73	69	61	57
6	Some (VOL.)	4	8	7	7	3	3	5	5	3	4	6	8	9	10	18
43	Only a little	42	22	26	29	36	41	41	16	26	23	29	17	20	27	23
5	None (VOL.)	5	3	1	2	4	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
*	DK/Refused	1	*	1	1	1	*	<u>1</u>	1	1	*	<u>1</u>	0	0	0	0
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.5 Are you more interested or less interested in politics this year than you were in 1996 — the last presidential election year?<sup>3</sup>

·	July 1996	June 1996	June 1992	March 1992
More	42	41	55	<u> 57</u>
Less	38	35	24	27
Same (VOL.)	19	22	19	14
Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	2	2
	100	100	100	100
	Less Same (VOL.)	More     42       Less     38       Same (VOL.)     19       Don't know/Refused     1	More         42         41           Less         38         35           Same (VOL.)         19         22           Don't know/Refused         1         2	More         42         41         55           Less         38         35         24           Same (VOL.)         19         22         19           Don't know/Refused         1         2         2

Q.6 How have you been getting most of your news about the Presidential election campaign? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? (ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS; IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ONE ADDITIONAL RESPONSE) Any others?<sup>4</sup>

		Feb	Jan	Sept	April	Feb	Sept	Jun	May	March	Feb
		<u>2000</u>	2000	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>	1996	1992	1992	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
65	Television	73	75	75	81	85	83	84	86	83	80
27	Newspapers	33	31	44	48	56	49	55	51	48	49
11	Radio	15	12	14	21	21	13	18	17	14	18
2	Magazines	2	3	5	6	5	5	7	6	4	4
5	Internet	7	6	2	2	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	Other	2	3	2	3	1	4	4	3	3	3
2	Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	1	1	1	*	1	*	1

In 1996 the question referenced politics in 1992; in 1992 it referenced politics in 1988.

In 1996 the "Internet" category was worded "computer on-line sources."

#### IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' TELEVISION IN Q.6 ASK:

Do you get most of your news about the presidential campaign from network TV news, from local Q.7 TV news, or from cable news networks such as CNN and MSNBC?<sup>5</sup> (ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS; DO NOT PROBE)

#### **QUESTION ASKED JUNE 19-28, 2000 [N=797]:**

		Feb	Jan	Sept	April
		<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>
17	Network	20	24	29	39
24	Local	28	25	31	34
25	Cable	30	31	25	23
1	Other (VOL.)	2	1	1	2
*	Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	1

- Q.8 Ordinarily, do you find that you go looking for the latest news about the presidential campaign, OR do you typically happen to come across campaign news without looking for it?
  - 15 Go looking for campaign news
  - 83 Come across campaign news without looking
  - <u>2</u> 100 Don't know/Refused

Q.9 Now, suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between Al Gore, the Democrat; George W. Bush, the Republican; Pat Buchanan, of the Reform Party; and Ralph Nader, of the Green Party — who would you vote for?

#### IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '5' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.9, ASK:

As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat; Bush, the Republican; Buchanan, of the Q.9a Reform Party; or Nader, of the Green Party?

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

June	June	
<u>23-30</u>	<u>14-21</u>	
35	42	Gore/Lean Gore
42	41	Bush/Lean Bush
2	3	Buchanan/Lean Buchanan
2	4	Nader/Lean Nader
<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>	Undecided/Other/DK
100	100	
(N=463)	(N=1,509)	

<sup>5</sup> In 1996, the question was worded: "Do you get most of your news about the presidential campaign from network TV news, from local TV news, or from CNN?"

#### NOTE: Q.10-Q.14 BASED ON RESPONDENTS INTERVIEWED JUNE 14-21,2000 [N=1,958]

#### ASK ALL:

Q.10 Suppose there were only two major candidates for president and you had to choose between Al Gore, the Democrat; and George W. Bush, the Republican. Who would you vote for?

### IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' GORE OR '2' BUSH IN Q.10, ASK:

Q.10a Do you support (**INSERT CHOICE FROM Q.10**) strongly, or only moderately?

# IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.10, ASK:

Q.10b As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat; or Bush, the Republican?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,509]: Ear									Early			
June		May	March	Feb	Dec	Oct	Sept	Aug	July	March	Jan	Sept
<u>14-21</u>		<u>2000</u>	2000	2000	<u> 1999</u>	1999 <sup>6</sup>	1999	1999	1999	$1999^{7}$	1999	<u> 1998</u>
46	Gore/Lean Gore	45	49	45	40	39	39	41	42	41	44	40
	18 Strongly	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	27 Moderately	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1 Don't Know	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Bush/Lean Bush	46	43	46	55	54	54	53	53	54	50	53
	20 Strongly	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25 Moderately	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<ul><li>* Don't Know</li></ul>	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Undecided/Other/DK	9	8	9	5	<u>7</u>	7	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	6	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

	June 1996	<u>June 1992</u>
Clinton/Lean Clinton	55	41
Strongly	22	9
Moderately	32	32
Don't Know	1	-
Dole/Lean Dole or Bush/Lean Bush	40	45
Strongly	13	14
Moderately	26	31
Don't Know	1	-
Undecided/Other/Don't know	<u>_5</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100

#### IF DID NOT CHOOSE GORE IN Q.10 OR Q.10b ASK [N=832]:

Q.11 Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for Al Gore in November, or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

June		— Clinton —
14-21		<u>July 1996</u>
14	Chance might vote for him	8
34	Decided not to vote for him	36
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
54%		48%

October 1999 results taken from the Typology re-interview survey.

