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**What Budget Agreement?**

**AMERICANS ONLY A LITTLE BETTER OFF, BUT MUCH LESS ANXIOUS**

**Also Inside ...**

- \* 'Tiger' better known than 'Ellen' and 'Alan'.
- \* Less spending on military defense.
- \* Late-term abortion ban approved.
- \* Police better rated than courts, FBI.

*FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:*

Andrew Kohut, Director  
Robert C. Toth, Senior Associate  
Kimberly Parker, Research Director  
Claudia Deane, Survey Analyst  
Pew Research Center for The People & The Press  
202/293-3126  
<http://www.people-press.org>

## What Budget Agreement?

### **AMERICANS ONLY A LITTLE BETTER OFF, BUT MUCH LESS ANXIOUS**

Psychologically, Americans have turned an important corner recently. They have become much less concerned about meeting major financial commitments, even though they say their material conditions have not dramatically improved. Heightened worries about affording health care, saving for retirement, or saving for a child's college education have fallen off significantly in recent months. Yet satisfaction with wages and general financial well being are assessed only slightly better than a few years ago when economic anxiety was greater.

Until recently, the public has been unable to shake off the effects of the last recession, which in its mind lingered on long after economists declared it over. The steady drumbeat of reports of extensive corporate downsizing, compounded by worries that Washington reforms would increase health care costs or cut back Medicare, further fueled public concerns. Slowly, if not almost grudgingly, Americans acknowledged that their personal financial picture had improved. But at the same time they remained very worried about meeting major financial obligations.

Only now have anxieties about the future begun to diminish. The Pew Research Center's latest nationwide survey finds Americans continuing to give their financial situations a mixed rating. Half the public (50%) says it is in excellent or good shape and as many (49%) see their situation as only fair or poor. This represents a small but significant increase from spring 1994 when the balance of evaluations were negative (46% to 53%). It is a much improved reading over January 1993 when negative ratings far outweighed positive ones (37% to 62%).

And with favorable news about low unemployment and low inflation taking the place of downsizing stories, Americans appear less frightened about their future. The current survey finds 20% point declines in the number of people "very concerned" on a variety of financial measures. It is important to underscore, however, that very large percentages of Americans continue to be at least *somewhat* concerned about such things as saving for retirement, health care costs and other major expenditures.

<b>Economic Anxiety Eases</b>					
	May <u>88</u>	March <u>94</u>	Oct <u>95</u>	March <u>96</u>	May <u>97</u>
<i>% Very Concerned About:</i>					
Having enough money for retirement	34	42	48	59	42
Putting a child through college	23	37	44	--	39
Affording health care for sick family member	--	50	66	68	50
Losing job/Pay cut	18	28	34	47	30
Children having good job opportunities	--	51	57	67	44
Being a victim of crime	36	50	51	--	38

Furthermore, positive economic expectations may be easily reversible. While the percentage expecting to be better off next year is as high as it has been in the past five years (68%), only 12% expect a much improved situation. Similarly, a recent Gallup poll found mixed economic expectations -- just as many respondents had positive economic attitudes as negative ones.<sup>1</sup>

The Pew Research Center survey also found little increased satisfaction with wages. A 54% majority of Americans continue to say they are not paid enough to lead the kind of life to which they aspire. As many as one in five workers (18%) have given up hope of ever earning an adequate salary.

### ***Budget Agreement***

Clearly, Bill Clinton's continued high ratings, despite Whitewater and the DNC fund raising scandal, seem more tied to a reduction in economic anxiety than to success with the budget. News interest in the budget debate once again edged down at the very time the President and Republican leaders had come to their historic agreement. In fact, only half of those questioned were aware that a tentative deal had been reached.

On balance, those who have heard about the agreement approve of it, though significant proportions disapprove or are undecided. Forty-seven percent of those who were aware that a deal had been reached approve of the agreement, but 28% disapprove and 25% are unsure. Approval is greater among high income Americans, who are most likely to benefit from cuts in capital gains and estate taxes. Sixty-two percent of those earning over \$75,000 a year approve of the deal vs. 40% of those making under \$30,000. Democrats are more supportive of the agreement than Republicans. Some 56% of Democrats who had heard about the agreement expressed approval vs. 46% of Republicans and 42% of Independents.

	<u>% Following "Very Closely"</u>
January 1996	32
March 1996	24
February 1997	19
Current	16

Americans who have been following the budget debate very closely were more likely to know an agreement had been reached. However, they were no more likely to approve of the deal than those who had been paying less attention.

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<sup>1</sup> CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll, May 6-7, 1997.

***It Won't Happen -- 85%***

The public is cynical about the budget actually being balanced by the year 2002. An astounding 85% doubt balance will be achieved. Those who have been following the budget debate very closely are no more optimistic about the prospects for a balanced budget than those paying less attention.

Assuming the budget *is* balanced over the next five years, Americans remain skeptical that a balanced budget will help them personally. Only 32% say a balanced budget will help them financially, down somewhat from 40% in January 1996. Fourteen percent say they will likely be hurt. A plurality (47%) say a balanced budget will have no real impact on their family finances. Higher income Americans are significantly more likely than those with lower incomes to say a balanced budget will help them financially. Four in ten of those earning over \$50,000 a year are optimistic about their own prospects under a balanced budget, compared to only 26% of those earning less than \$30,000.

The new spirit of bipartisanship in Washington is getting mostly positive reviews from the public. By and large, Democrats and Republicans think their respective parties have *not* compromised too much in their efforts to reach legislative agreements with the opposition. About one third (35%) of Republicans and those who lean Republican say the GOP has compromised too much recently on its goals of reducing the size of government and cutting taxes, but a majority (54%) disagrees. The findings are nearly identical among Democrats and those who lean Democratic: 33% say their party has compromised too much on its goals of helping needy people and using government to solve important domestic problems; 57% do not agree.

<b>Bipartisan Compromise at the Expense of Party Values?</b>	
	Republican/ <u>Lean Rep</u>
<i>Compromised goals of reducing gov't/cutting taxes:</i>	%
Too much	35
Not too much	54
DK/Ref	<u>11</u>
	100
	Democrat/ <u>Lean Dem</u>
<i>Compromised goals of helping needy/using gov't to solve problems:</i>	%
Too much	33
Not too much	57
DK/Ref	<u>10</u>
	100

***GOP Grassroots Angst***

Among Republicans and Republican leaners, men more than women say the party has given up too much ground (42% vs. 28%). Party regulars are slightly more likely to take this view than Independent leaners, though the differences are not dramatic (37% vs. 31%). Those Republicans paying very close attention to the budget debate are less enthusiastic about their party's conciliatory stance; 48% say the GOP has compromised too much, suggesting that bipartisanship may not play well with Republican activists at the grassroots level.

In contrast, attentive Democratic party regulars are much more positive about their leaders' recent compromises. Fully two-thirds (68%) say their party has not compromised too much on its traditional goals, despite criticism by some inside the party that Clinton sacrificed traditional Democratic values in the recent budget deal and last summer's welfare reform bill.

But the budget agreement between the White House and Congressional leaders has had no immediate impact on public approval ratings for President Clinton or GOP leaders in Congress. Clinton's approval rating (57%) is largely unchanged since last month. Ratings for the Republican leaders (40% approve) have also remained steady in recent months.

***A Smaller Deficit?***

The public is largely unaware of the progress made in recent years toward reducing the federal budget deficit. Only 29% believe significant progress has been made toward this goal in recent years. More Democrats than Republicans are aware of progress (40% vs. 23%).

In spite of the perception that the deficit has not shrunk in recent years, the public remains committed to a full menu of spending priorities. Americans are no more willing to see cuts in major entitlement programs today than they were two years ago. Overwhelming majorities say if they were making up the federal budget this year, they would increase or maintain spending levels for Social Security and Medicare (90% and 88%, respectively).

The public now would commit more funds to higher education, scientific research and environmental protection than in December 1994. Support for increased spending on crime and unemployment assistance has fallen in recent years, but the biggest change in this regard is on military spending. Today, more Americans say military spending should be *decreased* rather than increased: 30% vs. 21%, a reversal of opinion from December 1994.

	<b>Public Spending Priorities</b>	
	<i>% Who Say Increase Spending</i>	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Dec. 94</u>
Public schools	67	64
Crime	62	71
Health care	57	52
AIDS research	54	55
Job training	54	50
College aid	53	41
Homeless programs	53	53
Environment	46	40
Scientific research	45	37
Social Security	44	46
Medicare	44	n/a
Minority programs	27	27
Military defense	21	31
Unemployment aid	20	25

***Tiger, Dennis and Ellen Best Known***

Americans this month showed once again that they follow sports stars and entertainers far more closely than the power people.

Tiger Woods, the young golfing phenom, was correctly identified by fully eight out of ten Americans (82%) as was Dennis Rodman, the Chicago Bulls bad boy of basketball (80%). Ellen DeGeneres, the comic who came out as a lesbian on prime time television, was known to 62%. Tony Blair, the newly elected Labor prime minister of Britain who ended two decades of Tory rule, was known to merely one in ten (10%).

