

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MAY 22-25, 2008 NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY**  
**TOPLINE**  
**N=1,004**

Q.1 Apart from who you support, which presidential candidate have you heard the most about in the news in the last week or so? [OPEN-END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY]

|                   | <u>Hillary Clinton</u> | <u>Barack Obama</u> | <u>John McCain</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Don't know/Refused</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| May 22-25, 2008   | 27                     | 51                  | 8                  | 2            | 12=100                    |
| May 16-19, 2008   | 25                     | 59                  | 4                  | 2            | 10=100                    |
| May 9-12, 2008    | 36                     | 52                  | 2                  | 2            | 8=100                     |
| May 2-5, 2008     | 29                     | 57                  | 2                  | 2            | 10=100                    |
| April 25-28, 2008 | 38                     | 46                  | 3                  | 1            | 12=100                    |
| April 18-21, 2008 | 28                     | 55                  | 4                  | 1            | 12=100                    |
| April 11-14, 2008 | 24                     | 51                  | 8                  | 2            | 15=100                    |
| April 4-7, 2008   | 34                     | 45                  | 6                  | 1            | 14=100                    |
| March 28-31, 2008 | 30                     | 53                  | 4                  | 2            | 11=100                    |
| March 20-24, 2008 | 15                     | 70                  | 3                  | 1            | 11=100                    |
| March 14-17, 2008 | 26                     | 57                  | 4                  | 2            | 11=100                    |
| March 7-10, 2008  | 37                     | 38                  | 6                  | 4            | 15=100                    |

Q.2 Please think about each of the following presidential candidates [INSERT NAME. ROTATE]. In the past few days, have you come to have a MORE favorable opinion of (him/her), a LESS favorable opinion, or hasn't your opinion of (him/her) changed lately?

|                    | <u>More favorable</u> | <u>Less favorable</u> | <u>Opinion has not changed</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Hillary Clinton | 13                    | 26                    | 59                             | 2=100             |
| May 16-19, 2008    | 15                    | 22                    | 60                             | 3=100             |
| May 9-12, 2008     | 12                    | 25                    | 61                             | 2=100             |
| May 2-5, 2008      | 14                    | 16                    | 65                             | 5=100             |
| April 25-28, 2008  | 16                    | 26                    | 56                             | 2=100             |
| April 18-21, 2008  | 11                    | 31                    | 55                             | 3=100             |
| March 28-31, 2008  | 13                    | 30                    | 55                             | 2=100             |
| March 20-24, 2008  | 16                    | 25                    | 57                             | 2=100             |
| b. Barack Obama    | 18                    | 20                    | 60                             | 2=100             |
| May 16-19, 2008    | 19                    | 19                    | 59                             | 3=100             |
| May 9-12, 2008     | 20                    | 23                    | 55                             | 2=100             |
| May 2-5, 2008      | 11                    | 25                    | 59                             | 5=100             |
| April 25-28, 2008  | 16                    | 24                    | 58                             | 2=100             |
| April 18-21, 2008  | 18                    | 24                    | 54                             | 4=100             |
| March 28-31, 2008  | 18                    | 27                    | 52                             | 3=100             |
| March 20-24, 2008  | 22                    | 30                    | 46                             | 2=100             |
| c. John McCain     | 15                    | 18                    | 63                             | 4=100             |
| May 16-19, 2008    | 14                    | 21                    | 62                             | 3=100             |
| May 9-12, 2008     | 12                    | 18                    | 67                             | 3=100             |
| May 2-5, 2008      | 10                    | 13                    | 71                             | 6=100             |
| April 25-28, 2008  | 14                    | 16                    | 65                             | 5=100             |
| April 18-21, 2008  | 18                    | 15                    | 61                             | 6=100             |
| March 28-31, 2008  | 18                    | 20                    | 57                             | 5=100             |
| March 20-24, 2008  | 18                    | 18                    | 61                             | 3=100             |

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?”]