In previous months, the question asked: "Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Al Gore, the Democrat and Texas Governor George W. Bush, the Republican..."

#### IF DID NOT CHOOSE BUSH IN Q.10 OR Q.10b, ASK [N=803]:

Q.12 Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for George W. Bush in November, or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

June		— Dole —
14-21		<u>July 1996</u>
15	Chance might vote for him	15
33	Decided not to vote for him	40
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
55%		58%

Q.13 What do you like most about (**INSERT NAME CHOSEN FROM Q.10 OR Q.10b**) — his personality, his leadership ability, his experience, or his stand on issues?

# BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO CHOSE GORE OR BUSH IN Q.10/Q.10b:

	Personality	<u>Leadership</u>	Experience	Stand on issues	Don't know	
Al Gore (6/14-21)	7	13	29	42	9=100	(N=677)
May, 2000	10	13	30	40	7=100	
March, 2000	10	14	28	40	8=100	
October, 1999 <sup>8</sup>	8	11	32	43	6=100	
George W. Bush (6/14-2)	1) 10	19	11	50	10=100	(N=706)
May, 2000	12	22	8	51	7=100	
March, 2000	14	24	10	42	10=100	
October, 1999 <sup>8</sup>	13	25	11	42	9=100	

Q.14 What do you like LEAST about (**INSERT NAME <u>NOT</u> CHOSEN FROM Q.10 OR Q.10b**) — his personality, his leadership ability, his experience, or his stand on issues?

#### BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO CHOSE GORE OR BUSH IN Q.10/Q.10b:

	Personality	Leadership	<b>Experience</b>	Stand on Issues	Don't know	
Al Gore (6/14-21)	17	19	6	43	15=100	(N=706)
May, 2000	22	22	6	41	9=100	
March, 2000	22	20	5	43	10=100	
October, 1999 <sup>8</sup>	24	22	5	39	10=100	
George W. Bush (6/14-2	1) 26	13	10	34	17 = 100	(N=677)
May, 2000	25	13	13	35	14=100	
March, 2000	33	8	13	35	11=100	
October, 1999 <sup>8</sup>	19	11	13	41	16=100	

<sup>8</sup> October 1999 results taken from the Typology re-interview survey.

#### **ASK ALL:**

Q.15 So far, do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage to the 2000 presidential campaign, too little coverage to the campaign , or the right amount of coverage?

		March	Feb	Sept	July	March	Oct	Sept	Feb	Oct	May	Nov
		<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u> 1999</u>	<u> 1999</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1995</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u> 1991</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u> 1987</u>
19	Too much	25	22	28	18	29	18	22	19	12	24	21
16	Too little	10	10	14	13	10	18	11	15	22	7	16
60	Right amount	61	63	49	59	58	60	62	62	58	62	58
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refuse	ed <u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	9	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	4	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	8	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

# Q.16 What one issue would you most like to hear presidential candidates talk about? (**OPEN-END. ACCEPT UP TO THREE MENTIONS.**)

# **QUESTION ASKED JUNE 14-21 [N=1,958]:**

		July	Sep	Oct	Oct
		<u> 1999</u>	<u>1996</u>	1995	<u> 1991</u>
12	Education/Education reform	9	11	6	11
11	Economy	4	13	14	43
11	Health care reform/Health care in general	18	14	20	8
10	Social Security	14	-	-	-
7	Taxes	9	16	8	6
6	Foreign Policy	6	4	5	-
5	Crime/Drugs	7	6	9	5
5	Gun control	7	-	-	-
4	Gas prices	-	-	-	-
3	Moral issues/Ethics	6	5	8	-
3	Abortion	1	4	-	-
2	Child care/Family issues	-	-	-	-
2	Medicare	11	-	-	-
2	Senior citizens/elderly	-	-	-	-
2	The job situation/Unemployment	2	8	6	15
2	Poverty/Homelessness	-	-	-	-
2	Size of government	-	-	-	-
2	Federal budget/Budget deficit/National debt	8	10	14	8
1	Welfare reform	2	12	8	-
1	Race relations	1	*	2	-
1	Campaign finance reform	1	3	4	-
13	Other issues	10	16	10	27
16	Don't know/Refused	13	6	6	13

Q.17 As it's shaping up so far, what's your opinion of the likely presidential candidates for this year? Would you say that you are very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the likely choices?