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board and arguably one of America's most influential persons, was known to 40%, but FBI director Louis Freeh was recognized by only 8% of the public. Gary Kasparov, the Russian world chess champion who recently lost to the IBM computer, was correctly identified by 18%, twice as many as Ralph Reed, key organizer of the politically powerful Christian Coalition (9%). Trent Lott, Senate Republican Leader, was known to 15%.

<b>Who's That?</b>	
	<u>%</u>
<i>% Correctly Identified:</i>	
Tiger Woods	82
Dennis Rodman	80
Ellen DeGeneres	62
Alan Greenspan	40
John Huang	20
Kenneth Starr	20
Garry Kasparov	18
Trent Lott	15
Webster Hubbell	15
Tony Blair	10
Ralph Reed	9
Louis Freeh	8

Individuals associated with alleged scandals were not much more recognizable. John Huang, central to the dubious fund raising in Asia of the Democratic Party, was correctly identified by two in ten Americans (20%). Kenneth Starr, who is leading the investigation into the Whitewater real estate affairs of President and Mrs. Clinton, was similarly known to 20%, and Webster Hubbell, a Clinton friend and former associate considered a key potential witness in Whitewater, by 15%.

Men recognized Woods and Rodman somewhat more often than did women (by 12 and 10 percentage points, respectively), which is not surprising for male sports stars. But DeGeneres was correctly identified significantly more often by women than men (67% vs. 56%).

Greenspan was known far more often to men (50% vs. 30% of women) and older Americans (54% of those 50 years old and older, vs. 18% of adults under 30), the better educated and wealthier, and Republicans more than Democrats.

### ***News Interest Doldrums Continue***

The public's interest in serious news events was also low this month except for the trial of Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh; 30% of Americans said they followed those proceedings very closely, up from 20% one month earlier. The debate in Congress over late-term abortions was followed very closely by 21%, the same proportion as six months earlier, with women more interested than men. But the debate in Washington about the federal budget attracted only 16% of the public, half the level of January 1996.

Charges of improper campaign contributions to Democrats from foreign businessmen was followed very closely by 18% of Americans, essentially unchanged since the story broke late last year. The same proportion followed the sexual harassment charges against Army sergeants. Both were apparently more interesting than the ongoing Whitewater investigation, a story that was followed very closely by only 13%, unchanged for almost two years.

Least interest was shown in the Kasparov-computer chess match (7%), the British elections (5%), and the brutal civil war in Zaire (4% followed very closely).

### ***Majorities Opposed to Late-Term Abortions***

Most Americans (54%) would favor laws banning "partial birth" abortions, and a similar percentage (58%) would favor banning *all* abortions after fetal viability, with exceptions to save the mother's life or health. A fairly large minority, however, are opposed to such bans (37% and 29%, respectively). Men and women are nearly indistinguishable in their opinions on both legislative proposals.

Support for the partial birth abortion ban unites Americans of all party affiliations. Identical majorities of Republicans, Democrats and Independents say they would support the ban (55%, 54% and 56%, respectively), along with majorities in every age group. Catholics and evangelical Protestants show higher levels of support than mainstream Protestants (57%, 59% and 48% respectively). Those Americans who say they have been paying *very close* attention to the debate in Congress on late-term abortions are slightly more supportive of the partial birth ban than the general public (66% vs. 54%).

Opinion on a full ban on abortions of viable fetuses (with life and health exceptions) follows more traditional partisan patterns. Sixty-five percent of Republicans favor such legislation, compared to 53% of Democrats and 57% of Independents. Evangelical Protestants are more likely than other major religious groups to support the ban (71%, vs. 60% of Catholics and 50% of mainline Protestants).

Americans are willing to offer opinions on these controversial and highly-debated abortion procedures, but many admit to uncertainty about their own convictions on the issue. Approximately three in ten supporters of the bans say they sometimes wonder whether their position is the right one. Similar percentages of opponents say they sometimes question their position.

**Whitewater**

Three years into the Whitewater investigation, the public remains unconvinced that the Clintons are guilty of serious offenses. A plurality of Americans (49%) think the Clintons are guilty, but of *minor* offenses only. One in four (26%) say the Clintons are guilty of *serious* offenses. Only one in ten (9%) believe they are not guilty of any wrongdoing. The public is more convinced that the Clinton administration is knowingly covering up information about Whitewater. Two-thirds (65%) think there has been a cover-up. Even among Clinton supporters, 50% share this view.

Not surprisingly, Republicans are much more suspicious of the Clintons than are Democrats. Fully 47% believe they are guilty of serious offenses, compared to 9% of Democrats and 26% of Independents.

Among those who have followed news stories about Whitewater very closely, a majority (56%) think the Clintons are guilty of serious infractions. But only a small fraction of the public (13%) is paying such close attention. Another indication of the public's lack of interest is that only 20% of the respondents in this poll could identify Kenneth Starr as the Whitewater independent counsel, and even fewer (15%) knew Webster Hubbell is a key potential witness and Clinton friend.

	Not Guilty %	Guilty of Minor Offenses %	Guilty of Serious Offenses %	DK %
<i>Following Whitewater:</i>				
Very closely	8	29	56	7=100
Fairly closely	7	49	33	11=100
Not too closely	8	59	19	14=100
Not at all closely	13	49	10	28=100

Nonetheless, four in ten (43%) Americans believe the media is giving too much attention to Whitewater; 39% say it is about the right amount. Very few (14%) say too little attention is being paid to Whitewater.

**Reno Wrong**

Most Americans believe Attorney General Janet Reno should have appointed an independent counsel to investigate campaign fundraising abuses in last year's presidential campaign. Only 28% approve of her decision not to do so. Republicans feel much more strongly about this issue, but even 45% of Democrats say Reno should have taken the step. Public attentiveness to this ongoing story



has remained flat over the last month. Fewer than one in five (18%) followed the story very closely, 33% followed it fairly closely. Fully half are paying little or no attention to the unfolding scandal.

***Mixed Feelings About Justice and Law Enforcement***

Public attitudes toward law enforcement institutions are mixed. The public is split about the courts generally, but more positive about the Supreme Court. Most Americans have a favorable opinion of the FBI, but a sizeable minority do not. Closer to home, local police departments receive generally positive reviews. But except for police, opinion is not enthusiastically favorable, with relatively low levels of "very favorable" ratings.

Almost half of Americans (49%) have a favorable view of the U.S. Court system, but nearly as many (46%) have an *unfavorable* opinion. This represents a small improvement since February, when 42% were favorable, and a substantial improvement over January 1996 (35% favorable). The current division in opinion is found equally among men and women, whites and nonwhites, young and old.

<b>Opinions of Justice System, Law Enforcement</b>			
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
	%	%	%
<i>Your Police Dept.</i>			
Current	81	17	2=100
<i>The Supreme Court</i>			
Current	72	22	6
July, 1994	80	16	4
May, 1993	73	18	9
November, 1991	72	21	7
January, 1988	79	13	8
<i>FBI</i>			
Current	60	28	12
August, 1995	64	28	8
May, 1995	82	9	9
<i>U.S. Courts</i>			
Current	49	46	5
February, 1997	42	51	7
January, 1996	35	62	3
February, 1995	43	50	7
January, 1994	43	53	4

The most common reason offered for unfavorable views of the courts is that the system is too lenient on criminals (32%). The public is also concerned that justice is not always served (14%), and that the rich receive different (and better) treatment (12%). Five percent of the public specifically mentioned the O.J. Simpson trial when asked why they had an unfavorable opinion of the court system. Those with *favorable* opinions of the system said the courts are doing a good job (31%), the system is working well (14%), and is fair and even-handed (12%).

Unlike the Court system as a whole, the Supreme Court is viewed favorably by a large majority of the public. Fully 72% have a favorable opinion of the nation's highest tribunal (16% "very favorable"). These results are very similar to surveys conducted in 1991 and 1993, though slightly below ratings in 1994. Republicans more often hold negative views of the court system in general and of the Supreme Court than do Democrats.

**Opinion of FBI Unchanged**

Ratings of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have not rebounded since August 1995, when they fell following Congressional hearings on the Branch Davidian siege at Waco, Texas. Currently, six in ten Americans have a favorable view of the agency (12% "very favorable"), 28% have an unfavorable view. Those over 50 years old are somewhat less likely to be favorable than younger persons (52%, vs. 63% of those 30 - 49, and 65% of those 18 - 29). Americans who live in Western states have slightly more negative views than those in other parts of the country (37% unfavorable, vs. 28% in the South, 27% in the East, and 26% in the Midwest).

Of the 28% who express unfavorable opinions about the FBI, one in four say the agency is not doing a good job, while 11% say the agency has a bad reputation. Ten percent feel the FBI keeps too many secrets. Only 3% specifically mentioned Waco (a comparable proportion cited this as a reason for holding *positive* views of the FBI).