|  | <u>Very Closely</u> | <u>Fairly Closely</u> | <u>Not too Closely</u> | <u>Not at all Closely</u> | <u>DK/ Refused</u> |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| a. News that U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy has a cancerous brain tumor  | 26                  | 36                    | 24                     | 14                        | *=100              |
| b. A court ruling that the state of Texas should not have seized hundreds of children from a polygamist sect | 22                  | 33                    | 27                     | 18                        | *=100              |
| <b>April 25-25, 2008: <i>Raid on polygamist sect</i><sup>1</sup></b>   | 20                  | 36                    | 25                     | 18                        | 1=100              |
| <b>April 18-21, 2008</b>   | 20                  | 32                    | 27                     | 20                        | 1=100              |
| <b>April 11-14, 2008</b>   | 14                  | 30                    | 30                     | 25                        | 1=100              |
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>   |                     |                       |                        |                           |                    |
| <b>May, 1993: <i>Waco Siege</i><sup>2</sup></b>  | 50                  | 37                    | 10                     | 3                         | *=100              |
| c. The debate in Washington over U.S. policy in Iraq   | 17                  | 27                    | 26                     | 30                        | *=100              |
| <b>March 20-24, 2008</b>   | 21                  | 29                    | 25                     | 25                        | *=100              |
| <b>November 30-December 3, 2007</b>  | 23                  | 28                    | 21                     | 28                        | *=100              |
| <b>November 16-19, 2007</b>  | 23                  | 30                    | 21                     | 25                        | 1=100              |
| <b>November 2-5, 2007</b>  | 21                  | 29                    | 23                     | 26                        | 1=100              |
| <b>October 26-29, 2007</b>   | 21                  | 25                    | 25                     | 28                        | 1=100              |
| <b>October 19-22, 2007</b>   | 21                  | 28                    | 20                     | 31                        | *=100              |
| <b>October 12-15, 2007</b>   | 19                  | 23                    | 22                     | 36                        | *=100              |
| <b>October 5-8, 2007</b>   | 20                  | 28                    | 23                     | 29                        | *=100              |
| <b>September 28 – October 1, 2007</b>  | 22                  | 32                    | 22                     | 24                        | *=100              |
| <b>September 21-24, 2007</b>   | 25                  | 28                    | 20                     | 27                        | *=100              |
| <b>September 14-17, 2007<sup>3</sup></b>   | 25                  | 27                    | 20                     | 27                        | 1=100              |
| <b>September 7-10, 2007</b>  | 25                  | 27                    | 22                     | 26                        | *=100              |
| <b>August 30-September 2, 2007</b>   | 22                  | 27                    | 20                     | 31                        | *=100              |
| <b>August 24-27, 2007</b>  | 25                  | 30                    | 19                     | 25                        | 1=100              |
| <b>August 3-6, 2007</b>  | 21                  | 33                    | 20                     | 26                        | *=100              |
| <b>July 27-30, 2007</b>  | 24                  | 28                    | 20                     | 27                        | 1=100              |
| <b>July 20-23, 2007</b>  | 23                  | 24                    | 24                     | 28                        | 1=100              |
| <b>July 13-16, 2007</b>  | 20                  | 30                    | 20                     | 30                        | *=100              |
| <b>July 6-9, 2007</b>  | 27                  | 26                    | 23                     | 24                        | *=100              |
| <b>June 1-4, 2007</b>  | 20                  | 27                    | 24                     | 27                        | 2=100              |
| <b>May 24-27, 2007</b>   | 30                  | 32                    | 20                     | 18                        | *=100              |
| <b>May 18-21, 2007</b>   | 24                  | 32                    | 19                     | 24                        | 1=100              |
| <b>May 11-14, 2007</b>   | 25                  | 26                    | 19                     | 29                        | 1=100              |
| <b>May 4-7, 2007</b>   | 30                  | 31                    | 19                     | 20                        | *=100              |
| <b>April 27-30, 2007</b>   | 18                  | 31                    | 21                     | 29                        | 1=100              |
| <b>April 20-23, 2007</b>   | 22                  | 29                    | 24                     | 25                        | *=100              |
| <b>April 12-16, 2007</b>   | 25                  | 29                    | 22                     | 23                        | 1=100              |
| <b>April 5-9, 2007</b>   | 31                  | 28                    | 20                     | 21                        | *=100              |
| <b>March 30-April 2, 2007</b>  | 26                  | 29                    | 21                     | 23                        | 1=100              |

<sup>1</sup> From April 11-14, 2008 to April 25-28, 2008, the story was listed as “A raid on a polygamist religious compound in Texas.”

<sup>2</sup> May, 1993 asked about: “The Waco, Texas incident.”

<sup>3</sup> September 14-17, 2007 asked about “General David Petraeus’s report to Congress about how things are going in Iraq.”

