# PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS JUNE 2000 VOTER ATTITUDES SURVEY - 21ST CENTURY VOTER <br> - FINAL TOPLINE - <br> June 14-28, 2000 <br> $\mathrm{N}=\mathbf{2 , 1 7 4}$ 

## 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]

|  | Approve | Disapprove | 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 ...



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]
a. News about candidates for the 2000 presidential election

April, 2000
Early April, 2000
March, 2000
February, 2000
January, 2000
December, 1999
October, 1999
September, 1999
July, 1999
June, 1999
July, 1996
July, 1992
Very Fairly Not too Not at all (VOL.) closely closely closely closely DK/Ref.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 23 | 32 | 23 | 21 | $1=100$ |
| 18 | 33 | 26 | 23 | $*=100$ |
| 18 | 39 | 22 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| 26 | 41 | 19 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| 26 | 36 | 21 | 17 | $*=100$ |
| 19 | 34 | 28 | 18 | $1=100$ |
| 16 | 36 | 24 | 23 | $1=100$ |
| 17 | 32 | 28 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| 15 | 31 | 33 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| 15 | 38 | 24 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| 11 | 25 | 29 | 34 | $1=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | 40 | 23 | 14 | $1=100$ |
| 20 | 45 | 26 | 9 | $*=100$ |
| 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

May, $2000^{1}$

| 28 | 37 | 17 | 17 | $1=100$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 16 | 33 | 26 | 25 | $*=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 61 | 25 | 9 | 5 | $*=100$ |
| 58 | 28 | 10 | 4 | $*=100$ |
| 62 | 26 | 8 | 4 | $*=100$ |
| 56 | 28 | 11 | 5 | $*=100$ |
| 57 | 27 | 10 | 5 | $1=100$ |

d. The recent summit in Moscow between President

| Clinton and Russian President Putin | 9 | 20 | 28 | 42 | $1=100$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| April, $1997^{2}$ | 6 | 20 | 33 | 40 | $1=100$ |

e. Reports that computer files containing nuclear secrets are missing from Los Alamos national laboratory
$25 \quad 27 \quad 19 \quad 28 \quad 1=100$

[^0]Q. 4 How much thought have you given to the coming Presidential election - quite a lot or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathbf{N}=1,673$ ]:
Late Early ------- Gallup -------
May Nov Oct Sept Sept July June Oct Sept Aug June Nov Oct Aug Sept $\underline{2000} \underline{1996} \frac{1996}{1996} \frac{1996}{66} \underline{1996} \underline{1996} \frac{1992}{5} \underline{1992} \underline{1992} \underline{1992} \frac{1988}{73} \underline{1988} \frac{1988}{61} \underline{1988}$

| 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 |
| $\stackrel{*}{*}$ | DK/Refused | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | * | 1 | $\underline{0}$ | 0 | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{0}$ |
| 10 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 00 | 100 | 00 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0 |  |

Q. 5 Are you more interested or less interested in politics this year than you were in 1996 - the last presidential election year? ${ }^{3}$

|  |  | July | June | June | March |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1996 | $\underline{1996}$ | 1992 | 1992 |
| 38 | More | 42 | 41 | 55 | 57 |
| 38 | Less | 38 | 35 | 24 | 27 |
| 22 | Same (VOL.) | 19 | 22 | 19 | 14 |
| $\underline{2}$ | Don't know/Refused | 1 | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

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? ${ }^{4}$

|  |  | Feb | Jan | Sept | April | Feb | Sept | Jun | May | March | Feb |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{2000}$ | 1996 | 1996 | 1996 | 1992 | 1992 | 1992 | 1992 | 1992 |
| 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.

