PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS LATE AUGUST 1998 NEWS INTEREST INDEX — FINAL TOPLINE — August 21-24, 1998 N = 1,001

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**]

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
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
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

Q.1 CONTINUED ...

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
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]

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
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
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

Q.2 CONTINUED ...

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=503]

Q.3F1 Now a different kind of question. Please tell me what one word best describes your impression of Bill Clinton. Tell me just the ONE best word that describes him. (OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE).

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=498]

Q.4F2 Now a different kind of question. Please tell me what one word best describes your impression of Hillary Clinton. Tell me just the ONE best word that describes her. (OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE).

*This table shows the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.

Bill Clinton's "To	op 20"	Hillary Clinton's "Top 2	Hillary Clinton's "Top 20"				
	Frequency*	Free	quency*				
1. Liar	42	1. Strong	66				
2. Dishonest	18	2. Intelligent	17				
3. Good	13	3. Brave	11				
4. Untrustworthy	12	4. Good	10				
5. Good President	10	5. Loyal	9				
6. Leader	10	6. Smart	9				
7. Immoral	9	7. Dominating	8				
8. Sneaky	8	8. Courageous	8				
9. Human	8	9. Powerful	7				
10. Smart	7	10. Naive	6				
 Sleazy 	7	11. Tough	6				
12. Excellent	6	12. Controlling	5				
13. Great	6	13. Aggressive	5				
14. Okay	6	14. Admirable	5				
15. Intelligent	6	15. Nice	5				
16. Scum	6	16. Excellent	5				
17. Stupid	5	17. Faithful	5				
18. Politician	5	18. Fine	5				
19. Adulterer	5	19. Steadfast	5				
20. Disgust	4	20. "Rhymes with rich"	5				

ASK ALL:

Q.5 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]**

		Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	(VOL) <u>DK</u>
a.	The investigation into allegations	<u>Closely</u>	<u>Closely</u>	<u>Closely</u>	<u>Closely</u>	
a.	of sexual misconduct against Bill Clinton	33	39	19	8	1=100
	Mid-August, 1998	26	30	20	24	*=100
	Early August, 1998	29	34	22	14	1=100
	June, 1998 ¹	28	32	24	15	1=100
	April, 1998	27	39	20	14	*=100
	March, 1998	30	35	25	9	1=100
	February, 1998 ²	21	44	25	10	*=100
	Early February, 1998	34	42	17	7	0=100
	Gallup: 1/27/98	37	43	15	4	1=100
	<i>CBS</i> : 1/26/98	38	41	15	5	1=100
b.	Economic problems in Russia	8	22	29	41	*=100
c.	The explosion of a car bomb in Northern Ireland	17	30	27	26	* =100
d.	U.S. military strikes against sites linked to terrorists in Afghanistan and Sudan	44	35	13	8	* =100
e.	The attempt by Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa to break Roger Maris' home run record	18	19	18	44	1=100

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In June, April and March 1998, story was listed as "Allegations of sexual misconduct against Bill Clinton."

In February 1998, story was listed as "Allegations that President Clinton had an affair with former White House intern, Monica Lewinsky."

On another subject...

If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's Q.6 Candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?
 IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '3' OR '9' IN Q.5, ASK:
 Q.6a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=781]

	Republican/	Democrat/	Other/
	Lean Rep.	Lean Dem.	Undecided
Late August, 1998	44	45	11=100
Early August, 1998	42	49	9=100
June, 1998	44	46	10=100
March, 1998	40	52	8=100
February, 1998	41	50	9=100
January, 1998	41	51	8=100
August, 1997	45	48	7=100
Early November, 1996 ³	44	48	8=100
October, 1996	42	49	9=100
Late September, 1996	43	49	8=100
Early September, 1996	43	51	6=100
July, 1996	46	47	7=100
June, 1996	44	50	6=100
March, 1996	44	49	7=100
January, 1996	46	47	7=100
October, 1995	48	48	4=100
August, 1995	50	43	7=100
November, 1994	45	43	12=100
October, 1994	47	44	9=100
Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
September, 1994	48	46	6=100
July, 1994	45	47	8=100

Based on likely voters.

