

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**AUGUST 2006 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**August 9-13, 2006**  
**N=1506**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush 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 George W. Bush is handling his job as president? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

	<u>App-rove</u>	<u>Dis-approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>App-rove</u>	<u>Dis-approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	July, 2001	51	32	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:**

More specifically...

Q.2F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE;]  
How about [NEXT ITEM]?

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F1	The economy	33	59	8=100
	June, 2006	33	57	10=100
	March, 2006	34	57	9=100
	February, 2006	38	55	7=100
	December, 2005	38	55	7=100
	Late October, 2005	36	56	8=100
	Early September, 2005	33	60	7=100
	July, 2005	38	53	9=100
	Mid-May, 2005	35	57	8=100
	February, 2005	43	50	7=100
	January, 2005	45	50	5=100
	Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7=100
	Early September, 2004	44	49	7=100
	August, 2004	42	52	6=100
	July, 2004	42	52	6=100
	June, 2004	43	50	7=100
	Early April, 2004	39	53	8=100
	Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6=100
	September, 2003	43	48	9=100
	February, 2003	43	48	9=100
	January, 2003	47	45	8=100
	Early October, 2002	49	40	11=100
	June, 2002	53	36	11=100
	January, 2002	60	28	12=100
	Early September, 2001	47	44	9=100
	February, 2001	50	22	28=100
b.F1	The situation in Iraq	32	61	7=100
	June, 2006	35	57	8=100
	March, 2006	30	65	5=100
	February, 2006	38	57	5=100
	December, 2005	36	58	6=100
	Late October, 2005	37	57	6=100
	Early September, 2005	34	58	8=100
	July, 2005	35	57	8=100
	Mid-May, 2005	37	56	7=100
	February, 2005	40	53	7=100
	January, 2005	45	50	5=100
	Mid-October, 2004	37	56	7=100
	Early September, 2004	47	45	8=100
	August, 2004	43	52	5=100
	July, 2004	42	53	5=100
	June, 2004	42	51	7=100
	Late April, 2004	44	48	8=100
	Early April, 2004	40	53	7=100
	Mid-January, 2004	59	37	4=100
	September, 2003	52	40	8=100

**Q.2F1 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
April 10-16, 2003 <sup>1</sup>	77	17	6=100
April 8-9, 2003	71	23	6=100
--April 9, 2003	76	18	6=100
--April 8, 2003	65	28	7=100
April 2-7, 2003	73	21	6=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	26	5=100
March 25-27, 2003	73	23	4=100
March 23-24, 2003	72	22	6=100
March 20-22, 2003	70	23	7=100
February, 2003	56	37	7=100
January, 2003	56	36	8=100
Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
<b>c.F1</b> Terrorist threats	50	39	11=100
June, 2006	47	41	12=100
March, 2006	42	49	9=100
February, 2006	53	40	7=100
December, 2005	49	44	7=100
Late October, 2005	52	40	8=100
Early September, 2005	49	41	10=100
July, 2005	49	40	11=100
Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8=100
February, 2005	59	34	7=100
January, 2005	62	33	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11=100
Early September, 2004	62	32	6=100
August, 2004	58	37	5=100
July, 2004	54	40	6=100
June, 2004	56	35	9=100
Late April, 2004	55	36	9=100
Early April, 2004	53	38	9=100
<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2=100
September, 2003	64	28	8=100
February, 2003	67	25	8=100
January, 2003	69	23	8=100
Early October, 2002	71	22	7=100
June, 2002	74	18	8=100
Mid-September, 2001 <sup>2</sup>	85	6	9=100
<b>Clinton</b> : Early September, 1998	72	20	8=100

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<sup>1</sup> From March to April 2003 the item was worded: "... dealing with the war in Iraq?"

<sup>2</sup> In Mid-September, 2001 the question was worded: "...dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington." In Early September 1998 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling current threats from international terrorist groups?"

**Q.2F1 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
d.F1	The nation's foreign policy	37	49	14=100
	June, 2006	37	51	12=100
	Late October, 2005	36	51	13=100
	July, 2005	36	49	15=100
	Mid-May, 2005	38	46	16=100
	February, 2005	43	46	11=100
	January, 2005	48	43	9=100
	Mid-October, 2004	37	49	14=100
	Early September, 2004	47	42	11=100
	August, 2004	42	49	9=100
	July, 2004	40	48	12=100
	Mid-January, 2004	53	36	11=100
	March, 2003	53	36	11=100
	Early April, 2002	69	20	11=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : October, 2001	81	14	5=100
	Early September, 2001	46	34	20=100
	August, 2001 <sup>3</sup>	45	32	23=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : September, 1997	54	34	12=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	58	30	12=100
e.F1	Health care policy	31	54	15=100
	March, 2006	26	57	17=100
	February, 2006	28	57	15=100
	February, 2005	36	51	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : November, 2004	37	57	6=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2004	43	49	8=100
	September, 2003	33	46	21=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	41	44	15=100
	June, 2002	37	46	17=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : July, 1994	39	54	7=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	30	59	11=100
f.F1	Education	38	45	17=100
	February, 2006	43	45	12=100
	February, 2005	44	42	14=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2004	47	47	6=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2004	56	35	9=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	57	30	13=100
	June, 2002	56	31	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2001	65	22	13=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	45	45	10=100
g.F1	The conflict in the Middle East between Israel and Hezbollah	36	44	20=100

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<sup>3</sup> In August 2001 roughly half of the U.S. sample was asked about Bush's handling of international policy, while the other half was asked about the handling of the nation's foreign policy. Results did not differ between question wordings.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on... domestic policy or foreign policy?