4
In 1996 the "Internet" category was worded "computer on-line sources."

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

Q. 7 Do you get most of your news about the presidential campaign from network TV news, from local TV news, or from cable news networks such as CNN and MSNBC? ${ }^{5}$ (ACCEPT TWO
ANSWERS; DO NOT PROBE)
QUESTION ASKED JUNE 19-28, 2000 [N=797]:

|  | Feb | Jan | Sept | April |  |
| :---: | :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17 | Network | $\frac{2000}{20}$ | $\frac{2000}{24}$ | $\frac{1996}{29}$ | $\frac{1996}{39}$ |
| 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 |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | 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:
Q.9a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat; Bush, the Republican; Buchanan, of the Reform Party; or Nader, of the Green Party?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

| June | June |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 23-30 | 14-21 |  |
| 35 | 42 | Gore/Lean Gore |
| 42 | 41 | Bush/Lean Bush |
| 2 | 3 | Buchanan/Lean Buchanan |
| 2 | 4 | Nader/Lean Nader |
| 19 | 10 | Undecided/Other/DK |
| $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & (\mathrm{~N}=463) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & (\mathrm{~N}=1, \mathbf{5 0 9}) \end{aligned}$ |  |

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 [ $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 9 5 8}]$
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 [ $\mathrm{N}=1,509$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Early |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| June |  | May | March | Feb | Dec | Oct | Sept |  |  | March | Jan | Sept |
| 14-21 |  | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 1999 | $1999{ }^{6}$ | 1999 | 1999 | 1999 | 1999 ${ }^{7}$ | 1999 | 1998 |
| 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 |  | - |  | - | - | - | - | - |
|  | * Don't Know | - | - | * | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| $\underline{9}$ | Undecided/Other/DK | $\underline{9}$ | 8 | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{5}$ | 7 | 7 | $\underline{6}$ | 5 | 5 | $\underline{6}$ | 7 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |


|  | June 1996 | June 1992 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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 | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{14}$ |  |
|  | 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:


October 1999 results taken from the Typology re-interview survey.
7 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  <br> $\frac{14-21}{}$  <br> 15 Chance might vote for him | - Dole - <br> 33 | Decided not to vote for him |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |

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 | Leadership | Experience | Stand on issues | Don't know |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Al Gore (6/14-21) | 7 | 13 | 29 | 42 | 9=100 | ( $\mathrm{N}=677$ ) |
| May, 2000 | 10 | 13 | 30 | 40 | $7=100$ |  |
| March, 2000 | 10 | 14 | 28 | 40 | $8=100$ |  |
| October, 1999 ${ }^{8}$ | 8 | 11 | 32 | 43 | $6=100$ |  |
| George W. Bush (6/14-21) | ) 10 | 19 | 11 | 50 | $10=100$ | ( $\mathrm{N}=706$ ) |
| May, 2000 | 12 | 22 | 8 | 51 | $7=100$ |  |
| March, 2000 | 14 | 24 | 10 | 42 | $10=100$ |  |
| October, 1999 ${ }^{8}$ | 13 | 25 | 11 | 42 | $9=100$ |  |

Q. 14 What do you like LEAST about (INSERT NAME NOT 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 Experience Stand on Issues Don't know |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Al Gore (6/14-21) | 17 | 19 | 6 | 43 | 15=100 | $(\mathrm{N}=706)$ |
| May, 2000 | 22 | 22 | 6 | 41 | $9=100$ |  |
| March, 2000 | 22 | 20 | 5 | 43 | $10=100$ |  |
| October, 1999 ${ }^{8}$ | 24 | 22 | 5 | 39 | $10=100$ |  |
| George W. Bush (6/14-21) | 26 | 13 | 10 | 34 | $17=100$ | ( $\mathrm{N}=677$ ) |
| May, 2000 | 25 | 13 | 13 | 35 | $14=100$ |  |
| March, 2000 | 33 | 8 | 13 | 35 | $11=100$ |  |
| October, 1999 ${ }^{8}$ | 19 | 11 | 13 | 41 | $16=100$ |  |

## 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 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{2000}{25}$ | $\frac{1999}{28}$ | $\frac{1999}{18}$ | $\frac{1996}{29}$ | $\frac{1995}{18}$ | $\frac{1992}{22}$ | $\frac{1992}{19}$ | $\frac{1991}{12}$ | $\frac{1988}{24}$ | $\frac{1987}{21}$ |
| 19 | Too much | Too little | 10 | 10 | 14 | 13 | 10 | 18 | 11 | 15 | 22 | 7 |
| 16 | Right amount | 61 | 63 | 49 | 59 | 58 | 60 | 62 | 62 | 58 | 62 | 58 |
| 60 | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
| $\underline{5}$ | 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 [ $\mathbf{N}=1,958$ ]:

|  |  | July | Sep | Oct | Oct |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{1999}{9}$ | $\frac{1996}{}$ | $\frac{1995}{19}$ | $\frac{1991}{}$ |
| 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?

