

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JANUARY 1999 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
— FINAL TOPLINE —
January 14 - 17, 1999
N=1200

Hello, I am _____ calling for Princeton Survey Research Associates in Princeton, New Jersey. We are conducting a telephone opinion survey for leading newspapers and TV stations around the country. I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home. **[IF NO MALE, ASK: May I please speak with the oldest female, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home?]**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
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
April, 1997	55	34	11=100
February, 1997	60	32	8=100
Early February, 1997	57	30	13=100
January, 1997	59	31	10=100
November, 1996	57	34	9=100
July, 1996	54	38	8=100
June, 1996	54	38	8=100
April, 1996	53	39	8=100
March, 1996	55	38	7=100
February, 1996	51	39	10=100
January, 1996	50	43	7=100
October, 1995	48	42	10=100
September, 1995	45	42	13=100
August, 1995	44	44	12=100
June, 1995	50	40	10=100
April, 1995	47	43	10=100

Q.1 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
March, 1995	44	44	12=100
February, 1995	44	44	12=100
December, 1994	41	47	12=100
November, 1994	48	40	12=100
October, 1994	41	47	12=100
Early October, 1994	38	47	15=100
September, 1994	41	52	7=100
July, 1994	45	46	9=100
June, 1994	42	44	14=100
May, 1994	46	42	12=100
March, 1994	45	42	13=100
January, 1994	51	35	14=100
Early January, 1994	48	35	17=100
December, 1993	48	36	16=100
October, 1993	44	42	14=100
September, 1993	49	35	16=100
Early September, 1993	43	43	14=100
August, 1993	39	46	15=100
May, 1993	39	43	18=100
Early May, 1993	45	37	18=100
April, 1993	49	29	22=100
February, 1993	56	25	19=100

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
January, 1999	38	50	12=100
Late December, 1998	39	56	5=100
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100
November, 1998	41	48	11=100
September 21-22, 1998	44	44	12=100
September 19-20, 1998	46	41	13=100
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100
Late August, 1998	48	36	16=100
Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100
June, 1998	42	38	20=100
May, 1998	40	41	19=100
April, 1998	41	40	19=100
March, 1998	43	39	18=100
January, 1998	43	41	16=100
November, 1997	41	43	16=100
August, 1997	42	44	14=100
June, 1997	33	50	17=100
May, 1997	40	44	16=100
April, 1997	40	44	16=100
February, 1997	44	42	14=100
January, 1997	38	47	15=100
November, 1996	40	43	17=100

Q.2 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
July, 1996	38	48	14=100
June, 1996	36	50	14=100
April, 1996	39	46	15=100
March, 1996	35	51	14=100
February, 1996	33	53	14=100
January, 1996	36	54	10=100
October, 1995	36	51	13=100
September, 1995	36	50	14=100
August, 1995	38	45	17=100
June, 1995	41	45	14=100
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=608]

Q.3F1 In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Clinton Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

	Early Sept <u>1998</u>	----- Reagan ----- <i>Newsweek</i> <u>May 1987</u> <u>Feb 1987</u>
50 Accomplishments will outweigh failures	52	46 52
34 Failures will outweigh accomplishments	35	41 38
<u>16</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u> <u>10</u>
100	100	100 100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=592]

Q.4F2 In the long run, do you think Bill Clinton will be a successful or unsuccessful President, or do you think it is too early to tell?

	Early Sept <u>1998</u>	Feb <u>1995</u>	Oct <u>1994</u>	May <u>1994</u>	Jan <u>1994</u>	Oct <u>1993</u>	Sept <u>1993</u>	Aug <u>1993</u>
44 Successful	38	18	14	21	21	18	22	13
24 Unsuccessful	24	34	35	26	19	25	22	25
29 Too early to tell	35	43	48	52	57	56	54	60
<u>3</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NO QUESTION 5

ASK ALL:

Q.6 Now thinking about Bill Clinton's upcoming State of the Union address... Do you consider this year's State of the Union address to be MORE important than past years', LESS important, or about as important as past years'?

