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Center for
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As Public Puzzles Personal Impact of Health Care Reform
CAUTIOUS SUPPORT FOR CLINTON PLAN

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CAUTIOUS SUPPORT FOR CLINTON PLAN, AS PUBLIC PUZZLES PERSONAL IMPACT OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

The American public is expressing wary support for the Clinton health care reform plan, as many Americans attempt to balance the strong appeal of guaranteeing universal access with questions, if not doubts about, how much protection the Clinton approach will actually provide, what it will cost and to what extent it will restrict choice.

The latest *Times Mirror* nationwide telephone survey of 1529 adults conducted September 24-27 found 53% favoring the Clinton health care reform plan, 25% opposing it, and about as many, 22%, saying they had not made up their minds yet. The high undecided response reflects lack of conviction more than lack of attention to the Clinton initiative. The poll found fully 49% of the public saying they had followed the Administration's proposals *very* closely.

This equalled the substantial public attention paid to the President's economic plan when it was unveiled in late February, and far surpassed the amount of public interest in other major news events this month including: the Mideast Peace Accords (23% paid close attention) Yeltsin's Coup (18%) and the deadly Alabama train wreck (40%)

In response to the health care reform announcement, the President's performance ratings improved from a deadlocked 43% approve - 43% disapprove, at the beginning of the month, to a more positive 49% approve - 35% disapprove showing in the current poll. But the survey also found most Americans not changing their views about Bill Clinton's long term prospects. A 54% majority continue to think it is still too early to say whether he will be a successful President.

Attention to the NAFTA debate grew over the course of the month of September. But the informed public remained divided 42% favor, 37% opposed. The poll learned that those who followed the debate most closely showed the least support for the Agreement and the issue of job loss overwhelmed all other considerations.

Clinton's other domestic policy initiatives attracted far less attention. Only 13% followed very closely news about the Re-inventing Government program. And the informed public was split over whether the Gore initiative would be able to make government work more efficiently in the long run.

The passage of the National Service Act in September went virtually unnoticed by the public. Just 5% of Times Mirror's respondents followed news of it *very* closely, and only another 14% said they followed news of it *fairly* closely.

Universal Access Registers

The prospect of guaranteeing universal access is the aspect of the Clinton health care plan that means the most to the public. It is the feature that all Americans, supporters, critics, and fence sitters alike, volunteered as the "*most important thing*" about the Clinton plan in open-

ended questions. And it overshadows all other reasons for supporting the plan among those who now back the President's initiative.

One measure of the salience of universal coverage is found in the fact that 64% of the public had heard of a "*health care security card*" compared to only 36% who said they had heard the phrase "*managed competition*" and 24% who had heard of the "*single payor*" system.

Assuring universal access was cited as a reason for favoring the reform proposals by 43% of the plan's supporters. The need for a change in the health care system generally was mentioned next most often (by 22%), and all other individual reasons were given by fewer than 10% of respondents.

In contrast, Americans who say they oppose the Clinton plan cite a diverse set of arguments on an unprompted basis: 17% volunteer that the Clinton plan will not save money, 12% say that it is an unworkable proposal, 9% mention an increased burden on small businesses, 8% criticize the plan because it takes away the individual's responsibility for health care and 8% cite increased government involvement.

Reflecting these concerns more specifically, the public expresses doubts about how Clinton's plan will affect their own health care, and doesn't believe that the plan can be achieved without a major tax increase. Americans also clearly envision government supplanting private insurance companies as the institution with the greatest influence on health care policy.

But analysis of the poll reveals that the rock bottom reason for public support or opposition to Clinton's plan is not taxes, nor the encroachment of government, but how Americans see the plan affecting their costs, their choice of doctors and their personal coverage.

Perceptions of Costs

Americans do not think they will pay less than they do now for routine health care services under the Clinton plan. Most (41%) believe their costs will remain the same, and many (32%) see themselves paying more. Only about one in ten (12%) think they will pay less for routine health care services, if the Clinton plan comes into being. And the co-payment feature of the Clinton plan was well recognized by the public. No fewer than 88% of Times Mirror's respondents thought they would be required to pay out of their own pockets some share of the cost of the services they use.

Devil is in the Details

While large percentages of the public cheer the guarantees of universal access offered by the Clinton plan, the poll found many people were not clear as to the specifics:

* 64% of the public thought that the Clinton health care plan offered coverage to all Americans, but 17% did not think the plan went that far, and 19% were not sure.

* 54% thought the plan guaranteed that workers would not lose their coverage, if they lost or quit their jobs. But 15% did not think this was so, and as many as 31% were not sure of this.

*85% thought that cost of major illness would be included as part of the basic health care package. But smaller percentages thought basic coverage included regular physical checkups (74%). Nearly as many (73%) thought that the cost of prescription drugs were included. Somewhat fewer (68%) believed that mental health care costs would be covered and about half believed that eye care and nursing home care would be part of the basic Clinton package.

*61% thought that under the Clinton plan they would be able to purchase plans that offer more health care options than the basic service. As many as 27% were not sure about this, and 12% thought it not possible.

The public is equivocal about how well the Clinton plan would protect them from its greatest fear, the cost of a major illness. Only 17% think they will be better protected than they are now, while 23% believe their protection will not be as good. Most (45%) think the Clinton plan would be no better or worse than the status quo. Uncertainty about the degree of protection offered by the Clinton plan is apparent across the spectrum of current coverage arrangements, as shown in the table below. Of particular note is that only 33% of those who now have *no insurance* think they will be better covered under the Clinton plan.

<i>Belief About How Well Clinton Plan Will Protect:</i>	<i>Type of Current Coverage:</i>				
	<i>Private</i>	<i>HMO</i>	<i>Medicare</i>	<i>Medicaid</i>	<i>None</i>
Better	14	13	19	19	33
Not As Well	25	24	22	12	16
About As Well	46	53	40	53	30
Don't Know	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

Beliefs About Choice

Many Americans wonder whether they will have as much freedom to choose their doctor under the Clinton plan as they do now. Forty-five percent think they will have *less* freedom and 42% believe they will have *as much* freedom. When asked if they would be able to continue to see their regular doctor, most (44%) said *probably* yes, while 35% responded *definitely* yes. A plurality of people currently enrolled in a private insurance plan expect to have less freedom than they have now. Those now enrolled in managed care plans, Medicare, Medicaid and those having no insurance expect as much choice as they have today.

Government Supplants Insurance Company Influence

Although Americans are uncertain about how the Clinton plan will affect their own care, they have a clear vision of a larger role for government in setting health care policy. Most Americans (56%) think that private insurance companies now have the most influence over the nation's health care services. Just 17% think that doctors have the most say and 12% feel the government has the most influence now. Under the Clinton plan, relatively few respondents think doctors (10%) or insurance companies (12%) will have the major influence on health care policy. Instead, a strong majority (65%) see government having the loudest voice.

A 74% majority of the public also believes that the Clinton plan will require a hike in federal income taxes, or other broad based taxes. Fewer than one in five (18%) think that taxes will not be raised to pay for the reforms.

These two factors - increased taxes and greater government control - are the predominant views of *both* critics and supporters of the Clinton plan. (See Table on pp. 13-15) However, opponents, backers and fence sitters differ markedly in how they see the plan affecting their own personal health care. A plurality of opponents think they will be afforded less protection from the costs of catastrophic illness, and will have to pay more than they do now for routine health care costs. And a majority of this group think they will have less choice in doctors.

People who back the Clinton plan see it as protecting them at least as well, if not better, than their current arrangement. Proponents also see routine care costing about as much as it costs now, and for the most part think that their choice of doctors will not be further restricted.

Americans who are undecided about the Clinton plan fall between the extremes in the expectations of supporters and opponents. (See Table on pp. 13-15)

Demographically and politically, support for the Clinton health care reform plan comes from expected quarters: Democrats, poorer people, non-whites and Clinton voters. On balance, Bush voters oppose the plan, while a plurality of Perot voters say they support the Clinton initiative. People who are regular listeners to talk radio or have contacted Congress to express their opinion are more critical of the Clinton plan than are other Americans.

Little difference in response to health care reform was observed by age, which is a factor that often differentiates peoples views about health. However, the poll did find that seniors (65 and older) were more undecided about the plan than younger people.

NAFTA

As the Administration began its campaign for Congressional approval of the Agreement, Americans were paying more attention to NAFTA. Times Mirror's survey of the attentive public on this issue¹ reveals that while there is significant acknowledgement of NAFTA's upside potential to increase the sale of goods to Mexico and to reduce illegal immigration from that country, the job loss criticism of the treaty has more power to shape public opinion.