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?

| Total | RVs |  | - July 1999 - |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | RVs |
| 49 | 51 | Different | 43 | 47 |
| 33 | 33 | Similar | 25 | 24 |
| 18 | 16 | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{32}$ | $\underline{29}$ |
| 100 | $(\mathrm{N}=1,673)$ |  | 100 | 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 0 8 9 ] :}$

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?

21 Who we elect as president is not as important these days compared to the 1970s and 1980s
74 Who we elect as president these days is just as important as then
5 Don’t know/Refused
100

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=1,085$ ]:

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?

|  |  | Opinion Research Corporation |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 45 | Really matters who wins the 2000 presidential election | $\underline{\text { Aug } 1976}^{10}$ |
| 49 | Things will pretty much be the same regardless of who is elected president | 45 |
| $\frac{6}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{9}$ |

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=1,089$ ]:

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 |
| $\frac{7}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=1,085$ ]:

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 |
| $\frac{8}{100}$ | Don’t know/Refused |

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 <br> Sept | May | Feb | Sept | May | Jan | Jan |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{1998}{18}$ | $\frac{1990}{18}$ | $\frac{1989}{25}$ | $\frac{1988}{24}$ | $\frac{1988}{24}$ | $\frac{1988}{22}$ | $\frac{1984}{35}$ |
| 15 | Better | 17 | 31 | 22 | 16 | 20 | 26 | 13 |
| 24 | Worse | 61 | 45 | 49 | 51 | 46 | 45 | 49 |
| 55 | Same | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\frac{7}{10}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| $\frac{6}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |  | 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?

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug } \\ \underline{1999} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1997 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sept } \\ \underline{1996}^{11} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } \\ 1994 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Dec } \\ 1993 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | - U.S. News \& World Report - |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Jan |  |  |  |  | Oct | Aug | May | Jan |
|  |  | 1993 |  |  |  |  | 1992 | 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 |
| $\underline{2}$ | Don't know/Refused | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 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?
$\left.\begin{array}{lccccc} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Most of } \\ \text { The Time }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Some of } \\ \text { the Time }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Only Now } \\ \text { and Then }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Hardly } \\ \text { at All }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Don't know/ } \\ \text { Refused }\end{array} \\ \text { June, 2000 } & 38 & \frac{32}{*=100} \\ \text { Late September, 1999 } & 39 & 32 & 19 & 20 & 9\end{array}\right)$
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?

June, 2000
Late September, 1999
Early September, 1998
Late August, 1998
June, 1998
November, 1997
September, 1997
November, 1996
June, 1996
October, 1995
April, 1995

| Yes, <br> Registered | Absolutely <br> Certain | Chance <br> Lapsed | DK/ <br> Ref | No, Not <br> Registered | DK/Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 75 | $\frac{4}{*}$ |  | $\frac{21}{*}$ |  |
| 74 | 69 | 5 | $*$ | 24 | $2=100$ |
| 77 | 74 | 3 | $*$ | 22 | $1=100$ |
| 78 | 75 | 3 | $*$ | 22 | $*=100$ |
| 78 | 73 | 4 | 1 | 22 | $*=100$ |
| 80 | 75 | 4 | 1 | 20 | $*=100$ |
| 79 | 76 | 3 | $*$ | 20 | $1=100$ |
| 76 | 69 | 2 | $*$ | 24 | $*=100$ |
| 79 | 75 | 4 | 0 | 21 | $*=100$ |
| 76 | 73 | 3 | $*$ | 23 | $1=100$ |
| 76 | 74 | 2 | 0 | 23 | $1=100$ |

Q.26/Q. 27 CONTINUED ...

