

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 2, 2009 NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY**  
**TOPLINE**  
**N=1,003**

Q.1 In the past few weeks, have you come to have a MORE favorable opinion of Barack Obama, a LESS favorable opinion of Barack Obama, or hasn't your opinion of him changed lately?

	<u>More favorable</u>	<u>Less favorable</u>	<u>Opinion has not changed</u>	<u>Don't know/Refused</u>
Barack Obama	23	20	56	1=100
February 6-9, 2009	23	16	60	1=100

**2008 CAMPAIGN**

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:<sup>1</sup>**

October 31-November 3, 2008	25	25	49	1=100
October 24-27, 2008	24	21	52	3=100
October 17-20, 2008	33	23	43	1=100
October 10-13, 2008	29	21	48	2=100
October 3-6, 2008	28	23	47	2=100
September 26-29, 2008	31	23	45	1=100
September 19-22, 2008	25	20	53	2=100
September 12-15, 2008	20	20	58	2=100
September 5-8, 2008	20	20	59	1=100
August 29-31, 2008	29	19	50	2=100
August 22-25, 2008	22	21	54	3=100
August 15-18, 2008	16	21	60	3=100
August 8-11, 2008	15	18	64	3=100
August 1-4, 2008	16	22	60	2=100
July 25-28, 2008	17	21	59	3=100
July 18-21, 2008	16	22	60	2=100
July 11-14, 2008	15	17	64	4=100
July 3-7, 2008	17	17	62	4=100
June 27-30, 2008	21	19	56	4=100
June 20-23, 2008	16	16	66	2=100
June 13-16, 2008	17	15	64	4=100
June 6-9, 2008	19	17	61	3=100
May 30-June 2, 2008	17	21	58	4=100
May 22-25, 2008	18	20	60	2=100
May 16-19, 2008	19	19	59	3=100
May 9-12, 2008	20	23	55	2=100
May 2-5, 2008	11	25	59	5=100
April 25-28, 2008	16	24	58	2=100
April 18-21, 2008	18	24	54	4=100
March 28-31, 2008	18	27	52	3=100
March 20-24, 2008	22	30	46	2=100

<sup>1</sup> For March 20-24, 2008 through October 31-November 3, 2008 the introduction read, "In the past few days." For September 12-15 through October 31-November 3, 2008 the question asked respondents to "Please think about each of the following candidates," Barack Obama, John McCain, Joe Biden and Sarah Palin in the 2008 presidential and vice presidential elections. For June 13-16, 2008 through September 5-8, 2008, the question was worded, "Please think about each of the following *presidential* candidates..." and asked about Barack Obama and John McCain. For March 20-24, 2008 through June 6-9, 2008 the list of presidential candidates included Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain.

Q.2 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?”]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ refused</u>
a. Barack Obama’s plan to withdraw most U.S. troops from Iraq by August 2010	<b>40</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:<sup>2</sup></b>					
<b>December 12-15, 2008</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>November 21-24, 2008</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0=100</b>
<b>November 14-17, 2008</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 31-November 3, 2008</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>October 24-27, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 10-13, 2008</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 3-6, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 5-8, 2008</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 29-31, 2008</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>August 22-25, 2008</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>August 1-4, 2008</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 25-28, 2008</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 11-14, 2008</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>July 3-7, 2008</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>June 20-23, 2008</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 9-12, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 2-5, 2008</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 25-28, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 11-14, 2008</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 4-7, 2008</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 28-31, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>March 20-24, 2008</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 14-17, 2008</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 7-10, 2008</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 29-March 3, 2008</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 8-11, 2008</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 1-4, 2008</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 25-28, 2008</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>January 11-14, 2008</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 4-7, 2008</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>December 14-17, 2007</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>December 7-10, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>November 23-26, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>November 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>November 9-12, 2007</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>November 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>October 26-29, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>

<sup>2</sup> March 30-April 2, 2007 through December 12-15, 2008 asked about “the current situation and events in Iraq.” From May, 2003 to March 23-26, 2007, the story was listed as “News about the current situation in Iraq.” From March 20-24, 2003 to April 11-16, 2003, the story was listed as “News about the war in Iraq.” From Early 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.”