¹ Only Respondents who said they were following news about the NAFTA debate very or fairly closely were asked detailed questions about the issue.

Indeed, the poll found that those following the debate most closely had a much more negative view of the treaty than those who paid less attention. NAFTA was opposed by a 46% to 36% margin among people who have the news about it *very closely*. In contrast the treaty was *avored* by 46% vs. 30% among those who have only followed this story *fairly closely*.

The informed public appears to have accurately absorbed some facts about NAFTA, such as its side agreements requiring Mexico to follow stricter environmental and labor standards. Sixty percent of respondents thought Mexico would have to meet stiffer ecological standards, while 52% believed it would have to adhere to tougher labor regulations.

As to the background to the treaty debate, public knowledge was spotty. Most respondents to the Times Mirror survey (45%) believed Mexico sells more goods to the United States than it buys from the United States. However, a 39% plurality correctly thought that now Mexico puts more restrictions on the U.S. doing business there, than the reverse.

These opinions and perceptions notwithstanding, opponents of NAFTA justify their view with one clear concept: the Agreement will cost U.S. jobs. Fully two-thirds (66%) of NAFTA critics volunteered this fear in an open-ended question. In contrast, no one issue was cited in favor of NAFTA. Instead, a welter of reasons was offered, led by increased trade: opening markets to U.S. goods (15%) and encouraging free trade (13%). Other reasons cited included creating jobs (14%), encouraging cooperation and goodwill (14%), and stimulating the U.S. economy in the long term (12%).

When asked directly, more of the informed public anticipates job losses (51%) than job gains (31%) if NAFTA passes. But a majority of respondents also expected the United States to sell more goods to Mexico (51%) than less (33%) in the future. And a plurality of the informed public (47%) believes NAFTA would result in fewer immigrants from Mexico rather than an increase (23%).

Jobs, not trade or immigration or the environment, is a more potent element in the debate on NAFTA. Of those who favor NAFTA, 57% believe it will create jobs; but of those opposed to NAFTA, many more (89%) believe it will lose jobs for American workers. Job expectations are more strongly correlated with support for the treaty than are trade expectations. As for rhetoric, half of all respondents (50%) had heard Ross Perot's catchy complaint about *"the great sucking sound of jobs going south"* if NAFTA passes.

Demographically, more women in the survey were in favor of NAFTA than opposed it, while men were evenly split. Those who voted for President Clinton and former President George Bush are more in favor, by roughly four to three, while those who voted for Ross Perot were against it in about the same proportion. Majorities of those with lower incomes and less education oppose the Agreement, while majorities with higher incomes and higher education approve. Regionally, the West is more in favor, and the Midwest most opposed.

PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	<i>Clinton Admin.'s Health care Reform Proposal</i>	<i>Amtrack Train Wreck</i>	<i>Reports About Condition Of the U.S. Economy</i>	<i>Tourists Murders In Florida</i>	<i>Peace Accords Between Israel & PLO</i>	<i>N</i>
Total	49	40	37	36	23	1529
Sex						
Male	48	37	41	35	26	741
Female	49	42	33	38	20	788
Race						
White	48	39	36	35	23	1316
*Hispanic	52	47	37	40	31	92
Black	55	54	51	50	21	113
Age						
Under 30	38	36	29	34	17	320
30-49	50	35	38	33	21	644
50 +	54	49	41	43	28	554
Education						
College Grad.	53	36	41	33	30	434
Other College	55	40	41	39	23	441
High School Grad	47	40	35	37	19	491
< H. S. Grad.	38	43	31	36	20	163
Region						
East	48	35	34	33	28	298
Midwest	47	35	36	37	20	399
South	49	49	39	41	22	560
West	52	36	39	32	21	272
Party ID						
Republican	47	37	38	36	25	428
Democrat	53	48	39	42	24	467
Independent	48	38	35	34	21	569

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.

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PERCENT FOLLOWING EACH NEWS STORY "VERY CLOSELY"

	<i>Debates About NAFTA</i>	<i>Yeltsin's Decision To dissolve Russian Parliament</i>	<i>Civil War in Bosnia</i>	<i>Gore's Program To reform Federal Government</i>	<i>Passage of the National Service Act</i>	<i>N</i>
Total	21	18	15	13	5	1529
Sex						
Male	27	22	17	13	4	741
Female	15	15	13	13	5	788
Race						
White	21	19	15	13	4	1316
*Hispanic	28	18	20	17	7	92
Black	18	17	16	17	9	113
Age						
Under 30	15	14	12	11	6	320
30-49	19	17	15	11	3	644
50+	26	22	17	16	5	554
Education						
College Grad.	25	26	15	16	5	434
Other College	25	20	14	14	4	441
High School						
Grad	18	15	14	12	4	491
< H. S. Grad.	13	13	16	11	6	163
Region						
East	18	20	18	14	6	298
Midwest	24	16	15	12	2	399
South	20	17	13	14	5	560
West	21	21	16	12	6	272
Party ID						
Republican	21	20	16	12	3	428
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*The designation, hispanic, is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

SELECTED TABLES

CLINTON JOB APPROVAL

	<i>Sept. 24-27</i>		<i>Sept. 9-15</i>	
	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Disapprove</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Disapprove</i>
<i>Total</i>	49	35	43	43
<i>Sex</i>				
Male	48	40	42	47
Female	50	31	45	40
<i>Race</i>				
White	45	39	41	47
Non-white	75	12	58	23
<i>Age</i>				
Under 30	48	38	47	41
30-49	48	38	40	47
50+	52	30	44	40
<i>Education</i>				
College Grad.	48	41	47	44
Some College	49	36	42	47
High School Grad.	50	33	43	41
< H.S. grad.	50	31	41	41
<i>Family Income</i>				
\$50,000+	47	44	39	52
\$30,000-\$49,999	51	35	40	48
\$20,000-\$29,999	50	37	44	41
< \$20,000	50	30	47	36
<i>Region</i>				
East	56	30	43	39
Midwest	49	33	43	44
South	44	41	43	45
West	50	34	45	43
<i>Party ID</i>				
Republican	24	62	21	70
Democrat	77	12	70	18
Independent	46	36	38	46
<i>Past Vote</i>				
Bush	21	66	N/A	N/A
Clinton	79	10	N/A	N/A
Perot	31	54	N/A	N/A

CONTINUED...

	<u>Sept. 24-27</u>		<u>Sept. 9-15</u>	
	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Disapprove</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Disapprove</i>
<i>Health Insurance</i>				
Private	46	39	N/A	N/A
HMO	60	29	N/A	N/A
Medicare	51	31	N/A	N/A
Medicaid	59	28	N/A	N/A
None	47	31	N/A	N/A
<i>The Vocals</i>				
Regular Listener To Talk Radio	45	42	N/A	N/A
Contacted Washington In Past 12 Months	41	46	N/A	N/A
Both	41	45	N/A	N/A
Neither	52	31	N/A	N/A

Question: *Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as President?*

CLINTON HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL

	<i>FAVOR</i>	<i>NOT SURE</i>	<i>OPPOSE</i>	<i>(N)</i>
<i>Total</i>	53	22	25=100	(1529)
<i>Sex</i>				
Male	52	19	29=100	(741)
Female	53	25	22=100	(788)
<i>Race</i>				
White	50	23	27=100	(1316)
Non-white	70	13	17=100	(205)
<i>Age</i>				
Under 30	51	22	27=100	(320)
30-49	53	19	28=100	(644)
50+	54	25	21=100	(544)
65+	53	30	17=100	(275)
<i>Education</i>				
College Grad.	50	20	30=100	(434)
Some College	52	22	26=100	(441)
High School Grad.	52	23	25=100	(491)
< H.S. grad.	58	23	19=100	(163)
<i>Family Income</i>				
\$50,000+	47	21	32=100	(350)
\$30,000-\$49,999	54	21	25=100	(363)
\$20,000-\$29,999	56	19	25=100	(287)
< \$20,000	56	24	20=100	(386)
<i>Region</i>				
East	57	18	25=100	(298)
Midwest	52	23	25=100	(399)
South	51	23	26=100	(560)
West	52	23	25=100	(272)
<i>Party ID</i>				
Republican	29	27	44=100	(428)
Democrat	75	16	9=100	(467)
Independent	52	23	25=100	(569)
<i>Past Vote</i>				
Bush	27	26	47 =100	(384)
Clinton	76	15	9=100	(495)
Perot	47	25	28=100	(177)

CONTINUED...