27	More important
16	Less important
51	Same
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.7 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? **[READ AND ROTATE LIST]**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	(VOL) <u>DK</u>
a. The impeachment trial of President Clinton in the Senate Late December, 1998 ¹	27 34	37 37	21 22	14 7	1=100 *=100
b. Michael Jordan's decision to retire from basketball	18	28	26	28	*=100
c. Cold winter weather and storms in the Midwest Early December, 1998 ²	37 39	34 35	17 13	12 12	*=100 1=100
d. Charges that Salt Lake City used illegal practices to win the 2002 Winter Olympic games	9	28	29	33	1=100
e. Elizabeth Dole's decision to step down as president of the Red Cross and consider running for President in 2000	14	28	27	30	1=100
f. Recent major ups and downs in the U.S. stock market Early September, 1998 Mid-August, 1998 November, 1997 ³ April, 1997 February, 1996	24 32 17 25 17 12	28 31 23 36 21 20	19 20 21 18 22 25	28 17 39 20 40 42	1=100 *=100 *=100 1=100 *=100 1=100
g. Recent military clashes between U.S. warplanes and Iraqi forces	37	42	14	7	*=100
h. The adoption of the Euro as the official currency in much of Europe	9	21	26	43	1=100

¹ In Late December the story was listed as "The debate and vote in the House of Representatives to impeach Bill Clinton."

² In December 1998 question was worded "Unseasonable weather patterns."

³ In November 1997, April 1997 and February 1996 the story was listed as "Recent major ups and downs in the stock market."

Now I would like to ask you about some things that have been in the news. Not everyone will have heard about them...

K.1 Do you happen to know who is presiding over President Clinton's impeachment trial in the Senate?

19 Correct Answer
 12 William Rehnquist (*correct answer*)
 7 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (*correct answer*)
 13 Some other answer
68 Don't know/Refused
 100

K.2 Do you happen to know the name of the magazine publisher who has offered money to encourage people to come forward with information about sexual affairs with members of Congress?

48 Correct Answer
 42 Larry Flynt (*correct answer*)
 6 Publisher of Hustler Magazine (*correct answer*)
 4 Some other answer
48 Don't know/Refused
 100

Q.8 How have you been getting most of your news about national and international issues? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from computer online sources? (**ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES**)

		Jan <u>1996</u>	Sept <u>1995</u>	Jan <u>1994</u>	Sept <u>1993</u>	Jan <u>1993</u>
82	Television	88	82	83	83	82
42	Newspapers	61	63	51	60	52
18	Radio	25	20	15	17	17
4	Magazines	8	10	10	9	5
6	Online sources	--	--	--	--	--
2	Other (VOL)	2	1	5	3	1
*	Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	*	1

Q.9 In your opinion, who has been doing the best job of covering the news lately (**READ RESPONSES**)?

		Jan <u>1996</u>
13	Newspapers,	14
16	Local TV news,	20
21	Network TV news,	50
31	Cable TV news,	--
2	News Magazines,	4
6	Radio, or	8
3	Online sources	--
<u>8</u>	None of above/Don't know (VOL)	<u>4</u>
100		100

On another subject...

Q.10 All in all, would you say that you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
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
<i>Late February, 1991 (Gallup)</i>	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.11 Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 18 years of age?

37	Yes
63	No
<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.12 Please tell me whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied, on the whole, with the following aspects of your life: (First/Next) (INSERT --READ AND ROTATE -- DO NOT START WITH 12e) (are you satisfied or dissatisfied?) **REQUIRED PROBE:** Would you say you are VERY (dis)satisfied or SOMEWHAT (dis)satisfied.