ASK ALL:

Q.7 Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote for Bill Clinton, as a vote against Bill Clinton, or isn't Bill Clinton much of a factor in your vote?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=781]

			Not a	DK/
	For	Against	Factor	Ref.
Late August, 1998	20	17	61	2=100
Early August, 1998	21	18	57	4=100
June, 1998	20	18	57	5=100
March, 1998	21	15	59	5=100
September, 1996	24	18	51	7=100
November, 1994	17	21	55	7=100
October, 1994	17	21	57	5=100
Early October, 1994	17	23	54	6=100
CBS/NYT (BUSH): 10/28-31, 1990	19	15	61	6=100
CBS/NYT (REAGAN): 10/24-28, 1986	26	12	55	7=100
CBS/NYT (REAGAN): 9/28-10/1, 1986	26	16	51	7=100
CBS/NYT (REAGAN): 10/23-28, 1982	23	21	51	5=100

Q.8 These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district, or haven't you been able to register so far?

IF YES, ASK:

Q.8a Are you absolutely certain you are registered to vote, or is there a chance your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

			June 1998		-				-		Nov 1994			•	•		
			1990	1997	1997	1990	1990	1995	1995	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1993	1992	1990
78	Yes	s, registered	78	80	79	76	79	76	76	74	73	77	76	79	82	76	80
	75	Yes, absolutely certain	73	75	76	69	75	73	74	70	70	74	72	75		73	
		Chance registration															
	3	may have lapsed	4	4	3	2	4	3	2	3	2	3	4	4		3	
	*	Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	*	0	*	0	1	1	0	*	0		0	
22	No,	not registered	22	20	20	24	21	23	23	24	26	22	23	20	17	23	20
*	Do	n't know/Refused	*	*	1	*	*	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	<u></u>
100			100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.9 How often would you say you vote... always, nearly always, part of the time or seldom?

		June	Nov	Sept	June	Feb	Oct	April	Nov	Oct	July	June	May	Nov	May	Feb	Jan	May
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	1996	1996	<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	1992	1992	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1988</u>	1987
38	Always	40	33	51	41	32	41	42	43	43	40	47	41	38	33	45	39	34
30	Nearly always	29	38	23	30	34	32	29	24	28	30	26	32	37	35	30	33	37
16	Part of the time	15	15	11	12	15	12	12	11	13	14	10	13	13	12	10	12	11
10	Seldom	12	9	10	12	11	11	11	13	10	11	11	11	9	10	8	8	6
*	(VOL) Other	4	*	*	1	1	*	*	1	5	*	1	*	0	1	1	1	2
6	(VOL) Never vote	0	5	5	4	6	3	6	8	1	5	5	3	3	8	6	6	9
*	Don't know	*	*	*	*	_1	_1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	_1	*	_1	_1
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

- Q.10 Do you, yourself, plan to vote in the election this November?
- Q.10a How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain or not certain?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=781]

	Yes, Plan	Absolutely	Fairly	Not	No, Don't	Can't
	To Vote	<u>Certain</u>	Certain	Certain	<u>Plan To</u>	Say/DK
Late August, 1998 [†]	93	75	17	1	3	4=100
June, 1998†	95	74	19	2	3	2=100
November, 1996 ⁴	96				2	2=100
October, 1996	98	87	10	1	1	1=100
September, 1996	98	89	8	1	1	1=100
September, 1996	96	83	11	2	2	2=100
July, 1996	95	82	12	1	3	2=100
June, 1996	96	84	11	1	2	2 = 100
November, 1994 [†]	71				26	3=100
October, 1994 [†]	95				3	2=100
October, 1992	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
September, 1992	98	85	11	2	1	1=100
August, 1992	97	89	8	*	1	2=100
June, 1992	97	88	8	1	1	2 = 100
Gallup: November, 1988	97	87	9	1	2	1 = 100
Gallup: October, 1988	98				1	1=100

† Non-Presidential elections

Q.11 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	No Opinion
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

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

Q.11 CONTINUED...

