PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS JUNE 27-30, 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]

	Hillary	Barack	John		Don't know/
	Clinton	<u>Obama</u>	McCain	<u>Other</u>	Refused
June 27-30, 2008	3	75	10	2	10=100
June 20-23, 2008	3	74	12	1	10=100
June 13-16, 2008	5	69	12	2	12=100
June 6-9, 2008	22	67	2	1	8=100
May 30-June 2, 2008	27	54	5	1	13=100
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?

		More favorable	Less favorable	Opinion has not changed	Don't know
a.	Barack Obama	21	19	56	4=100
	June 20-23, 2008	16	16	66	2=100
	June 13-16, 2008	17	15	64	4=100
	June 6-9, 2008	19	17	61	3=100
	May 30-June 2, 2008	17	21	58	4=100
	May 22-25, 2008	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
b.	John McCain	17	21	58	4=100
	June 20-23, 2008	15	18	65	2=100
	June 13-16, 2008	13	18	66	3=100
	June 6-9, 2008	14	15	65	6=100
	May 30-June 2, 2008	11	20	64	5=100
	May 22-25, 2008	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

	More	Less	Opinion has	Don't
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Favorable</u>	Not change	<u>know</u>
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?"]

a.	The rising price of oil March 7-10, 2008 November 9-12, 2007 TREND FOR COMPARISON:	Very <u>Closely</u> 57 43 44	Fairly <u>Closely</u> 26 33 28	Not too <u>Closely</u> 11 12 14	Not at all <u>Closely</u> 5 11 13	DK/ <u>Refused</u> 1=100 1=100 1=100
	The rising price of gasoline		4.0	_	_	
	June 6-9, 2008	66	19	7	7	1=100
	May 22-25, 2008	65	22	9	4	*=100
	May 16-19, 2008	64	21	10	4	1=100
	May 2-5, 2008	63	23	9	4 5	1=100
	April 25-28, 2008	62 52	23 29	10	5 8	*=100
	May 24-27, 2007	52 48	29 27	10 16	8 8	1=100 1=100
	May 18-21, 2007 August, 2006	48 60	26	1 0 7	8 5	1=100 2=100
	June, 2006	58	26	10	5	1=100
	May, 2006	58 69	20	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
	Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1=100
	June, 2000	61	25	9	5	*=100

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For May 18-21, 2007 the item was not asked as part of a list. 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.:	CONTINUED					
		Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
		Closely	Closely	<u>Closely</u>	Closely	Refused
	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.	The U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn a					
	ban on handguns in Washington, D.C.	28	28	21	22	1=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: ² June, 1999: Congress debates gun control	28	37	22	12	1=100
	December, 1993: Passage of Brady handgun	20	37	22	12	1–100
	bill	37	37	17	8	1=100
c.	North Korea taking steps to halt its nuclear					
	weapons program	19	30	26	24	1=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: ³	17	20	20		1-100
	February 16-19, 2007: Nuclear weapons					
	negotiations	15	31	22	31	1=100
	•					
	Late October, 2006: Nuclear weapons test	45	33	13	8	1=100
	February, 2005: Nuclear weapons program	22	34	22	22	*=100
	September, 2003	19	32	27	21	1 = 100
	May, 2003	27	40	22	11	*=100
	March, 2003	34	34	19	12	1=100
	February, 2003	33	34	18	13	2 = 100
	January, 2003	33	34	18	14	1=100
	Late October, 2002: Admits to secret	25	31	23	20	1=100
	weapons program	23	31	23	20	1-100
	June, 1994: Refuses U.N. inspections	27	33	26	14	*=100
d.	Violence in Zimbabwe over disputed elections	13	25	27	33	2=100
	April 4-7, 2008 ⁴	4	13	19	63	1=100
	11 9111 1 7, 2 000	-	10	1,	0.0	1-100
e.	Reports about the condition of the U.S.	40	24	-10	_	4 400
	economy	49	31	12	7	1=100
	June 13-16, 2008	42	33	14	11	*=100
	May 9-12, 2008	45	31	13	11	*=100
	May 2-5, 2008	43	31	15	10	1=100
	April 18-21, 2008	41	35	13	10	1=100
	April 4-7, 2008	39	3 3	12	12	*=100
	March 28-31, 2008	42	36	14	8	*=100
	March 20-24, 2008	45	33	13	9	*=100
	February 29-March 3, 2008	38	35	15	11	1=100
	February 15-18, 2008	37	36	11	16	8=100
	February 1-4, 2008	40	37	14	8	1=100
	January 18-21, 2008	42	31	16	11	*=100
	January 11-14, 2008	36	32	15	16	1=100
	Junuary 11-17, 2000	20	34	13	10	1-100