Q.3 CONTINUED...

|   | Very<br><u>Closely</u> | Fairly<br><u>Closely</u> | Not too<br><u>Closely</u> | Not at all<br><u>Closely</u> | DK/<br><u>Refused</u> |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>  |                        |                          |                           |                              |                       |
| <b>January 12-15, 2007: President Bush's proposal to increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq</b> |                        |                          |                           |                              |                       |
|   | <b>40</b>              | <b>33</b>                | <b>13</b>                 | <b>13</b>                    | <b>1=100</b>          |
| d. The earthquake in China  | <b>23</b>              | <b>42</b>                | <b>24</b>                 | <b>11</b>                    | <b>*=100</b>          |
| <b>May 16-19, 2008</b>  | <b>30</b>              | <b>41</b>                | <b>17</b>                 | <b>12</b>                    | <b>*=100</b>          |
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>  |                        |                          |                           |                              |                       |
| October 2005: <i>Pakistan</i>   | 22                     | 39                       | 23                        | 16                           | *=100                 |
| January 2005: <i>Earthquake and Tsunami in Indian Ocean</i>   | 58                     | 32                       | 7                         | 3                            | *=100                 |
| January 2004: <i>Iran</i>   | 16                     | 34                       | 31                        | 19                           | *=100                 |
| February 2001: <i>India</i>   | 15                     | 33                       | 31                        | 20                           | 1=100                 |
| October 1999: <i>Taiwan</i>   | 17                     | 36                       | 31                        | 16                           | *=100                 |
| September 1999: <i>Turkey</i>   | 27                     | 37                       | 23                        | 12                           | 1=100                 |
| February 1995: <i>Japan</i>   | 25                     | 47                       | 20                        | 8                            | *=100                 |
| January 1994: <i>Southern California</i>  | 63                     | 31                       | 5                         | 1                            | 0=100                 |
| July 1990: <i>Iran</i>  | 20                     | 36                       | 28                        | 16                           | *=100                 |
| November 1989: <i>San Francisco</i>   | 73                     | 22                       | 3                         | 2                            | *=100                 |
| e. The rising price of gasoline   | <b>65</b>              | <b>22</b>                | <b>9</b>                  | <b>4</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>          |
| <b>May 16-19, 2008</b>  | <b>64</b>              | <b>21</b>                | <b>10</b>                 | <b>4</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>          |
| <b>May 2-5, 2008</b>  | <b>63</b>              | <b>23</b>                | <b>9</b>                  | <b>4</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>          |
| <b>April 25-28, 2008</b>  | <b>62</b>              | <b>23</b>                | <b>10</b>                 | <b>5</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>          |
| <b>May 24-27, 2007</b>  | <b>52</b>              | <b>29</b>                | <b>10</b>                 | <b>8</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>          |
| <b>May 18-21, 2007<sup>4</sup></b>  | <b>48</b>              | <b>27</b>                | <b>16</b>                 | <b>8</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>          |
| August, 2006 <sup>5</sup>   | 60                     | 26                       | 7                         | 5                            | 2=100                 |
| June, 2006  | 58                     | 26                       | 10                        | 5                            | 1=100                 |
| May, 2006   | 69                     | 21                       | 6                         | 3                            | 1=100                 |
| April, 2006   | 65                     | 22                       | 8                         | 4                            | 1=100                 |
| December, 2005  | 61                     | 27                       | 7                         | 4                            | 1=100                 |
| Early November, 2005  | 61                     | 27                       | 9                         | 2                            | 1=100                 |
| Late October, 2005  | 67                     | 23                       | 7                         | 3                            | *=100                 |
| Early October, 2005   | 65                     | 25                       | 6                         | 3                            | 1=100                 |
| Early September, 2005   | 71                     | 19                       | 7                         | 3                            | *=100                 |
| Mid-May, 2005   | 58                     | 27                       | 9                         | 5                            | 1=100                 |
| Mid-March, 2005   | 50                     | 32                       | 13                        | 5                            | *=100                 |
| Mid-October, 2004   | 64                     | 22                       | 8                         | 5                            | 1=100                 |
| August, 2004  | 52                     | 29                       | 10                        | 8                            | 1=100                 |
| July, 2004  | 56                     | 25                       | 11                        | 7                            | 1=100                 |
| June, 2004  | 58                     | 26                       | 9                         | 6                            | 1=100                 |
| April, 2004   | 46                     | 30                       | 15                        | 8                            | 1=100                 |
| Early April, 2004   | 58                     | 23                       | 10                        | 8                            | 1=100                 |
| Mid-March, 2004   | 47                     | 27                       | 14                        | 10                           | 2=100                 |
| September, 2003   | 45                     | 27                       | 15                        | 11                           | 1=100                 |
| March 2003  | 52                     | 27                       | 11                        | 9                            | 1=100                 |
| February, 2003  | 53                     | 25                       | 12                        | 9                            | 1=100                 |
| June, 2001  | 56                     | 31                       | 7                         | 5                            | 1=100                 |
| May, 2001   | 61                     | 26                       | 6                         | 6                            | 1=100                 |