	FAVOR	NOT SURE	OPPOSE	(N)
<i>Health Insurance</i>				
Private	49	23	28=100	(980)
HMO	57	19	24=100	(263)
Medicare	51	30	19=100	(224)
Medicaid	68	15	17=100	(81)
None	57	23	20=100	(199)
<i>The Vocals</i>				
Regular Listener To Talk Radio	45	19	36=100	(274)
Contacted Washington In Past 12 Months	47	18	35=100	(357)
Both	45	16	39=100	(108)
Neither	56	23	21=100	(1006)

Question: From what you have heard or read, do you favor or oppose the Clinton Administration's health care reform proposals?

IMPRESSIONS OF CLINTON HEALTH CARE PLAN BY LEVEL OF SUPPORT

	TOTAL (N=1529)	<u>CLINTON HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL:</u>		
		FAVOR (N=788)	NOT SURE (N=335)	OPPOSE (N=406)
<i>Q.7b In your own mind, what's the most important thing about the Clinton health plan? (NETS)</i>				
Security/Universal Access	53	65	46	36
Savings - Will Cut Costs/Prices	6	6	5	5
Benefits for Elderly	5	5	7	4
<i>Q.7c How well do you understand the way your own health care would change under the Clinton plan?</i>				
Well	47	54	29	45
Not well	45	38	58	48
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	
<i>Q.8 From what you have heard or read, will you and your family pay more for routine medical care under the Clinton plan than you do now, less than you do now, or about as much?</i>				
More	32	20	37	54
Less	12	16	8	4
As much	41	51	30	31
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.8a Do you think Americans will be required to pay out of their own pockets some share of the cost of the health care services they use, or will all the costs covered by the plan be paid in full?</i>				
Will have to pay	88	86	86	92
All paid for	5	7	2	4
Depends on plan purchased	1	2	2	1
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100

CONTINUED...

CLINTON HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL:

	TOTAL	FAVOR	NOT SURE	OPPOSE
<i>Q.8b In your opinion, do you think that federal income taxes or other taxes that affect everyone will have to be increased to pay for the Clinton plan, or do you think that we will be able to pay for the plan without a general tax increase?</i>				
Will have to tax	74	66	73	91
Will not tax	18	26	14	5
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.9 From what you have heard or read, does the Clinton plan protect you and your family from paying the cost of a major illness better than you are now protected, not as well as you are now protected or about as well?</i>				
Better	17	25	12	5
Not as well	23	13	23	43
About as well	45	51	39	38
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.10 Do you happen to know, does the Clinton health care reform plan guarantee health insurance coverage to all Americans, or doesn't the plan go that far?</i>				
Yes, guarantees	64	69	57	59
No, doesn't guarantee	17	13	19	24
Don't know	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.11 Do you happen to know, does the Clinton health care reform plan guarantee that workers do not lose their health insurance coverage, if they lose or quit their jobs or doesn't the plan go that far?</i>				
Yes, guarantees	54	58	48	50
No, doesn't guarantee	15	12	13	23
Don't know	<u>31</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>27</u>
	100	100	100	100

CONTINUED...

CLINTON HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL:

	TOTAL	FAVOR	NOT SURE	OPPOSE
<i>Q.11a Do you happen to know, under the Clinton plan, will all Americans have the same basic service or will people be able to purchase plans that offer more health care options than the basic plan?</i>				
All same	12	11	9	16
Can buy more	61	66	53	58
Don't know	<u>27</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>26</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.13a Under the Clinton plan, do you think that you will definitely be able to continue to see your regular doctor, probably be able to or not be able to?</i>				
Definitely	35	47	22	21
Probably	44	42	52	43
Not be able to	10	4	7	24
Depends on plan purchased	2	1	3	1
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.15 Under the Clinton plan, who do you think will have the most influence, Doctors, Hospitals, Insurance Companies or the Government?</i>				
Doctors	10	15	6	4
Hospitals	3	4	3	2
Insurance Companies	12	9	15	15
Government	65	62	63	73
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.16 As I read from a list, tell me if you think the cost of each service that I name will be included in the basic health care package proposed by Clinton? (% Agree)</i>				
Mental health care	68	74	58	66
Prescription drugs	73	77	69	68
Eye care	51	58	41	45
Cosmetic surgery	5	5	4	5
Nursing home care	54	61	47	45
Regular check ups	74	80	68	65
Major illnesses	85	90	79	81

VIEW OF NAFTA*

	FAVOR	DON'T KNOW	OPPOSE	(N)
Total	42	21	37=100	(805)
Sex				
Male	42	16	42=100	(453)
Female	41	29	30=100	(352)
Race				
White	42	20	38=100	(709)
Non-white	39	32	29=100	(91)
Age				
Under 30	54	17	29=100	(137)
30-49	42	19	39=100	(319)
50+	35	26	39=100	(341)
Education				
College Grad.	50	20	30=100	(253)
Some College	42	21	37=100	(254)
High School Grad.	37	23	40=100	(239)
< H.S. grad.	35	22	43=100	(59)
Family Income				
\$50,000+	47	20	33=100	(219)
\$30,000-\$49,999	42	20	38=100	(187)
\$20,000-\$29,999	44	20	36=100	(163)
< \$20,000	33	25	42=100	(178)
Region				
East	44	22	34	(145)
Midwest	32	21	47	(225)
South	42	22	36	(278)
West	51	21	28	(157)
Party ID				
Republican	48	23	29	(241)
Democrat	38	24	38	(219)
Independent	40	18	42	(314)
Past Vote				
Bush	46	22	32	(227)
Clinton	44	22	34	(267)
Perot	32	19	49	(112)
The Vocals				
Regular Listener)				
To Talk Radio	49	16	35	(193)
Contacted Washington				
In Past 12 Months	43	17	40	(247)
Both	45	13	42	(87)
Neither	39	24	37	(452)

Question: *Do you favor or oppose NAFTA, the free trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada?*

*Based on those who said they were following NAFTA **Very** or **Fairly** Closely.

IMPRESSIONS OF NAFTA BY LEVEL OF SUPPORT*

	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>VIEW OF NAFTA:</i>		
		<i>FAVOR</i>	<i>DON'T KNOW</i>	<i>OPPOSE</i>
 <i>Q.18 What's your impression, do we now sell more to Mexico than we buy from Mexico or do we sell less to Mexico than we buy?</i>				
Sell more	34	45	22	29
Sell less	45	34	45	57
Don't know	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100
 <i>Q.19 What's your impression about trade between Mexico and the U.S., are there now more restrictions on the U.S. doing business in Mexico or are there now more restrictions on Mexico doing business in the U.S.?</i>				
More on US in Mexico	39	40	24	45
More on Mexico in US	33	35	33	31
Don't know	<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>24</u>
	100	100	100	100
 <i>Q.20 As far as you know, does the free trade agreement require that Mexico follow stricter environmental standards or won't Mexico have to improve its environmental standards for this agreement?</i>				
Yes, required	60	70	53	53
No, not required	19	11	12	31
Don't know	<u>21</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100	100
 <i>Q.21 As far as you know, does the free trade agreement require that Mexico follow stricter labor standards or won't Mexico have to improve its labor standards for this agreement?</i>				
Yes, required	52	58	49	46
No, not required	24	18	13	39
Don't know	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100	100

CONTINUED...

	TOTAL	VIEW OF NAFTA:		
		FAVOR	DON'T KNOW	OPPOSE
<i>Q.22 What's your impression, if the free trade agreement passed, in the long run, would it lead to more jobs being created in the U.S. or would it lead to more jobs leaving the U.S.?</i>				
Job creation	31	57	19	8
Job loss	51	23	42	89
Same (VOL.)	5	8	7	0
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.23 What's your impression, if the free trade agreement passed, would it lead to the U.S. selling more goods to Mexico or would it lead to the U.S. selling fewer goods to Mexico?</i>				
More	51	78	40	28
Less	33	13	27	58
Same (VOL.)	4	3	5	6
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Q.24 What's your impression, would the free trade agreement lead to fewer illegal immigrants coming into the U.S. from Mexico or would it lead to more illegal immigrants coming into the country?</i>				
Fewer	47	61	36	36
More	23	16	20	34
Same (VOL.)	16	14	14	19
Don't know	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100

*Based on those who said they were following NAFTA **Very** or **Fairly** Closely.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The survey results are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 1,529 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period September 24-27, 1993. 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.