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Doesn't Apply (VOL)	DK
a. Your standard of living						
-- what you can buy or do	45	38	12	4	--	1=100
November, 1996	35	40	14	10	--	1=100
Newsweek: October 1991		62		38		=100
Gallup: September 1988		85		15		=100
Gallup: Sept/Oct 1973		71		27		=100
b. Your household income	37	38	14	9	--	2=100
November, 1996	27	38	18	15	--	2=100
Newsweek: October 1991		54		46		=100
Gallup: September 1988		69		31		=100
Gallup: Sept/Oct 1973		61		39		=100
c. Your family life	71	20	4	3	--	2=100
November, 1996	69	21	6	3	--	1=100
Gallup: September 1988		94		6		=100
d. Your job -- the kind of work you do	45	25	5	4	20	1=100
November, 1996	41	28	8	6	17	*=100
Gallup: September 1988		76		24		=100
Gallup: Sept/Oct 1973		79		21		=100
e. (NON-PARENTS) The education children are getting today/ (PARENTS) Your children's education						
Total	26	29	18	17	--	10=100
November, 1996	26	28	20	20	--	6=100
Gallup: Sept/Oct 1973		61		39		=100
Non-Parents (N=763)	15	29	23	23	--	10=100
November, 1996	14	26	28	28	--	4=100
Parents (N=437)	46	27	8	7	--	12=100
November, 1996	44	30	9	10	--	7=100
f. Your housing situation	61	28	6	4	--	1=100
November, 1996	56	31	7	5	--	1=100
Newsweek: October 1991		80		20		=100
Gallup: September 1988		87		13		=100
Gallup: Sept/Oct 1973		74		23		=100
g. Your free time -- the time when you are not working	49	31	10	5	4	1=100
November, 1996	47	30	12	7	3	1=100
Gallup: September 1988		87		13		=100

Q.12h Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

		---- U.S. News & World Report ----							
		May	Feb	March	Oct	Aug	May	Jan	
		<u>1997</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	
17	Improve a lot	12	11	10	9	6	8	9	
55	Improve some	56	53	57	51	50	49	46	
14	Stay the same (VOL)	17	17	16	15	14	13	16	
7	Get a little worse	10	13	11	14	20	22	19	
3	Get a lot worse	2	3	3	3	5	4	5	
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

On another subject...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.13F1 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. Who would you vote for?

IF '3' OTHER, '8' DON'T KNOW, OR '9' REFUSED, ASK:

Q.14F1 As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat or Bush, the Republican?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=472]

		Early Sept
		<u>1998</u>
44	Gore/Lean Gore	40
50	Bush/Lean Bush	53
<u>6</u>	Undecided/Other	<u>7</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.15F2 Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Al Gore, the Democrat and Elizabeth Dole, the Republican. Who would you vote for?

IF '3' OTHER, '8' DON'T KNOW, OR '9' REFUSED, ASK:

Q.16F2 As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat or Dole, the Republican?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=458]

43	Gore/Lean Gore
47	Dole/Lean Dole
<u>10</u>	Undecided/Other
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.17 Now a few questions about priorities for President Clinton and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a priority. (First,) should (**INSERT ITEM; ROTATE**) be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? (What about (**INSERT ITEM**)?)

		<u>Top Priority</u>	<u>Important But lower Priority</u>	<u>Not too Important</u>	<u>Should Not be Done</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
ASK FORM 1: [N=608]						
a.F1	Improving the job situation	50	34	10	2	4=100
	January, 1998	54	32	10	3	1=100
	January, 1997	66	26	5	2	1=100
	December, 1994	64	27	5	2	2=100
b.F1	Reforming health care	69	21	4	4	2=100
	January, 1998	62	27	6	3	2=100
	January, 1997	56	32	7	4	1=100
	December, 1994	54	27	9	7	3=100
c.F1	Cutting the capital gains tax	24	40	18	5	13=100
	January, 1998	25	40	20	7	8=100
	January, 1997	29	38	17	8	8=100
	December, 1994	27	38	16	7	12=100
d.F1	Reducing crime	70	24	3	1	2 =100
	January, 1998	71	25	2	1	1=100
	January, 1997	70	25	3	2	*=100
	December, 1994	78	17	2	1	2=100
e.F1	Paying off the national debt	42	43	10	1	4=100
	January, 1998	46	40	9	3	2=100
f.F1	Reducing federal income taxes for the middle class	52	33	8	3	4=100
	January, 1998	54	33	8	3	2=100
	January, 1997	42	38	10	8	2=100
	December, 1994	53	32	9	3	3=100
g.F1	Reforming the campaign finance system	29	36	21	6	8=100
	January, 1998	32	34	24	5	5=100
	January, 1997	31	37	23	5	4=100
h.F1	Dealing with the problems of families with children	58	30	5	3	4=100
	January, 1998	55	30	9	4	2=100

Q.17 CONTINUED ...