		Early		----- Clinton -----					
		Jan	Oct	Jan	Jan	Early Sept	Jan	Dec	Oct
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>
50	Domestic policy	57	64	53	52	56	86	85	76
32	Foreign policy	25	20	27	34	30	7	7	13
1	Neither (VOL)	1	1	1	*	0	*	2	*
12	Both (VOL)	13	12	16	11	11	5	4	7
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**NO QUESTION 4-6**

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:**

Q.7F2 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, tell me which one best reflects your impression of George W. Bush. (First,) does George W. Bush impress you as... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]

		Early					
		March	Oct	July	Sept	Feb	Oct
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>1999</u>
a.F2	41 Trustworthy, or	40	49	49	62	60	63
	52 NOT trustworthy	52	46	46	32	28	29
	3 Neither particularly (VOL)	2	2	2	2	4	2
	<u>4</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

		Early					
		March	Oct	July	Sept	Feb	
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	
b.F2	42 Able to get things done, or	43	51	50	68	60	--
	51 NOT able to get things done	50	43	42	26	18	--
	3 Neither particularly (VOL)	3	2	4	3	7	--
	<u>4</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>	--
	100	100	100	100	100	100	

		March	July	Sept	Feb		
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>		
c.F2	46 Well informed, or	38	--	52	59	62	--
	46 NOT well informed	54	--	42	36	27	--
	3 Neither particularly (VOL)	2	--	2	*	4	--
	<u>5</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	--	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	--
	100	100	100	100	100		

		Early					
		March	Oct	July	Sept	April	Feb
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2001</u>
d.F2	8 Liberal,	10	9	9	9	8	7
	30 Middle of the road or	31	27	26	34	37	39
	48 Conservative	48	55	57	51	46	44
	3 Neither particularly (VOL)	3	3	2	1	3	2
	<u>11</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**Q.7F2 CONTINUED...**

			March	Early	July	Sept	Oct
			<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>1999</u>
e.F2	41	Cares about people like me, or	42	45	48	56	54
	53	DOESN'T care about people like me	51	51	49	38	37
	2	Neither particularly (VOL)	2	1	1	2	2
	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100

			March	Early	July	Sept	Oct
			<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>1999</u>
f.F2	43	A strong leader, or	44	51	55	68	68
	52	NOT a strong leader	51	46	41	29	24
	3	Neither particularly (VOL)	2	2	2	1	3
	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
	100		100	100	100	100	100

**NO QUESTION 8**

**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.9 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month, 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. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]**

		Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
		closely	closely	closely	closely	Ref
a.	News about the current situation in Iraq	41	39	12	7	1=100
	June, 2006	37	43	13	6	1=100
	May, 2006	42	35	15	7	1=100
	April, 2006	43	36	13	7	1=100
	March, 2006	43	38	12	6	1=100
	February, 2006	39	42	12	6	1=100
	January, 2006	40	40	12	7	1=100
	December, 2005	45	38	11	5	1=100
	Early November, 2005	41	40	13	6	*=100
	Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
	Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
	July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
	June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
	Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
	Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
	February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
	January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
	December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
	Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
	August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
	July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
	June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 <sup>4</sup>	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 <sup>5</sup>	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100
b. The hot weather this summer and its impact on the country	38	34	17	9	2=100
January, 2001 <sup>6</sup>	42	31	15	11	1=100
January, 1999	37	34	17	12	*=100
Early December, 1998	39	35	13	12	1=100
August, 1988	42	32	15	10	1=100

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<sup>4</sup> From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

<sup>5</sup> From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq." In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

<sup>6</sup> In January 2001 question was worded "Cold winter weather and storms in the Northeast and Midwest.." In January 1999 question was worded "Cold winter weather and storms in the Midwest." In December 1998 question was worded "Unseasonable weather patterns." In August 1988 question was worded "The hot weather this summer and the greenhouse effect."

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
c. The military conflict between Israel and Hezbollah forces in Lebanon	40	34	14	10	2=100
September, 2003 <sup>7</sup>	31	36	20	13	*=100
Early July, 2003	26	40	20	13	1=100
December, 2002	29	36	22	12	1=100
Early October, 2002	32	39	20	8	1=100
June, 2002	38	33	18	10	1=100
April, 2002	38	37	14	10	1=100
Early April, 2002	44	33	13	9	1=100
December, 2001	31	40	19	9	1=100
Early September, 2001	21	33	25	20	1=100
April, 2001	22	34	24	19	1=100
Mid-October, 2000	30	38	18	13	1=100
Early October, 2000	21	30	27	21	1=100
January, 1997	12	23	29	35	1=100
October, 1996	17	34	26	23	*=100
May, 1988	18	37	34	9	2=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:**

d.F1 The high price of gasoline these days	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
Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1=100

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<sup>7</sup> In Early September 2001 through September 2003 and in Mid-October 2000 the story was listed as "Continued violence in the Middle East between the Palestinians and the Israelis." In April 2001 the story was listed as "Continued violence in the Middle East." In Early October 2000 the story was listed as "Renewed violence in the Middle East between the Palestinians and the Israelis." In January 1997 the story was listed as "Renewed tensions between Israelis and Palestinians over Hebron." In October 1996 the story was listed as "Renewed violence between Israelis & Palestinians on the West Bank and in Jerusalem." In May 1988 the story was listed as "The conflict in the Middle East between the Palestinians and the Israelis in the occupied territories."