<sup>4</sup> For May 18-21, 2007 the item was not asked as part of a list.

<sup>5</sup> From October, 2000 to August, 2006, the story was listed as "The high price of gasoline these days." From August, 1990 to June, 2000, the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

**Q.3 CONTINUED...**

|   | <u>Very<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>Closely</u> | <u>DK/<br/>Refused</u> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Early October, 2000   | 56                      | 25                        | 12                         | 6                             | 1=100                  |
| June, 2000  | 61                      | 25                        | 9                          | 5                             | *=100                  |
| March, 2000   | 58                      | 28                        | 10                         | 4                             | *=100                  |
| October, 1990   | 62                      | 26                        | 8                          | 4                             | *=100                  |
| September, 1990   | 56                      | 28                        | 11                         | 5                             | *=100                  |
| August, 1990  | 57                      | 27                        | 10                         | 5                             | 1=100                  |
| <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>                                |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| The rising price of oil                                     |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| <b>March 7-10, 2008</b>                                     | <b>43</b>               | <b>33</b>                 | <b>12</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>November 9-12, 2007</b>                                  | <b>44</b>               | <b>28</b>                 | <b>14</b>                  | <b>13</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| f. News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
|   | <b>32</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>20</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>May 16-19, 2008</b>                                      | <b>33</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>19</b>                  | <b>10</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>May 9-12, 2008</b>                                       | <b>35</b>               | <b>36</b>                 | <b>18</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>May 2-5, 2008</b>  | <b>27</b>               | <b>35</b>                 | <b>23</b>                  | <b>14</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>April 25-28, 2008</b>                                    | <b>34</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>18</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>April 18-21, 2008</b>                                    | <b>29</b>               | <b>41</b>                 | <b>19</b>                  | <b>10</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>April 11-14, 2008</b>                                    | <b>31</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>22</b>                  | <b>10</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>April 4-7, 2008</b>                                      | <b>33</b>               | <b>36</b>                 | <b>17</b>                  | <b>14</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>March 28-31, 2008</b>                                    | <b>31</b>               | <b>41</b>                 | <b>18</b>                  | <b>10</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>March 20-24, 2008</b>                                    | <b>34</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>18</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>March 14-17, 2008</b>                                    | <b>40</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>16</b>                  | <b>7</b>                      | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>March 7-10, 2008</b>                                     | <b>39</b>               | <b>36</b>                 | <b>15</b>                  | <b>9</b>                      | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>February 29-March 3, 2008</b>                            | <b>43</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>14</b>                  | <b>9</b>                      | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>February 22-25, 2008</b>                                 | <b>42</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>13</b>                  | <b>8</b>                      | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>February 15-18, 2008</b>                                 | <b>44</b>               | <b>36</b>                 | <b>10</b>                  | <b>10</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>February 8-11, 2008</b>                                  | <b>39</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>15</b>                  | <b>9</b>                      | <b>0=100</b>           |