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	No Opinion
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
Late February, 1991 (Gallup)	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

Q.12 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) is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? (INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")

		Very	Mostly	Mostly	Very	Never	
		Favor-	Favor-	Unfavor-	Unfavor-	Heard	Can't
		able	able	able	able	Of	Rate
a.	Bill Clinton	18	36	20	24	0	2=100
	March, 1998	22	40	19	16	*	3=100
	November, 1997	19	44	21	14	0	2 = 100
	September, 1997	18	44	21	14	0	3=100
	August, 1997	16	45	21	17	0	1=100
	April, 1997	17	44	21	16	*	2=100
	January, 1997	17	49	18	14	*	2=100
	October, 1996 ⁵	12	45	22	19	0	2=100
	June, 1996	16	45	23	14	*	2=100
	April, 1996	16	41	24	16	0	3=100
	February, 1996	20	35	22	21	0	2=100
	January, 1996	13	43	27	15	0	2 = 100
	August, 1995	13	36	29	20	0	2=100
	February, 1995	14	41	25	17	0	3=100
	December, 1994	17	34	24	22	0	3=100
	July, 1994	15	43	25	16	*	1 = 100
	May, 1993	18	42	23	12	0	5=100
	July, 1992	17	42	25	9	0	7=100
	June, 1992	10	36	33	14	1	6=100
	May, 1992	11	42	32	10	*	5=100
	March, 1992	10	43	29	11	1	6=100
	February, 1992	15	44	24	7	2	8=100
	January, 1992	9	28	11	4	27	21=100
	November, 1991	5	25	8	2	39	21=100

October 1996 trend based on registered voters.

Q.12 CONTINUED ...

Q.12 (CONTINUED						
		Very	Mostly	Mostly	Very	Never	
		Favor-	Favor-	Unfavor-	Unfavor-	Heard	Can't
		able	<u>able</u>	able	able	Of	Rate
b.	Al Gore	11	44	23	14	1	7=100
	March, 1998	17	42	19	11	2	9=100
	November, 1997	12	43	26	12	1	6=100
	September, 1997	11	35	28	15	1	10 = 100
	August, 1997	15	39	22	15	1	8=100
	April, 1997	12	45	24	12	1	6=100
	January, 1997	18	47	21	8	1	5=100
	July, 1994	18	49	19	7	2	5=100
	August, 1992	22	44	15	5	2	12 = 100
	July, 1992 ⁶	15	32	14	5	6	28=100
	September, 1987	6	23	11	3	23	34=100
c.	Hillary Clinton	25	38	21	13	*	3=100
	March, 1998	26	39	17	14	*	4=100
	January, 1997	17	40	23	17	*	3=100
	June, 1996	13	40	26	17	*	4=100
	April, 1996	12	37	27	19	0	5=100
	February, 1996	14	28	27	27	0	4=100
	January, 1996	10	32	28	26	0	4=100
	October, 1995	14	44	24	14	—	4=100
	August, 1995	16	33	25	22	*	4=100
	July, 1994	19	38	22	18	1	2=100
	May, 1993	19	41	18	11	1	10=100
d.	Kenneth Starr	7	22	26	33	5	7=100
	March, 1998	6	16	24	25	19	10=100
	Gallup, January 1998		24		24	29	23=100
e.	Monica Lewinsky	3	11	33	44	*	9=100
	March, 1998	3	14	37	30	4	12=100
	Gallup, February, 1998		13	(53	4	20=100
	Gallup, January 1998		30	4	50	1	19=100
f.	Newt Gingrich	5	34	32	19	4	6=100
	March, 1998	6	30	29	20	6	9=100
	November, 1997	6	24	35	24	4	7=100
	August, 1997	6	24	35	27	2	6=100
	April, 1997	5	23	36	28	3	5=100
	January, 1997	4	24	39	26	2	5=100
	August, 1995	9	21	29	25	4	12=100
	February, 1995	12	29	22	15	10	12=100
	December, 1994	7	18	15	13	30	17=100
	July, 1994	2	12	8	4	65	9=100

⁶

July 1992 trend based on 461 respondents asked on July 9, 1992 only.