December, 1994
November, 1994
Late October, 1994
Early October, 1994
July, 1994
May, 1993
June, 1992
November, 1990

| Yes, <br> Registered | Absolutely Certain | Chance <br> Lapsed | DK/ <br> Ref | No, Not Registered | DK/ <br> Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 74 | 70 | 3 | 1 | 24 | $2=100$ |
| 73 | 70 | 2 | 1 | 26 | $1=100$ |
| 77 | 74 | 3 | 0 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| 76 | 72 | 4 | * | 23 | $1=100$ |
| 79 | 75 | 4 | 0 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| 82 | - | - | - | 17 | $1=100$ |
| 76 | 73 | 3 | 0 | 23 | $1=100$ |
| 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?

|  |  | June 1992 |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: |
|  | 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 [ $\mathbf{N}=1,673$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes, Plan | Absolutely | Fairly | Not | No, Don't | Can't Say/ |
|  | To Vote | Certain | Certain | Certain | Plan To | Don't know |
| June, 2000 | 95 | 84 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3=100 |
| Late October, $1998{ }^{12} \dagger$ | 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 | $2=100$ |

12 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 ...

July, 1996
June, 1996
November, 1994 $\dagger$
October, 1994 $\dagger$
October, 1992
September, 1992
August, 1992
June, 1992
Gallup: November, 1988
Gallup: October, 1988

| Yes, Plan | Absolutely | Fairly | Not | No, Don't | Can't Say/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| To Vote | Certain | Certain | Certain | Plan To | Don't know |
| 95 | 82 | 12 | 1 | 3 | $2=100$ |
| 96 | 84 | 11 | 1 | 2 | $2=100$ |
| 71 | - | - | - | 26 | $3=100$ |
| 95 | - | - | - | 3 | $2=100$ |
| 98 | 91 | 6 | 1 | 1 | $1=100$ |
| 98 | 85 | 11 | 2 | 1 | $1=100$ |
| 97 | 89 | 8 | * | 1 | $2=100$ |
| 97 | 88 | 8 | 1 | 1 | $2=100$ |
| 97 | 87 | 9 | 1 | 2 | $1=100$ |
| 98 | - | - | - | 1 | $1=100$ |

$\dagger$ Non-Presidential elections

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 0 8 9}$ ]:

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

$$
\text { March, } 2000
$$

b. Keeping Social Security and Medicare financially sound March, 2000
c. Improving the health care system

March, 2000
d. Dealing with taxes

March, 2000
e. Improving education

March, 2000
f. Representing your views on gun control

March, 2000
g. Protecting and strengthening families

March, 2000
h. Making wise decisions about the country's defense policy

33
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { i. Reducing partisan bickering and conflict in Washington } & 28 & 30 & 18 & 24=100\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { j. Representing your views on the death penalty } & 29 & 37 & 4 & 30=100\end{array}$

| 39 | 38 |  | 6 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $17=100$ |  |  |
| 44 | 43 | 4 | $9=100$ |  |

$41 \quad 35 \quad 6 \quad 18=100$
$47 \quad 36 \quad 5 \quad 12=100$
$43 \quad 29 \quad 7 \quad 21=100$
$49 \quad 33 \quad 5 \quad 13=100$
$34 \quad 38 \quad 8 \quad 20=100$
$42 \quad 40 \quad 6 \quad 12=100$
$43 \quad 34 \quad 6 \quad 17=100$
$41 \quad 44 \quad 4 \quad 11=100$
$3535 \quad 5 \quad 25=100$
$41 \quad 37 \quad 5 \quad 17=100$
$37 \quad 38 \quad 8 \quad 17=100$
$43 \quad 37 \quad 6 \quad 14=100$

## ITEM ONLY ASKED JUNE 15-28 [N=918]:

k. Controlling the price of gasoline

| 26 | 29 | 18 | $27=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 25 | 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)

|  |  | Al <br> Gore | George <br> W. Bush | Neither | Both <br> Equally | DK/ <br> Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Would use good judgement in a crisis | 36 | 41 | 6 | 6 | $11=100$ |
| 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)...