| <b>February 1-4, 2008</b>                                   | <b>37</b>               | <b>35</b>                 | <b>16</b>                  | <b>12</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>January 25-28, 2008</b>                                  | <b>36</b>               | <b>37</b>                 | <b>14</b>                  | <b>12</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>January 18-21, 2008</b>                                  | <b>36</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>18</b>                  | <b>12</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>January 11-14, 2008<sup>6</sup></b>                      | <b>32</b>               | <b>31</b>                 | <b>19</b>                  | <b>17</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>January 4-7, 2008</b>                                    | <b>33</b>               | <b>36</b>                 | <b>19</b>                  | <b>11</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>December 14-17, 2007</b>                                 | <b>25</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>22</b>                  | <b>19</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>December 7-10, 2007</b>                                  | <b>24</b>               | <b>35</b>                 | <b>22</b>                  | <b>19</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>November 30 – December 3, 2007</b>                       | <b>23</b>               | <b>35</b>                 | <b>23</b>                  | <b>19</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>November 23-26, 2007</b>                                 | <b>20</b>               | <b>33</b>                 | <b>26</b>                  | <b>20</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>November 16-19, 2007</b>                                 | <b>26</b>               | <b>33</b>                 | <b>21</b>                  | <b>19</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>November 9-12, 2007</b>                                  | <b>21</b>               | <b>33</b>                 | <b>25</b>                  | <b>21</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>November 2-5, 2007</b>                                   | <b>27</b>               | <b>30</b>                 | <b>21</b>                  | <b>21</b>                     | <b>1=100</b>           |
| <b>October 26-29, 2007</b>                                  | <b>21</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>26</b>                  | <b>19</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>October 19-22, 2007</b>                                  | <b>23</b>               | <b>32</b>                 | <b>22</b>                  | <b>23</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>October 12-15, 2007</b>                                  | <b>13</b>               | <b>31</b>                 | <b>26</b>                  | <b>30</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>October 5-8, 2007</b>                                    | <b>22</b>               | <b>30</b>                 | <b>24</b>                  | <b>24</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>September 28 – October 1, 2007</b>                       | <b>21</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>25</b>                  | <b>20</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>September 21-24, 2007</b>                                | <b>24</b>               | <b>31</b>                 | <b>22</b>                  | <b>23</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>September 14-17, 2007</b>                                | <b>22</b>               | <b>31</b>                 | <b>24</b>                  | <b>23</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>September 7-10, 2007</b>                                 | <b>18</b>               | <b>34</b>                 | <b>26</b>                  | <b>22</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>August 30-September 2, 2007</b>                          | <b>19</b>               | <b>35</b>                 | <b>21</b>                  | <b>25</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>August 24-27, 2007</b>                                   | <b>22</b>               | <b>28</b>                 | <b>24</b>                  | <b>26</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |
| <b>August 17-20, 2007</b>                                   | <b>19</b>               | <b>27</b>                 | <b>24</b>                  | <b>30</b>                     | <b>*=100</b>           |