— Based on Registered Voters —											
					Late	Late					
			March	July	Oct	Sept	June	Oct	Aug	June	
<u>Total</u>	RVs		2000	1999	1996 <sup>9</sup>	<u>1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	
13	14	Very satisfied	13	13	11	11	9	10	11	6	
49	50	Fairly satisfied	47	40	48	50	37	41	42	31	
22	22	Not too satisfied	27	25	27	26	31	33	31	35	
12	11	Not at all satisfied	11	12	11	10	19	14	15	26	
4	3	Don't know/Refused	2	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	2	<u>1</u>	2	
100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
	(N=1,	673)									

Q.18 What's your impression...do George W. Bush and Al Gore take different positions on the issues, or are they pretty similar in their positions on the issues?

			— July	1999 —
<u>Total</u>	RVs		<u>Total</u>	<u>RVs</u>
49	51	Different	43	47
33	33	Similar	25	24
<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>32</u>	<u>29</u>
100	100		100	100
	(N=1,	,673)		

#### **ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,089]:**

- Q.19 Some people think who we elect as president is not as important THESE DAYS compared to the 1970s and 1980s. Other people think who we elect as president THESE DAYS is just as important as then. Which comes closer to your view?
  - Who we elect as president is not as important these days compared to the 1970s and 1980s
  - Who we elect as president these days is just as important as then
  - 5 Don't know/Refused

100

#### **ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,085]:**

Q.20 As far as making progress on the important issues facing the country is concerned, does it really matter who wins the 2000 presidential election, or will things be pretty much the same regardless of who is elected president?

	Opini	ion Research Corporation
		Aug 1976 <sup>10</sup>
45	Really matters who wins the 2000 presidential election	45
49	Things will pretty much be the same regardless of who is elected presiden	nt 46
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100		100

In previous years the question was worded "What's your opinion of the presidential candidates this year? Would you say that you are very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the choices?"

<sup>10</sup> Question was asked about the 1976 presidential election.

#### **ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,089]:**

- Q.21 Some people feel it is difficult to choose between Al Gore and George W. Bush because EITHER ONE would make a good president. Do you agree, or disagree?
  - 32 Agree
  - 61 Disagree
  - 7 Don't know/Refused

100

### **ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,085]:**

- Q.22 Some people feel it is difficult to choose between Al Gore and George W. Bush because NEITHER ONE would make a good president. Do you agree, or disagree?
  - 37 Agree
  - 55 Disagree
  - 8 Don't know/Refused

100

#### On another subject...

Q.23 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?

		Early						
		Sept	May	Feb	Sept	May	Jan	Jan
		1998	1990	1989	<u>1988</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1988</u>	1984
15	Better	18	18	25	24	24	22	35
24	Worse	17	31	22	16	20	26	13
55	Same	61	45	49	51	46	45	49
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	6	4	9	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	3
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.24 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.S. News & World Report —				
		Aug	May	Sept	Mar	Dec	Jan	Oct	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1997</u>	1996 <sup>11</sup>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	1992	1992	1992
9	Excellent shape	6	7	8	5	5	4	6	5	4	4
43	Good shape	43	43	47	41	34	33	34	30	35	32
35	Only fair shape	41	38	34	40	45	46	40	47	45	45
11	OR poor shape	9	11	10	13	15	16	19	17	15	18
2	Don't know/Refused	_1	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	1	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.25 Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Other's aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on ingovernment and public affairs most of the time, some of the time, only now and then, or hardly at all?

	Most of	Some of	Only Now	Hardly	Don't know/
	The Time	the Time	and Then	at All	Refused
June, 2000	38	32	19	11	*=100
Late September, 1999	39	32	20	9	*=100
August, 1999	40	35	17	8	*=100
November, 1998	46	27	14	13	*=100
October, 1998 (RVs)	57	29	10	4	*=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	51	33	11	5	*=100
Early September, 1998	45	34	15	6	*=100
June, 1998	36	34	21	9	*=100
November, 1997	41	36	16	7	*=100
November, 1996 (RVs)	52	32	12	4	*=100
October, 1996 (RVs)	43	37	13	6	1=100
June, 1996	41	34	17	8	*=100
October, 1995	46	35	14	5	*=100
April, 1995	43	35	16	6	*=100
November, 1994	49	30	13	7	1=100
October, 1994	45	35	14	6	*=100
July, 1994	46	33	15	6	*=100
May, 1990	39	34	18	9	*=100
February, 1989	47	34	14	4	1=100
October, 1988	52	33	11	4	*=100
September, 1988	58	32	8	2	*=100
May, 1988	37	37	17	6	3=100
January, 1988	37	35	18	8	2=100
November, 1987	49	32	14	4	1=100
May, 1987	41	35	15	7	2=100
July, 1985	36	33	18	12	1=100
• •					