| $\begin{aligned} & 28 \\ & 65 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | July 1996 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Interesting |  | 21 |
|  | Dull |  | 73 |
|  | 17 | The quality of the candidates | 20 |
|  | 18 | The way the candidates are campaigning, OR | 25 |
|  | 17 | The way the press is covering the election. | 16 |
|  | 9 | Something else (VOL.) | 10 |
|  | 4 | Don't know/Refused | 2 |
| 4 | Neither (VOL.) |  | 3 |
| $\underline{3}$ | Don't know/Refused |  | $\underline{3}$ |
| 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?

| BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]: | - Clinton - <br> July 1996 <br> 9 | A |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 26 | B | 9 |
| 31 | C | 28 |
| 13 | D | 30 |
| 16 | F | 12 |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 18 |
|  |  | $\underline{3}$ |
| 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?

| BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,673]: | - Dole - <br> July 1996 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 10 | A | 3 |
| 30 | B | 19 |
| 29 | C | 36 |
| 13 | D | 19 |
| 13 | F | 20 |
| $\underline{5}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{3}$ |
| 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 |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{2000}{13}$ | $\frac{1996}{13}$ | $\frac{1996}{7}$ | $\frac{1996}{16}$ | $\frac{1992}{12}$ | $\frac{1992}{10}$ | $\frac{1992}{12}$ | $\frac{1992}{11}$ |
| 7 | Excellent | 46 | 50 | 44 | 35 | 45 | 45 | 44 | 51 | 45 |
| 41 | Good | 32 | 25 | 29 | 42 | 25 | 27 | 33 | 28 | 32 |
| 38 | Only fair | 9 | 7 | 11 | 14 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | Poor | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
| $\underline{4}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{100}$ | $\underline{100}$ | 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?

|  | $\underline{\text { Oct 1999 }}^{13}$ | $\underline{\text { July } 1996}$ |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 34 | Al Gore | 23 | 71 | $\Rightarrow$ | Clinton |
| 51 | George W. Bush | 70 | 19 | $\Rightarrow$ | Dole |
| n/a | Other (VOL.) | 1 | 2 | $\Rightarrow$ | Perot |
| $\frac{15}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{8}$ |  |  |

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 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{6}$ |

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 36 one or two debates OR
A campaign where the candidates talked about the issues and each other in weekly
54 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. |
| 46 | 24 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 7 | *=100 |
| 28 | 41 | 15 | 9 | 1 | 5 | $1=100$ |
| 43 | 29 | 13 | 11 | 3 | 0 | $1=100$ |
| 38 | 30 | 16 | 14 | * | 6 | *=100 |
| 40 | 29 | 15 | 12 | 4 | 0 | *=100 |
| 33 | 38 | 15 | 9 | * | 5 | *=100 |
| 51 | 23 | 11 | 10 | * | 5 | *=100 |
| 41 | 30 | 12 | 12 | 1 | 4 | * $=100$ |
| 32 | 34 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 6 | $1=100$ |
| 41 | 32 | 12 | 11 | * | 3. | $1=100$ |
| 42 | 29 | 12 | 11 | * | 6 | *=100 |
| 43 | 24 | 11 | 13 | 1 | 8 | *=100 |
| 43 | 28 | 13 | 10 | 5 | 1 | *=100 |
| 40 | 30 | 14 | 11 | * | 5 | *=100 |
| 47 | 26 | 10 | 11 | 1 | 5 | *=100 |
| 41 | 32 | 13 | 11 | * | 3 | *=100 |
| 38 | 37 | 13 | 9 | 0 | 3 | *=100 |
| 33 | 35 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 8 | $1=100$ |
| 45 | 30 | 10 | 8 | 1 | 6 | * $=100$ |
| 39 | 33 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 6 | $1=100$ |
| 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 <br> Agree | Mostly Agree | Mostly <br> Disagree | Completely Disagree | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DK/ } \\ & \text { Ref. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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 | - 10 | 16 | 28 | 44 | $2=100$ |
|  | June, 1992 | 8 | 17 | 29 | 44 | $2=100$ |
| e. | I sometimes don't like any of the candidates | 32 | 40 | 15 | 10 | $3=100$ |
|  | 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 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{1992}{63}$ | $\frac{1976}{49}$ |
| 63 | Need Strong leadership | 27 | 44 |
| 27 | Strong leadership might be dangerous | $\underline{10}$ | $\frac{7}{10}$ |
| $\frac{10}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 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 |  |  |  |
| 19 | Very likely | $\frac{1992}{24}$ | $\frac{1976}{21}$ |
| 27 | Possibly likely | 30 | 32 |
| 51 | Not at all likely | 43 | 41 |
| $\underline{3}$ | (DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{6}$ |
| $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ |  | 100 | $\underline{100}$ |