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

		Very <u>closely</u>	Fairly <u>closely</u>	Not too <u>closely</u>	Not at all <u>closely</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
	June, 2000 <sup>8</sup>	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
e.F1	The issue of immigration	34	40	16	9	1=100
	June, 2006	36	41	15	7	1=100
	May, 2006	44	33	13	9	1=100
	April, 2006	39	34	16	10	1=100
f.F1	Iran's nuclear research program	24	34	20	20	3=100
	June, 2006	21	32	22	22	3=100
	April, 2006	26	30	23	20	1=100
	March, 2006	24	31	22	22	1=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:**

g.F2	News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district	20	29	28	22	1=100
	June, 2006	18	30	29	21	2=100
	April, 2006	18	28	30	23	1=100
	Early November, 2002 (RVs)	27	46	18	9	*=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	28	34	24	13	1=100
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	21	46	22	10	1=100
	Early September, 2002	17	29	29	24	1=100
	Late October, 1998 (RVs)	26	45	20	9	*=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	21	43	24	11	1=100
	Early September, 1998	17	32	28	23	*=100
	Early August, 1998	13	30	28	28	1=100
	June, 1998	9	27	33	30	1=100
	April, 1998 <sup>9</sup>	16	33	24	27	*=100
	November, 1994	18	42	25	15	*=100
	Late October, 1994	14	38	31	16	1=100
	Early October, 1994	23	34	23	19	1=100
	September, 1994	19	34	29	18	*=100
	November, 1990	38	34	17	11	*=100
	October, 1990	18	32	28	22	*=100

**NO ITEM h.**

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<sup>8</sup> In August 1990 through June 2000 the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

<sup>9</sup> In April 1998, September 1994 and October 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and election campaigns in your state." In November 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and elections in your state."

**Q.9 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
i.F2	Fidel Castro handing control of Cuba to his brother because of an illness	19	34	23	23	1=100
j.F2	Actor Mel Gibson's outburst during a drunk driving arrest	14	23	30	31	2=100

**ASK AUGUST 10-13 FORM 2 ONLY [N=582]:**

k.F2	Senator Joe Lieberman's defeat in the Connecticut primary	17	24	19	37	3=100
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**ASK AUGUST 10-13 ONLY [N=1135]:**

l.	British officials stopping a terrorist plot to blow up planes flying to the U.S.	54	26	9	9	2=100
	June, 2002 <sup>10</sup>	30	30	24	15	1=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.10 Of the stories I just mentioned, are there any that you wish you understood better or had more time to learn about? **[DO NOT READ; DISPLAY PRE-CODES CORRESPONDING TO FORM; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE THAN ONE]**

10	News about the current situation in Iraq
2	The hot weather this summer and its impact on the country
16	The military conflict between Israel and Hezbollah forces in Lebanon
1	Actor Mel Gibson's outburst during a drunk driving arrest
7	The high price of gasoline these days
5	The issue of immigration
6	Iran's nuclear research program
2	News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district
1	Joe Lieberman's defeat in the Connecticut primary
4	Fidel Castro handing control of Cuba to his brother because of an illness
4	British officials stopping a terrorist plot to blow up planes flying to the U.S.
4	Other
56	No, none
3	Don't know/Refused

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<sup>10</sup> In June 2002 the story was listed as "The arrest of a man for planning a "dirty bomb" terrorist attack on the U.S."

**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

Q.11 If the 2006 elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

**IF ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.11, ASK:**

Q.11a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
August, 2006	41	50	9=100
June, 2006	39	51	10=100
April, 2006	41	51	8=100
February, 2006	41	50	9=100
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8=100
<b>2002 Election</b>			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12=100
Early October, 2002	44	46	10=100
Early September, 2002	44	46	10=100
June, 2002	44	46	10=100
February, 2002	46	45	9=100
Early November, 2001	44	44	12=100
<b>1998 Election</b>			
Late October, 1998	40	47	13=100
Early October, 1998	43	44	13=100
Early September, 1998	45	46	9=100
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
<b>1994 Election</b>			
November, 1994	45	43	12=100
Late 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

**ASK ALL:**

Q.12 What one issue would you most like to hear the candidates in your state or district talk about this fall?  
**[OPEN ENDED; PROMPT ONCE WITH “What would you name second?” ACCEPT UP TO THREE MENTIONS]**