Q.26 These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

# IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN Q.26, ASK:

Q.27 Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

	Yes,	Absolutely	Chance	DK/	No, Not	
	Registered	Certain	Lapsed	Ref	Registered	DK/Ref.
June, 2000	79	75	4	*	21	*=100
Late September, 1999	74	69	5	*	24	2 = 100
Early September, 1998	77	74	3	*	22	1=100
Late August, 1998	78	75	3	*	22	*=100
June, 1998	78	73	4	1	22	*=100
November, 1997	80	75	4	1	20	*=100
September, 1997	79	76	3	*	20	1=100
November, 1996	76	69	2	*	24	*=100
June, 1996	79	75	4	0	21	*=100
October, 1995	76	73	3	*	23	1=100
April, 1995	76	74	2	0	23	1=100

#### **Q.26/Q.27 CONTINUED ...**

	Yes,	Absolutely	Chance	DK/	No, Not	DK/
	Registered	<b>Certain</b>	Lapsed	<u>Ref</u>	Registered	Ref.
December, 1994	74	70	3	1	24	2 = 100
November, 1994	73	70	2	1	26	1=100
Late October, 1994	77	74	3	0	22	1=100
Early October, 1994	76	72	4	*	23	1=100
July, 1994	79	75	4	0	20	1=100
May, 1993	82	-	-	-	17	1=100
June, 1992	76	73	3	0	23	1=100
November, 1990	80	-	-	-	20	0 = 100

# IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '2' NO OR '9' NOT SURE IN Q.26 OR '2' CHANCE OR '9' NOT SURE IN Q.27 ASK:

Q.28 Do you plan to register to vote, or is there a chance that you may not register?

# IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '2' NO OR '9' NOT SURE IN Q.26 OR '2' CHANCE OR '9' NOT SURE IN Q.27 ASK:

Q.29 Have you ever, at any time, been registered to vote, or haven't you ever had the chance to register?

			<u>June 1992</u>
25%	Not	registered	27%
	11	Never have been	11
	14	Have been in the past	16
	*	Not sure if ever	*
	13	Plan to register	17
	11	Chance may not	9
	1	Don't know/Refused	1

Q.30 Do you, yourself, plan to vote in the election this November?

#### IF YES IN Q.30, ASK:

Q.31 How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain, or not certain?

#### **BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]:**

	Yes, Plan	Absolutely	Fairly	Not	No, Don't	Can't Say/
	To Vote	<b>Certain</b>	<b>Certain</b>	<b>Certain</b>	Plan To	Don't know
June, 2000	95	84	10	1	2	3=100
Late October, 1998 <sup>12</sup> †	91	-	-	-	6	3=100
Early October, 1998†	92	-	-	-	4	4=100
Early September, 1998†	95	-	-	-	2	3=100
Late August, 1998†	93	75	17	1	3	4=100
June, 1998†	95	74	19	2	3	2=100
November, 1996	96	-	-	-	2	2=100
October, 1996	98	87	10	1	1	1=100
September, 1996	98	89	8	1	1	1=100
September, 1996	96	83	11	2	2	2 = 100

<sup>†</sup> Non-Presidential elections

In late October 1998, November 1996 and November 1994 the question was worded: "Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this Tuesday, or not?"

# Q.30/Q.31 CONTINUED ...

	Yes, Plan	Absolutely	Fairly	Not	No, Don't	Can't Say/
	To Vote	<u>Certain</u>	Certain	<b>Certain</b>	Plan To	Don't know
July, 1996	95	82	12	1	3	2=100
June, 1996	96	84	11	1	2	2=100
November, 1994†	71	-	-	-	26	3=100
October, 1994†	95	-	-	-	3	2=100
October, 1992	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
September, 1992	98	85	11	2	1	1=100
August, 1992	97	89	8	*	1	2 = 100
June, 1992	97	88	8	1	1	2=100
Gallup: November, 1988	97	87	9	1	2	1=100
Gallup: October, 1988	98	-	-	-	1	1=100

<sup>†</sup> Non-Presidential elections

# **ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,089]:**

Q.32 Regardless of who you support, which one of the presidential candidates — Al Gore or George W. Bush — do you think would do the best job of (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS).

(IF ANSWERS ANYONE OTHER THAN GORE OR BUSH, ASK: If you had to choose between Gore and Bush...)