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

|  |  | June |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | Newsweek

## ASK FORM 1 [ $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 0 8 9 ] :}$

Q. 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 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{2000}{4}$ | $\frac{1999}{43}$ | $\frac{1999}{43}$ | $\frac{1999}{54}$ |
| 40 | Policies and programs similar to Clinton Administration | 41 | 51 | 50 | 50 |
| 52 | Different policies and programs | $\underline{8}$ | $\frac{7}{41}$ | $\frac{7}{4}$ | $\frac{5}{10}$ |
| $\frac{8}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

## ASK FORM 2 [ $\mathbf{N}=1,085]$ :

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)
5 Don't know/Refused 100

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=1,089$ ]:

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 Coverage | Less <br> Coverage | Same <br> Amount | Don't know/ 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 issues | s 85 | 9 | 3 | $3=100$ |
|  | October, 1991 | 80 | 11 | 5 | $4=100$ |

## Q. 49 CONTINUED ...

f. Which candidate is leading in the latest polls

| More <br> Coverage | Less <br> Coverage | Same | Amount know/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{42}{44}$ | $\frac{\text { Refused }}{6}$ | $\frac{8}{8=100}$ |  |
| 41 | 47 | 5 | $7=100$ |
| 49 | 44 | 2 | $5=100$ |

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N}=1,085$ ]:

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.)
$\underline{\text { Important }} \underline{\underline{\text { Important }}} \underline{\underline{\text { Important }}} \underline{\underline{\text { Important }}} \underline{\underline{\text { DK/Ref }}}$
a. How well a candidate connects with average people 6

| 67 | 24 | 4 | 3 | $2=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 71 | 23 | 5 | 1 | $*=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | 23 | 26 | 36 | $1=100$ |
| 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 | $2=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 58 | 31 | 7 | 3 | $1=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | 27 | 23 | 28 | $1=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 84 | 11 | 2 | 2 | $1=100$ |
| 82 | 13 | 3 | 1 | $1=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 42 | 29 | 13 | 13 | $3=100$ |
| 37 | 38 | 14 | 10 | $1=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | 33 | 22 | 18 | $2=100$ |
| 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? (IF YES, ASK: Which candidate is that?)

| 29 | Bush (correct answer) |
| :---: | :--- |
| 9 | Gore |
| 1 | Other |
| $\frac{61}{100}$ | 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? (IF YES, ASK: 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 100
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 |
| $\frac{60}{100}$ | 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? (IF YES, ASK: Which candidate is that?)

| 14 | Bush |
| :---: | :--- |
| 27 | Gore (correct answer) |
| 1 | Other |
| $\frac{58}{100}$ | 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?

|  |  | $\frac{\text { June } 1997}{58}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 47 | Yes | 42 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | No |  |

## IF RESPONDENT SAID '1' YES IN Q.55, ASK [ $\mathbf{N}=1,210$ ]:

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 |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\frac{*}{100}$ |