<b>BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:</b>		Early Oct <u>2002</u>	June <u>2002</u>	Early Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Sept <u>1998</u>	June <u>1998</u>
15	Education issues	21	20	24	20	20
12	Gas Prices/Alternative Fuel/Energy Prices	–	–	–	–	–
11	Health care	9	13	8	6	5
10	Iraq	4	–	–	–	–
9	Immigration	1	1	*	*	*
8	Economy/Economic issues	40	7	6	8	4
6	Foreign policy/International relations	6	7	1	2	2
5	Jobs/Employment	16	6	3	4	5
5	Taxation	10	12	8	11	13
4	National security	3	12	1	1	1
3	State/local issues	2	1	3	4	–
2	Family/Child care issues	2	1	1	1	3
2	Dealing with terrorism/terrorists	11	9	*	1	–
2	Caring for seniors/Elder care	3	3	2	1	–
2	Environment	2	4	2	2	2
2	Social Security	2	3	6	4	9
1	Balanced budget	4	4	3	2	3
1	Crime/Crime control/All other crime issues	4	6	7	9	14
1	Politicians/Political system	2	2	4	3	–
1	Abortion	2	2	3	2	4
1	Welfare/Welfare reform	1	1	1	3	–
1	Poverty/Homelessness	1	2	3	2	2
1	Size/Scope of government	1	1	2	2	–
1	Wages/Salaries	1	*	1	1	–
*	None	1	*	*	*	*
13	No answer/DK/Refused	11	16	2	21	18
<b>27</b>	<b>ECONOMIC (NET)</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>FOREIGN POLICY/TERRORISM (NET)</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

Q.13 Would you like to see your representative in Congress be re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

	<b>(VOL)</b>		<b>(VOL)</b>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Congressperson <u>not running</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 2006	51	30	*	19=100
June, 2006	51	32	1	16=100
April, 2006	57	28	1	14=100
February, 2006	59	28	1	12=100
Mid-September, 2005	57	25	1	17=100
Early October, 2002	58	19	2	21=100
June, 2002	58	23	1	18=100
Early November, 2000	59	16	2	23=100

**Q.13 CONTINUED...**

	(VOL)			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Congressperson <u>not running</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 2000	60	17	1	22=100
July, 1999	66	23	*	11=100
Late October, 1998	64	19	1	16=100
Early October, 1998	58	20	2	20=100
Early September, 1998	63	20	1	16=100
March, 1998	63	21	1	15=100
January, 1998	66	23	0	11=100
August, 1997	66	22	0	12=100
Early November, 1996	60	16	3	21=100
October, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
Late September, 1996	55	17	2	26=100
Early September, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
November, 1994	58	25	1	16=100
Late October, 1994	55	30	2	13=100
Early October, 1994	49	29	2	20=100
<i>Gallup</i> : October, 1990	62	22	2	14=100

Q.14 Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

	(VOL)		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 2006	36	49	15=100
June, 2006	29	57	14=100
April, 2006	34	53	13=100
February, 2006	36	49	15=100
September, 2005	36	48	16=100
Early October, 2002	39	38	23=100
June, 2002	45	37	18=100
October, 2000	40	34	26=100
July, 1999	41	47	12=100
Late October, 1998	41	37	22=100
Early October, 1998	39	39	22=100
Early September, 1998	46	37	17=100
March, 1998	45	41	14=100
January, 1998	44	43	13=100
August, 1997	45	42	13=100
Early September, 1996	43	43	14=100
November, 1994	31	51	18=100
Late October, 1994	31	56	13=100
Early October, 1994	28	56	16=100

Q.15 Do you think of your vote for Congress this fall as a vote FOR George W. Bush, as a vote AGAINST George W. Bush, or isn't George W. Bush much of a factor in your vote?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	Not a <u>factor</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
August, 2006	17	35	43	5=100
June, 2006	15	38	44	3=100
April, 2006	17	34	46	3=100
February, 2006	18	31	47	4=100
Early November, 2002	29	16	49	6=100
Early October, 2002	30	20	44	6=100
Early September, 2002	29	15	51	5=100
February, 2002	34	9	50	7=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Late October, 1998	20	17	58	5=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early October, 1998	19	23	52	6=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early September, 1998	18	16	63	3=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Late August, 1998	20	17	61	2=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early August, 1998	21	18	57	4=100
<b>Clinton:</b> June, 1998	20	18	57	5=100
<b>Clinton:</b> March, 1998	21	15	59	5=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early September, 1996	24	18	51	7=100
<b>Clinton:</b> November, 1994	17	21	55	7=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Late October, 1994	17	21	57	5=100
<b>Clinton:</b> Early October, 1994	17	23	54	6=100
<b>CBS/NYT Bush:</b> 10/28-31, 1990	19	15	61	6=100
<b>CBS/NYT Reagan:</b> 10/24-28, 1986	26	12	55	7=100
<b>CBS/NYT Reagan:</b> 9/28-10/1, 1986	26	16	51	7=100
<b>CBS/NYT Reagan:</b> 10/23-28, 1982	23	21	51	5=100

**ROTATE P.1 AND P.2**

P.1 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the REPUBLICAN nomination for President in 2008. AFTER I READ ALL THE NAMES, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Republican Party's candidate for President? (**PROBE IF NECESSARY:** Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?) (**READ AND RANDOMIZE**)

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

	Late March <u>2005</u> <sup>11</sup>	
26	John McCain	34
24	Rudy Giuliani	26
18	Condoleezza Rice	17
5	Newt Gingrich	--
3	George Allen	--
3	Mitt Romney	--
2	Bill Frist	4
1	Sam Brownback	--
1	Other ( <b>VOL</b> )	
13	None ( <b>VOL</b> )	
<u>4</u>	DK/Ref	
100		

<sup>11</sup> In Late March 2005, the candidate list included John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Condoleezza Rice, Jeb Bush, and Bill Frist.