			George		
		Al Gore	W. Bush	Neither	DK/Ref.
a.	Keeping the economy strong	39	38	6	17=100
	March, 2000	44	43	4	9=100
	march, 2000	• • •	15	·	, 100
b.	Keeping Social Security and Medicare financially sound	41	35	6	18=100
	March, 2000	47	36	5	12=100
	11.000 in 11.000	• •			12 100
c.	Improving the health care system	43	29	7	21=100
	March, 2000	49	33	5	13=100
	<b>,</b>				
d.	Dealing with taxes	34	38	8	20=100
	March, 2000	42	40	6	12=100
	<b>,</b>				
e.	Improving education	43	34	6	17=100
•	March, 2000	41	44	4	11=100
	11.000 in 11.000			•	11 100
f.	Representing your views on gun control	35	35	5	25=100
	March, 2000	41	37	5	17=100
	March, 2000		57	J	17 100
g.	Protecting and strengthening families	37	38	8	17=100
8.	March, 2000	43	37	6	14=100
	March, 2000	1.5	57	Ü	11 100
h.	Making wise decisions about the country's defense policy	33	43	6	18=100
11.	which were decisions about the country's defense poney	33	13	O	10-100
i.	Reducing partisan bickering and conflict in Washington	28	30	18	24=100
1.	Reducing partisan otekering and conflict in washington	20	30	10	24-100
j.	Representing your views on the death penalty	29	37	4	30=100
J.	Representing your views on the death penalty	2)	31	7	30=100
ITEM ONI V	ASKED JUNE 15-28 [N=918]:				
k.	Controlling the price of gasoline	26	29	18	27=100
ĸ.	March, 2000	25 25	41	14	20=100
	Iviaicii, 2000	23	41	14	20-100

#### **ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,085]:**

Q.33 Now a few more questions about the presidential campaign... As I read a list of phrases, tell me if you think each phrase better describes George W. Bush or Al Gore. (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS)

a.	Would use good judgement in a crisis	Al Gore 36	George W. Bush 41	Neither 6	Both Equally 6	DK/ <u>Ref.</u> 11=100
b.	Personally likeable	36	40	7	9	8=100
c.	A typical politician	36	34	1	21	8=100
d.	Can get things done	30	43	8	7	12=100
e.	Honest and truthful	30	33	20	7	10=100
f.	Has new ideas	31	36	13	8	12=100
g.	Personally qualified to be president	37	36	10	10	7=100
h.	Shares my values	35	38	12	5	10=100
i.	Connects well with ordinary Americans	38	39	7	7	9=100
j.	Willing to take a stand, even if it's unpopular	32	44	10	5	9=100

Q.34 Again thinking about the presidential campaign...

How would you describe the presidential election campaign so far — is it interesting to you, or would you say it is dull?

# IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '2' DULL IN Q.34, ASK:

Q.35 Why is the campaign not interesting to you? Is it because of — (READ RESPONSES; ROTATE ORDER)...

		July 1996
28	Interesting	21
65	Dull	73
	17 The quality of the candidates	20
	The way the candidates are campaigning, OR	25
	The way the press is covering the election.	16
	9 Something else ( <b>VOL.</b> )	10
	4 Don't know/Refused	2
4	Neither (VOL.)	3
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

#### **ROTATE ORDER OF Q.36 AND Q.37**

Q.36 What grade would you give Al Gore as to how good a job he is doing in convincing you to vote for him? Would you grade his election campaign: A, B, C, D, or F?

BASE	D ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]:	— Clinton —
		July 1996
9	A	9
26	В	28
31	C	30
13	D	12
16	F	18
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	3
100		100

Q.37 What grade would you give George W. Bush as to how good a job he is doing in convincing you to vote for him? Would you grade his election campaign: A, B, C, D, or F?

BASEI	O ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]:	— Dole —
		July 1996
10	A	3
30	В	19
29	C	36
13	D	19
13	F	20
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

Q.38 All in all, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the presidential campaign so far — excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		March	Feb	Sept	July	Feb	Sept	May	March	Feb
		<u>2000</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>	1992	<u>1992</u>	1992	1992
7	Excellent	10	13	13	7	16	12	10	12	11
41	Good	46	50	44	35	45	45	44	51	45
38	Only fair	32	25	29	42	25	27	33	28	32
10	Poor	9	7	11	14	10	11	10	6	7
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	3	2	4	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.39 Regardless of who you support, who do you think WILL be elected President in November — Al Gore, or George W. Bush?

		Oct 1999 <sup>13</sup>	July 199	<u>6</u>	
34	Al Gore	23	71	$\Rightarrow$	Clinton
51	George W. Bush	70	19	$\Rightarrow$	Dole
n/a	Other (VOL.)	1	2	$\Rightarrow$	Perot
<u>15</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	8		
100		100	100		

In October 1999 the wording was: "Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the coming presidential election if the candidates are Al Gore and George W. Bush?"

#### Q.40 Do you plan to watch the televised debates between the presidential candidates, or not?

		Oct 1992
69	Yes, plan to watch	83
27	No	11
4	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>
100		100

#### Q.41 Which would you prefer...(**READ**; **ROTATE ORDER**)

A campaign where the candidates talked about the issues and each other in TV ads and in one or two debates