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 sample for this survey is a random digit sample 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 three 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 1992). 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. After an optimum sample balancing solution is reached, the weights were constrained to fall within the range of 1 to 5. This constraint is useful to ensure that individual respondents do not exert an inordinate effect on the survey's overall results.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

TIMES MIRROR CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS
NEWS INTEREST INDEX
September 24-27, 1993
N=1,529

INTRODUCTION: Hello, I am _____ calling from the Princeton Survey Research Associates from 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?)

MY FIRST QUESTION IS...

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as President?

		Early Sept <u>1993</u>	Aug <u>1993</u>	June <u>1993</u>	May <u>1993</u>	April <u>1993</u>	Feb <u>1993</u>
49	Approve	43	39	39	45	49	56
35	Disapprove	43	46	43	37	29	25
<u>16</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>14</u> 100	<u>15</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>22</u> 100	<u>19</u> 100

Q.1a Do you approve or disapprove of the way your own representative to the US House in Congress is handling his or her job?

		Aug <u>1993</u>	Mar <u>1992</u>	*Dec <u>1991</u>
54	Approve	52	45	60
24	Disapprove	26	37	28
<u>22</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>22</u> 100	<u>18</u> 100	<u>12</u> 100

*Washington Post

Q.1b In the long run, do you think Bill Clinton will be a successful or unsuccessful President, or do you think it is too early to tell?

		Aug <u>1993</u>
22	Successful	13
22	Unsuccessful	25
54	Too early to tell	60
<u>2</u> 100	Can't say/Refused	<u>2</u> 100

Q.2 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) How closely did you follow news stories about ... (READ SCALE IF NECESSARY)?

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not Too Closely</u>	<u>Not at All Closely</u>	<u>DK</u>
a. The civil war in Bosnia					
September, 1993	15	32	32	20	1=100
Early September, 1993	17	38	26	19	*=100
August, 1993	19	37	25	18	1=100
May, 1993	23	34	28	13	2=100
February, 1993	15	32	33	20	*=100
January, 1993	15	33	30	22	*=100
September, 1992	10	27	31	31	1=100
b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy					
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	*=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. Boris Yeltsin's decision to dissolve the Russian Parliament					
September, 1993	18	32	27	22	1=100
d. The peace accords between Israel and the PLO ²					
September, 1993	23	33	24	19	1=100
Early September, 1993	19	31	23	26	1=100
e. The murders in Florida of foreign tourists					
September, 1993	36	37	18	9	*=100

² In previous month story was listed as "Talks between Israel and the PLO about Arab self-rule for the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho

Q.2 con't . . .

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not Too Closely</u>	<u>Not at All Closely</u>	<u>DK</u>
f. Debate about the free trade agreement between the US, Canada and Mexico ³					
September, 1993	21	29	26	23	1=100
Early September, 1993	15	28	26	30	8=100
October, 1993	13	27	29	30	1=100
g. The Clinton Administrations's health care reform proposals					
September, 1993	49	34	11	6	*=100
h. Vice President Gore's program to reform the workings of the Federal Government					
September, 1993	13	25	30	31	1=100
Early September, 1993	18	30	23	28	1=100
i. The passage of the National Service Act that provides for a volunteer youth corp					
September, 1993	5	14	31	47	3=100
j. The Amtrak train wreck in Alabama					
September, 1993	40	37	15	7	1=100

³ In previous month story was listed as "Debate about the North American Free Trade Agreement"

Q.3 Which one of the stories I just mentioned, have you followed most closely?
 (DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.)

	<u>Story Followed Most Closely</u>
a. The civil war in Bosnia	4
b. Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	6
c. Boris Yeltsin's decision to dissolve the Russian Parliament	2
d. The peace accords between Israel and the PLO	4
e. The murders in Florida of foreign tourists	10
f. Debate about the free trade agreement between the US, Canada and Mexico	5
g. The Clinton Administrations's health care reform proposals	43
h. Vice President Gore's program to reform the workings of the Federal Government	1
i. The passage of the National Service Act that provides for a volunteer youth corp	1
j. The Amtrak train wreck in Alabama	16
CAN'T SAY	<u>8</u> 100

Q.4 Of all the stories mentioned, which of them, if any, received too much coverage? (DO NOT READ LIST, ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES, BE SURE TO PROMPT FOR "ANY OTHERS". PROBE FOR WHICH BOSNIA ITEM, IF NEEDED).

TOO MUCH COVERAGE

a.	The civil war in Bosnia	10
b.	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy	1
c.	Boris Yeltsin's decision to dissolve the Russian Parliament	3
d.	The peace accords between Israel and the PLO	3
e.	The murders in Florida of foreign tourists	9
f.	Debate about the free trade agreement between the US, Canada and Mexico	2
g.	The Clinton Administrations's health care reform proposals	10
h.	Vice President Gore's program to reform the workings of the Federal Government	2
i.	The passage of the National Service Act that provides for a volunteer youth corp	*
j.	The Amtrak train wreck in Alabama	3
	CAN'T SAY	27
	NONE	35

IF RESPONDENT SAID '11' CAN'T SAY IN Q.3, SKIP TO Q.6

Q.5 In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering (STORY FOLLOWED MOST CLOSELY IN Q.3); excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		<u>STORY FOLLOWED MOST CLOSELY</u>				
		Health Care Reform Proposal	Amtrak Train Wreck	Tourists Murders In Florida	Reports on U.S. Economy	NAFTA Debate
<u>Total</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
19	Excellent	20	29	16	2	12
50	Good	52	53	46	47	38
23	Only Fair	22	12	25	38	40
6	Poor	4	3	10	12	10
<u>2</u>	Don't Know	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT . . .

If National Service Followed - Very or Fairly Closely in Q.2:

Q.6 Do you happen to know what the National Service Act gives people in exchange for their working on community service projects or don't you happen to know?

38 Correct answer (College aid/educational grants)

6 Wrong answer

56 Don't know/Refused
100

If Gore's program Followed - Very or Fairly Closely in Q.2:

Q.6a In the long run, do you think that the Clinton administration's program to re-invent government will be able or unable to make the Federal Government work more efficiently?

45 Able

43 Unable

4 (DO NOT READ) Maybe

8 Don't know/Refused
100

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT . . .

Q.7 From what you have heard or read, do you favor or oppose the Clinton Administration's health care reform proposals?

53 Favor

25 Oppose

22 Not sure (SKIP TO Q.7b)
100

Q.7a Why do you feel that way?

BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO FAVOR HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSALS

- 43 Security-Universal Access
- 22 Need change/System not working
- 8 Saving will cut costs/Costs too high
- 7 Clinton trying hard/Good intentions
- 6 Will benefit elderly
- 5 Will benefit me/Don't have insurance
- 4 Will benefit poor/Homeless/Unemployed
- 3 Keep up with other countries
- 9 Other
- 6 Don't know/Refused

BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO OPPOSE HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSALS

- 17 Savings-Won't save money/Cost too much
- 12 It won't work/Not feasible/Realistic
- 9 Burden on small businesses to pay
- 8 Responsibility-Have to pay for others
- 8 Increased government involvement
- 6 Taxes will go up to pay for it
- 5 Clinton not paying attention to details
- 5 Quality-Standards may go down
- 4 Choice-Won't get to choose
- 4 Won't benefit middle class/Working people
- 4 Detrimental to the economy/Costs jobs
- 4 It's socialized medicine/Socialism
- 4 Won't benefit the elderly
- 15 Other
- 11 Don't know/Refused

Q.7b In your own mind what's the most important thing about the Clinton health plan?

BASE: TOTAL RESPONDENTS

53	Security-Universal access
6	Savings-Will cut costs/Prices
5	Benefits for the elderly
3	How we'll pay for it
3	Benefits for the poor
2	Changes made/Step in right direction
2	Too expensive/Have to control costs
1	Coverage for prescription drugs
1	Burden on small business to pay for
1	Responsibility-Everyone must pay
1	Benefits for children
1	Choice of doctors and services
1	Quality
1	Don't want to pay for other people
1	Taxes will go up to pay for it
1	Dislike government involvement
1	Detrimental to economy/Cost jobs
*	Socialized Medicine/Socialist Program
*	Mental Health Coverage
*	Oppose covering Abortion
2	Other
18	Don't know/Refused

Q.7c How well do you understand the way your own health care would change under the Clinton plan? (READ CHOICES 1-4)

13 Very Well
34 Fairly Well
27 Not Too Well
17 Not At All Well
9 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.7d Generally, do you think Bill Clinton will be successful or unsuccessful in getting his health care reform program enacted by Congress?