P.2 Now I am going to read you the names of some possible candidates for the DEMOCRATIC nomination for President in 2008. AFTER I READ ALL THE NAMES, please tell me which one you would most like to see nominated as the Democratic Party's candidate for President? (**PROBE IF NECESSARY:** Well as of today, to whom do you most lean?) (**READ AND RANDOMIZE**)

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1219]:**

		Late March 2005 <sup>12</sup>
29	Hillary Clinton	32
13	Al Gore	--
11	John Edwards	17
9	John Kerry	14
6	Joe Biden	--
5	Bill Richardson	10
3	Mark Warner	--
3	Russ Feingold	--
2	Other ( <b>VOL</b> )	
16	None ( <b>VOL</b> )	
<u>3</u>	DK/Ref	
100		

**ASKED AUGUST 10-13 ONLY [N=1135]:**

**ROTATE P.3 AND P.4**

P.3 How concerned are you, if at all, that if the Democrats take control of the Congress this fall they will weaken the country's efforts to combat terrorism? [**READ**]

35	Very concerned
22	Fairly concerned
17	Not too concerned
23	Not at all concerned
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL</b> )
100	

P.4 How concerned are you, if at all, that if the Republicans keep control of the Congress this fall they will get the U.S. involved in too many military operations overseas? [**READ**]

46	Very concerned
23	Fairly concerned
18	Not too concerned
11	Not at all concerned
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL</b> )
100	

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<sup>12</sup> In Late March 2005, the candidate list included Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, John Kerry, Bill Richardson, and Howard Dean.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.16 How have you been getting most of your news about national and international issues? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the internet? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

	Television	News- papers	Radio	Magazines	Internet	(VOL) Other	Don't Know/ Refused
August, 2006	72	36	14	4	24	2	1
November, 2005	73	36	16	2	20	2	*
<b>Early Sept, 2005<sup>13</sup> (Hurricane Katrina)</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*</b>
June, 2005	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
<b>March, 2003 (War in Iraq)</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*</b>
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
<b>Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995 <sup>14</sup>	82	63	20	10	--	1	1
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

<sup>13</sup> In Early September 2005, the question was worded “news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina.” In March 2003, the question was worded “news about the war in Iraq,” and in Mid-September 2001, the question was worded “news about the terrorist attacks.” In September 1995, question wording did not include “international.” In Early January 1991 the question asked about “the latest developments in the Persian Gulf.”

<sup>14</sup> In September 1995, question wording did not include “international.” In Early January 1991 the question asked about “the latest developments in the Persian Gulf.”

**IF '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.16 ASK:**

Q.16a On television, do you get most of your news about national and international issues from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 8 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON TOTAL:	<i>Hurricane Katrina</i>							
	Nov 2005	Early Sept 2005 <sup>15</sup>	June 2005	Dec 2004	Oct 2003	Aug 2003	Early July 2003	Jan 2002
13	Local news programming	16	19	13	15	17	17	16
10	ABC Network news	14	14	12	11	12	12	11
9	CBS Network news	12	8	9	9	8	10	11
12	NBC Network news	15	12	12	14	13	15	14
24	CNN Cable news	24	31	18	20	20	26	27
6	MSNBC Cable news	8	9	5	6	6	7	9
20	The Fox News Cable Channel	22	22	16	19	17	18	22
2	CNBC Cable news	5	3	2	3	-- <sup>16</sup>	3	3
4	Other (VOL)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	DK/Ref	3	3	4	3	4	4	3

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:**

Next, I would like to ask you about some things that have been in the news. Not everyone will have heard about them. First, [RANDOMIZE ITEMS 17aF1 THRU 17cF1]

Q.17aF1 Do you happen to know the name of the person who will soon be taking over as the anchor of the CBS Evening News later this summer?

- 35 Yes, Katie Couric *{correct}*
  - 5 Yes, other
  - 60 No, Don't know
- 100

Q.17bF1 Do you happen to know the name of the Democratic senator from Connecticut who recently lost in the state's primary election?

- 40 Yes, Joe Lieberman *{correct}*
  - 4 Yes, other
  - 56 No, Don't know
- 100

Q.17cF1 Do you happen to know the name of the Hollywood actor who made anti-Semitic remarks during a recent drunk driving arrest?

- 69 Yes, Mel Gibson *{correct}*
  - 6 Yes, other
  - 25 No, Don't know
- 100

**QUESTION 18a-c HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

<sup>15</sup> In Early September 2005, the question was worded: "Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from..."

<sup>16</sup> In October 2003, CNBC Cable news item was not asked due to programming error.

**ASK ALL:**

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.19 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>(VOL) DK/ Ref</u>
August, 2006	45	46	9=100
July, 2006	44	50	6=100
June, 2006	49	44	7=100
April, 2006	47	46	7=100
March, 2006	45	49	6=100
February, 2006	51	44	5=100
January, 2006	45	47	8=100
December, 2005	47	48	5=100
Late October, 2005	48	45	7=100
Early October, 2005	44	50	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (RVs)	48	41	11=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
April 10-16, 2003	74	19	7=100
April 8-9, 2003	74	19	7=100
April 2-7, 2003	72	20	8=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	25	6=100
March 25-27, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 23-24, 2003	74	21	5=100
March 20-22, 2003	71	22	7=100
Late January, 1991	77	15	8=100

Q.20 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL) DK/ Ref
August, 2006	8	33	32	23	4=100
June, 2006	16	37	25	18	4=100
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3=100
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6=100
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3=100
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5=100
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3=100
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6=100
Early September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4=100
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3=100
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3=100
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4=100
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3=100
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4=100
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4=100
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2=100
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3=100
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3=100
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5=100
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3=100
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4=100
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3=100
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3=100
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7=100</i>

Q.21 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/ Ref</u>
August, 2006	48	46	6=100
June, 2006	50	45	5=100
April, 2006	48	48	4=100
March, 2006	44	50	6=100
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 <sup>17</sup>	51	44	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

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<sup>17</sup> In June 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: "Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until a stable government is established there, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?"