Opinion on the CIA is divided: 39% have a favorable view of the agency, and 33% an unfavorable view.

Why is your overall opinion of the FBI unfavorable?	
%	
25	Not doing a good job
11	Bad reputation/Heard bad stories
10	They cover up too much/Don't tell us enough/Keep too many secrets
9	Infringe on people's rights/Invade their privacy
8	They botch too many investigations
4	Too quick to accuse/Harass/They jump the gun
3	Mishandled WACO/Did a bad job
26	Other
12	Don't know/No answer
<b>177</b>	<b>Number of Interviews</b>

**Local Police Liked**

Fully 81% of respondents said they have a favorable opinion of the police department in their area, including 33% with a very favorable opinion. Whites are substantially more likely to feel favorably than are nonwhites, while those under age 30 are significantly more likely to be negative than middle aged and older Americans.

Favorable views of local police departments stem from the belief that the police are doing as good a job as they can (57%), that crime is low (11%), and that police are visible (10%) and quick to respond (10%). Negative views of the police are based on similar criteria but different judgments. Twenty-one percent of those with unfavorable opinions say that police are *not* visible, 17% say they go after the wrong people, and one in ten say they overstep their authority. Other criticisms mentioned include corruption, poor training, and racism (all 7%).

In the fight against crime, two-thirds of the public (66%) favor laws that would try more juvenile offenders as adults. Whites are slightly more likely to give this response than nonwhites (67% vs. 60%). Those under 30 are little different from older generations in this regard.

**Softening of Support for the Military**

Overall favorability (80%) for the military is about the same as a year ago (82%), but fewer Americans give the military the highest rating (23% "very favorable" now vs. 33% in February 1996). This is the second indicator (the first being rising sentiment for less military spending) which shows weakening support for the Pentagon. The swirl of stories about sexual harassment on Army bases may be affecting opinion toward the military, but Americans who say they are following these stories very closely are not more negative than the rest of the public. Men are slightly more favorable to the military (83% vs. 77% of women), and those over 30 more than those under 30 (82% of those over age 30, compared to 71% of those under).

	Favorable		Unfavorable		Can't Rate
	Very %	Mostly %	Mostly %	Very %	
Total	33	48	9	8	2=100
Whites	34	50	7	7	2
Non-whites	25	40	18	13	4
18 - 29	23	47	12	15	3
30 - 49	30	49	12	7	2
50 +	43	48	3	4	2

Despite low unemployment and a bull market, Wall Street investors and business corporations are viewed no more favorably than last year. Overall, 59% of the public has a favorable view of business corporations (only 9% of which is "very favorable"). Affluent Americans are more favorable to business than those with less education and lower incomes: 72% of those with incomes over \$75,000 a year have a favorable opinion, vs. 49% earning less than \$20,000. Majorities in both political parties have a positive view of business, but Republicans are more positive than Democrats or Independents (69% vs. 58% and 51%, respectively). Wall Street investors fare a bit worse: 48% of Americans give investors a favorable review, vs. 26% unfavorable.

<b>Attitudes Toward Business Unchanged</b>		
	June	May
	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
	%	%
<i>Business corporations:</i>		
Favorable	62	59
Unfavorable	31	28
Can't rate	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100

Overall, labor unions receive lower favorability ratings than does business (49% favorable vs. 59%). A significant plurality of 39% have an *unfavorable* view of organized labor. As expected, Democrats and those who lean Democratic are much more favorable than Republicans and those who lean Republican (61% vs. 39%).

**PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH  
NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"**

	Timothy McVeigh Trial	Abortion Debate	Sexual Harassment in Army	DNC Contributions	(N)
<i>Total</i>	30	21	18	18	(1228)
<i>Sex</i>					
Male	29	14	19	22	(599)
Female	31	27	18	13	(629)
<i>Race</i>					
White	29	21	17	17	(985)
*Hispanic	22	18	26	15	(81)
Black	37	22	36	24	(112)
<i>Age</i>					
Under 30	29	24	18	12	(263)
30-49	28	20	17	15	(538)
50+	33	20	21	24	(410)
<i>Education</i>					
College Grad.	26	24	17	19	(349)
Other College	33	26	18	21	(322)
High School Grad	31	19	18	15	(417)
< H. S. Grad.	29	15	21	16	(135)
<i>Region</i>					
East	28	19	19	20	(232)
Midwest	26	22	19	13	(309)
South	35	23	19	18	(462)
West	27	17	18	20	(225)
<i>Party ID</i>					
Republican	30	24	15	25	(366)
Democrat	37	23	21	16	(390)
Independent	22	17	20	13	(395)

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.

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

**CONTINUED...**

**PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH  
NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"**

	Budget Debate	Whitewater Investigation	Deep Blue Chess Match	Britain's Election	Civil War in Zaire	(N)
<i>Total</i>	16	13	7	5	4	(1228)
<i>Sex</i>						
Male	18	16	11	6	4	(599)
Female	14	12	4	5	4	(629)
<i>Race</i>						
White	16	14	7	5	4	(985)
*Hispanic	12	17	6	6	4	(81)
Black	24	10	8	6	9	(112)
<i>Age</i>						
Under 30	13	11	11	5	5	(263)
30-49	14	12	8	4	3	(538)
50+	21	18	5	7	5	(410)
<i>Education</i>						
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High School Grad	14	12	6	4	3	(417)
< H. S. Grad.	12	14	6	4	4	(135)
<i>Region</i>						
East	19	14	9	6	6	(232)
Midwest	20	11	8	5	3	(309)
South	16	14	7	5	5	(462)
West	10	16	5	5	2	(225)
<i>Party ID</i>						
Republican	17	19	7	5	3	(366)
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# TABLES

## TRENDS IN FINANCIAL CONCERNS

	<i>Children Not Having Good Job Opportunities</i> (% Very Concerned)			<i>Losing Your Job/Taking A Pay Cut</i> (% Very Concerned)			1997 (N)
	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>	
	%	%		%	%		
<b>Total</b>	67	44	-23	47	30	-17	(1228)
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	63	41	-22	44	30	-14	(599)
Female	70	47	-23	50	30	-20	(629)
<b>Race</b>							
White	64	41	-23	43	26	-17	(985)
Non-white	85	62	-23	70	54	-16	(227)
Black	88	65	-23	75	59	-16	(112)
<b>Race and Sex</b>							
White Men	59	38	-21	40	26	-14	(484)
White Women	68	44	-24	6	26	-20	(501)
<b>Age</b>							
Under 30	67	48	-19	55	36	-19	(263)
30-49	66	49	-17	47	33	-14	(538)
50-64	68	42	-26	50	27	-23	(231)
65+	66	29	-37	31	17	-14	(179)
<b>Education</b>							
College Grad.	48	30	-18	33	14	-19	(349)
Some College	65	39	-26	44	27	-17	(322)
High School Grad.	73	50	-23	52	34	-18	(417)
<H.S. Grad	78	56	-22	58	42	-16	(135)
<b>Family Income</b>							
\$75,000+	50	34	-16	29	14	-15	(167)
\$50,000-\$74,999	57	43	-14	38	19	-19	(174)
\$30,000-\$49,999	69	42	-27	46	27	-19	(303)
\$20,000-\$29,999	70	44	-26	52	35	-17	(193)
<\$20,000	75	56	-19	57	48	-9	(231)
<b>Region</b>							
East	69	45	-24	48	30	-18	(232)
Midwest	69	40	-29	47	26	-21	(309)
South	67	50	-17	47	34	-13	(462)
West	61	39	-22	45	27	-18	(225)

Question: Now I'd like you to think about some concerns people have. How concerned are you, if at all, about... (your children not having good job opportunities/losing your job and taking a cut in pay)? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this?

Continued ...