OR

A campaign where the candidates talked about the issues and each other in weekly

debates, but ran NO TV ads

10 Don't know/Refused

100

#### On another subject...

#### Q.42 How often would you say you vote — always, nearly always, part of the time, or seldom?

		Nearly	Part of		(VOL.)		DK/
	Always	Always	The time	Seldom	Other	Never	Ref.
June, 2000	46	24	11	11	1	7	*=100
Late September, 1999	28	41	15	9	1	5	1=100
Early September, 1998	43	29	13	11	3	0	1=100
Late August, 1998	38	30	16	14	*	6	*=100
June, 1998	40	29	15	12	4	0	*=100
November, 1997	33	38	15	9	*	5	*=100
September, 1997	51	23	11	10	*	5	*=100
June, 1996	41	30	12	12	1	4	*=100
February, 1996	32	34	15	11	1	6	1=100
October, 1995	41	32	12	11	*	3.	1=100
April, 1995	42	29	12	11	*	6	*=100
November, 1994	43	24	11	13	1	8	*=100
October, 1994	43	28	13	10	5	1	*=100
July, 1994	40	30	14	11	*	5	*=100
June, 1992	47	26	10	11	1	5	*=100
May, 1992	41	32	13	11	*	3	*=100
November, 1991	38	37	13	9	0	3	*=100
May, 1990	33	35	12	10	1	8	1=100
February, 1989	45	30	10	8	1	6	*=100
January, 1988	39	33	12	8	1	6	1=100
May, 1987	34	37	11	6	2	9	1=100

#### IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED ANYTHING OTHER THAN "ALWAYS" IN Q.42, ASK [N=1,131]:

Q.43 I am going to read some reasons why some people have told us they don't always vote. For each statement, please tell me whether you completely agree with it, mostly agree with it, mostly disagree with it or completely disagree with it. The first one is... (**READ ITEMS; ROTATE**)

		Completely	Mostly	Mostly	Completely	DK/
		<u>Agree</u>	Agree	Disagree	Disagree	Ref.
a.	I sometimes feel I don't know enough					
	about the candidates to vote	23	41	21	12	3=100
	June, 1992	21	42	22	14	1=100
c.	It's complicated to register to vote where I live	5	8	26	57	4=100
	June, 1992	4	8	29	56	3=100
d.	It's difficult for me to get out to the polls to vote	e 10	16	28	44	2=100
u.	June, 1992	8	17	29	44	2=100
e.	I sometimes don't like any of the candidates	32	40	15	10	3=100
C.	June, 1992	24	41	22	12	1=100
f.	I don't want to involve myself with politics	16	20	28	34	2 = 100
	June, 1992	7	17	28	46	2=100
g.	I can make more of a difference by getting involved in my community than by voting					
	in elections	19	28	26	23	4=100

Q.44 Some people feel that what this country needs is some really strong leadership that would try to solve problems directly without worrying how Congress and the Supreme Court might feel. Others think that such strong leadership might be dangerous. What do you think?

		June	Newsweek
		<u>1992</u>	<u>1976</u>
63	Need Strong leadership	63	49
27	Strong leadership might be dangerous	27	44
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

Q.45 Suppose there was a place on the ballot where you could refuse to vote for any of the candidates—a vote of no confidence in all of the candidates running for office? How likely is it that you would vote that way? (**READ LIST**)

		June	Newsweek
		<u>1992</u>	<u> 1976</u>
19	Very likely	24	21
27	Possibly likely	30	32
51	Not at all likely	43	41
3	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100

Q.46 In your opinion, does it really make much difference who is elected President?

		June 1	Vewsweek
		<u>1992</u>	<u> 1976</u>
69	Yes	80	80
30	No	18	18
1	Don't know	2	2
100		100	100

#### **ASK FORM 1 [N=1,089]:**

0.47 Looking ahead to the next presidential election, would you like to see a president who offers policies and programs similar to those of the Clinton administration, OR would you like to see a president who offers different policies and programs?

		Feb	Aug	June	Feb
		2000	1999	1999	1999
40	Policies and programs similar to Clinton Administration	41	43	43	54
52	Different policies and programs	51	50	50	41
8	Don't know/Refused	8	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100

### **ASK FORM 2 [N=1,085]:**

- Q.48 Which is more important for the next president to do — (**READ**; **ROTATE ORDER**)? (IF ANSWERS "BOTH," PROBE ONCE WITH: Well, which would you say is MORE important? IF STILL SAYS "BOTH," CODE AS "BOTH.")
  - 41 Continue policies that are now leading to improved conditions around the country
  - 47 Make major changes in national policy to solve problems that are now not getting better
  - 7 Both (VOLUNTEERED AFTER PROBE)
  - <u>5</u> 100 Don't know/Refused

#### **ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,089]:**

Q.49 I am going to read some things news organizations can do to cover a presidential election campaign. For each, tell me if it is something you would like to see MORE of, or like to see LESS of in coverage of the 2000 campaign. Thinking of...(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS) — would you like to see more coverage of this or less coverage of this than in previous presidential elections?