**IF “KEEP TROOPS IN IRAQ” (1 IN Q.21) ASK:**

Q.22 Do you think more troops are needed in Iraq right now, or do you think there are already enough troops there to do the job?

		April <u>2006</u>	Early Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>	Jun <u>2004</u>	Early Jan <u>2004</u>	Oct <u>2003</u>	Sept <u>2003</u>
15	More troops needed	13	13	16	18	29	32	34
24	Have enough there to do the job	27	26	27	23	26	21	25
*	Reduce number of troops (VOL)	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
48%		48%	47%	52%	51%	63%	58%	64%

**IF “BRING TROOPS HOME” (2 IN Q.21) ASK:**

Q.23 Should the U.S. remove all troops from Iraq immediately, or should the withdrawal of troops be gradual over the next year or two?

		April <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>
15	Remove all troops immediately	18	14	17
30	Gradual withdrawal over the next year or two	29	32	28
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
46%		48%	48%	46%

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:**

Q.24F1 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in establishing a stable democratic government in Iraq?

		June <u>2006</u>	March <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>
12	Definitely succeed	15	10	16	14	16	12	17
35	Probably succeed	40	39	39	42	41	44	43
30	Probably fail	29	33	28	26	28	29	25
11	Definitely fail	9	10	11	8	9	8	8
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:**

Q.25F2 Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Iraq, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Iraq?

14	Definitely succeed
40	Probably succeed
28	Probably fail
12	Definitely fail
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

Q.26 As I read a few specific things about Iraq, tell me if you think we are making progress or losing ground in each area. First, are we making progress or losing ground in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think we are making progress or losing ground in this area?]**

		<u>Making</u>	<u>Losing</u>	<b>(VOL)</b> <u>No</u>	<b>(VOL)</b> <u>DK/</u>
<b>ASK ITEMS a THRU d OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:</b>		<u>progress</u>	<u>ground</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a.F1	Training Iraqi security forces so they can replace U.S. troops	58	26	2	14=100
	June, 2006	61	28	2	9=100
	April, 2006	55	30	1	14=100
	March, 2006	56	30	1	13=100
	January, 2006	65	22	1	12=100
	December, 2005	61	27	1	11=100
b.F1	Reducing the number of civilian casualties there	25	58	3	14=100
	June, 2006	29	56	3	12=100
	April, 2006	28	56	3	13=100
	March, 2006	27	56	3	14=100
	January, 2006	32	54	3	11=100
	December, 2005	35	53	3	9=100
c.F1	Preventing terrorists from using Iraq as a base for attacks against the U.S. and its allies	45	40	2	13=100
	June, 2006	49	39	2	10=100
	April, 2006	44	43	3	10=100
	March, 2006	42	44	2	12=100
	January, 2006	52	33	2	13=100
	December, 2005	48	41	2	9=100
d.F1	Establishing democracy in Iraq	47	39	3	11=100
	June, 2006	55	35	2	8=100
	April, 2006	51	38	3	8=100
	March, 2006	50	38	2	10=100
	January, 2006	62	26	2	10=100
	December, 2005	58	32	2	8=100
<b>ASK ITEMS e THRU g OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:</b>					
e.F2	Defeating the insurgents militarily	41	45	3	11=100
	June, 2006	48	36	2	14=100
	April, 2006	40	46	2	12=100
	March, 2006	36	51	1	12=100
	January, 2006	46	38	3	13=100
	December, 2005	44	41	3	12=100
f.F2	Preventing a civil war between various religious and ethnic groups	22	63	4	11=100
	June, 2006	32	50	4	14=100
	April, 2006	26	59	3	12=100
	March, 2006	24	66	2	8=100
	January, 2006	34	48	4	14=100
	December, 2005	36	49	3	12=100

**Q.26 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Making progress</u>	<u>Losing ground</u>	<u>(VOL) No change</u>	<u>(VOL) DK/Ref</u>
g.F2 Rebuilding roads, power plants and other services in Iraq	46	34	1	19=100
June, 2006	52	23	1	24=100
April, 2006	55	26	1	18=100
March, 2006	53	29	1	17=100
January, 2006	59	22	1	18=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.27 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

	<u>June 2006</u>	<u>April 2006</u>	<u>March 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2005</u>	<u>Early Oct 2005</u>	<u>Mid-Sept 2005</u>	<u>July 2005</u>
52 Should set a timetable	52	53	55	50	56	52	57	49
41 Should not set a timetable	42	40	39	42	38	43	37	45
1 Should get out now (VOL)	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	*
<u>6</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Turning to another subject...

Q.28 In the dispute between Israel and the Palestinians, which side do you sympathize with more, Israel or the Palestinians?