59 Successful
25 Unsuccessful
16 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.7e Do you happen to know, whether or not there is a specific Republican plan for health care reform?

24 Yes, there is a plan
23 No plan
53 Don't know/Refused
100

A FEW MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLINTON PLAN . . .

Q.8 From what you have heard or read, will you and your family pay more for routine medical care under the Clinton plan than you do now, will you pay less than you do now, or about as much as you do now?

32 More
12 Less
41 As Much
15 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.8a Do you think Americans will be required to pay out of their own pockets some share of the cost of the health care services they use, or will all the costs covered by the plan be paid in full?

88 Will have to pay

5 All paid for

1 (DO NOT READ) Depends on plan purchased

6 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.8b In your opinion, do you think that federal income taxes or other taxes that affect everyone will have to be increased to pay for the Clinton plan, or do you think that we will be able to pay for the plan without a general tax increase?

74 Will have to tax

18 Will not

8 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.9 From what you have heard or read, does the Clinton plan protect you and your family from paying the cost of a major illness better than you are now protected, not as well as you are now protected or about as well as you are now protected?

17 Better

23 Not as well

45 About as well

15 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.10 Do you happen to know, does the Clinton health care reform plan guarantee health insurance coverage to all Americans, or doesn't the plan go that far?

64 Yes - guarantees

17 No

19 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.11 Do you happen to know, does the Clinton health care reform plan guarantee that workers do not lose their health insurance coverage, if they lose or quit their jobs or doesn't the plan go that far?

54 Yes - guarantees

15 No

31 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.11a Do you happen to know, under the Clinton plan, will all Americans have the same basic service or will people be able to purchase plans that offer more health care options than the basic plan?

12 All same

61 Can buy more

27 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.12 Under the Clinton plan, do you think you will you have as much freedom to choose your doctor as you now have or will you have less freedom?

42 As much freedom

45 Less freedom

13 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.13 Do you currently have a regular doctor or not?

84 Yes

16 No (SKIP TO Q.14)

* Don't know/Refused (SKIP TO Q.14)
100

IF YES

Q.13a Under the Clinton plan do you think that you will definitely be able to continue to see your regular doctor, probably be able to continue to see your regular doctor or not be able to continue to see your regular doctor?

35 Definitely - Yes

44 Probably - Yes

10 Not be able to

2 (DO NOT READ) Depends on plan purchased

9 Don't know/Refused
100

ASK ALL

Q.14 Under our health system now who do you think has the most influence on the kind of health care services Americans receive: Doctors, Hospitals, Insurance companies or the Government?

- 17 Doctors
- 7 Hospitals
- 56 Insurance companies
- 12 Government
- 8 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Q.15 Under the Clinton plan who do you think will have the most influence: Doctors, Hospitals, Insurance companies or the Government?

- 10 Doctors
- 3 Hospitals
- 12 Insurance companies
- 65 Government
- 10 Don't know/Refused
- 100

Q.16 As I read from a list tell me if you think the cost of each service that I name will be included in the basic health care package proposed by the Clinton Administration? (ROTATE)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL)</u> <u>Some</u>	<u>DK</u>	
<u>The Cost of:</u>					
a. Mental health care	68	15	3	14	= 100
b. Prescription drugs	73	12	4	11	= 100
c. Eye care	51	25	3	21	= 100
d. Cosmetic surgery	5	81	1	13	= 100
e. Nursing home care	54	21	4	21	= 100
f. Regular physical check ups	74	15	1	10	= 100
g. Major illnesses	85	6	2	7	= 100

Q.16a Do you currently have health insurance or not?

Q.16b What types of health insurance do you have? Are you enrolled in . . .
(ENTER ALL THAT APPLY)

85 Yes

61 A private health insurance plan that is provided by an employer or that you buy yourself?

17 An HMO plan that is provided by an employer or that you buy yourself?

14 In Medicare?

6 Or in another government run program like Medicaid?

3 (DO NOT READ) Other

1 Don't know/Refused

15 No (Skip to Q.17)

* Don't know/Refused (Skip to Q.17)
100

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT . . .

BASED ON THOSE WHO SAID THEY WERE FOLLOWING NAFTA "VERY" OR "FAIRLY" CLOSELY:

Q.17 Do you favor or oppose NAFTA, the free trade agreement between the US, Mexico and Canada?

	Early Sept <u>1993</u>
42 Favor	46
37 Oppose	42
<u>21</u> Don't know/Refused (SKIP TO Q.18 or Q.25)	<u>12</u>
100 (N=805)	100 (N=921)

Q.17a Why do you feel that way?

BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO FAVOR NAFTA & FOLLOWED STORY VERY/FAIRLY CLOSELY

- 15 Will open up more markets to U.S. goods
- 14 Will create jobs
- 14 Encourage cooperation/Promote goodwill
- 13 Encourage free trade
- 12 Will stimulate U.S. economy long term
- 9 Will benefit all three countries
- 8 Need to pass to stay competitive
- 4 Will improve economy in Mexico
- 4 Will be able to import more goods
- 4 Reduce illegal immigration
- 3 Will lower prices/low cost of goods
- 8 Other
- 8 Don't know/Refused

BASE: RESPONDENTS WHO OPPOSE NAFTA/FOLLOWED STORY VERY/FAIRLY CLOSELY

- 66 It will costs jobs
- 6 Won't benefit U.S./Nothing in it for U.S.
- 6 We should take care of our own
- 4 Wages would drop because of Mexico
- 3 Will cause decline in labor standards
- 2 Benefits Mexico more than U.S.
- 2 Environmental considerations
- 2 Costs of goods will increase
- 1 U.S. goods should stay in U.S.
- 1 Not good for U.S. farmers
- 4 Other
- 9 Don't know/Refused

(IF RESPONDENT DID NOT FOLLOW NAFTA VERY/FAIRLY CLOSELY IN Q.2, SKIP TO Q.25)
I'd like to ask you a few more questions about the trade agreement. Not everyone will be aware of all the issues that I mention.

Q.18 What's your impression, do we now sell more to Mexico than we buy from Mexico or do we sell less to Mexico than we buy?

34 Sell More

45 Sell Less

21 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.19 What's your impression about trade between Mexico and the US, are there now more restrictions on the US doing business in Mexico or now are there more restrictions on Mexico doing business in the US?

39 More restrictions on US in Mexico

33 More restrictions on Mexico in US

28 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.20 As far as you know, does the free trade agreement require that Mexico follow stricter environmental standards or won't Mexico have to improve its environmental standards for this agreement?

60 Yes, will have to follow

19 No, will not have to improve

21 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.21 As far as you know, does the free trade agreement require that Mexico follow stricter labor standards or won't Mexico have to improve its labor standards for this agreement?

52 Yes, will have to follow

24 No, will not have to improve

24 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.22 What's your impression, if the free trade agreement passed, in the long run, would it lead to more jobs being created in the U.S. OR would it lead to more jobs leaving the U.S.?

		Oct <u>1992</u> ⁴
31	Job Creation	20
51	Job Loss	47
5	Same - VOL	*
<u>13</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	<u>16</u> 100

Q.23 What's your impression, if the free trade agreement passed, would it lead to the U.S. selling more goods to Mexico OR would it lead to the U.S. selling fewer goods to Mexico?

51	More	
33	Less	
4	Same - VOL	
<u>12</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	

Q.24 What's your impression, would the free trade agreement lead to fewer illegal immigrants coming into the U.S. from Mexico or would it lead to more illegal immigrants coming into the country?

47	Fewer	
23	More	
16	Same - VOL	
<u>14</u> 100	Don't know/Refused	

⁴ Based on Registered Voters

Q.25 As I read from a list, tell me how much trust and confidence you have in the person or organization that I name to recommend policies that will benefit you and your family. First, do you have a lot, some, little or no confidence in () to recommend policies that will benefit you and your family? (ROTATE)

	<u>A Lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Little</u>	<u>No Conf.</u>	<u>DK</u>
a. Bill Clinton	29	35	20	14	2=100
b. Al Gore	21	34	22	17	6=100
c. Robert Dole	13	32	22	20	13=100
d. Hillary Clinton	26	32	19	19	4=100
e. Ross Perot	16	22	24	33	5=100
f. Republicans in Congress	13	42	25	15	5=100
g. Democrats in Congress	16	42	25	13	4=100
h. Labor Unions	12	31	26	25	6=100

Q.26 I am going to read a short list of phrases that have been in the news. For each tell me, if you definitely have heard of it or not? Only tell if you have definitely heard of this.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Managed Competition	36	62	2	= 100
b. Re-Inventing Government	65	34	1	= 100
c. The great sucking sound of jobs going south	50	49	1	= 100
d. Single payer system	24	74	2	= 100
e. When the government chooses, we lose	49	50	1	= 100
f. Health Care Security Card	64	35	1	= 100

Q.27 In the Presidential election this past November, did things come up which kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote? (IF VOTED: Who did you vote for?)