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

|  |  | Early |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Oct | Sept | May | June | June | April | July |
|  |  | $\underline{1999}$ | $\frac{1998}{7}$ | $\frac{1998}{7}$ | $\frac{1997}{7}$ | $\frac{1996}{7}$ | $\frac{1996}{7}$ | $\frac{1994}{7}$ |
| 7 | Very conservative | 26 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 32 | 31 | 32 |
| 29 | Conservative | 41 | 38 | 37 | 40 | 38 | 39 | 39 |
| 39 | Moderate | 16 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 15 |
| 15 | Liberal, OR | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | Very liberal? | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| $\underline{5}$ | DK/Refused(DON'T READ) | $\underline{400}$ | 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 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1997}{33}$ |
| 28 | Basically content | 54 | 56 |
| 53 | Frustrated | 10 | 12 |
| 13 | Angry | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| $\underline{6}$ | Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 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 agree with it, mostly disagree with it or completely disagree with it.

## [DO NOT ROTATE ITEMS]



## Q. 59 CONTINUED...

h. I feel guilty when I don't get a chance to vote September, 1999
November, 1997
July, 1994
June, 1992
Nov, 1991
May, 1990
February, 1989
May, 1988
May, 1987

| Completely | Mostly | Mostly | Completely | Don't |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree | Know |
| 38 | 23 | 15 | 18 | 6=100 |
| 36 | 32 | 20 | 9 | $3=100$ |
| 36 | 32 | 17 | 12 | $3=100$ |
| 38 | 32 | 18 | 9 | $3=100$ |
| 39 | 30 | 16 | 9 | $6=100$ |
| 46 | 28 | 14 | 8 | $4=100$ |
| 30 | 37 | 22 | 8 | $3=100$ |
| 38 | 34 | 17 | 7 | $4=100$ |
| 32 | 37 | 18 | 8 | $5=100$ |
| 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 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $1996{ }^{14}$ |
| 50 | Voting in booth | 52 | 54 |
| 24 | Voting over Internet | 26 | n/a |
| 23 | Voting by mail | 20 | 43 |
| 1 | None (VOL) | 1 | 2 |
| $\underline{2}$ | Don't know/Refused | 1 | 1 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

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/Washington Post ${ }^{15}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Aug | Sept | Aug | July | Oct | April | July | Jan | Sept |
|  |  | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1995 | 1994 | 1984 | 1982 |
| 52 | Agree | 54 | 46 | 47 | 58 | 59 | 57 | 53 | 41 | 44 |
| 42 | Disagree | 40 | 47 | 46 | 37 | 37 | 38 | 43 | 48 | 44 |
| $\underline{6}$ | Don't know/Refused | 6 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 4 | $\underline{5}$ | 4 | 11 | $\underline{12}$ |
| 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?

June, 2000

| $\frac{\text { Yes }}{68}$ | $\frac{\text { No }}{31}$ | DK/Refused <br> 68 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 72 | 32 | $1=100$ |
| 67 | 28 | $0=100$ |
| 68 | 33 | $*=100$ |
| 67 | 32 | $*=100$ |
| 67 | 33 | $*=100$ |
| 68 | 32 | $*=100$ |
| 70 | 30 | $*=100$ |
| 67 | 33 | $*=100$ |
| 68 | 32 | $*=100$ |
| 64 | 35 | $*=100$ |
| 66 | 33 | $1=100$ |
| 71 | 29 | $1=100$ |
| 68 | 32 | $*=100$ |
| 68 | 32 | $*=100$ |
| 69 | 31 | $*=100$ |
| 64 | 36 | $*=100$ |
| 64 | 36 | $*=100$ |
| 66 | 34 | $*=100$ |
| 66 | 34 | $0=100$ |
| 61 | 39 | $*=100$ |
| 65 | 35 | $*=100$ |
| 66 | 34 | $*=100$ |
| 60 | 40 | $*=100$ |
| 56 | 44 | $0=100$ |
| 56 | 44 | $*=100$ |
| 58 | 42 | $*=100$ |
| 61 | 39 | $*=100$ |
| 60 | 40 | $*=100$ |
| 59 | 41 | $0=100$ |
|  |  | $0=100$ | 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 $A B C /$ 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."

## 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 ${ }^{17}$ | 14 | 86 | * $=100$ | else or both?)

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


[^0]:    1
    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."

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