		More	Less	Same	Don't know/
		Coverage	Coverage	<b>Amount</b>	Refused
a.	The candidates debating each other	64	28	5	3=100
	October, 1991	58	28	9	5=100
c.	The candidates discussing their personal				
	backgrounds and experiences	42	50	4	4=100
	October, 1991	46	41	8	5=100
d.	The candidates discussing their positions on issue	es 85	9	3	3=100
	October, 1991	80	11	5	4=100

Q.49 CONTIN	IUED	More	Less	Same	Don't know/
f.	Which candidate is leading in the latest polls	Coverage 44	Coverage 42	Amount 6	<u>Refused</u> 8=100
g.	The strategies the candidates are using	41	47	5	7=100
h.	The sources of candidates' campaign money	49	44	2	5=100

# **ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,085]:**

Q.50 Thinking about the presidential candidates and what you will learn about them over the next year, please rate the importance of each of the following things. How important is it for YOU to learn about (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS) — very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

		Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	(VOL.)
	·	<b>Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	DK/Ref
a.	How well a candidate connects					
	with average people	67	24	4	3	2 = 100
	October, 1999	71	23	5	1	*=100
d.	A candidate's personal finances	14	23	26	36	1=100
	October, 1999	13	25	31	30	1=100
e.	A candidate's voting record or policy positions in public offices he or she					
	previously held	60	27	6	5	2 = 100
	October, 1999	58	31	7	3	1=100
f.	A candidate's spouse	21	27	23	28	1=100
g.	A candidate's reputation for honesty	84	11	2	2	1=100
	October, 1999	82	13	3	1	1=100
h.	A candidate's major campaign contributo	rs 42	29	13	13	3=100
	October, 1999	37	38	14	10	1=100
i.	A candidate's experiences growing up	25	33	22	18	2=100
	October, 1999	20	37	29	14	*=100

Q.51	Here are some things that have been in the news recently. Not everyone will have heard about them. Do you happen to know which candidate has proposed allowing workers to invest some of their Social Security contributions in stocks and bonds? ( <b>IF YES, ASK:</b> Which candidate is that?)
	29 Bush (correct answer) 9 Gore 1 Other 61 Don't know/Refused
Q.52	Do you happen to know which candidate's wife has spoken out about the need to help Americans with mental illnesses? ( <b>IF YES, ASK:</b> Which candidate's wife is that?)
	6 Bush/Bush's wife/Laura Bush 40 Gore/Gore's wife/Tipper Gore (correct answer) 2 Other 52 Don't know/Refused
Q.53	Do you happen to know which candidate has proposed a missile defense system and to reduce the number of U.S. nuclear warheads, even if Russia refuses to do the same? (IF YES, ASK: Which candidate is that?)
	18 Bush (correct answer) 20 Gore 2 Other 60 Don't know/Refused
Q.54	Do you happen to know which candidate has proposed using surplus Medicare funds to protect the program's future? ( <b>IF YES, ASK:</b> Which candidate is that?)
	14 Bush 27 Gore (correct answer) 1 Other 58 Don't know/Refused

Q.55 In the last year or so, have you done any volunteer work for any church, charity, or community group?

		<u>June 1997</u>
52	Yes	58
47	No	42
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	*
100		100

#### IF RESPONDENT SAID '1' YES IN Q.55, ASK [N=1,210]:

Q.56 Was that a one-time thing, or do you do volunteer work on an occasional basis, or on a regular basis? (**IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION, ASK:** The volunteer work you did in the last year or so for any church, charity, or community group.)

		June 1997
6	One-time thing	10
43	Occasional basis	44
51	Regular basis	46
*	Don't know/Refused	*
100		100

Q.57 In general, would you describe your political views as... (**READ**)

			Early					
		Oct	Sept	May	June	June	April	July
		<u> 1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u> 1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u> 1994</u>
7	Very conservative	7	8	7	7	7	7	7
29	Conservative	26	30	30	30	32	31	32
39	Moderate	41	38	37	40	38	39	39
15	Liberal, OR	16	15	15	14	14	14	15
5	Very liberal?	6	6	6	5	6	5	4
<u>5</u>	DK/Refused( <b>DON'T READ</b> )	<u>4</u>	3	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.58 Some people say they are basically content with the federal government, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?

		Feb	Oct
		2000	<u> 1997</u>
28	Basically content	33	29
53	Frustrated	54	56
13	Angry	10	12
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100

Q.59 Now I am going to read you a series of statements that will help us understand how you feel about a number of things. For each statement, please tell me whether you completely agree with it, mostly disagree with it or completely disagree with it.