<sup>6</sup> January 11-14, 2008 asked about: "News about the New Hampshire primaries and the presidential campaign."

Q.3 CONTINUED...

|                                   | Very<br><u>Closely</u> | Fairly<br><u>Closely</u> | Not too<br><u>Closely</u> | Not at all<br><u>Closely</u> | DK/<br><u>Refused</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| August 10-13, 2007                | 23                     | 32                       | 21                        | 24                           | *=100                 |
| August 3-6, 2007                  | 19                     | 31                       | 25                        | 25                           | *=100                 |
| July 27-30, 2007                  | 19                     | 32                       | 22                        | 26                           | 1=100                 |
| July 20-23, 2007                  | 16                     | 26                       | 30                        | 27                           | 1=100                 |
| July 13-16, 2007                  | 17                     | 29                       | 27                        | 27                           | *=100                 |
| July 6-9, 2007                    | 24                     | 29                       | 24                        | 22                           | 1=100                 |
| June 29-July 2, 2007              | 20                     | 32                       | 25                        | 23                           | *=100                 |
| June 22-25, 2007                  | 18                     | 31                       | 21                        | 30                           | *=100                 |
| June 15-18, 2007                  | 17                     | 32                       | 26                        | 25                           | *=100                 |
| June 8-11, 2007                   | 19                     | 30                       | 24                        | 26                           | 1=100                 |
| June 1-4, 2007                    | 16                     | 27                       | 32                        | 24                           | 1=100                 |
| May 24-27, 2007                   | 22                     | 33                       | 23                        | 22                           | *=100                 |
| May 18-21, 2007                   | 18                     | 31                       | 24                        | 27                           | *=100                 |
| May 11-14, 2007                   | 18                     | 30                       | 23                        | 28                           | 1=100                 |
| May 4-7, 2007                     | 23                     | 34                       | 21                        | 21                           | 1=100                 |
| April 27-30, 2007                 | 14                     | 30                       | 29                        | 26                           | 1=100                 |
| April 20-23, 2007                 | 18                     | 28                       | 27                        | 27                           | *=100                 |
| April 12-16, 2007                 | 18                     | 28                       | 27                        | 27                           | *=100                 |
| April 5-9, 2007                   | 25                     | 30                       | 26                        | 19                           | *=100                 |
| March 30-April 2, 2007            | 20                     | 29                       | 27                        | 23                           | 1=100                 |
| March 23-26, 2007                 | 20                     | 32                       | 22                        | 26                           | *=100                 |
| March 16-19, 2007                 | 15                     | 28                       | 29                        | 27                           | 1=100                 |
| March 9-12, 2007                  | 24                     | 30                       | 23                        | 23                           | *=100                 |
| March 2-5, 2007                   | 19                     | 31                       | 26                        | 23                           | 1=100                 |
| February 23-26, 2007              | 22                     | 33                       | 24                        | 21                           | *=100                 |
| February 16-19, 2007              | 18                     | 32                       | 22                        | 27                           | 1=100                 |
| February 9-12, 2007               | 24                     | 30                       | 24                        | 21                           | 1=100                 |
| February 2-5, 2007                | 24                     | 36                       | 22                        | 18                           | *=100                 |
| January 26-29, 2007               | 24                     | 33                       | 23                        | 20                           | *=100                 |
| January 19-22, 2007 <sup>7</sup>  | 24                     | 27                       | 22                        | 26                           | 1=100                 |
| <b>2004 Presidential Election</b> |                        |                          |                           |                              |                       |
| November, 2004 (RVs)              | 52                     | 36                       | 8                         | 4                            | *=100                 |
| Mid-October, 2004                 | 46                     | 30                       | 12                        | 11                           | 1=100                 |
| August, 2004                      | 32                     | 38                       | 16                        | 14                           | *=100                 |
| July, 2004                        | 29                     | 37                       | 18                        | 15                           | 1=100                 |
| April, 2004                       | 31                     | 33                       | 19                        | 16                           | 1=100                 |
| Mid-March, 2004                   | 35                     | 34                       | 18                        | 13                           | *=100                 |
| Late February, 2004               | 24                     | 40                       | 23                        | 12                           | 1=100                 |
| Early February, 2004 <sup>8</sup> | 29                     | 37                       | 20                        | 13                           | 1=100                 |
| Mid-January, 2004                 | 16                     | 30                       | 27                        | 26                           | 1=100                 |
| Early January, 2004               | 14                     | 32                       | 30                        | 23                           | 1=100                 |
| December, 2003                    | 16                     | 26                       | 27                        | 30                           | 1=100                 |
| November, 2003                    | 11                     | 26                       | 34                        | 28                           | 1=100                 |
| October, 2003                     | 12                     | 27                       | 28                        | 32                           | 1=100                 |

<sup>7</sup> January 19-22, 2007 asked about: "Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2008."

<sup>8</sup> From May 2003 to Early February 2004 and in March 1992, the story was listed as "The race for the Democratic nomination." In January 2003, the story was listed as "Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2004." In September 2000, Early September and July 1996, and May 1992, the question asked about "the presidential election campaign." In January, March and April 1996, the story was listed as "News about the Republican presidential candidates." In August 1992, the story was listed as "News about the presidential election." In July 1992, the story was listed as "News about the presidential campaign." In January 1992, the story was listed as "News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination." In 1988, the story was introduced as being from "this past year" and was listed as "News about the presidential campaign in 1988."