	<i>Children Not Having Good Job Opportunities</i> (% Very Concerned)			<i>Losing Your Job/Taking A Pay Cut</i> (% Very Concerned)			1997 (N)
	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>	
	%	%		%	%		
<b>Total</b>	67	44	-23	47	30	-17	(1228)
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>							
Total White Protestant	63	41	-22	40	23	-17	(550)
White Prot. Evangelical	68	44	-24	43	26	-17	(276)
White Prot. Non-Evang.	58	38	-20	37	20	-17	(260)
White Catholic	69	43	-26	49	27	-22	(249)
<b>Community Size</b>							
Large City	68	47	-21	50	32	-18	(239)
Suburb	61	38	-23	48	21	-27	(269)
Small City/Town	68	45	-23	46	35	-11	(433)
Rural Area	70	46	-24	44	27	-17	(263)
<b>Party ID</b>							
Republican	59	34	-25	36	22	-14	(366)
Democrat	73	51	-22	53	37	-16	(390)
Independent	66	47	-19	50	30	-20	(395)

## TRENDS IN FINANCIAL CONCERNS

	<i>Not Having Enough Money for Retirement (% Very Concerned)</i>			<i>Being Unable to Afford Health Care (% Very Concerned)</i>		
	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>March 96</u>	<u>May 97</u>	<u>Change</u>
	%	%		%	%	
<b>Total</b>	59	42	-17	68	50	-18
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	55	38	-17	63	47	-16
Female	64	46	-18	73	52	-21
<b>Race</b>						
White	56	39	-17	66	46	-20
Non-white	78	59	-19	84	71	-13
Black	84	62	-22	88	76	-12
<b>Race and Sex</b>						
White Men	51	36	-15	60	43	-17
White Women	61	43	-18	71	49	-22
<b>Age</b>						
Under 30	56	40	-16	70	51	-19
30-49	60	50	-10	66	50	-16
50-64	64	43	-21	69	53	-16
65+	57	26	-31	71	46	-25
<b>Education</b>						
College Grad.	41	27	-14	48	31	-17
Some College	59	38	-21	65	47	-18
High School Grad.	63	45	-18	74	56	-18
<H.S. Grad	74	58	-16	84	63	-21
<b>Family Income</b>						
\$75,000+	37	27	-10	40	28	-12
\$50,000-\$74,999	47	33	-14	52	38	-14
\$30,000-\$49,999	61	40	-21	68	46	-22
\$20,000-\$29,999	64	48	-16	72	55	-17
<\$20,000	71	59	-12	85	70	-15
<b>Region</b>						
East	65	36	-29	72	47	-25
Midwest	64	35	-29	66	48	-18
South	61	51	-10	70	56	-14
West	47	42	-5	65	44	-21

Question: Now I'd like you to think about some concerns people have. How concerned are you, if at all, about... (not having enough money for your retirement/Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick?) Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this?

Continued ...

	<i>Not Having Enough Money for Retirement</i>			<i>Being Unable to Afford Health Care</i>		
	<i>(% Very Concerned)</i>			<i>(% Very Concerned)</i>		
	<u>March 1996</u>	<u>May 1997</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>March 1996</u>	<u>May 1997</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	% 59	% 42	-17	% 68	% 50	-18
<b><i>Religious Affiliation</i></b>						
Total White Protestant	54	41	-13	64	46	-18
White Prot. Evangelical	55	47	-8	69	50	-19
White Prot. Non-Evang.	54	34	-20	59	41	-18
White Catholic	63	36	-27	70	42	-28
<b><i>Community Size</i></b>						
Large City	58	44	-14	70	56	-14
Suburb	54	36	-18	62	36	-26
Small City/Town	61	45	-16	71	54	-17
Rural Area	62	40	-22	70	50	-20
<b><i>Party ID</i></b>						
Republican	52	33	-19	57	39	-18
Democrat	64	49	-15	75	57	-18
Independent	59	42	-17	70	52	-18

## RATING OF PERSONAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

March 1994 vs. May 1997

	----- March 1994 -----		----- May 1997 -----		Change in <u>Excellent/Good</u>
	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Fair/Poor</u>	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Fair/Poor</u>	
	Financial Shape	Financial Shape	Financial Shape	Financial Shape	
	%	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	46	53	50	49	+4
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	47	52	51	49	+4
Female	45	54	50	50	+5
<b>Race</b>					
White	49	50	54	46	+5
Non-white	30	69	31	68	+1
Black	29	70	29	71	0
<b>Race and Sex</b>					
White Men	49	50	53	46	+4
White Women	49	51	54	45	+5
<b>Age</b>					
Under 30	40	59	49	50	+9
30-49	48	52	52	48	+4
50-64	49	50	51	49	+2
65+	48	50	49	50	+1
<b>Education</b>					
College Grad.	60	40	67	32	+7
Some College	48	52	54	45	+6
High School Grad.	44	55	50	49	+6
<H.S. Grad	32	67	26	74	-6
<b>Family Income</b>					
\$50,000 +	68	32	79	20	+11
\$30,000-\$49,999	54	46	55	45	+1
\$20,000-\$29,999	42	58	42	58	0
<\$20,000	20	80	23	76	+3

Question: How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape?

**Continued ...**

	----- March 1994 -----		----- May 1997 -----		Change in <u>Excellent/Good</u>
	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Fair/Poor</u>	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Fair/Poor</u>	
	<u>Financial Shape</u>	<u>Financial Shape</u>	<u>Financial Shape</u>	<u>Financial Shape</u>	
	%	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	46	53	50	49	+4
<b>Region</b>					
East	43	56	56	44	+13
Midwest	49	50	51	48	+2
South	46	53	45	54	-1
West	46	54	54	46	+8
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>					
Total White Protestant	50	49	51	48	+1
White Prot. Evangelical	n/a	n/a	49	51	n/a
White Prot. Non-Evang.	n/a	n/a	54	45	n/a
White Catholic	47	53	60	39	+13
<b>Community Size</b>					
Large City	41	58	46	53	+5
Suburb	53	47	64	36	+11
Small City/Town	45	54	48	52	+3
Rural Area	46	54	48	51	+2
<b>Party ID</b>					
Republican	52	48	61	38	+9
Democrat	43	56	43	56	0
Independent	45	54	50	50	+5

## OPINIONS ON THE BUDGET

	<i>Approval of Budget Agreement*</i>			<i>Effect of Balanced Budget on Your Family</i>			
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Help</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>Not Affect</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	47	28	25=100	32	14	47	7=100
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	49	28	23	35	12	47	6
Female	45	29	26	29	16	47	8
<b>Race</b>							
White	46	29	25	31	15	48	6
Non-white	57	23	20	36	12	42	10
<b>Race and Sex</b>							
White Men	47	29	24	34	13	48	5
White Women	44	29	27	28	16	48	8
<b>Age</b>							
Under 30	50	24	26	27	12	53	8
30-49	47	26	27	39	13	42	6
50-64	48	30	22	33	18	42	7
65+	46	32	22	18	15	60	7
<b>Education</b>							
College Grad.	51	26	23	40	12	46	2
Some College	47	27	26	32	14	47	7
High School and less	45	31	24	29	15	47	8
<b>Family Income</b>							
\$75,000+	61	18	21	41	12	46	1
\$50,000-\$74,999	50	30	20	40	12	42	6
\$30,000-\$49,999	45	35	20	31	14	53	2
\$20,000-\$29,999	41	28	31	28	13	51	8
<\$20,000	40	29	31	24	19	43	14
<b>Region</b>							
East	50	24	26	33	14	45	8
Midwest	48	29	23	32	16	45	7
South	47	28	25	33	16	43	8
West	44	31	25	29	8	57	6

Question: From what you've heard or read, would you say you approve or disapprove of the budget agreement?

In your opinion... if the federal budget **IS** balanced in five years, do you think this will help your family financially, hurt your family financially, or not affect you and your family too much?

\* Based on those who have heard about the agreement.

Continued ...

	<i>Approval of Budget Agreement*</i>			<i>Effect of Balanced Budget on Your Family</i>			
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Help</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>Not Affect</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b><i>Total</i></b>	47	28	25=100	32	14	47	7=100
<b><i>Religious Affiliation</i></b>							
Total White Protestant	43	31	26	32	16	45	7
White Prot. Evangelical	43	35	22	32	19	42	7
White Prot. Non-Evang.	43	28	29	32	14	49	5
White Catholic	50	29	21	34	11	52	3
<b><i>Community Size</i></b>							
Large City	54	22	24	27	11	53	9
Suburb	45	32	23	35	15	45	5
Small City/Town	45	30	25	31	17	44	8
Rural Area	45	30	25	35	12	49	4
<b><i>Party ID</i></b>							
Republican	46	29	25	37	14	45	4
Democrat	56	24	20	30	13	50	7
Independent	42	32	26	30	15	47	8

## THE 'PARTIAL BIRTH' ABORTION BAN

	<u>Favor Ban</u>	<u>Oppose Ban</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	54	37	9=100	(615)
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	52	38	10	(298)
Female	56	36	8	(317)
<b>Race</b>				
White	54	36	10	(485)
Non-white	56	39	5	(122)
<b>Race and Sex</b>				
White Men	52	37	11	(242)
White Women	56	36	8	(243)
<b>Age</b>				
Under 30	53	39	8	(129)
30-49	55	38	7	(280)
50-64	54	36	10	(115)
65+	55	32	13	(84)
<b>Education</b>				
College Grad.	56	38	6	(182)
Some College	52	37	11	(155)
High School Grad.	57	36	7	(205)
< H.S. Grad	50	37	13	(71)
<b>Family Income</b>				
\$75,000+	49	46	5	(90)
\$50,000-\$74,999	67	25	8	(77)
\$30,000-\$49,999	50	43	7	(135)
\$20,000-\$29,999	56	35	9	(99)
<\$20,000	52	40	8	(119)
<b>Region</b>				
East	57	36	7	(117)
Midwest	54	40	6	(149)
South	56	36	8	(233)
West	48	36	16	(116)

Question: Do you favor or oppose a law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure often referred to as a 'partial birth abortion', except when necessary to save the life of the mother?