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ refused</u>
<b>October 19-22, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 12-15, 2007</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>October 5-8, 2007</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 28 – October 1, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 21-24, 2007</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 14-17, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0=100</b>
<b>September 7-10, 2007</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 30 – September 2, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>August 24-27, 2007</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 17-20, 2007</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 10-13, 2007</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 3-6, 2007</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 27-30, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>July 20-23, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>July 13-16, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>July 6-9, 2007</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>June 29-July 2, 2007</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>June 22-25, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>June 15-18, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>June 8-11, 2007</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>June 1-4, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 24-27, 2007</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 18-21, 2007</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 11-14, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>May 4-7, 2007</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 27-30, 2007</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 20-23, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 12-16, 2007</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>April 5-9, 2007</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>March 30-April 2, 2007</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 23-March 26, 2007</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>March 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 9-12, 2007</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 23-26, 2007</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 16-19, 2007</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 9-12, 2007</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 26-29, 2007</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 19-22, 2007</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>January 12-15, 2007</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1=100</b>
January, 2007	46	40	8	5	1=100
<b>January 5-8, 2007</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0=100</b>
December, 2006	42	39	12	7	*=100
<b>November 30-December 3, 2006</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
Mid-November, 2006	44	38	12	6	*=100
September, 2006	33	43	14	8	2=100
August, 2006	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

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ refused</u>
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
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
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
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	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	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>b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 13-16, 2009</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 30-February 2, 2009</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 23-26, 2009</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0=100</b>
<b>January 16-19, 2009</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 2-4, 2009</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>December 12-15, 2008</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>December 5-8, 2008</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>November 21-24, 2008</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>November 14-17, 2008</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>November 7-10, 2008</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 31-November 3, 2008</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 24-27, 2008</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>October 17-20, 2008</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>October 10-13, 2008</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*=100</b>

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ refused</u>
<b>October 3-6, 2008</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 26-29, 2008</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 19-22, 2008</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>September 5-8, 2008</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 29-31, 2008</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>August 15-18, 2008</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 8-11, 2008</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 1-4, 2008</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0=100</b>
<b>July 25-28, 2008</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>July 11-14, 2008</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>June 27-30, 2008</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>June 13-16, 2008</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 9-12, 2008</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>May 2-5, 2008</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>April 4-7, 2008</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 28-31, 2008</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>March 20-24, 2008</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>February 29-March 3, 2008</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>February 15-18, 2008</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8=100</b>
<b>February 1-4, 2008</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>January 18-21, 2008</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 11-14, 2008</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>November 2-5, 2007</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1=100</b>
<b>October 19-22, 2007</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>August 10-13, 2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>*=100</b>
Mid-November, 2006	31	40	17	11	1=100
December, 2005	35	35	18	11	1=100
Early November, 2005	35	39	17	9	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	39	19	11	1=100
January, 2005	35	41	17	7	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	43	16	10	1=100
Early September, 2004	39	34	15	11	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	37	41	15	7	*=100
December, 2003	35	38	14	11	2=100
November, 2003	40	34	15	10	1=100
October, 2003	32	39	16	12	1=100
September, 2003	39	30	18	12	1=100
March, 2003	40	35	16	8	1=100
February, 2003	42	33	15	10	*=100
January, 2003	40	35	13	11	1=100
December, 2002	38	34	17	10	1=100
February, 2002	35	40	15	9	1=100
January, 2002	30	44	16	9	1=100
December, 2001	37	40	13	8	2=100
Mid-November, 2001	41	36	15	7	1=100
June, 2001	24	41	18	16	1=100
May, 2001	34	36	15	15	0=100
April, 2001	36	34	16	13	1=100
February, 2001	30	39	18	12	1=100
January, 2001	32	38	17	11	2=100
June, 1995	26	41	22	11	*=100