Q.13 Which of these best describes you... (**READ**)

		Early Feb
		<u>1998</u>
33	I like Bill Clinton personally and I like his policies, OR	39
35	I don't like Bill Clinton personally but I like his policies, OR	30
27	I don't like Bill Clinton personally and I don't like his policies	23
2	(DO NOT READ) I like Bill Clinton personally but I don't like his policies	3
3	Don't Know/Refused	5
100		100

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IF ANSWERED 1 "APPROVE" IN Q.1 AND 2 or 3 IN Q.13, ASK: [N=302]

- Q.14 I notice you disapprove of Bill Clinton as a person. What makes you approve of the way he is handling his job as president? (OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE).
 - 34 ECONOMY (NET)
 - 28 Economy is doing well/Country in good economic shape/Doing good job handling economic issues
 - 6 Employment is up/Lower unemployment rates
 - 1 Inflation is down/low
 - 1 All other economy mentions

25 JOB PERFORMANCE (NET)

- 18 He's doing a good job/fair job/Handles the position well
- 7 Good policies/Ideas in tune with those of the nation
- * All other job performance mentions

18 FOREIGN POLICY (NET)

- 10 Doing a good job handling threat of terrorism/terrorists
- 7 Good job with foreign policy/Handles foreign affairs well
- 1 Peace/Not at war

14 PUBLIC, PRIVATE LIFE UNRELATED (NET)

- 12 Private conduct doesn't affect ability to lead/Does a good job despite personal/moral flaws/sexual conduct
- 4 He/Clinton is able to separate his private life from his public life

13 PERSONALITY TRAITS (NET)

- 6 Decisive/Has clear ideas/Follow up on decisions
- 5 Clinton has best interests of country in mind
- 2 Sharp/Intelligent
- 1 Charismatic/Knows how to appeal to people

11 DOMESTIC POLICY (NET)

- 3 Social Security/Medicare
 - 2 Health care policies/Reform
 - 2 Family/Child care
 - 1 Education
- 1 Welfare reform
- 1 Drugs/Crime
- 4 All other domestic policy mentions
- Country is in good shape/Things are going well
- * Other Miscellaneous mentions
- 4 Don't know/Refused
- 1 Nothing

6

6 MISCELLANEOUS NEGATIVE TRAITS

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=503]

Q.15F1 Now a few questions about the allegations of sexual misconduct against President Clinton. Thinking specifically about these allegations, how important an issue do you think this whole situation is to the nation — of great importance, of some importance, or of very little importance?

		Mid Aug	Early Aug	March	Feb	Early Feb	Jan 26th	News Jan 24-25
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>
26	Great importance	24	22	26	22	25	39	40
25	Some importance	21	22	24	25	27	28	21
48	Very little importance	49	51	46	50	45	28	35
1	None (VOL)	3	3	2	3	1	2	3
*	Don't know/Refused	3	2	2	*	2	3	_1
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100
							(N=609)	(N=943)

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=498]

Q.16F2 Now, a few questions about the allegation that President Clinton lied under oath about a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky. Thinking specifically about this allegation, how important an issue do you think this whole situation is to the nation — of great importance, of some importance, or of very little importance?

		Early Aug
		<u>1998</u>
33	Great importance	27
23	Some importance	21
42	Very little importance	46
2	None (VOL)	3
*	Don't know/Refused	3
100		100

ASK ALL:

Q.17 How good a job are news organizations doing at reporting about the allegations against President Clinton — an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job?

		March	Feb	Early Feb
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>
19	Excellent	13	12	10
36	Good	29	27	36
23	Only fair	27	31	32
19	Poor	28	26	19
3	Don't Know/Refused	3	4	3
100		100	100	100

Q.18 How would rate the job the press is doing (**INSERT ITEM; ROTATE**)... would you say they are doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job? How about...