Continued...



	<u>Favor Ban</u>	<u>Oppose Ban</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
	%	%	%	
<b><i>Total</i></b>	54	37	9=100	(615)
<b><i>Religious Affiliation</i></b>				
Total White Protestant	54	35	11	(268)
White Prot. Evangelical	59	33	8	(140)
White Prot. Non-Evang.	48	38	14	(122)
White Catholic	57	36	7	(114)
<b><i>Community Size</i></b>				
Large City	48	46	6	(128)
Suburb	57	35	8	(127)
Small City/Town	60	30	10	(218)
Rural Area	50	41	9	(132)
<b><i>Party ID</i></b>				
Republican	55	35	10	(183)
Democrat	54	38	8	(203)
Independent	56	36	8	(191)

## FAVORABILITY RATINGS FOR JUSTICE SYSTEM

	----- U.S. Court System -----			----- Supreme Court -----		
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	48	46	6=100	72	22	6=100
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	51	47	2	72	24	4
Female	46	46	8	72	20	8
<b>Race</b>						
White	49	46	5	72	22	6
Non-white	46	47	7	67	22	11
<b>Race and Sex</b>						
White Men	51	47	2	73	23	4
White Women	48	44	8	72	21	7
<b>Age</b>						
Under 30	52	43	5	67	25	8
30-49	47	50	3	74	24	2
50-64	50	47	3	76	13	11
65+	48	36	16	66	25	9
<b>Education</b>						
College Grad.	54	45	1	81	17	2
Some College	48	50	2	66	29	5
High School Grad.	45	48	7	70	26	4
* < H.S. Grad	51	37	12	70	11	19
<b>Family Income</b>						
\$75,000+	49	50	1	86	13	1
\$50,000-\$74,999	52	47	1	71	27	2
\$30,000-\$49,999	51	46	3	73	24	3
\$20,000-\$29,999	46	51	3	72	20	8
<\$20,000	51	38	11	69	23	8
<b>Region</b>						
East	54	43	3	72	21	7
Midwest	45	50	5	74	21	5
South	50	43	7	68	23	9
West	44	51	5	73	23	4

**Question:** Now I'd like your opinion of some organizations. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of what I name. (First), would you say your overall opinion of (the U.S. Court System/the Supreme Court) is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?

\* Small sample size.

Continued ...

	----- U.S. Court System -----			----- Supreme Court -----		
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	48	46	6=100	72	22	6=100
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>						
Total White Protestant	44	49	7	69	25	6
White Prot. Evangelical	39	50	11	67	28	5
White Prot. Non-Evang.	49	48	3	73	21	6
White Catholic	58	40	2	81	14	5
<b>Community Size</b>						
Large City	50	45	5	72	22	6
Suburb	49	48	3	72	24	4
Small City/Town	51	42	7	71	21	8
Rural Area	45	50	5	72	21	7
<b>Party ID</b>						
Republican	45	54	1	69	27	4
Democrat	48	43	9	78	14	8
Independent	54	43	3	73	23	4

## FAVORABILITY RATINGS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTITUTIONS

	---- Local Police Dept ----			----- FBI -----		
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	81	17	2=100	60	28	12=100
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	80	18	2	60	33	7
Female	83	15	2	58	26	16
<b>Race</b>						
White	84	14	2	60	28	12
Non-white	65	31	4	54	33	13
<b>Race and Sex</b>						
White Men	82	16	2	62	31	7
White Women	87	11	2	59	26	15
<b>Age</b>						
Under 30	70	27	3	65	25	10
30-49	79	19	2	63	29	8
50-64	88	10	2	52	34	14
65+	94	4	2	53	30	17
<b>Education</b>						
College Grad.	86	13	1	61	32	7
Some College	76	23	1	62	29	9
High School Grad.	79	17	4	63	26	11
<H.S. Grad*	87	11	2	45	33	22
<b>Family Income</b>						
\$75,000+	83	17	0	75	21	4
\$50,000-\$74,999	79	18	3	66	29	5
\$30,000-\$49,999	86	13	1	58	32	10
\$20,000-\$29,999	79	18	3	56	31	13
<\$20,000	78	21	1	51	31	18
<b>Region</b>						
East	85	13	2	58	27	15
Midwest	80	17	3	61	26	13
South	80	18	2	61	28	11
West	83	16	1	54	37	9

Question: Now I'd like your opinion of some organizations. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of what I name. (First), would you say your overall opinion of (the police department in your area; the FBI) is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

\* Small sample size.

Continued ...

	---- Local Police Dept ----			----- FBI -----		
	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	81	17	2=100	60	28	12=100
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>						
Total White Protestant	85	13	2	61	29	10
White Prot. Evangelical	82	16	2	62	27	11
White Prot. Non-Evang.	87	10	3	62	30	8
White Catholic	87	12	1	63	25	12
<b>Community Size</b>						
Large City	81	17	2	57	30	13
Suburb	84	15	1	66	24	10
Small City/Town	80	17	3	56	28	16
Rural Area	82	16	2	59	34	7
<b>Party ID</b>						
Republican	83	15	2	70	25	5
Democrat	83	15	2	56	30	14
Independent	81	17	2	56	33	11

# SURVEY METHODOLOGY

## **ABOUT THIS SURVEY**

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 1,228 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period May 15-18,1997. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on either Form 1 (N=615) or Form 2 (N=613), the sampling error is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## **SURVEY METHODOLOGY IN DETAIL**

The samples for each survey are random digit samples of telephone numbers selected from telephone exchanges in the continental United States. The random digit aspect of the sample is used to avoid "listing" bias and provides representation of both listed and unlisted numbers (including not-yet-listed). The design of the sample ensures this representation by random generation of the last two digits of telephone numbers selected on the basis of their area code, telephone exchange, and bank number.

The telephone exchanges were selected with probabilities proportional to their size. The first eight digits of the sampled telephone numbers (area code, telephone exchange, bank number) were selected to be proportionally stratified by county and by telephone exchange within county. That is, the number of telephone numbers randomly sampled from within a given county is proportional to that county's share of telephone households in the U.S. Estimates of the number of telephone households within each county are derived from 1990 Census data on residential telephone incidence that have been updated with state-level information on new telephone installations and county-level projections of the number of households. Only working banks of telephone numbers are selected. A working bank is defined as 100 contiguous telephone numbers containing three or more residential listings.

The sample was released for interviewing in replicates. Using replicates to control the release of sample to the field ensures that the complete call procedures are followed for the entire sample.

At least four attempts were made to complete an interview at every sampled telephone number. The calls were staggered over times of day and days of the week to maximize the chances of making a contact with a potential respondent. All interview breakoffs and refusals were re-contacted at least once in order to attempt to convert them to completed interviews. In each contacted household, interviewers asked to speak with the "youngest male 18 or older who is at home". If there is no eligible man at home, interviewers asked to speak with "the oldest woman 18 or older who lives in the household". This systematic respondent selection technique has been shown empirically to produce samples that closely mirror the population in terms of age and gender.

Non-response in telephone interview surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population, and these subgroups are likely to vary also on questions of substantive interest. In order to compensate for these known biases, the sample data are weighted in analysis.

The demographic weighting parameters are derived from a special analysis of the most recently available Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (March 1994). This analysis produced population parameters for the demographic characteristics of households with adults 18 or older, which are then compared with the sample characteristics to construct sample weights. The analysis only included households in the continental United States that contain a telephone.

The weights are derived using an iterative technique that simultaneously balances the distributions of all weighting parameters.



# THE QUESTIONNAIRE

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS**  
**MAY 1997 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**-- FINAL TOPLINE --**  
**May 15 - 18, 1997**  
**N = 1,228**

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

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

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
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
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
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

Q.1 con't ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
Early September, 1993	43	43	14=100
August, 1993	39	46	15=100
May, 1993	39	43	18=100
Early May, 1993	45	37	18=100
April, 1993	49	29	22=100
February, 1993	56	25	19=100

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

	<u>April 1997</u>	<u>Feb 1997</u>	<u>Jan 1997</u>	<u>July 1996</u>	<u>June 1996</u>	<u>April 1996</u>	<u>March 1996</u>	<u>Feb 1996</u>	<u>Jan 1996</u>	<u>Oct 1995</u>	<u>Sept 1995</u>	<u>Aug 1995</u>	<u>June 1995</u>	<u>April 1995</u>	<u>March 1995</u>	<u>Dec 1994</u>
40 Approve	40	44	38	38	36	39	35	33	36	36	36	38	41	44	43	52
44 Disapprove	44	42	47	48	50	46	51	53	54	51	50	45	45	43	39	28
<u>16</u> DK/Refused 100	<u>16</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>10</u> 100	<u>13</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>17</u> 100	<u>14</u> 100	<u>13</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>20</u> 100

Q.3 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely? **[READ AND ROTATE LIST]**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<b>(VOL)</b> <u>DK</u>
a. The debate in Washington about the federal budget	16	38	23	22	1=100
February, 1997	19	28	22	29	2=100
March, 1996	24	35	23	18	*=100
January, 1996	32	42	17	9	*=100
September, 1995	20	35	27	18	*=100
August, 1995 <sup>2</sup>	18	34	27	20	1=100
b. Britain's Labor Party defeating the Conservative Party in general elections	5	19	25	50	1=100

<sup>2</sup>

In this month the story was listed as "The debate in Congress over the federal budget."