		<u>Top Priority</u>	<u>Important But lower Priority</u>	<u>Not too Important</u>	<u>Should Not be Done</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
ASK FORM 2: [N=592]						
i.F2	Improving the educational system	74	22	2	1	1=100
	January, 1998	78	17	3	2	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	3	2	*=100
j.F2	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	71	24	3	1	1=100
	January, 1998	71	24	4	1	*=100
	January, 1997	75	20	2	2	1=100
k.F2	Taking steps to make the Medicare system financially sound	62	33	2	1	2=100
	January, 1998	64	31	3	1	1=100
	January, 1997	64	31	3	1	1=100
l.F2	Working to reduce racial tensions	49	35	11	3	2=100
	January, 1998	41	38	13	7	1=100
	January, 1997	50	34	9	5	2=100
m.F2	Dealing with the problems of poor and needy people	57	37	4	1	1=100
	January, 1998	57	34	6	2	1=100
	January, 1997	57	35	6	2	*=100
n.F2	Protecting the environment	52	39	7	1	1=100
	January, 1998	53	37	8	1	1=100
	January, 1997	54	35	8	2	1=100
o.F2	Dealing with the moral breakdown in the country	50	31	10	5	4=100
	January, 1998	48	31	13	6	2=100
	January, 1997	52	29	10	6	3=100

Q.18 Now I'd like your views on some people and things in the news. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of who or what I name. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... **(INSERT ITEM. ROTATE a-b; THEN ROTATE c-e)** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **(INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")**

NOTE: OCTOBER 1998 TRENDS ARE BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS.

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't Rate
a.	Trent Lott	4	23	19	11	27	16=100
	October, 1998	6	24	18	9	24	19=100
	Early September, 1998	5	22	17	6	34	16=100
	March, 1998	3	13	11	7	52	14=100
	November, 1997	3	16	14	5	51	11=100
	April, 1997	4	19	13	5	48	11=100
b.	Elizabeth Dole	21	45	13	7	3	11=100
	April, 1996	11	32	17	9	5	26=100
c.	Congress	7	41	30	15	0	7=100
	Early December, 1998	11	41	29	12	0	7=100
	October, 1998	7	55	25	8	0	5=100
	Early September, 1998	7	59	22	5	0	7=100
	October, 1997	5	48	33	11	0	3=100
	August 1997	6	44	33	11	0	6=100
	June, 1997	4	48	34	8	0	6=100
	May, 1997	5	44	32	10	*	9=100
	February, 1997	6	46	31	9	*	8=100
	January, 1997	6	50	32	8	*	4=100
	June, 1996	6	39	38	12	*	5=100
	April, 1996	6	39	37	13	0	5=100
	January, 1996	4	38	38	16	*	4=100
	October, 1995	4	38	42	13	0	3=100
	August, 1995	5	40	34	13	*	7=100
	June, 1995	8	45	31	11	*	5=100
	February, 1995	10	44	27	10	0	9=100
	July, 1994	7	46	34	9	*	4=100
	May, 1993	8	35	35	13	0	9=100
	November, 1991	7	44	34	9	0	6=100
	March, 1991	16	50	19	7	0	8=100
	May, 1990	6	53	25	9	1	6=100
	May, 1988	8	56	23	5	0	8=100
	January, 1988	6	58	25	4	0	7=100
	May, 1987	10	64	16	4	*	6=100
	January, 1987	7	52	23	8	0	10=100
	June, 1985	9	58	21	5	*	7=100

Q.18 CONTINUED ...