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ refused</u>
March, 1995	27	45	19	9	*=100
February, 1995	23	41	22	13	1=100
December, 1994	28	43	20	9	*=100
October, 1994	27	40	20	12	1=100
June, 1994	25	42	23	10	*=100
May, 1994	33	40	16	10	1=100
January, 1994	34	39	16	10	1=100
Early January, 1994	36	44	13	7	*=100
December, 1993	35	41	15	8	1=100
October, 1993	33	38	20	9	*=100
September, 1993	37	40	14	8	1=100
Early September, 1993	39	39	14	9	*=100
August, 1993	41	36	14	9	*=100
May, 1993	37	38	18	6	1=100
February, 1993	49	36	10	5	*=100
January, 1993	42	39	12	7	*=100
September, 1992	43	37	13	6	1=100
May, 1992	39	39	15	6	1=100
March, 1992	47	38	11	4	*=100
February, 1992	47	37	10	6	*=100
January, 1992	44	40	11	5	*=100
October, 1991	36	38	16	9	1=100
c. News about growing drug-related violence in Mexico	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>*=100</b>
d. Barack Obama's budget proposal for next year that raises taxes on wealthy Americans and increases spending on health care, education and other programs	<b>47</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:<sup>3</sup></b>					
February, 2002: <i>Debate in Congress over G.W. Bush's budget and tax cut plan</i>	17	31	28	23	1=100
April, 2001	24	38	20	18	*=100
February, 2001: <i>G.W. Bush's tax cut plan</i>	31	35	19	14	1=100
e. Barack Obama's first address to a joint session of Congress	<b>37</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:<sup>4</sup></b>					
<b>February 1-4, 2008: <i>Bush</i></b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>*=100</b>
<b>January 26-29, 2007: <i>Bush</i></b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1=100</b>
February, 2006: <i>Bush</i>	24	22	19	34	1=100
February, 2003: <i>Bush</i>	36	24	15	24	1=100
January, 1994: <i>Clinton</i>	26	25	18	31	*=100
February, 1992: <i>Bush</i>	26	26	20	27	1=100

<sup>3</sup> April, 2001 and February, 2002 asked about "The debate in Congress over George W. Bush's budget and tax cut plan." February, 2001 asked about "George W. Bush's tax-cut plan."

<sup>4</sup> February 1-4, 2008 asked about "President Bush's State of the Union address." January 26-29, 2007, asked about "Reports about George Bush's State of the Union address." February, 2006 and February, 2007, asked about "George W. Bush's State of the Union address." January, 1994, asked about "Reports about Bill Clinton's State of the Union address." February, 1992 asked about "President Bush's State of the Union Address."

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/refused</u>
f. News that Tiger Woods is returning to golf after recovering from knee surgery	11	17	27	45	*=100
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:<sup>5</sup></b>					
<b>June 20-23, 2008: Tiger Woods/knee surgery</b>	15	24	27	33	1=100

Q.3 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? [DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]

- 34 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy
- 23 Barack Obama's budget proposal for next year that raises taxes on wealthy Americans and increases spending on health care, education and other programs
- 10 Barack Obama's plan to withdraw most U.S. troops from Iraq by August 2010
- 8 Barack Obama's first address to a joint session of Congress
- 3 News about growing drug-related violence in Mexico
- 3 News that Tiger Woods is returning to golf after recovering from knee surgery
- 10 Some other story (VOL.)
- 9 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
- 100

Q.4 How much if anything, have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
a. The criticism of Barack Obama's housing plan by a CNBC correspondent	21	33	46	*=100
b. The government agreeing to take a much larger share of Citigroup	40	32	28	*=100
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>October 3-6, 2008:</b> Wachovia bank being sold to Wells Fargo	42	42	16	*=100
<b>September 26-29, 2008:</b> Mortgage lender Washington Mutual being seized by the federal Government and sold to JPMorgan Chase	56	32	12	*=100
<b>September 9-12, 2008:</b> The insurance company AIG receiving a loan of up to \$85 billion from the Federal Reserve Bank	64	24	12	*=100
<b>September 9-12, 2008:</b> The investment bank Lehmann Brothers filing for bankruptcy	59	28	13	*=100
<b>September 9-12, 2008:</b> Merrill Lynch being sold to Bank of America	49	37	14	*=100
<b>July 18-21, 2008:</b> Reports about bank failures and bank runs at IndyMac Bank Corporation	48	30	22	*=100
c. Worsening state and local budget problems	57	31	12	*=100
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>October 3-6, 2008:</b> Reports that the State of California may need an emergency loan of \$7 billion from the federal government	20	39	41	*=100

<sup>5</sup> June 20-23, 2008 asked about "News that Tiger Woods will be having knee surgery following his victory in the U.S. Open."

**Q.4 CONTINUED...**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
d. General Motors posting \$30 billion in losses for 2008	44	40	16	*=100
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>October 10-13, 2008:</b> General Motors stock falling to its lowest level in 58 years	48	38	14	*=100
<b>October 3-6, 2008:</b> Major U.S. automakers announcing steep drops in auto sales	32	52	16	*=100
<b>July 3-7, 2008:</b> Ford and General Motors announcing steep drops in auto sales	34	44	22	*=100
e. The Obama administration projecting a \$1.75 trillion budget deficit for this year	57	30	12	1=100
f. The Pentagon ending the ban on news coverage of the return of the coffins of U.S. service members killed overseas	24	43	33	*=100