**Q.3 con't ...**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<b>(VOL) DK</b>
c. The trial of Timothy McVeigh, accused of bombing the federal building in Oklahoma City April, 1997	30 20	44 38	18 25	7 16	1=100 1=100
d. The debate in Congress over late term abortions <sup>3</sup> October, 1996	21 21	32 27	23 26	23 26	1=100 *=100
e. Charges of improper campaign contributions to the Democrats by foreign business interests	18	33	23	25	1=100
April, 1997	19	37	22	21	1=100
February, 1997 <sup>4</sup>	18	27	21	33	1=100
January, 1997	17	29	26	28	*=100
December, 1996	22	26	22	30	*=100
f. News about the Whitewater investigation	13	34	26	26	1=100
July, 1996	14	31	31	24	*=100
March, 1996	11	28	34	26	1=100
January, 1996	11	28	33	28	*=100
August, 1995 <sup>5</sup>	11	26	32	30	1=100
May, 1994 <sup>6</sup>	22	36	23	18	1=100
March, 1994 <sup>7</sup>	11	38	28	21	2=100
January, 1994 <sup>8</sup>	14	25	28	32	1=100
Early January, 1994	13	29	31	26	1=100

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<sup>3</sup> In this month the story was listed as "The attempt by Congress to override President Clinton's veto of the 'partial-birth' or 'late-term' abortion ban."

<sup>4</sup> In previous months story was listed as "Charges of improper campaign contributions to the Democrats by Indonesian business interests."

<sup>5</sup> In this month the story was listed as "The Congressional hearings about Whitewater."

<sup>6</sup> In this month the story was listed as "The Whitewater case and other issues about the personal finances of the Clintons'."

<sup>7</sup> In this month the story was listed as "News stories about the Whitewater case and White House handling of it".

<sup>8</sup> In this month the story was listed as "Questions about Bill and Hillary Clinton's failed real estate investments in Arkansas".

**Q.3 con't ...**

		<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<b>(VOL) DK</b>
g.	Sexual harassment charges against Army sergeants	18	43	24	14	1=100
h.	The chess match between IBM's supercomputer, Deep Blue, and the current world chess champion	7	20	23	49	1=100
i.	The civil war in Zaire	4	19	30	46	1=100

Q.4 Now I'm going to read a list of names of people who have been in the news. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one, please tell me if you happen to know who that person is. First, . . . **(INSERT NAME AND ROTATE)** [IF NECESSARY, PROBE WITH: DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHO (NAME) IS]?

**INTERVIEWER NOTE: FOR EACH ITEM, IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "YES", FOLLOW-UP WITH: Who is (INSERT NAME)?**

**ASK OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=615]**

- a.F1 Alan Greenspan  
40 Correct answer  
60 Any other answer/DK  
100
- b.F1 Trent Lott  
15 Correct answer  
85 Any other answer/DK  
100
- c.F1 Louis Freeh  
8 Correct answer  
92 Any other answer/DK  
100
- d.F1 John Huang  
20 Correct answer  
80 Any other answer/DK  
100

**Q.4 con't ...**

e.F1 Tiger Woods  
82 Correct answer  
18 Any other answer/DK  
100

f.F1 Kenneth Starr  
20 Correct answer  
80 Any other answer/DK  
100

**ASK OF FORM 2 ONLY: [N=613]**

g.F2 Tony Blair  
10 Correct answer  
90 Any other answer/DK  
100

h.F2 Ralph Reed  
9 Correct answer  
91 Any other answer/DK  
100

i.F2 Ellen DeGeneres **[PRONOUNCED DE GENEROUS]**  
62 Correct answer  
38 Any other answer/DK  
100

j.F2 Webster Hubbell  
15 Correct answer  
85 Any other answer/DK  
100

k.F2 Garry Kasparov  
18 Correct answer  
82 Any other answer/DK  
100

l.F2 Dennis Rodman  
80 Correct answer  
20 Any other answer/DK  
100

**NO QUESTION 5**

**ASK ALL:**

**NOW I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FEDERAL BUDGET . . .**

Q.6 In your opinion, over the past few years have we made significant progress in reducing the federal budget deficit, or not?

		<u>Dec</u> <u>1994</u>	<u>Feb</u> <u>1989</u>
29	Yes	26	15
59	No	65	77
<u>12</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u> 100	<u>8</u> 100

Q.7 If you were making up the federal budget this year, would you increase spending for **(NAME OF ITEM)**, decrease spending for **(NAME OF ITEM)** or keep spending the same for this. What about for **(NEXT ITEM)** ...? **[ROTATE ITEMS]**

		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Keep Same</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
<b>ASK ITEMS a. - g. OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=615]</b>					
a.F1	Environmental protection	46	38	14	2=100
	December, 1994	40	40	17	3=100
	May, 1990	71	24	3	2=100
	May, 1987	59	34	4	3=100
b.F1	Financial aid for college students	53	35	10	2=100
	December, 1994	41	43	13	3=100
	May, 1990	51	37	10	2=100
	May, 1987	43	41	13	3=100
c.F1	Social Security	44	46	7	3=100
	December, 1994	46	45	7	2=100
	May, 1990	63	32	3	2=100
	May, 1987	64	31	3	2=100
d.F1	Research on AIDS	54	31	12	3=100
	December, 1994	55	33	9	3=100
	May, 1990	59	30	8	3=100
	May, 1987	69	21	7	3=100
e.F1	Government assistance for the unemployed	20	44	33	3=100
	December, 1994	25	49	23	3=100
	Feb, 1989	26	57	14	3=100
	May, 1987	41	41	15	3=100
f.F1	Medicare	44	44	8	4=100

**Q.7 con't ...**

		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Keep Same</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
g.F1	Programs that assist blacks and other minorities	27	46	21	6=100
	December, 1994	27	48	20	5=100
	May, 1990	35	42	20	3=100
	May, 1987	35	44	18	3=100
<b>ASK ITEMS h. - n. OF FORM 2 ONLY: [N=613]</b>					
h.F2	Health care	57	34	7	2=100
	December, 1994	52	33	11	4=100
	August, 1990	74	18	6	2=100
	May, 1990	80	16	3	1=100
	May, 1987	72	23	3	2=100
i.F2	Combatting crime	62	29	7	2=100
	December, 1994	71	23	4	2=100
j.F2	The public school systems	67	23	7	3=100
	December, 1994	64	28	6	2=100
	May, 1990	76	20	3	1=100
	May, 1987	69	25	4	2=100
k.F2	Military defense	21	46	30	3=100
	December, 1994	31	44	23	2=100
	August, 1990	23	31	43	3=100
	May, 1990	18	39	40	3=100
	May, 1987	24	44	29	3=100
l.F2	Programs for the homeless	53	31	12	4=100
	December, 1994	53	34	9	4=100
	May, 1990	67	25	6	2=100
	May, 1987	67	25	5	3=100
m.F2	Re-training programs for displaced workers	54	31	11	4=100
	December, 1994	50	36	10	4=100
n.F2	Scientific research	45	38	14	3=100
	December, 1994	37	44	15	4=100
	May, 1990	51	37	9	3=100
	May, 1987	45	42	9	4=100



**ASK ALL:**

Q.8 Have you heard that President Clinton and the Republican leaders in Congress have reached a tentative agreement on how to balance the budget, or haven't you heard about this?

**IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' HAVE HEARD ABOUT AGREEMENT IN Q.8, ASK:**

Q.9 From what you've heard or read, would you say you approve or disapprove of the budget agreement?

50 Have heard about the agreement -- **GO TO Q.9**  
24 Approve  
14 Disapprove  
12 Don't know/Refused

49 Have not heard about the agreement -- **GO TO Q.10**

1  
100 Don't know/Refused -- **GO TO Q.10**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.10 In your opinion... if the federal budget **IS** balanced in five years, do you think this will help you and your family financially, hurt you and your family financially, or not affect you and your family too much?

		Feb <u>1997</u>	Jan <u>1996</u> <sup>9</sup>
32	Help	33	40
14	Hurt	19	20
47	Not much affect	40	35
<u>7</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u> 100	<u>5</u> 100

Q.11 Do you think the federal budget will actually be balanced by the year 2002, or won't the budget be balanced by then?

		Feb <u>1997</u>
10	Will be balanced	9
85	Won't be balanced	18
<u>5</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u> 28% <sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> In January 1996, the question referred to a seven year balanced budget plan.