		Excellent	Good	Only <u>Fair</u>	Poor	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
a.	Being objective about whether or not the investigation of President Clinton is					
	important for the country	9	31	34	24	2=100
	Early February, 1998 ⁷	7	29	37	23	4=100
b.	Providing you with the information you need					
	to make up your own mind about this issue	14	37	28	19	2 = 100
	Early February, 1998 ⁸	10	35	31	21	3=100

Q.19 Do you think the media is giving TOO MUCH attention to the investigation of President Clinton, TOO LITTLE attention, or about the right amount?

		Whitewater Investigation ⁹					
		May	Aug	March	Newsweek		
		<u>1997</u>	1995	<u>1994</u>	March 1994		
69	Too much	43	45	55	44		
4	Too little	14	15	7	10		
26	About the right amount	39	37	33	36		
1	Don't know/Refused	4	3	5	<u>10</u>		
100		100	100	100	100		
					(N=735)		

- Q.20 Do you think this controversy is so great that it is interfering with Bill Clinton's ability to run the country, or don't you think so?
 - 55 Yes, interfering
 - 42 No, not interfering
 - <u>3</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100

Question worded: "Being objective about whether or not President Clinton is guilty of any of these allegations."

⁸ Question worded: "Providing you with the information you need to make up your own mind about these allegations."

⁹ Question worded: "Do you think the media is giving too much attention to the Whitewater case and White House handling of it, too little attention or about the right amount?"

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=503]

Q.21a

F1 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: [N=498]

Q.21bF2

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					
		Aug 17	Aug 17 Jan 25-26 Jan 24-25 Jan				
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>		
75	Remain in office	72	68	67	71		
21	Resign	23	26	25	23		
4	Don't know/Refused	5	6	8	6		
100		100	100	100	100		

ASK ALL:

Q.22 If Congress decides to begin impeachment hearings against President Clinton, how would you feel about the members who voted in FAVOR of beginning these hearings? Would your opinion of them be very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?

		Early
		<u>Aug 1998</u>
12	Very favorable	12
24	Mostly favorable	22
25	Mostly unfavorable	25
32	Very unfavorable	32
7	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100		100

	(Next,) (DO NOT ROTATE)					
		Definitely	Probably	Probably	Definitely	DK/
		True	True	Not True	Not True	Ref
a.	The allegation that Bill Clinton had					
	sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky?	49	43	3	2	3=100
	Mid-August, 1998	22	50	13	6	9=100
	Early August, 1998	19	51	14	7	9=100
	Late February, 1998	13	48	23	7	9=100
	Early February, 1998	9	43	29	10	9=100
b.	The allegation that Bill Clinton lied under oath					
	about having an affair with Monica Lewinsky?	44	39	10	3	4=100
	Mid-August, 1998	21	45	18	5	11=100
	Early August, 1998	20	46	16	8	10=100
	Late February, 1998	14	42	25	10	9=100
	Early February, 1998	9	40	31	11	9=100
	Gallup: Jan 28, 1998	9	37	31	13	10=100
	Gallup: Jan 25-26, 1998	18	38	23	13	8=100
	Gallup: Jan 23-24, 1998	15	40	26	10	9=100
	Gallup: Jan 21, 1998	8	41	28	15	8=100
c.	The allegation that Bill Clinton participated in an effort to obstruct justice by getting Monica					
	Lewinsky to lie under oath about the affair?	17	32	31	13	7=100
	Mid-August, 1998	13	34	30	12	11=100
	Early August, 1998	14	34	28	14	10=100
	February, 1998	8	32	36	16	8=100
	Gallup: Jan 28, 1998	6	30	36	16	12=100
	Gallup: Jan 25-26, 1998	14	34	28	16	8=100
	Gallup: Jan 23-24, 1998	11	35	31	14	9=100
	Gallup: Jan 21, 1998	6	33	33	18	10=100

Q.23 Now I'm going to describe some of the allegations being made in this matter. As I read each one, please say whether you think it is definitely true, probably true, probably not true, or definitely not true. (First,...) (Next,...) (DO NOT ROTATE)

Q.24 If it turns out that President Clinton lied under oath about having a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky, do you think that he should be impeached and removed from office, or not?