22 Bush
33 Clinton
12 Perot
1 Voted, don't remember for whom
24 Did not vote
8
100 No answer/Refused

Q.28 How often, if ever, do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues and politics: regularly, sometimes, rarely or never?

17 Regularly
26 Sometimes
28 Rarely
29 Never
*
100 Don't know

Q.29 Have you ever called, or sent or faxed a letter to your Congressional representative or Senator to express your opinion on an issue?

Q.29a Have you called, or sent or faxed a letter to your Congressional representative or Senator to express your opinion on an issue just in the past 12 months?

41 Yes
21 Yes
19 No
1 Don't know/Refused
59 No (SKIP TO Q.D1)
*
100 Don't know/Refused (SKIP TO Q.D1)

TIMES MIRROR DATABASE

PUBLIC ATTENTIVENESS TO MAJOR NEWS STORIES (1986 - 1993)

***PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY***

80	Explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger (July 86)
73	Destruction caused by the San Francisco earthquake (Nov 89)
70	Verdict in Rodney King case and following riots and disturbances (May 92)
69	Little girl in Texas who was rescued after falling into a well (Oct 87)
67	War's end and the homecoming of U.S. forces from the Gulf (March 91)
66	Hurricane Andrew (Sept 92)
66	Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to Saudi Arabia (Aug 90)
65	The Floods in the Midwest (Aug 93)
63	Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to the Persian Gulf (Oct 90)
63	Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the deployment of U.S. forces to the Persian Gulf (Sept 90)
62	Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf (Nov 90)
62	Recent increases in the price of gasoline (Oct 90)
60	Invasion of Panama (Jan 90)
60	Destruction caused by Hurricane Hugo (Oct 89)
59	Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf (Jan 91)
58	U.S. air strikes against Libya (July 86)
57	The plight of the American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq (Sept 90)
57	Recent increase in the price of gasoline (Aug 90)
56	Recent increases in the price of gasoline (Sept 90)
53	Crash of a United Airlines DC-10 in Sioux City, Iowa (Aug 89)
52	Deployment of U.S. Forces to Somalia (Jan 93)
52	Alaska Oil Spill (May 89)
51	The release of American hostages and other westerners from Iraq and Kuwait (Jan 91)
51	Supreme Court decision of flag burning (July 89)
50	Waco, Texas Incident (May 93)
50	Opening of the Berlin Wall between East and West Germany (Nov 89)
50	Flight of the space shuttle (Oct 88)
49	<i>CLINTON ADMIN.'S HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL (SEPT 93)</i>
49	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Mar 93)
49	The plight of American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq and Kuwait (Nov 90)
49	Murder of Marine Lt. Col. Higgins in Lebanon, and negotiations to free the other hostages in the Mideast (Aug 89)
49	Drought and its effects on American farmers (Aug 88)
49	Bill Clinton's economic plan (Mar 93)
48	TWA hostage crisis that took place last summer in Beirut, Lebanon (July 86)
47	Rodney King trial and verdict in Los Angeles (May 93)
47	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Apr 92)
47	Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Feb 92)
47	Breakup of the Soviet Union following the failed coup to depose of Mikhail Gorbachev (Oct 91)
47	The plight of American hostages and other Westerners detained in Iraq and Kuwait (Oct 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 47 Political upheaval in China (July 89)
- 47 Supreme Court decision on abortion (July 89)
- 46 Videotaped beating by Los Angeles police of a suspect they apprehended in an auto chase (March 91)
- 46 Nuclear accident at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union (July 86)
- 46 Freeing of two Americans who had been held hostage in the Mideast (May 90)
- 45 Bill Clinton's attempts to lift the ban on gays in the military (Mar 93)
- 44 Bill Clinton's decision to ease ban on homosexuals in the military (Aug 93)
- 44 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 92)
- 44 The release of the last American hostages being held in Lebanon (Dec 91)
- 43 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Sept 92)
- 43 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Dec 91)
- 43 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (Oct 88)
- 42 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 93)
- 42 The presidential election campaign (Sept 92)
- 42 Hot weather this summer and the greenhouse effect (Aug 88)
- 42 Downing of an Iranian passenger plane by a U.S. Navy ship (Aug 88)
- 41 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Aug 93)
- 41 News regarding harassment charges raised against supreme court nominee Clarence Thomas (Oct 91)
- 40 *AMTRACK TRAIN WRECK (SEPT 93)***
- 40 Bush administration's plan to deal with this country's drug problem (Sept 89)
- 40 The stock market crash (Oct 87)

- 39 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 92)
- 39 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Nov 90)
- 39 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (Aug 88)
- 38 President Bush's heart problem (May 91)
- 38 News about the candidates and elections in your state (Nov 90)
- 38 Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the U.S. for a Summit meeting (June 90)
- 38 Drug use and efforts to combat it (Jan 90)
- 38 U.S. Navy escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Persian Gulf (Sept 87)
- 37 *REPORTS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE U.S. ECONOMY (SEPT 93)***
- 37 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 93)
- 37 U.S. Navy escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Persian Gulf (Oct 87)
- 37 Stories about Dan Quayle, the Republican Vice-Presidential candidate (Aug 88)
- 37 Sentencing of Oliver North (July 89)
- 36 *TOURISTS MURDERS IN FLORIDA (SEPT 93)***
- 36 Congressional check bouncing scandal (Apr 92)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Oct 91)
- 36 The situation of the Kurds in northern Iraq and allied attempts to help them (May 91)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (March 91)
- 36 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Jan 91)
- 36 The murder of five people by a serial killer around the University of Florida campus in Gainesville (Sept 90)
- 35 Race for the Democratic presidential nomination (Apr 92)
- 35 Federal Reserve Bank's interest rate reduction (Jan 1992)
- 35 The major job cuts announced by General Motors (Jan 1992)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 35 The Standoff in Baghdad between the Iraqis and UN weapons inspectors (Oct 91)
- 35 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (July 1991)
- 35 Attempts to change the abortion laws (Dec 89)
- 35 Hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise ship in the Mediterranean (July 86)
- 35 Explosion and fire on the U.S. Battleship Iowa (May 89)
- 34 Statements by Japanese leaders that American workers are lazy (Feb 92)
- 34 Civil war in Iraq between Shiite Iraqis and forces loyal to Saddam Hussein (March 91)
- 34 Congressional and administration efforts to reach a budget deficit agreement (Nov 90)
- 34 Attempts by Congress and the Administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit (Oct 90)
- 34 Reports about flooding in Texas and other southwestern states (June 90)
- 34 The war between the Colombian government and the major drug traffickers (Sept 89)
- 33 The winter olympics (Feb 92)
- 33 The nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court of Clarence Thomas to replace retiring Justice Thurgood Marshall (July 1991)
- 33 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (May 91)
- 33 Crash of the Colombian airliner near Kennedy airport in New York (Feb 90)
- 33 Congressional hearings about the Iran-Contra affair (Sept 87)
- 33 Guilty verdict in the trial of televangelist Jim Bakker (Oct 89)
- 32 The Presidential election campaign (May 92)
- 32 Mike Tyson's rape trial (Feb 92)
- 32 Criticisms of George Bush for being inconsistent in what he said about taxes and what he said about Persian Gulf policy (Nov 90)
- 31 Mikhail Gorbachev's resignation as the Soviet Union came to an official end (Jan 1992)
- 31 Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (Dec 91)
- 31 President Bush's announcement of major nuclear arms reductions (Oct 91)
- 31 The closing of military bases around the country (July 1991)
- 31 Celebration of Earth Day (May 90)
- 31 The World Series (Oct 88)
- 31 Flight of East German refugees to West Germany (Oct 89)
- 31 Oliver North trial (May 89)
- 30 The debate in Congress over Bill Clinton budget (Aug 93)
- 30 Reports about the White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (May 93)
- 30 The end of Mikhail Gorbachev's rule, as a new commonwealth was formed to replace the Soviet Union (Dec 91)
- 30 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Aug 90)
- 30 Freeing of jailed black South African leader Nelson Mandela (March 90)
- 30 Banishment of Pete Rose from baseball for life (Sept 89)
- 30 The Democratic convention (Aug 88)
- 30 President Bush's call for higher taxes to help reduce the federal deficit (July 90)