<sup>10</sup> In February 1997 question was based on the percent of respondents who thought President Clinton and the Republican leaders in Congress would be able to reach an agreement (28% yes, 62% no, 2% depends, 8% don't know/refused).

**ROTATE Q.12 AND Q.12a  
BEFORE FIRST QUESTION, READ "ON ANOTHER SUBJECT"**

Q.12 Lately, do you think the Republican party has compromised too much on its goals of reducing the size of government and cutting taxes, or don't you think so?

**BASED ON REP/LEAN REP: [N=504]**

35 Republican party has compromised too much  
54 Republican party has NOT compromised too much  
11 Don't know/Refused  
100

Q.12a Lately, do you think the Democratic party has compromised too much on its goals of helping needy people and using government to solve important domestic problems, or don't you think so?

**BASED ON DEM/LEAN DEM: [N=562]**

33 Democratic party has compromised too much  
57 Democratic party has NOT compromised too much  
10 Don't know/Refused  
100

**ON A DIFFERENT TOPIC . . .**

**ASK Q.A1 AND Q.A2 OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=615]**

Q.A1F1 Do you favor or oppose a law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure often referred to as a 'partial birth abortion', except when necessary to save the life of the mother?

Q.A2F1 Do you ever wonder whether your position on this issue is the right one, or are you certain about your position?

54 Favor law making procedure illegal  
14 Wonder whether position is right  
38 Are certain  
2 Don't know/Refused  
37 Oppose law making procedure illegal  
12 Wonder whether position is right  
24 Are certain  
1 Don't know/Refused  
9 Don't know/Refused --GO TO Q.13  
100

**ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT. . .**

**ASK Q.A3 AND Q.A4 OF FORM 2 ONLY: [N=613]**

Q.A3F2 Do you favor or oppose a law which would make it illegal to perform an abortion once the fetus is able to live outside the mother's womb, except when necessary to save the life of the mother or prevent serious harm to her health?

Q.A4F2 Do you ever wonder whether your position on this issue is the right one, or are you certain about your position?

58 Favor law making late term abortions illegal  
18 Wonder whether position is right  
38 Are certain  
2 Don't know/Refused

29 Oppose law making late term abortions illegal  
8 Wonder whether position is right  
20 Are certain  
1 Don't know/Refused

13 Don't know/Refused -- **GO TO Q.13**  
100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.13 Now I'd like your opinion of some organizations. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of 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 Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Favor- <u>able</u>	Mostly Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Very Unfavor- <u>able</u>	Never Heard <u>Of</u>	Can't <u>Rate</u>
<b>ASK ITEMS a. - e. OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=615]</b>							
a.F1	Congress	5	44	32	10	*	9=100
	February, 1997	6	46	31	9	*	8=100
	January, 1997	6	50	32	8	*	4=100
	June, 1996	6	39	38	12	*	5=100
	April, 1996	6	39	37	13	0	5=100
	January, 1996	4	38	38	16	*	4=100
	October, 1995	4	38	42	13	0	3=100
	August, 1995	5	40	34	13	*	7=100
	June, 1995	8	45	31	11	*	5=100
	February, 1995	10	44	27	10	0	9=100
	July, 1994	7	46	34	9	*	4=100
	May, 1993	8	35	35	13	0	9=100
	November, 1991	7	44	34	9	0	6=100
	May, 1990	6	53	25	9	1	6=100
	May, 1988	8	56	23	5	0	8=100
	January, 1988	6	58	25	4	0	7=100
	May, 1987	10	64	16	4	*	6=100
	January, 1987	7	52	23	8	0	10=100
	June, 1985	9	58	21	5	*	7=100
b.F1	The U.S. Court system <sup>11</sup>	10	39	30	16	0	5=100
	February, 1997	5	37	33	18	*	7=100
	January, 1996	4	31	37	25	0	3=100
	June, 1995	6	37	34	20	*	3=100
	February, 1995	8	35	31	19	0	7=100
	January, 1994	2	41	35	18		4=100

<sup>11</sup>

Trends for January 1996 and January 1994 refer to "the court system in this country."

**Q.13 con't ...**

		Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Never Heard Of	Can't Rate
c.F1	The CIA ( <b>INTERVIEWER: IF NECESSARY</b> , the Central Intelligence Agency)	4	35	23	10	*	28=100
	June, 1995	8	47	25	8	1	11=100
	February, 1995	9	34	24	11	1	21=100
	November, 1991	8	42	26	9	0	15=100
	May, 1990	8	40	22	11	1	18=100
	May, 1987	5	35	35	11	*	14=100
	January, 1987	6	32	23	11	0	28=100
	July, 1986	7	43	18	6	1	25=100
	July, 1985	7	42	23	10	2	16=100
d.F1	The police department in your area	33	48	9	8	0	2=100
e.F1	Business corporations	9	50	21	7	1	12=100
	June, 1996	10	52	25	6	*	7=100
	February, 1996	9	50	24	10	1	6=100
	October, 1995	6	54	29	7	-	4=100
	July, 1994	8	62	19	5	*	6=100
	November, 1991	8	57	22	6	0	7=100
	January, 1988	6	53	27	5	*	9=100
	June, 1985	8	50	24	7	1	10=100
<b>ASK ITEMS f. - j. OF FORM 2 ONLY: [N=613]</b>							
f.F2	The FBI ( <b>INTERVIEWER: IF NECESSARY</b> , the Federal Bureau of Investigations)	12	48	21	7	0	12=100
	August, 1995	16	48	19	9	*	8=100
	May, 1995 ( <i>ABC/W. Post</i> )	34	48	3	6	*	9=100
g.F2	Labor unions	15	34	26	13	*	12=100
	April, 1996	10	37	28	17	*	8=100
	February, 1996	17	37	27	14	*	5=100
	July, 1994	14	43	28	10	*	5=100
	June, 1985	9	37	30	17	*	7=100
h.F2	The Supreme Court	16	56	17	5	0	6=100
	July, 1994	18	62	13	3	*	4=100
	May, 1993	17	56	14	4	0	9=100
	November, 1991	18	54	16	5	0	7=100
	May, 1990	10	55	18	7	1	9=100
	January, 1988	14	65	11	2	*	8=100
	May, 1987	13	63	15	2	*	7=100

**Q.13 con't ...**

		<u>Very Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Unfavorable</u>	<u>Very Unfavorable</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
i.F2	The military	23	57	11	5	0	4=100
	February, 1996	33	49	12	4	*	2=100
	July, 1994	30	57	8	3	*	2=100
	May, 1993	32	53	8	2	0	5=100
	March, 1991	60	34	2	2	0	2=100
	May, 1990	18	55	15	6	*	6=100
	January, 1988	20	57	14	3	*	6=100
	April, 1987	17	63	12	4	0	4=100
	January, 1987	19	54	11	5	*	11=100
	July, 1986	32	53	7	3	0	5=100
	June, 1985	24	53	13	5	*	5=100
j.F2	Wall Street investors	6	42	19	7	2	24=100
	February, 1996	10	40	23	11	2	14=100
	July, 1994	8	51	18	4	2	17=100
	April, 1987	5	33	30	11	2	19=100

**INTERVIEWER NOTE: FOR ITEMS b., d., AND f. of Q.13, IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS 1-4, FOLLOW-UP WITH Q.14.**

Q.14 Why do you feel that way? (*open-end*)

**U.S. COURT SYSTEM**

Favorable Responses (N=298)

31	Doing a good job/Doing the best they can
14	The system works well
12	Give a fair trial/Even-handed
11	Like the way they vote/Agree with decisions
5	Better here than in other countries
1	Judges are good/Fair/Have integrity
9	Other
21	Don't know/No answer

## **U.S. COURT SYSTEM con't**

### Unfavorable Responses (N=287)

32	Too lenient on criminals/Criminals get away with too much
14	Justice is not always served/Not even handed
12	System favors those with money
7	Don't like/Disagree with the decisions
6	System is too slow
5	Mentions of the O. J. Simpson trial(s)
4	Victims are treated unfairly/Victims are victimized
3	Too much bias in the court/Opinionated
3	Too liberal
2	Lawyers run the courts/Have control
2	It cost the tax payers too much money
2	Too much red tape/Bureaucracy
2	Too many unnecessary/Frivolous lawsuits
2	Mentions of race/Racism
21	Other
5	Don't know/No answer

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### Favorable Responses (N=498)

57	They do a good job/Do the best they can
11	Crime rate is low in the area
10	Always around when you need them/Very visible/Patrol a lot
10	Fast response when I call
5	They make me feel safe/Protected
4	Good/Honest people/Hard workers
3	Involved in the community
12	Other
5	Don't know/No answer

### Unfavorable Responses (N=105)

21	Never around when you need them/Not visible/Don't patrol much
17	They go after the wrong people/Don't pay enough attention to big crime problems like drugs, murder
10	Have bad attitudes/"Power Hungry"/Overstep their authority
7	Department is corrupt
7	Not well trained/Not good cops
7	Mentions of race/Racism
6	They are slow to respond when I call
25	Other
3	Don't know/No answer

**FBI (FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS)**

Favorable Responses (N=373)

50	They do a good job/Hard job, but they do it well
12	We need them/Perform an important service
5	Haven't heard anything bad about them
3	Have no personal problems with them'
2	They assist the local law enforcement
2	Did a good job with WACO/Did the right thing
2	They handled the Oklahoma bombing incident well
14	Other
14	Don't know/No answer

Unfavorable Responses (N=177)

25	Not doing a good job
11	Bad reputation/Heard bad stories
10	They cover up too much/Don't tell us enough/Keep too many secrets
9	Infringe on people's rights/Invade their privacy
8	They botch too many investigations
4	Too quick to accuse/Harass/They jump the gun
3	Mishandled WACO/Did a bad job
26	Other
12	Don't know/No answer

(N=177)

**ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT . . .**

Q.15 Would you favor proposed laws that would result in more juvenile offenders aged 14 and over being tried as adults, or do you think most juvenile offenders should continue to be tried in juvenile courts?