		Mid-Aug	Mid-Aug Early Aug		Early Feb
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>
30	Yes, should be impeached	29	31	40	50
66	No, should not	65	63	55	46
4	Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	5	4
100		100	100	100	100

Q.25 If it turns out that President Clinton encouraged Monica Lewinsky to lie under oath about the nature of their relationship, do you think that he should be impeached and removed from office, or not?

		Mid-Aug	Mid-Aug Early Aug		Early Feb
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>
41	Yes, should be impeached	39	41	48	48
55	No, should not	55	53	47	47
4	Don't know	6	6	5	5
100		100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=503]

- Q.26F1 Some people think that because of this scandal, President Clinton does not have the respect he needs from officials in Washington and world leaders to give direction to the country. Other people think this scandal has not hurt President Clinton's ability to lead at home and abroad. Which comes closer to your own view?
 - 43 Does not have respect he needs
 - 50 Scandal has not hurt ability to lead
 - 7 Don't know/Refused
 - 100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=498]

Q.27

- F2 Some people think that because of this scandal, President Clinton does not have the moral standing to lead the country. Other people think President Clinton still has the moral standing to lead. Which comes closer to your own view?
 - 37 Does not have moral standing
 - 57 Still has moral standing
 - 2 He never had moral standing (VOL)
 - 1 Not important for President to have (**VOL**)
 - <u>3</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100

ASK ALL:

- Q.28 Do you think this investigation has been mostly about possible sexual misconduct, or mostly about whether the president lied under oath?
 - 37 Sexual misconduct
 - 48 Lied under oath
 - 12 Both/neither (VOL)
 - <u>3</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100

- Q.29 What do you think caused this controversy in the first place -- the president's political enemies were trying to hurt him, or the president's behavior was wrong?
 - 42 Political enemies
 - 47 Behavior was wrong
 - 9 Both/neither (VOL)
 - <u>2</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100
- Q.30 If President Clinton lied about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, do you think this is more serious than if he lied about a government POLICY matter, less serious, or is there no difference?
 - 7 More serious
 - 52 Less serious
 - 39 No difference
 - <u>2</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100
- Q.31 In his statement to the American public, do you think Bill Clinton accepted enough of the blame in this matter, or do you think he tried to blame others too much?
 - 45 Accepted enough
 - 46 Blamed others too much
 - 9 Don't know/Refused
 - 100
- Q.32 Bill Clinton has told the American people that he had an inappropriate relationship with Monica Lewinsky but misled the public earlier to protect his family. In your opinion, should Clinton's statement be enough to end the matter OR do you think Congress should still consider impeachment hearings?

		Early Aug
		1998^{10}
61	Enough to end the matter	60
32	Congress should still consider impeachment hearings	32
7	Don't know/Refused	8
100		100

¹⁰

Question worded: "If Bill Clinton were to tell the American public that he had an affair with Monica Lewinsky but lied about it under oath to protect his family, in your opinion should this be enough to end the matter, OR do you think Congress should still consider impeachment hearings?"

- Q.33 In his statement, President Clinton admitted he had an inappropriate relationship with an intern in his office. In your opinion, how wrong was this relationship -- very wrong, somewhat wrong, not too wrong, or not at all wrong?
 - 70 Very wrong
 - 18 Somewhat wrong
 - 5 Not too wrong
 - 3 Not at all wrong
 - 4 Don't know/Refused
 - 100

IF 1 "VERY WRONG" OR 2 "SOMEWHAT WRONG" IN Q.33, ASK: [N=896]

- Q.34 Do you think it was wrong because (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE), or is that not an important factor to you?
- a. Bill Clinton is President of the United States, not an ordinary citizen
 - 36 Yes
 - 63 Not a factor
 - <u>1</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100
- b. Monica Lewinsky was a 21-year old INTERN at the White House
 - 22 Yes
 - 77 Not a factor
 - 1 Don't know/Refused
 - 100

ASK ALL:

- Q.36 Do you think Bill Clinton should have told the public about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky sooner than he did, or do you think it was right for him to wait?
 - 68 Sooner
 - 24 Right to wait
 - <u>8</u> Don't know/Refused
 - 100

IF 1 "SOONER", ASK: [N=684]

Q.36a Are you angry with Bill Clinton about this, or not?

