

## PRIORITIES FOR CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT

(Demographic Breakdown for Top Six Responses)

	Strengthening the nation's <u>economy</u> %	Defending the country from future <u>terrorist attacks</u> %	Improving the educational <u>system</u> %	Improving the job <u>situation</u> %	Making Social Security <u>sound</u> %	Making Medicare <u>sound</u> %
<b>Total</b>	79	78	71	67	65	62
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	77	78	64	65	58	52
Female	82	78	77	69	70	72
<b>Race</b>						
White	78	80	68	66	62	62
Non-white	86	72	81	77	72	65
Black	91	74	90	84	84	75
Hispanic**	86	76	81	68	62	67
<b>Race and Sex</b>						
White Men	76	80	61	64	56	53
White Women	80	80	74	67	69	69
<b>Age</b>						
Under 30	80	71	72	71	57	51
30-49	80	82	70	61	58	60
50-64	81	76	67	69	71	63
65+	79	80	77	74	80	82
<b>Sex and Age</b>						
Men under 50	77	79	62	61	51	48
Women under 50	82	77	78	69	64	66
Men 50+	78	76	68	73	70	60
Women 50+	82	79	74	70	80	81
<b>Education</b>						
College Grad.	75	68	68	59	57	51
Some College	78	78	67	63	60	57
High School Grad.	84	85	72	72	70	69
<H.S. Grad.	83	77	78	82	72	75
<b>Family Income</b>						
\$75,000+	78	77	70	58	56	52
\$50,000-\$74,999	76	83	66	66	58	56
\$30,000-\$49,999	84	79	71	66	66	69
\$20,000-\$29,999	86	76	74	78	69	65
<\$20,000	79	84	75	88	78	76

\*\* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

Question:

I'd like to ask you some questions about priorities for President Bush and Congress this year. As I read from a list, tell me if you think the item that I read should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?

**Continued ...**

	Strengthening the nation's <u>economy</u> %	Defending the country from future <u>terrorist attacks</u> %	Improving the educational <u>system</u> %	Improving the job <u>situation</u> %	Making Social Security <u>sound</u> %	Making Medicare <u>sound</u> %
<b>Total</b>	79	78	71	67	65	62
<b>Region</b>						
East	76	81	70	64	65	58
Midwest	80	79	64	70	66	63
South	81	81	78	70	71	70
West	80	69	66	63	53	55
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>						
Total White Protestant	77	84	68	62	65	68
White Protestant Evangelical	75	88	66	64	66	67
White Prot. Non-Evangelical	80	81	71	61	64	69
White Catholic	72	78	63	67	67	60
Secular	82	58	66	71	55	41
<b>Community Size</b>						
Large City	83	81	74	69	64	68
Suburb	80	72	61	63	54	51
Small City/Town	79	80	72	70	68	64
Rural Area	79	80	76	67	71	68
<b>Party ID</b>						
Republican	76	88	66	56	58	55
Democrat	86	70	79	76	75	72
Independent	78	78	64	72	64	60
<b>Party and Ideology</b>						
Conservative Republican	71	89	62	57	55	53
Moderate/Liberal Republican	84	84	72	54	64	58
Conserv./Moderate Democrat	88	76	77	77	77	76
Liberal Democrat	81	59	84	73	68	66
<b>Bush Approval</b>						
Approve	78	86	68	63	63	60
Disapprove	84	63	74	76	66	64
<b>Democratic Likely Voter</b>						
Yes	89	72	77	75	73	71
<b>Marital Status</b>						
Married	78	79	72	64	68	63
Unmarried	81	77	69	71	61	62
<b>Parental Status</b>						
Parent	82	80	78	64	64	64
Non-Parent	79	77	68	70	64	62
<b>Labor Union</b>						
Union Household	84	80	73	64	63	60
Non-Union Household	79	78	70	68	65	63

**PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY “VERY CLOSELY”**

	Current situation in Iraq	Condition of economy*	Code Orange alert*	Reports about Mad Cow	NASA landing spacecraft on Mars	Democratic president. nomination	Earthquake in Iran*	Reports that Libya will end weapons program*	(N)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	48	37	35	29	19	16	16	14	(1503)
<b>Sex</b>									
Male	53	43	31	27	24	16	16	17	(684)
Female	45	31	40	32	15	16	15	12	(819)
<b>Race</b>									
White	48	36	34	28	19	15	14	14	(1221)
Non-white	52	39	40	36	18	19	20	16	(264)
Black	50	42	43	42	16	22	23	11	(167)
Hispanic**	45	n/a	n/a	29	20	15	n/a	n/a	(106)
<b>Race and Sex</b>									
White Men	52	45	30	25	24	16	15	17	(554)
White Women	44	28	38	31	15	14	13	10	(667)
<b>Age</b>									
Under 30	41	22	28	20	14	14	6	6	(285)
30-49	44	35	35	28	20	12	12	13	(597)
50-64	55	46	32	32	20	18	20	16	(339)
65+	61	50	49	41	23	24	28	22	(259)
<b>Education</b>									
College Grad.	50	42	33	26	24	19	15	16	(512)
Some College	47	34	36	29	19	15	12	17	(240)
H.S. Grad or Less	49	36	37	31	17	15	18	12	(741)
<b>Region</b>									
East	48	43	28	26	18	18	15	11	(289)
Midwest	48	40	35	26	16	16	12	12	(373)
South	50	39	39	33	20	15	22	14	(545)
West	48	24	38	30	23	17	10	19	(296)
<b>Party ID</b>									
Republican	53	37	40	29	21	12	15	16	(482)
Democrat	49	42	36	34	16	24	16	16	(464)
Independent	46	33	34	25	22	13	14	13	(466)

\*\* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

\* Based on split samples; Ns do not apply.

Question: 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?