66	Favor juveniles being tried as adults
27	Think juveniles should be tried in juvenile courts
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused

100



**AND ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

Q.16 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in...(READ)

		---- U.S. News & World Report ----							
		<u>Sept</u> <u>1996</u> <sup>12</sup>	<u>Mar</u> <u>1994</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>1993</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>1993</u>	<u>Oct</u> <u>1992</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>1992</u>	<u>May</u> <u>1992</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>1992</u>
7	Excellent shape?	8	5	5	4	6	5	4	4
43	Good shape?	47	41	34	33	34	30	35	32
38	Only fair shape?	34	40	45	46	40	47	45	45
11	OR poor shape?	10	13	15	16	19	17	15	18
<u>1</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100	<u>1</u> 100

Q.17 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

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

<sup>12</sup>

Percentages based on Registered Voters.

Q.18 Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

		<u>Sept 1996<sup>13</sup></u>	<u>June 1996</u>	<u>Feb 1995</u>	<u>March 1994</u>
53	Full-time	52	57	55	53
12	Part-time	12	13	11	14
35	Not employed	36	30	34	32
<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	<u>1</u> <u>100</u>

**ASK Q.19 AND Q.20 OF EMPLOYED RESPONDENTS ONLY (1 OR 2 IN Q.18) [N=837]**

Q.19 Do you now earn enough money to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		<u>June 1996</u>	<u>Feb 1995</u>	<u>March 1994</u>	<i>---- U.S. News &amp; World Report ----</i>			
					<u>Oct 1992</u>	<u>Aug 1992</u>	<u>May 1992</u>	<u>Jan 1992</u>
46	Yes	44	41	44	36	33	34	39
54	No	56	58	56	63	66	65	61
<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	Don't know	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	<u>1</u> <u>100</u>	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>	<u>1</u> <u>100</u>	<u>1</u> <u>100</u>	<u>1</u> <u>100</u>	<u>*</u> <u>100</u>

Q.20 Do you think you will be able to earn enough money in the future to lead the kind of life you want, or not?

		<u>June 1996</u>	<u>Feb 1995</u>	<u>March 1994</u>	<i>---- U.S. News &amp; World Report ----</i>			
					<u>Oct 1992</u>	<u>Aug 1992</u>	<u>May 1992</u>	<u>Jan 1992</u>
34	Yes	34	35	33	35	36	34	34
18	No	20	20	20	23	25	28	22
<u>2</u> 54% (N=837)	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u> 56% (N=1440)	<u>3</u> 58% (N=816)	<u>3</u> 54% (N=2001)	<u>5</u> 63% (N=817)	<u>5</u> 66% (N=777)	<u>3</u> 65% (N=852)	<u>5</u> 61% (N=1002)

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Percentages based on Registered Voters.

**ASK ALL:**

**ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT . . .**

Q.21 Do you approve of Attorney General Janet Reno's decision NOT to appoint an independent counsel to investigate campaign fundraising abuses in last year's Presidential campaign, or do you think she should have appointed an independent counsel?

28	Approve of decision
57	Think Reno should have appointed independent counsel
<u>15</u> 100	Don't know/Refused

**NOW A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT WHITEWATER...**

Q.22 From what you've heard or read about Bill and Hillary Clinton's involvement in Whitewater, do you think the Clintons are . . . **(READ)** <sup>14</sup>

		--- <i>Newsweek Poll</i> ---			
		Aug <u>1995</u>	March <u>1994</u>	March 11 <u>1994</u>	Jan <u>1994</u>
9	NOT guilty of any wrongdoing	15	13	14	19
49	Guilty of only MINOR offenses	48	52	44	31
OR					
26	Guilty of SERIOUS offenses	24	15	20	14
<u>16</u> 100	Don't know	<u>13</u> 100	<u>20</u> 100	<u>22</u> 100	<u>36</u> 100

Q.23 Do you think the Clinton Administration is knowingly covering up information about Whitewater that could be damaging to the President or Hillary Clinton?

		<i>Newsweek Poll</i>		
		Jan <u>1996</u>	March <u>1994</u>	March <u>1994</u>
65	Yes, cover-up	61	52	52
21	No cover-up	23	28	29
<u>14</u> 100	Don't know	<u>16</u> 100	<u>20</u> 100	<u>19</u> 100

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<sup>14</sup> Question wording for trend figures: "From what you've heard or read about Bill and Hillary Clinton's involvement with the Whitewater Development Corporation and a failed Savings and Loan bank in Arkansas, do you think the Clintons are ..."

Q.24 Do you think the media is giving TOO MUCH attention to the Whitewater case and the White House handling of it, TOO LITTLE attention, or about the right amount?

		<i>Newsweek Poll</i>		
		Aug	March	March 11
		<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>
43	Too much attention	45	55	44
14	Too little attention	15	7	10
39	About the right amount	37	33	36
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.25 Now I'd like you to think about some concerns that people may have. How concerned are you, if at all, about **(INSERT ITEM: ROTATE)**? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this? What about **(NEXT ITEM)**...?

		Very	Some-	Not too	Not at	Does	
		Con-	what Con-	Con-	all Con-	Not	Don't
		<u>cerned</u>	<u>cerned</u>	<u>cerned</u>	<u>cerned</u>	Apply	Know
						<b>(VOL)</b>	
a.	Not having enough money for your retirement?						
		42	26	15	13	3	1=100
	October, 1996 <sup>15</sup>	56	24	11	7	1	1=100
	March, 1996	59	23	9	7	2	*=100
	October, 1995	48	29	10	8	4	1=100
	March, 1994	42	29	14	12	2	1=100
	May, 1988	34	35	15	8	4	4=100
b.	Being unable to save enough money to put a child through college?						
		39	17	10	14	19	1=100
	October, 1996 <sup>16</sup>	47	18	9	13	12	1=100
	October, 1995	44	19	9	12	15	1=100
	March, 1994	37	16	8	12	26	1=100
	May, 1988	23	22	11	11	29	4=100

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<sup>15</sup> Percentages based on Registered Voters.

<sup>16</sup> Percentages based on Registered Voters.

**Q.25 con't ...**

		<u>Very</u> <u>Con-</u> <u>cerned</u>	<u>Some-</u> <u>what Con-</u> <u>cerned</u>	<u>Not too</u> <u>Con-</u> <u>cerned</u>	<u>Not at</u> <u>all Con-</u> <u>cerned</u>	<u>Does</u> <u>Not</u> <u>Apply</u> <u>(VOL)</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>Know</u>
c.	Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick?	50	20	16	13	1	*=100
	October, 1996 <sup>17</sup>	61	18	12	7	1	1=100
	March, 1996	68	16	10	6	*	*=100
	October, 1995	66	17	9	7	1	*=100
	March, 1994	50	22	15	11	1	1=100
d.	Losing your job or taking a cut in pay	30	15	19	20	16	*=100
	March, 1996	47	16	14	15	8	*=100
	October, 1995	34	17	16	17	16	*=100
	March, 1994	28	16	14	21	21	*=100
	May, 1988 <sup>18</sup>	18	16	23	18	22	3=100
e.	Your children not having good job opportunities	44	21	14	10	10	1=100
	March, 1996	67	18	7	5	3	*=100
	October, 1995	57	23	6	4	10	-=100
	March, 1994	51	21	8	8	12	*=100
f.	Losing your home because you can't afford to keep it or Being able to own your own home	30	16	21	28	4	1=100
	October, 1995	38	19	20	19	4	*=100
	March, 1994	31	16	20	28	4	1=100
g.	Becoming a victim of a crime?	38	29	22	10	0	1=100
	October, 1995	51	30	15	4	*	*=100
	March, 1994	50	30	14	6	*	*=100
	May, 1988	36	36	21	5	*	2=100

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<sup>17</sup> Percentages based on Registered Voters.

<sup>18</sup> In 1988 question asked only about losing your job.