**Q.3 CONTINUED...**

|                                   | <u>Very<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Fairly<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Not too<br/>Closely</u> | <u>Not at all<br/>Closely</u> | <u>DK/<br/>Refused</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| September, 2003                   | 17                      | 25                        | 30                         | 27                            | 1=100                  |
| Mid-August, 2003                  | 12                      | 27                        | 27                         | 33                            | 1=100                  |
| May, 2003                         | 8                       | 19                        | 31                         | 41                            | 1=100                  |
| January, 2003                     | 14                      | 28                        | 29                         | 28                            | 1=100                  |
| <b>2000 Presidential Election</b> |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| Early November, 2000 (RVs)        | 39                      | 44                        | 12                         | 5                             | *=100                  |
| Mid-October, 2000 (RVs)           | 40                      | 37                        | 15                         | 8                             | *=100                  |
| Early October, 2000 (RVs)         | 42                      | 36                        | 15                         | 6                             | 1=100                  |
| September, 2000                   | 22                      | 42                        | 21                         | 15                            | *=100                  |
| July, 2000                        | 21                      | 38                        | 20                         | 20                            | 1=100                  |
| June, 2000                        | 23                      | 32                        | 23                         | 21                            | 1=100                  |
| May, 2000                         | 18                      | 33                        | 26                         | 23                            | *=100                  |
| 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                  |
| <b>1996 Presidential Election</b> |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| November, 1996 (RVs)              | 34                      | 45                        | 15                         | 6                             | *=100                  |
| October, 1996                     | 31                      | 39                        | 18                         | 12                            | *=100                  |
| Early September, 1996             | 24                      | 36                        | 23                         | 17                            | *=100                  |
| July, 1996                        | 22                      | 40                        | 23                         | 14                            | 1=100                  |
| March, 1996                       | 26                      | 41                        | 20                         | 13                            | *=100                  |
| January, 1996                     | 10                      | 34                        | 31                         | 24                            | 1=100                  |
| September, 1995                   | 12                      | 36                        | 30                         | 22                            | *=100                  |
| August, 1995                      | 13                      | 34                        | 28                         | 25                            | *=100                  |
| June, 1995                        | 11                      | 31                        | 31                         | 26                            | 1=100                  |
| <b>1992 Presidential Election</b> |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| October, 1992 (RVs)               | 55                      | 36                        | 7                          | 2                             | 0=100                  |
| September, 1992 (RVs)             | 47                      | 36                        | 11                         | 6                             | *=100                  |
| August, 1992 (RVs)                | 36                      | 51                        | 11                         | 2                             | 0=100                  |
| July, 1992                        | 20                      | 45                        | 26                         | 9                             | *=100                  |
| May, 1992                         | 32                      | 44                        | 16                         | 8                             | *=100                  |
| March, 1992                       | 35                      | 40                        | 16                         | 9                             | *=100                  |
| January, 1992                     | 11                      | 25                        | 36                         | 27                            | 1=100                  |
| December, 1991                    | 10                      | 28                        | 32                         | 30                            | *=100                  |
| October, 1991                     | 12                      | 26                        | 31                         | 29                            | 2=100                  |
| <b>1988 Presidential Election</b> |                         |                           |                            |                               |                        |
| October, 1988 (RVs)               | 43                      | 44                        | 11                         | 2                             | *=100                  |
| August, 1988 (RVs)                | 39                      | 45                        | 13                         | 3                             | *=100                  |
| May, 1988                         | 22                      | 46                        | 23                         | 6                             | 3=100                  |
| November, 1987                    | 15                      | 28                        | 35                         | 21                            | 1=100                  |
| September, 1987                   | 14                      | 34                        | 37                         | 14                            | 1=100                  |

Q.4 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? **[DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]**

- 35 The rising price of gasoline
- 22 News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election
- 10 The earthquake in China
- 7 News that U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy has a cancerous brain tumor
- 6 A court ruling that the state of Texas should not have seized hundreds of children from a polygamist sect
- 5 The debate in Washington over U.S. policy in Iraq
- 6 Some other story (**SPECIFY**)
- 9 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Thinking about gas prices...

Q.4A Just your best guess, how much will a gallon of gas cost by the end of this summer? **[READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]**

- 33 Around 4 dollars per gallon
- 54 Around 5 dollars per gallon
- 10 Around 7 dollars per gallon
- 1 Or, more than 10 dollars per gallon
- 2 Don't know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)
- 100

**Q.5 AND Q.6 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

Now thinking about the presidential campaign...

Q.7 How much if anything have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? **[READ ITEMS, ROTATE]**

|   | <u>A lot</u> | <u>A little</u> | <u>Nothing at all</u> | <u>DK/ Refused</u> |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ROTATE Q.7A AND Q.7B AS A BLOCK</b>  |              |                 |                       |                    |
| a. Cindy McCain, John McCain's wife   | 8            | 46              | 46                    | *=100              |
| b. Michelle Obama, Barack Obama's wife  | 21           | 55              | 24                    | *=100              |
| <b>ROTATE Q7.C AND Q.7E AS A BLOCK</b>  |              |                 |                       |                    |
| c. John McCain releasing his medical records  | 18           | 39              | 43                    | *=100              |
| d. Barack Obama now having a majority of all pledged delegates from the Democratic presidential primaries | 55           | 31              | 14                    | *=100              |
| <b>ASKED MAY 23-25 ONLY [N=642]:</b>  |              |                 |                       |                    |
| e. John McCain rejecting the support of two ministers for their controversial remarks                     | 22           | 38              | 39                    | 1=100              |