		Very Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
d.	The Democratic Party	14	41	26	12	0	7=100
	Early December, 1998	18	41	24	10	0	7=100
	October, 1998	11	45	29	9	*	6=100
	Early September, 1998	13	47	25	8	*	7=100
	March, 1998	15	43	26	10	*	6=100
	August, 1997	11	41	32	10	0	6=100
	June, 1997	10	51	25	8	*	6=100
	January, 1997	13	47	28	7	*	5=100
	October, 1995	9	40	37	11	—	3=100
	December, 1994	13	37	31	13	*	6=100
	July, 1994	13	49	27	7	*	4=100
	May, 1993	14	43	25	9	0	9=100
	July, 1992	17	44	24	9	*	6=100
e.	The Republican Party	10	34	27	23	0	6=100
	Early December, 1998	11	35	27	20	*	7=100
	October, 1998	9	43	28	14	0	6=100
	Early September, 1998	9	47	26	11	*	7=100
	March, 1998	10	40	31	12	*	7=100
	August, 1997	9	38	36	11	*	6=100
	June, 1997	8	43	31	11	1	6=100
	January, 1997	8	44	33	10	*	5=100
	October, 1995	10	42	28	16	*	4=100
	December, 1994	21	46	19	8	*	6=100
	July, 1994	12	51	25	8	*	4=100
	May, 1993	12	42	25	10	0	11=100
	July, 1992	9	37	31	17	*	6=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=608]

W.1F1 Generally, do you think a woman president would be better than a man at improving honesty and ethics in Washington, or don't you think there would be any difference between a man and a woman president on this?

25	Woman would be better
61	No difference
5	Woman would be worse (VOL)
5	Depends (VOL)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=592]

W.2F2 Generally, do you think a woman president would be better than a man at getting things done in Washington, or don't you think there would be any difference between a man and a woman president on this?

17	Woman would be better
62	No difference
8	Woman would be worse (VOL)
7	Depends (VOL)
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.19 As I read a list of issues, please tell me which party you think has the best ideas. (First), on the issue of **(READ AND ROTATE)** who has the best ideas... the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?
REPEAT FOR NEXT ITEM: And who has the best ideas on...

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL) <u>Neither</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
a.	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	27	46	7	20=100
b.	Cutting taxes for the middle class	32	45	6	17=100
c.	Improving the educational system	26	46	7	21=100
d.	Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans	25	46	7	22=100
e.	Dealing with the global economy	33	38	6	23=100
f.	Improving morality in this country	37	29	17	17=100

On another subject...

Q.20 Based on what you know at this point, do you think that Bill Clinton should or should not be removed from office?

		Late Dec <u>1998</u>	Early Dec <u>1998⁴</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	<i>Based on Registered Voters</i>	
					Late Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Oct <u>1998</u>
32	Should be removed	31	29	23	28	32
64	Should not be removed	65	67	70	66	62
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

4

For Early December 1998, November 1998 and October 1998 trend figures based on slightly different question, "Based on what you know at this point, do you think that Bill Clinton should or should not be impeached and removed from office?"

Q.21 If Bill Clinton is NOT removed from office, what do you think would be better for the country... if Clinton were officially reprimanded or censured by Congress, OR if the matter was dropped altogether?

		Early Dec 1998 ⁵
50	Censure	50
45	Drop the matter	47
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.22F1 If you had to choose, which do you think would be better for the country — if Clinton were to remain in office until the end of his term, OR if Clinton were to resign now, and turn the presidency over to Al Gore?

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.23F2 If you had to choose, which do you think would be better for the country — if Clinton were to resign now, and turn the presidency over to Al Gore, OR if Clinton were to remain in office until the end of his term?

		----- Gallup -----							
		Late Dec	Early Sept	Late Aug	8/17	1/25-26	1/24-25	1/23-24	
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	
69	Remain in office	68	76	75	72	68	67	71	
28	Resign	30	20	21	23	26	25	23	
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

⁵

In December 1998 the question was "If Bill Clinton is NOT impeached, what do you think would be better for the country... if Clinton were officially reprimanded or censured by Congress, OR if the matter was dropped altogether?"

ASK ALL:

Q.24 Do you approve or disapprove of the way each of the following is handling the current investigation into the charges against Bill Clinton? First (**READ AND ROTATE; ALWAYS READ ITEM “d” LAST**)...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. Republicans in Congress	32	60	8=100
Early December, 1998	33	59	8=100
Gallup: 12/4-6/98	32	61	7=100
Gallup: 11/20-22/98	34	58	8=100
Gallup: 11/13-15/98	31	62	7=100
Gallup: 10/9-12/98	38	55	7=100
Gallup: 10/6-7/98	34	58	8=100
Gallup: 9/23-24/98†	32	59	9=100
Gallup: 9/11-12/98†	43	48	9=100
Gallup: 8/10-12/98†	33	52	15=100
Gallup: 2/13-15/98†	44	44	12=100
b. Democrats in Congress	44	44	12=100
Early December, 1998	44	46	10=100
Gallup: 12/4-6/98	47	44	9=100
Gallup: 11/20-22/98	44	46	10=100
Gallup: 11/13-15/98	44	46	10=100
Gallup: 10/9-12/98	44	46	10=100
Gallup: 10/6-7/98	44	46	10=100
Gallup: 9/23-24/98†	45	41	14=100
Gallup: 9/11-12/98†	43	44	13=100
Gallup: 8/10-12/98†	44	39	17=100
c. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist	50	24	26=100
d. Bill Clinton	45	49	6=100
Early December, 1998	40	53	7=100
e. The news media	35	59	6=100

† Question wording: “Do you approve or disapprove of the way each of the following has handled the controversy over Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky?”

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=608]

Q.25

F1 Now that the Clinton impeachment inquiry has moved to the Senate, do you think that members of both parties are working together more to deal with the issue than members of the House did, or are the parties bickering more, or are they acting about the same as members of the House did?

24	Working together more
23	Bickering more
43	About the same
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=592]

Q.25a

F2 Now that the Clinton impeachment inquiry has moved to the Senate, do you think that members of both parties are mostly working together to deal with the issue, or are the parties mostly bickering with each other?

19	Mostly working together
76	Mostly bickering
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK ALL:

Q.26 How much of the live coverage of the Senate impeachment trial have you watched (**READ**)?

5	Almost all of it
10	A lot of it
34	Some of it
28	Hardly any of it
22	None of it
<u>1</u>	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.26a Do you think Clinton will or will not receive a fair trial in the Senate?

55	Yes, will receive a fair trial
34	No, will not
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=608]

Q.27

F1 So far, has the Senate trial itself made you more likely to support Clinton's removal from office, less likely to support his removal from office, or hasn't it affected your opinion either way?

- 12 More likely to support removal
- 15 Less likely to support removal
- 69 No effect
- 1 Haven't paid attention to trial (VOL)
- 3 Don't know/Refused
- 100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=592]

Q.28

F2 So far, has the Senate trial itself made you more likely to think Clinton should resign from office, less likely to think Clinton should resign from office, or hasn't it affected your opinion either way?

- 14 More likely to support resignation
- 12 Less likely to support resignation
- 69 No effect
- 1 Haven't paid attention to trial (VOL)
- 4 Don't know/Refused
- 100

ASK ALL:

Q.29 Do you think it is okay if some parts of the Senate trial are conducted in closed session, or do you think that the entire trial should be open to the press and the public?

- 43 Okay if some parts are closed
- 52 Entire trial should be open
- 1 Depends (VOL)
- 4 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only...

Q.30 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, or at home on at least an occasional basis?

		Early				Late Early				Late Early						
		Dec	Sept	Aug	Aug	April	Jan	Nov	June	Sept	Sept	July	April	March	Feb	Jan
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u> ⁶	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>
69	Yes	64	64	66	66	61	65	66	60	59	56	56	58	61	60	59
31	No	36	36	34	34	39	35	34	40	41	44	44	42	39	40	41
*	DK/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

6

Based on registered voters only.

IF YES (USE A COMPUTER) IN Q.30, ASK:

Q.31 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

		Early						
		Dec	Nov	Sept	Aug	Nov	July	June
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995⁷</u>
47	Goes online	42	37	42	43	36	23	14
22	Does not go online	58	63	58	57	63	77	86
<u>31</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

IF YES IN Q.31, ASK:

Q.31a Have you ever purchased goods or services online? (**IF YES, ASK:** Have you done this in the past week?)
(IF YES, BUT NOT IN PAST WEEK, ASK: Have you done this in the past month?)

BASED ON ONLINE USERS: [N=608]

		<u>Nov 1998</u>	<u>June 1995</u>
9	Yes, in past week	5	3
15	Yes, in past month	11	5
13	Yes, more than a month ago	16	--
63	No	68	91
<u>*</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

7

The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions:

(1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?)
 (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?