- 29 Reports about the condition of the U.S. economy (Sept 90)
- 29 Reports about the fires in Southern California (July 90)
- 29 Lithuania's declaration of independence from the Soviet Union and Moscow's response (April 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 29 Suicide in Boston of Charles Stuart who murdered his pregnant wife and blamed it on a black man (Feb 90)
- 29 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Jan 90)
- 29 Political changes in East Germany and the flight of refugees to West Germany (Nov 89)
- 29 Attack and sexual assault on a female jogger in Central Park, New York, by a group of youths (May 89)
- 29 Failed coup attempt against Panamanian strongman Noriega (Oct 89)
- 28 Reports about the White House task force on health care headed by Hilary Clinton (June 93)
- 28 Accounts about U.S. troops in Somalia (Mar 93)
- 28 Creation of White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (Mar 93)
- 28 Supreme Court deliberations re legality of PA abortion restrictions (May 92)
- 28 The death of 87 people in a fire at a social club in the Bronx, New York (April 90)
- 28 Political changes taking place in the Soviet Union (March 90)
- 28 Arrest of Washington's Mayor Barry on drug use charges (Feb 90)
- 28 The revolution in Romania (Jan 90)
- 28 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Dec 89)
- 28 Problems at nuclear reactor plants (Oct 88)
- 28 The end of Gary Hart's candidacy and the Donna Rice allegations (Sept 87)
- 27 Reports about the White House task force on health care reform headed by Hillary Clinton (Aug 93)
- 27 Republican opposition to Bill Clinton's economic stimulus package (May 93)
- 27 The Clinton administration's decision to allow women to serve in naval and air combat roles (May 93)
- 27 William Kennedy Smith rape trial (Dec 91)
- 27 Deployment of U.S. marines to Liberia to protect the lives of Americans caught in the civil war (Aug 90)
- 27 Lithuania's declaration of independence from the Soviet Union and Moscow's response (May 90)
- 27 Acquittal of the owners of the McMartin Day Care Center in California who were charged with sexually abusing children (Feb 90)
- 27 The NFL playoffs (Jan 90)
- 27 The Republican convention (Aug 88)
- 26 Court ruling that ordered baby Jessica to her natural parents (Aug 93)
- 26 Networks decision to broadcast parental warning before violent programs (Aug 93)
- 26 The Clinton administration's policies about the situation in Bosnia (June 93)
- 26 Russia and the U.S. reach an agreement to sharply reduce their nuclear arsenals (Jan 93)
- 26 President Bush's state of the union address (Feb 92)
- 26 Charges that the White House Chief of Staff used military airplanes and government cars for personal trips (July 1991)
- 26 Concerns about Dan Quayle's ability to serve as President (May 91)
- 26 Bush/Gorbachev summit meeting in Helsinki (Sept 90)
- 26 The death of Hank Gathers, a college basketball player, during a game (April 90)
- 26 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany (Feb 90)
- 26 Passage in Congress of a bill to bail out ailing savings and loan institutions (Aug 89)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 25 Supreme court decision allowing laws that bar federally funded agencies from discussing abortion (July 1991)
- 25 Supreme Court's hearing of arguments in a Missouri abortion case (May 89)
- 24 The debate about whether to use U.S. airstrikes against serbian forces in Bosnia (May 93)
- 24 Controversy over Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood hiring illegal aliens (Mar 93)
- 24 Bill Clinton's cabinet choices and other high level appointments (Jan 93)
- 24 Race for the Republican presidential nomination (Apr 92)
- 24 The breast implant controversy (Feb 92)
- 24 Charges that Reagan campaign officials made a deal with Iran to hold up release of the hostages until after the 1980 Presidential campaign (July 1991)
- 24 Charges that White House Chief of Staff used military airplanes for personal trips (May 91)
- 24 Supreme Court decision that found laws against flag burning unconstitutional and the attempt in Congress to amend the Constitution (July 90)
- 24 Nelson Mandela's visit to the U.S. (July 90)
- 24 Deployment of the Hubble Space Telescope (May 90)
- 24 Difficulties the government is having in getting people to fill out Census forms (May 90)
- 24 The NCAA Basketball playoffs (April 90)
- 24 Supreme Court decision regarding a person's right to die (July 90)
- 23 PEACE ACCORDS BETWEEN ISRAEL & PLO (SEPT 93)**
- 23 Civil war in Bosnia (May 93)
- 23 George Bush's presidential pardon of Weinberger and five others involved in Iran Contra affair (Jan 93)
- 23 Cyclone that devastated Bangladesh (May 91)
- 23 Attempt in Idaho to pass a bill that would severely restrict abortions (April 90)
- 23 Greyhound bus drivers' strike (April 90)
- 23 Discussion of the reunification of Germany (March 90)
- 23 The World Series (Nov 89)
- 22 Bill Clinton's economic conference in Little Rock with leading economists, policy experts and business leaders (Jan 93)
- 22 Protests and demonstrations at abortion clinics in Wichita, Kansas (Oct 91)
- 22 Congressional hearings about U.S. Persian Gulf policy (Jan 91)
- 22 Reunification of Germany (Oct 90)
- 22 Washington Mayor Barry's trial (July 90)
- 22 The 54 year old Oregon woman suffering from Alzheimers who ended her life by using a suicide machine (July 90)
- 22 President Bush's visit to Colombia to attend a drug summit (March 90)
- 22 The Super Bowl (Feb 90)
- 22 Letter bombings of federal judges (Jan 90)
- 22 Discoveries made by the spacecraft Voyager 2 (Sept 89)
- 22 Trial of televangelist Jim Bakker (Sept 89)
- 22 April hijacking of a Kuwaiti airplane by Shiite Moslems (May 88)
- 22 Cease fire in the war between Iran and Iraq (Aug 88)
- 22 News about the presidential campaign in 1988 (May 88)
- 22 Charges that Pete Rose has bet on baseball games (July 89)
- 21 DEBATE ABOUT NAFTA (SEPT 93)**
- 21 Bill Clinton's nomination and then withdrawal of Lani Guinier as civil rights division head (June 93)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 21 U.S. and its allies establishing a no fly zone over the skies of southern Iraq (Sept 92)
- 21 Execution in CA of convicted killer Robert Alton Harris (May 92)
- 21 Alleged rape of a young woman at the Kennedy family's Palm Beach estate (May 91)
- 21 Controversy surrounding the way Roseanne Barr sang the National Anthem at a San Diego Padres baseball game (Aug 90)
- 21 Tensions between Moscow and the Baltic Republics of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania who wish to secede from the Soviet Union (June 90)
- 21 Discussions about German reunification (April 90)
- 21 Political changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany and other countries of Eastern and Central Europe (March 90)
- 21 Scandal involving HUD (Aug 89)
- 20 Mikhail Gorbachev's political problems in the Soviet Union (March 91)
- 20 Resignation of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the election of her successor (Jan 91)
- 20 The murder on a New York subway platform of a Utah man attempting to protect his family from attack by teenage muggers (Sept 90)
- 20 Earthquake in Iran (July 90)
- 20 Gorbachev/Bush summit (Dec 89)
- 20 Attempts by the U.S. government to depose General Noriega in Panama (May 88)
- 20 Post-season baseball playoffs (Oct 89)

- 19 The civil war in Bosnia (Aug 93)
- 19 The Republican primary in New Hampshire (Feb 92)
- 19 The Democratic primary in New Hampshire (Feb 92)
- 19 Attempts by Congress and the Administration to find ways to reduce the budget deficit (Aug 90)
- 19 Elections in Nicaragua (March 90)
- 19 Coup attempt against the Filipino government (Dec 89)
- 19 Attempts in Congress to repeal the new catastrophic health insurance plan (Oct 89)
- 19 Incidents of racial violence in New York City and Virginia Beach (Sept 89)
- 19 Discussions of a U.S. Soviet arms agreement (Sept 87)
- 18 *YELTSIN'S DECISION TO DISSOLVE RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT (SEPT 93)***
- 18 Nomination of Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court (Aug 93)
- 18 The controversy over Bill Clinton's \$200 hair cut on the runway in Los Angeles (June 93)
- 18 Tennis star Arthur Ashe's announcement that he has AIDS (May 92)
- 18 News about the candidates and election campaigns in your state (Oct 90)
- 18 Special meetings between the Bush Administration and Congressional Leaders to find ways to reduce the federal deficit (June 90)
- 18 Continuing news about the Savings and Loan scandal (June 90)
- 18 Reports about renewed inflation and rising interest rates (May 90)
- 18 Senator Moynihan's proposal to cut social security taxes (Feb 90)
- 18 The stock market crash (May 88)
- 18 Conflict in the Middle East between Palestinians and the Israelis in the occupied territories (May 88)
- 17 President Bush's decision to lift the trade embargo on South Africa (July 1991)
- 17 Racial tension in New York City resulting from the Bensonhurst trial verdict and the black boycott of Korean grocers (June 90)

**PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY**

- 17 Discussions between the American and Japanese governments about trade issues (April 90)
- 17 A custody case involving a mother who went to jail and a little child taken to New Zealand by her grandparents (March 90)
- 17 Nomination of Robert Bork to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court (Sept 87)
- 16 The gay march on Washington (May 93)
- 16 David Duke's announcement that he will run for the Republican presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 16 Nomination of David Souter to the U.S. Supreme Court to replace Justice William Brennan (Aug 90)
- 16 Washington DC Mayor Marion Barry's trial ending in a mistrial (Aug 90)
- 16 Financial troubles of Donald Trump (July 90)
- 16 Dispute between the President and Congress over allowing Chinese students to remain in America (Feb 90)

15 CIVIL WAR IN BOSNIA (SEPT 93)

- 15 The civil war in Bosnia (Mar 93)
- 15 The civil war in Bosnia (Jan 93)
- 15 Charges that Ark. Governor Clinton has had extra-marital affairs (Feb 92)
- 15 President Bush's decision to postpone loan guarantees to Israel (Oct 91)
- 15 Resignation of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze (Jan 91)
- 15 Senate confirmation of Supreme Court Justice David Souter (Oct 90)
- 15 Controversy over the exclusion of blacks from membership in many country clubs at which national golf championship matches are played (Aug 90)
- 15 Education Summit held by Bush and the nation's Governors (Oct 89)
- 15 Ethics committee's investigation of Speaker of the House Jim Wright (May 89)
- 15 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Oct 87)
- 15 Conflict of interest allegations about Attorney General Ed Meese (May 88)
- 15 Scandal involving HUD (July 89)
- 14 Resignation of head of national United Way on charges of financial wrong-doing (Apr 92)
- 14 President Bush's educational reform plan (May 91)
- 14 Political unrest and the worsening economic situation in the Soviet Union (May 91)
- 14 Renewed fighting between government and the rebels in El Salvador (Dec 89)
- 14 House approval of a cut in the capital gains tax (Oct 89)
- 14 Spy scandal involving a U.S. Diplomat in Vienna (Aug 89)
- 14 Coverage of Democratic and Republican candidates for the Presidential nomination (Sept 87)
- 14 Pending divorce between Mike Tyson and Robin Givens (Oct 88)

13 GORE'S PROGRAM TO REFORM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (SEPT 93)

- 13 Embezzlement charges made against Congressman Rostenkowski (Aug 93)
- 13 Suicide of White House aide Vincent Foster, Jr. (Aug 93)
- 13 The controversy over the management of the White House travel office (June 93)
- 13 Attacks on foreigners in Germany by neo-nazis (Jan 93)
- 13 Debate and discussion about the free trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada (Sept 92)
- 13 Referendum on ending white rule in South Africa (Apr 92)
- 13 Celebration of Earth Day (May 92)
- 13 End of UAW strike against Caterpillar Tractor (May 92)
- 13 The BCCI international banking scandal (Oct 91)
- 13 U.S. Department of Education prohibition of racially based college scholarships (Jan 91)
- 13 Worsening economic conditions in the Soviet Union (Sept 90)
- 13 Civil unrest and ethnic violence in Soviet Azerbaijan (Feb 90)
- 13 Resumption of fighting in Nicaragua between the Contras and government forces (Nov 89)

PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY

- 13 Elections in Virginia, New Jersey, New York City and other localities (Nov 89)
- 13 News about the Republican candidates for the Presidential nomination (Oct 88)
- 12 The debate in Congress over Bill Clinton's budget (June 93)
- 12 Nomination of Robert Gates to head the CIA (Oct 91)
- 12 News about the democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Oct 91)
- 12 Russian President Boris Yeltsin's election victory and visit to the U.S. (July 1991)
- 12 The findings of the committee that investigated five senators for doing favors for Charles Keating in exchange for campaign contributions (March 91)
- 12 Major League Baseball's decision to force George Steinbrenner to give up active control of the New York Yankees (Aug 90)
- 12 Pledge of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress to end the armed struggle in South Africa (Aug 90)
- 12 Marital breakup of Donald and Ivana Trump (March 90)
- 12 Solidarity's role in governing Poland (July 89)
- 11 Announcement from London that marriage between Prince Charles and Diana is over (Jan 93)
- 11 Civil War and famine in Somalia (Sept 92)
- 11 The controversy re Governor Clinton's joining ROTC to avoid the draft in 1969 (Feb 92)
- 11 The outbreak of civil war in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia (Jan 1992)
- 11 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Jan 1992)
- 11 Debate in Washington about a new civil rights bill (July 1991)
- 11 Conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (July 1991)
- 11 The incident in Gaza in which a deranged Israeli killed seven Palestinians and the West bank riots that followed (June 90)
- 11 Legalization of banned black opposition groups in South Africa and the promise to free Nelson Mandela (Feb 90)
- 10 The voter referendum in Russia (May 93)
- 10 Israel's expulsion of 400 muslim fundamentalists following the murder of an Israeli soldier in the West Bank (Jan 93)
- 10 Civil war in Bosnia (Sept 92)
- 10 Mario Cuomo's decision not to seek the Democratic presidential nomination (Jan 1992)
- 10 News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 10 Japanese purchase of Rockefeller center in New York City (Dec 89)
- 10 The spending and tax proposals made by Congressman Dan Rostenkowski to help reduce the budget deficit (April 90)
- 10 Academy Awards (April 90)

- 9 Discovery of scientific evidence of the beginnings of the universe (May 92)
- 9 Purchase of entertainment giant, MCA by the Japanese consumer electronics company, Matsushita (Jan 91)
- 9 The investigation of five U.S. Senators for doing favors for Charles Keating in exchange for campaign contributions (Jan 91)
- 9 Aids conference in San Francisco (July 90)
- 9 May day protests in Moscow (May 90)
- 9 Bankruptcy of Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. (March 90)
- 9 Trial of Hotel owner Leona Helmsley for tax evasion (Sept 89)

PERCENT FOLLOWED
VERY CLOSELY

- 9 Stories about the 20th anniversary of the Woodstock Music Festival (Aug 89)
- 8 The resignation of White House Chief of Staff John Sununu (Dec 91)
- 8 Conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (Oct 91)
- 8 The release of the Kitty Kelley biography of Nancy Reagan (May 91)
- 8 The murder in New York city of Jewish militant rabbi Meir Kahane (Nov 90)
- 7 G 7 Summit meeting in Tokyo (Aug 93)
- 7 Trial of allege N.Y. mafia boss John Gotti (Apr 92)
- 7 First reports from the 1990 U.S. census (Sept 90)
- 7 Pat Buchanan's announcement that he will run for the Republican presidential nomination (Dec 91)
- 6 Stock market crash in Japan (May 92)
- 6 William Bennett's change of mind about heading the Republican National Committee (Jan 91)
- 6 Continuing political unrest in the Ukraine and in other republics of the Soviet Union (Nov 90)
- 6 United Nations Children's Summit held in New York (Oct 90)
- 6 Elections in Romania (June 90)
- 6 The visit to the United States of Vaclav Havel, the new president of Czechoslovakia (March 90)
- 6 Trip of high ranking officials to China (Jan 90)
- 6 Scandal involving the Japanese Prime Minister and other high ranking officials (May 89)
- 6 The scandal involving Congressman Barney Frank and a male prostitute (Oct 89)
- 5 *PASSAGE OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE ACT (SEPT 93)***
- 5 Scandals in the British royal family involving the Duchess of York - Fergie and Princess Diana (Sept 92)
- 5 The conflict between the Yugoslavian Republics (Dec 91)
- 4 Marital break-up of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson (Apr 92)
- 4 Dismissal of Pakistan's Prime Minister Bhutto by Pakistan's President (Aug 90)
- 4 Civil war in Cambodia (May 90)
- 3 Woody Allen and Mia Farrow's family breakup (Sept 92)
- 2 Tom Cruise's separation from his wife (April 90)