	<u>Israel</u>	<u>Palestinians</u>	<u>(VOL) Both</u>	<u>(VOL) Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 2006	52	11	5	15	17=100
July, 2006	44	9	5	20	22=100
July, 2005	37	12	5	19	27=100
July, 2004	40	13	7	18	22=100
Late February, 2004	46	12	8	15	19=100
Mid-July, 2003	41	13	8	18	20=100
April, 2002	41	13	6	21	19=100
Mid-October, 2001	47	10	8	18	17=100
Early September, 2001	40	17	6	23	14=100
September, 1997	48	13	5	16	18=100
September, 1993	45	21	3	18	12=100
<i>Chicago CFR 1990</i>	34	13	7	26	20=100
<i>Chicago CFR 1978</i>	38	12	8	15	13=100

**QUESTIONS 29-52 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

Q.53 How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? [READ]

	<u>Very worried</u>	<u>Somewhat worried</u>	<u>Not too worried</u>	<u>Not at all worried</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 2006	23	44	21	10	2=100
July, 2005	26	42	19	12	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	17	43	27	12	1=100
August, 2004	20	44	25	10	1=100
July, 2004	17	41	26	15	1=100
June, 2004	25	42	20	12	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	20	42	25	12	1=100
Early February, 2004	13	42	28	16	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	20	45	24	10	1=100
August, 2003	13	45	29	12	1=100
March, 2003	22	42	20	14	2=100
February, 2003	34	41	17	7	1=100
January, 2003	18	50	23	8	1=100
December, 2002	31	42	18	8	1=100
Early October, 2002	20	46	22	11	1=100
Late August, 2002	16	46	25	12	1=100
June, 2002	32	44	17	7	* =100
January, 2002	20	42	28	9	1=100
December, 2001	13	39	27	19	2=100
October 15-21, 2001	29	42	18	10	1=100
October 10-14, 2001	27	40	19	12	2=100
Early October, 2001	28	45	15	11	1=100

Q.54 All in all, how worried are you that you or someone in your family might become a victim of a terrorist attack? Would you say you are [READ]?

	<u>Very Worried</u>	<u>Somewhat Worried</u>	<u>Not too Worried</u>	<u>Not at all Worried</u>	<u>(VOL) Already a Victim</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
August, 2006	16	28	35	20	*	1=100
February, 2004	10	27	37	26	*	*=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	14	34	31	20	0	1=100
March 25-27, 2003	12	30	33	23	1	1=100
March 23-24, 2003	8	25	37	28	*	2=100
March 20-22, 2003	9	27	37	26	*	1=100
February, 2003	22	29	30	18	0	1=100
January, 2003	11	30	37	21	*	1=100
Late August, 2002	12	28	35	24	*	1=100
June, 2002	17	28	36	19	*	*=100
January, 2002	12	26	38	24	*	*=100
Early November, 2001	13	27	35	24	0	1=100
Mid-October, 2001	18	32	29	19	0	2=100
Late September, 2001	17	36	31	15	*	1=100

**Q.54 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>Worried</u>	Somewhat <u>Worried</u>	Not too <u>Worried</u>	Not at all <u>Worried</u>	(VOL) Already a Victim	DK/Ref
<i>Gallup:</i> 9/14-15/01 <sup>18</sup>	18	33	35	13	*	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i> 9/11/01 <sup>19</sup>	23	35	24	16	1	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i> August, 1998	10	22	38	29	--	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i> July, 1996	13	26	34	27	--	*=100
<i>Gallup:</i> April, 1995 <sup>20</sup>	14	28	33	24	--	1=100

Q.55 As I read from a list tell me how important each of the following is a way to reduce terrorism in the future. (First), [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] is this very important, fairly important, not too important, or not at all important as a way to reduce terrorism in the future? (Next... [NEXT ITEM])

	Very <u>Important</u>	Fairly <u>Important</u>	Not too <u>Important</u>	Not at all <u>Important</u>	DK/Ref
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:</b>					
a.F1	Decrease American dependence on oil imported from the Middle East				
	67	18	5	5	5=100
	Late August, 2002				
	53	26	8	5	8=100
	January, 2002				
	53	29	9	4	5=100
b.F1	Encourage more democracy in Mideast countries like Egypt and Saudi Arabia				
	38	29	16	10	7=100
	Late August, 2002				
	38	31	13	11	7=100
	January, 2002				
	42	35	11	5	7=100
c.F1	Take military action to wipe out facilities of countries attempting to build nuclear weapons				
	43	30	12	9	6=100
	Late August, 2002				
	58	21	9	6	6=100
	January, 2002				
	54	27	9	5	5=100
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:</b>					
d.F2	Increase defense spending to maintain our military preparedness				
	52	31	10	6	1=100
	Late August, 2002				
	53	33	7	3	4=100
	January, 2002				
	54	33	7	3	3=100
e.F2	Attempt to reduce poverty with foreign aid as a way of combating terrorism in poor Mideast countries				
	30	33	19	12	6=100
	Late August, 2002				
	25	34	19	16	6=100
	January, 2002				
	24	41	21	10	4=100

<sup>18</sup> For the September 14-15 Gallup trend the question started with "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred this past Tuesday in New York City and Washington, DC..."

<sup>19</sup> For the September 11 Gallup trend the question started with "I'd like to ask you a few questions about the events that occurred today in New York City and Washington, DC..."