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In June, 1999 the story was listed as "Debates about gun control legislation in Congress and state legislatures." In December, 1993 the story was listed as "The passage of the Brady Bill, requiring a 5 day waiting period for the purchase of a handgun."

For February 16-19, 2007 the story was listed as "Recent negotiations to shut down North Korea's nuclear weapons program." In October, 2006 the story was listed as "North Korea's announcement that it recently tested a nuclear weapon." From January, 2003 to February, 2005 the story was listed as, "North Korea's nuclear weapons program." In Late October 2002 the story was listed as "North Korea's admission that it has been secretly developing nuclear weapons." In June 1994 the story was listed as "Reports about North Korea's building of nuclear weapons and refusal to allow UN inspections."

For April 4-7, 2008 the story was listed as "Results of recent elections in Zimbabwe."

	Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
	Closely	Closely	Closely	Closely	Refused
November 2-5, 2007	27	37	16	19	1=100
October 19-22, 2007	25	34	20	21	*=100
August 10-13, 2007	28	36	18	18	*=100
Mid-November, 2006	31	40	17	11	1=100
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1=100
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1=100
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1=100
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1 = 100
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*=100
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2 = 100
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1 = 100
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1 = 100
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1=100
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1=100
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*=100
January, 2003	40	35	13	11	1 = 100
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1 = 100
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1=100
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1 = 100
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2 = 100
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1=100
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1=100
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0 = 100
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1=100
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1=100
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2 = 100
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*=100
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*=100
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1=100
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*=100
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1=100
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*=100
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1=100
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1=100
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*=100
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1=100
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*=100
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1=100
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*=100
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*=100
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1=100
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*=100
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1=100
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*=100
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*=100
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*=100
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1=100

Q.	3 CONTINUED					
		Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
		<u>Closely</u>	Closely	Closely	Closely	Refused
f.	News about candidates for the 2008					
	presidential election	39	33	18	10	*=100
	June 20-23, 2008	28	38	22	12	*=100
	June 13-16, 2008	35	35	20	10	*=100
	June 6-9, 2008	38	35	17	10	*=100
	May 30-June 2, 2008	30	35	21	14	*=100
	May 22-25, 2008	32	37	20	11	*=100
	May 16-19, 2008	33	37	19	10	1=100
	May 9-12, 2008	35	36	18	11	*=100
	May 2-5, 2008	27	35	23	14	1=100
	April 25-28, 2008	34	3 7	18	11	*=100
	April 18-21, 2008	29	41	19	10	1=100
	April 11-21, 2008 April 11-14, 2008	31	37	22	10	*=100
	April 4-7, 2008	33	36	17	14	*=100
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	33				
	March 28-31, 2008		41	18	10	*=100 * 100
	March 20-24, 2008	34	37	18	11	*=100
	March 14-17, 2008	40	37	16	7	*=100
	March 7-10, 2008	39	36	15	9	1=100
	February 29-March 3, 2008	43	34	14	9	*=100
	February 22-25, 2008	42	37	13	8	*=100
	February 15-18, 2008	44	36	10	10	*=100
	February 8-11, 2008	39	37	15	9	0=100
	February 1-4, 2008	37	35	16	12	*=100
	January 25-28, 2008	36	37	14	12	1=100
	January 18-21, 2008	36	34	18	12	*=100
	January 11-14, 2008 ⁵	32	31	19	17	1=100
	January 4-7, 2008	33	36	19	11	1=100
	December 14-17, 2007	25	34	22	19	*=100
	December 7-10, 2007	24	35	22	19	*=100
	November 30 – December 3, 2007	23	35	23	19	*=100
	November 23-26, 2007	20	33	26	20	1=100
	November 16-19, 2007	26	33	21	19	1=100
	November 9-12, 2007	21	33	25	21	*=100
	November 2-5, 2007	27	30	21	21	1=100
	October 26-29, 2007	21	34	26	19	*=100
	October 19-22, 2007	23	32	22	23	*= 100
	October 12-15, 2007	13	31	26	30	*=100
	October 5-8, 2007	22	30	24	24	*=100
		21	30 34	2 4 25	20	*=100
	September 28 – October 1, 2007 September 21-24, 2007	21 24		23 22		
	<u> </u>		31		23	*=100 * 100
	September 14-17, 2007	22	31	24	23	*=100 * 100
	September 7-10, 2007	18	34	26	22	*=100
	August 30-September 2, 2007	19	35	21	25	*=100
	August 24-27, 2007	22	28	24	26	*=100
	August 17-20, 2007	19	27	24	30	*=100
	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