# [DO NOT ROTATE ITEMS]

		Completely	•	Mostly Disagree	Completely <u>Disagree</u>	Don't Know
0	I feel it's my duty as a citizen to always yets	Agree 63	Agree 26	6	4	1=100
c.	I feel it's my duty as a citizen to always vote September, 1999	64	27	5	3	1=100 $1=100$
	November, 1997	63	26	7	4	*=100
	July, 1994	66	27	4	3	*=100
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	66	28	4		
	May, 1993				1	1=100
	June, 1992	69 72	22	6	2	1=100
	Nov, 1991	72 50	21	4	2	1=100
	May, 1990	50	35	9	4	2=100
	February, 1989	64	26	6	2	2=100
	May, 1988	56	32	7	2	3=100
	May, 1987	46	39	9	3	3=100
e.	I'm generally bored by what goes on in Washin		34	29	15	3=100
	September, 1999	19	39	28	12	2=100
	November, 1997	14	37	34	14	1=100
	July, 1994	17	34	33	15	1=100
	June, 1992	20	35	31	13	1=100
	Nov, 1991	16	36	30	16	2 = 100
	May, 1990	12	36	38	12	2 = 100
	February, 1989	10	37	37	13	3=100
	May, 1988	11	37	38	12	2 = 100
	May, 1987	8	34	41	13	4=100
f.	I'm pretty interested in following local politics	24	42	21	11	2=100
	September, 1999	18	48	26	6	2 = 100
	November, 1997	20	48	25	6	1 = 100
	July, 1994	24	52	18	5	1=100
	June, 1992	26	47	21	5	1 = 100
	Nov, 1991	29	48	16	5	2 = 100
	May, 1990	17	53	23	6	1=100
	February, 1989	24	49	21	5	1=100
	May, 1988	21	51	22	5	1=100
	May, 1987	16	54	22	4	4=100
g.	Most issues discussed in Washington					
	don't affect me personally	11	19	36	31	3=100
	September, 1999	8	30	42	18	2 = 100
	November, 1997	8	27	45	19	1=100
	July, 1994	5	25	42	27	1=100
	June, 1992	7	26	43	22	2=100
	Nov, 1991	8	25	41	23	3=100
	May, 1990	7	28	46	16	3=100
	February, 1989	7	26	44	20	3=100
	May, 1988	7	29	45	17	2=100
	May, 1987	5	26	50	15	4=100
	·· <b>/</b> / · · · ·	-	~		-	

# Q.59 CONTINUED...

		Completely	Mostly	Mostly	Completely	Don't
		<u>Agree</u>	Agree	<b>Disagree</b>	<u>Disagree</u>	<b>Know</b>
h.	I feel guilty when I don't get a chance to vote	38	23	15	18	6=100
	September, 1999	36	32	20	9	3=100
	November, 1997	36	32	17	12	3=100
	July, 1994	38	32	18	9	3=100
	June, 1992	39	30	16	9	6=100
	Nov, 1991	46	28	14	8	4=100
	May, 1990	30	37	22	8	3=100
	February, 1989	38	34	17	7	4=100
	May, 1988	32	37	18	8	5=100
	May, 1987	25	41	22	6	6=100
i.	Sometimes I vote for a candidate without really	,				
	knowing enough about him or her	18	29	22	27	4=100
	September, 1999	12	42	26	17	3=100
	November, 1997	14	38	26	20	2 = 100
	July, 1994	14	38	27	20	1=100
	June, 1992	14	38	25	20	3=100
	Nov, 1991	18	36	22	22	2 = 100
	May, 1990	12	41	27	15	5=100
	February, 1989	15	41	24	17	3=100
	May, 1988	12	44	24	15	15=100
	May, 1987	9	44	28	13	6=100

Q.60 There are many ways for people to vote, and some prefer one way over another. If you had the choice of voting in a booth at a polling place on election day, OR over the Internet, OR through the mail during the weeks leading up to election day, which would you prefer?

		March	Feb
		<u>2000</u>	1996 <sup>14</sup>
50	Voting in booth	52	54
24	Voting over Internet	26	n/a
23	Voting by mail	20	43
1	None (VOL)	1	2
2	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

In February 1996 the question was worded "There are different ways for people to vote, and some prefer one way over another. If you had the choice of voting in a booth at a polling place on election day OR voting through the mail during the weeks leading up to election day, which would you prefer?"

Q.61 Some people say we should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans. Do you agree or disagree?

			Early						ABC/Washin	agton Post <sup>15</sup>
		Aug	Sept	Aug	July	Oct	April	July	Jan	Sept
		<u> 1999</u>	1998	1997	1996	<u> 1995</u>	<u> 1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1982</u>
52	Agree	54	46	47	58	59	57	53	41	44
42	Disagree	40	47	46	37	37	38	43	48	44
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	4	<u>5</u>	4	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.62 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home, or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

	Yes	No	DK/Refused
June, 2000	68	31	1=100
April, 2000	68	32	*=100
March, 2000 <sup>16</sup>	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

In January 1984, the *ABC/Washington Post* trend was worded: "Can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with the following statement, of if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statement: We should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans."

In September 1982, the *ABC/Washington Post* trend was worded: "I'm going to read a few statements. For each, can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with it, or if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statements... We

should have a third party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans."

<sup>16</sup> In March 2000, "or anywhere else" was added to the question wording.

#### IF USE A COMPUTER, ASK:

Q.63 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web, or to send and receive email?

#### **BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:**

	Goes Online	Doesn't Go Online	DK/Refused
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 <sup>17</sup>	14	86	*=100

<sup>17</sup> The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions:

<sup>(1)</sup> 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?)

<sup>(2)</sup> 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?