<sup>20</sup> For the April 1995 Gallup trend the question was worded "How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of a terrorist attack similar to the bombing in Oklahoma City?"

**Q.55 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Fairly Important</u>	<u>Not too Important</u>	<u>Not at all Important</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
f.F2	Not get involved in trying to solve the problems of other countries	41	31	13	10	5=100
	Late August, 2002	32	32	17	12	7=100

**NO QUESTIONS 56-61**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.62 Over the past few weeks, there has been a significant escalation of violence between Israel and the Hezbollah group in Lebanon. From what you've read and heard, who do you think is most responsible for the outbreak of the recent violence? [**OPEN END; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE THAN ONE. PROBE ONCE FOR CLARITY IF GENERAL RESPONSE**]

- 12 Israel
- 42 Hezbollah
- 6 Both sides
- 5 Lebanon
- \* Syria
- 2 Iran
- 2 United States/Bush
- 1 Palestinians
- 1 Arabs/Muslims/Islam
- \* Terrorists/Extremists
- 2 Other (**SPECIFY**)
- 29 Don't know/Refused

Q.63 And who do you think is most responsible for the civilian casualties that have occurred since the fighting began? [**OPEN END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW"**]

- 21 Israel
- 29 Hezbollah
- 13 Both sides
- 3 Lebanon
- \* Syria
- 1 Iran
- 3 United States/Bush
- 1 Palestinians
- \* Arabs/Muslims/Islam
- 1 Terrorists/Extremists
- 2 Other (**SPECIFY**)
- 27 Don't know/Refused

Q.64 What should the United States do in this conflict? Should the United States government publicly support Israel, should it say or do nothing, or should it publicly criticize Israel?

		<u>CBS/NYT</u> <u>July 2006</u>
40	Support	39
38	Say or do nothing	40
8	Criticize	7
<u>14</u>	<u>Don't know/Refused</u>	<u>14</u>
100		100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=731]:**

Q.65F1 Do you approve or disapprove of the military action Israel has taken in Lebanon?

		<i>Gallup/USA Today</i>
		<u>July 2006</u>
45	Approve	50
33	Disapprove	38
<u>22</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>
100		100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:**

Q.66F2 What do you think about the way Israel is responding in the current conflict with Hezbollah militants in Lebanon? Has Israel gone too far, not gone far enough, or has Israel's response been about right?

		<i>CBS/NYT</i>
		<u>July 2006</u>
23	Gone too far	26
15	Not far enough	9
44	About right	48
<u>18</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>17</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.67 From what you've heard or read, what's your best understanding of Hezbollah? **[READ AND ROTATE]?**

63	Is it a group committed to the destruction of Israel
	[OR]
15	Is it a group that Israel might be able to reach an accommodation with
<u>22</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL - DO NOT READ]</b>
100	

Q.68 In terms of resolving this conflict, do you think the United States should be more involved than it is now, less involved than it is now, or is it as involved as it should be?

15	More involved
28	Less involved
49	As involved as it should be
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**NO QUESTION 69**

Q.70 How much influence do you think the U.S. can have on the way Israel is dealing with the current situation? **[READ]**

28	A lot of influence
41	Some influence
18	Not much influence
7	No influence at all
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.71 Do you think news organizations are giving too much, too little, or the right amount of coverage to the situation in the Middle East?

29 Too much  
16 Too little  
47 Right amount  
8 Don't know/Refused  
100

Q.72 In your opinion, are the news organizations you are familiar with being fair or unfair in their coverage of the conflict between Israel and the Hezbollah group in Lebanon?

61 Fair  
23 Unfair  
16 Don't know/Refused  
100

**IF "UNFAIR" (2 IN Q.72) ASK [N=334]:**

Q.73 In your view, what has been unfair about the press coverage? **OPEN END; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR MORE THAN ONE]**

24 Bias – general/unspecified  
19 Anti Israel/Pro-Hezbollah  
12 Not fact-based/Not enough coverage/Information  
10 Pro Israel/Anti-Hezbollah  
6 Too focused on civilian casualties in Lebanon, not Israel  
5 Sensationalistic  
3 Too negative/Focused on bad news  
1 Anti U.S. point of view  
1 Liberal bias  
1 Too positive/Doesn't show true horror of war  
5 Other  
13 Don't know/No answer

**ASK ALL:**

Q.74 Just in general, how well do you feel you understand the political situation in the Middle East these days?  
**[READ]**

12 Very well  
49 Fairly well  
26 Not too well  
12 Not well at all  
1 Don't know/Refused **[VOL Do Not Read]**  
100

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) No Preference	(VOL) Other Party	DK/ Ref
August, 2006	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
<b>Yearly Totals</b>						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100
				No Preference/ Other/DK		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>			
1996	29	33	33		5=100	
1995	32	30	34		4=100	
1994	30	32	34		4=100	
1993	27	34	34		5=100	
1992	28	33	35		4=100	
1991	31	32	33		4=100	
1990	31	33	30		6=100	
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			

**IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	Refused to lean
August, 2006	12	14	11=37%
July, 2006	11	14	13=38%
June, 2006	10	16	11=37%
April, 2006	12	17	10=39%
March, 2006	11	14	13=38%

**PARTYLN CONTINUED...**

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Refused to lean</u>
February, 2006	11	16	10=37%
January, 2006	10	16	14=40%
December, 2005	10	16	11=37%
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%