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January 11-14, 2008 asked about: "News about the New Hampshire primaries and the presidential campaign."

COMMICEDIA	**		3.7 · ·	3.7	DIL
	Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
T 20 T 1 2 2007	Closely	Closely	Closely	Closely	Refused
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 ⁶	24	27	22	26	1=100
2004 Presidential Election					
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 ⁷	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
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
2000 Presidential Election	- •	0			- 100
Early November, 2000 (RVs)	39	44	12	5	*=100
				5	100

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

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 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."

Very <u>Closely</u> 40 42 22	Fairly Closely 37	Not too Closely 15	Closely 8	DK/ Refused
42	37			
	26		O	*=100
22	36	15	6	1=100
22	42	21	15	*=100
21	38	20	20	1=100
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
34	45	15	6	*=100
31	39	18	12	*=100
24	36		17	*=100
	40		14	1=100
26	41	20	13	*=100
10	34	31	24	1=100
				*=100
				*=100
11	31	31	26	1=100
				0 = 100
				*=100
				0 = 100
				*=100
				*=100
				*=100
				1 = 100
				*=100
12	26	31	29	2 = 100
				*=100
				*=100
				3=100
				1=100
14	34	37	14	1=100
	22 21 23 18 18 26 26 19 16 17 15 15 11	22 42 21 38 23 32 18 33 18 39 26 41 26 36 19 34 16 36 17 32 15 31 15 38 11 25 34 45 31 39 24 36 22 40 26 41 10 34 12 36 13 34 11 31 55 36 47 36 36 51 20 45 32 44 35 40 11 25 10 28 12 26 43 44 39 45 22 46 15 28	22 42 21 21 38 20 23 32 23 18 33 26 18 39 22 26 41 19 26 36 21 19 34 28 16 36 24 17 32 28 15 31 33 15 38 24 11 25 29 34 45 15 31 39 18 24 36 23 22 40 23 26 41 20 10 34 31 12 36 30 13 34 28 11 31 31 31 31 31 32 44 36 33 34 28 31 31 31 34 32 32 44 36 31	22 42 21 15 21 38 20 20 23 32 23 21 18 33 26 23 18 39 22 20 26 41 19 13 26 36 21 17 19 34 28 18 16 36 24 23 17 32 28 22 15 31 33 20 15 38 24 22 11 25 29 34 34 45 15 6 31 39 18 12 24 36 23 17 22 40 23 14 26 41 20 13 10 34 31 24 22 40 23 14 12 36 30 22 13 34 28 25 11

- 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 oil
 - 19 News about the candidates for the 2008 presidential election
 - Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
 - 9 The U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn a ban on handguns in Washington, D.C.
 - 3 Violence in Zimbabwe over disputed elections
 - 2 North Korea taking steps to halt its nuclear weapons program
 - 6 Some other story (**SPECIFY**)
 - 10 Don't know/Refused

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Thinking about the presidential campaign...

Q.5 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 ITEMS]

		A lot	A little	Nothing at all	DK/ Refused
a.	Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton holding a joint campaign event in Unity, New Hampshire	43	41	16	*=100
b.	The comment by an advisor to John McCain that a terrorist attack might help his campaign	18	29	52	1=100