- 47 Yes
- 52 No
- 1 Don't know/Refused
- 100

ASK ALL:

- Q.37 Do you think Bill Clinton admitted that he had a relationship with Monica Lewinsky because of the evidence gathered against him, or do you think he admitted having the relationship because he thought coming forward was the right thing to do?
 - 70 Evidence
 - 24 Right thing to do
 - 6 Don't know/Refused
 - 100

IF 1 "EVIDENCE", ASK: [N=723]

Q.37a. Are you angry with Bill Clinton about this, or not?

45 Yes

- 54 No
- <u>1</u> Don't know/Refused

100

ASK ALL:

- Q.38 How do you feel about Hillary Clinton's decision to stand by her husband do you admire her, or do you think poorly of her?
 - 66 Admire
 - 20 Think poorly
 - 9 Neither/Both (VOL)
 - 5 Don't know/Refused
 - 100

Now a question about the military action taken (FRIDAY: "YESTERDAY"/SATURDAY-MONDAY: "A FEW DAYS AGO")...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=503]

T.1 Do you approve or disapprove of U.S. military strikes against sites linked to terrorists in Afghanistan and Sudan?

		Gallı	μp^{11}
		Aug 21-23	Aug 20
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>
79	Approve	75	66
11	Disapprove	18	19
10	Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100

Question worded: "As you may know, the United States recently launched military attacks against terrorist facilities in the countries of Afghanistan and Sudan. Do you approve or disapprove of those attacks?"

ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=498]

T.2 Do you think President Clinton ordered the attack on sites in Afghanistan and Sudan mainly to fight terrorism, or mainly because he wanted to turn public attention away from the Monica Lewinsky affair?

		ABC News
		<u>Aug 20, 1998¹²</u>
69	Fight terrorism	64
23	Turn attention away from affair	30
8	Don't know/Refused	7
100		100
		(N=510)

Q.39 How much, if at all, do you worry about terrorism when you're in public places here in the United States?

		April March
		<u>1997</u> <u>1996</u>
17	A great deal	11 13
30	Somewhat	24 21
24	Not much, OR	29 27
28	Not at all	35 39
1	Don't know/Refused	<u> 1 *</u>
100		100 100

¹²

Question worded: "Just your best guess, do you think Clinton ordered the attack on these sites mainly to fight terrorism, or mainly because he wanted to turn public attention away from the Monica Lewinsky affair?"

FINALLY, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY.

Q.40 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, or at home on at least an occasional basis?

		Early											
		Aug	April	Jan	Nov	June	Late	Early	July	April	March	Feb	Jan
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	Sept 96 ¹³	Sept 96	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>
66	Yes	66	61	65	66	60	59	56	56	58	61	60	59
34	No	34	39	35	34	40	41	44	44	42	39	40	41
0	DK/Ref	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	0	0
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

IF YES (USE A COMPUTER) IN Q.40 AND FORM 1, ASK: [N=503]

Q.41aF1 Do you ever use a computer at work, school or home to connect with computers over the Internet, the World Wide Web, or with information services such as America Online or Prodigy?

IF YES (USE A COMPUTER) IN Q.40 AND FORM 2, ASK: [N=498]

Q.41bF2 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

NOTE: Trend numbers are for Q.41aF1 only.

		Early									
		Aug	April	Jan	Nov	July	April	March	Feb	Jan	June
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995¹⁴</u>
BASE	D ON TOTAL RESPONDEN	NTS:									
43	Goes online	41	36	37	36	23	21	22	21	21	14
23	Does not go online	25	25	28	29	33	37	39	39	38	86
*	Don't know/Refused	*	0	0	1	0	*	0	*	0	*
<u>34</u>	Not a computer user	<u>34</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>n/a</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

13 Based on registered voters only.

¹⁴ 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?