

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
2002 BELIEVABILITY SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
May 6 - 16, 2002
N=1002

Q.1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
May, 2002	44	44	12=100
March, 2002	50	40	10=100
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100
June, 2001	43	52	5=100
March, 2001	47	45	8=100
February, 2001	46	43	11=100
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	4=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
<i>Late February, 1991 (Gallup)</i>	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

ROTATE Q.2 AND Q.3

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job 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 Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
May, 2002	49	34	17=100
February, 2002	56	24	20=100
Early September, 2001	43	39	18=100
June, 2001	40	40	20=100
May, 2001	45	36	19=100
April, 2001	45	30	25=100
January, 2001	43	36	21=100
July, 2000	36	46	18=100
May, 2000	40	42	18=100
March, 2000	38	43	19=100
February, 2000	40	43	17=100
January, 2000	39	41	20=100
December, 1999	38	42	20=100
October, 1999	34	50	16=100
Late September, 1999	34	46	20=100
September, 1999	35	48	17=100
August, 1999	40	44	16=100
July, 1999	36	45	19=100
June, 1999	37	46	17=100
May, 1999	38	44	18=100
March, 1999	38	47	15=100
February, 1999	37	51	12=100
Mid-January, 1999	36	51	13=100
January, 1999	38	50	12=100
Late December, 1998	39	56	5=100
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100
November, 1998	41	48	11=100
September 21-22, 1998	44	44	12=100
September 19-20, 1998	46	41	13=100
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100
Late August, 1998	48	36	16=100
Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100
June, 1998	42	38	20=100
May, 1998	40	41	19=100
April, 1998	41	40	19=100
March, 1998	43	39	18=100
January, 1998	43	41	16=100
November, 1997	41	43	16=100
August, 1997	42	44	14=100
June, 1997	33	50	17=100
May, 1997	40	44	16=100
April, 1997	40	44	16=100
February, 1997	44	42	14=100
January, 1997	38	47	15=100
November, 1996	40	43	17=100
July, 1996	38	48	14=100
June, 1996	36	50	14=100
April, 1996	39	46	15=100
March, 1996	35	51	14=100
February, 1996	33	53	14=100
January, 1996	36	54	10=100
October, 1995	36	51	13=100
September, 1995	36	50	14=100
August, 1995	38	45	17=100
June, 1995	41	45	14=100

Q.2 CONTINUED ...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March, 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 2001	49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=485]:

Q.3F1 How do you think the leaders of the Democratic Party are responding to George W. Bush's policies and proposals... do you think they are speaking out too much, speaking out too little, or speaking out about the right amount?

		<u>---- 2002 ----</u>			<u>----- April 2001 -----</u>			
		<u>----- Party Id -----</u>			<u>----- Party Id -----</u>			
		<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
18	Speaking out too much	30	4	20	15	27	7	17
22	Speaking out too little	10	33	23	23	8	36	20
42	Speaking out about the right amount	40	50	41	45	51	45	45
<u>18</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=517]:

Q.4F2 This year, have Republicans and Democrats in Washington been working together more to solve problems OR have they been bickering and opposing one another more than usual?

	<u>July</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Aug</u>
	<u>2001</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1993</u>
44	Working together more	30	34	21	20	27	38	43	34	21
31	Opposing each other more	46	41	54	68	51	45	46	49	72
8	Same as in past (VOL)	10	9	10	4	8	7	3	6	3
<u>17</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

P.1 Please tell me which party you think has the best ideas on the following issues. (First), on the issue of [READ AND ROTATE] who has the best ideas... the Republican Party or the Democratic Party? [REPEAT FOR NEXT ITEM:] And who has the best ideas on...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=485]:		<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>Democratic Party</u>	<u>(VOL) Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.F1	Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound	32	38	9	21=100
	January, 2002	28	40	6	26=100
	May, 2001 ¹	35	43	11	11=100
	January, 2001	36	44	7	13=100
	June, 1999	33	41	13	13=100
	January, 1999	27	46	7	20=100
	September, 1998	37	42	12	9=100
	May, 1990	28	41	16	15=100
b.F1	Dealing with problems in the Middle East	44	24	10	22=100
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=517]:					
c.F2	Providing prescription drug benefits to senior citizens on Medicare	21	39	9	31=100
	January, 2002	18	46	5	31=100
	January, 2001	30	49	5	16=100
d.F2	Dealing with the military efforts to destroy terrorist groups overseas	56	19	5	20=100
	January, 2002	51	16	6	27=100

Q.5 In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or Independent?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>(VOL) No Preference</u>	<u>(VOL) Other Party</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2002	27	30	36	4	1	2=100
May, 2001	27	30	37	4	1	1=100
September, 2000	27	34	30	6	*	3=100
February, 2000	27	30	34	6	1	2=100
Late September, 1999	24	31	36	5	1	3=100
August, 1999	25	33	37	3	*	2=100
November, 1997	25	32	38	3	*	2=100
June, 1996	30	33	34	2	*	1=100
February, 1996	30	32	32	3	1	2=100
October, 1995	30	30	35	3	*	2=100
April, 1995	30	29	37	3	*	1=100
March, 1995	35	28	32	--	2	3=100
February, 1995	33	30	33	--	2	2=100
December, 1994	35	31	30	--	2	2=100
November, 1994	28	31	35	4	*	2=100
October, 1994	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
Early October, 1994	33	30	32	--	2	3=100
July, 1994	29	33	35	2	*	1=100
June, 1992	28	32	36	1	*	3=100
May, 1990	28	33	28	9	*	2=100
February, 1989	31	38	23	7	*	1=100
May, 1988	28	38	26	6	*	2=100
January, 1988	27	39	26	6	*	2=100
May, 1987	25	37	28	8	*	2=100

¹ For May 2001, June 1999, September 1998 and May 1990, the question was worded, "Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job in each of the following areas ... keeping Social Security financially sound?"

ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED INDEPENDENT/NO PREFERENCE/OTHER/DON'T KNOW (Q.5=3, 4, 5, 9) [N=411]:

Q.6 As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

37	Republican
31	Democrat
<u>32</u>	Other/Don't know/Refused
100	

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (Q.5=1 OR Q.6=1) [N=453]:

Q.7 How good a job is the Republican Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as reducing the size of government, cutting taxes and promoting conservative social values — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

		<i>Rep/ Lean Rep</i> <u>May 2001</u>	<i>Rep/ Lean Rep (RV)</i> <u>Sept 2000</u>
6	Excellent	10	6
49	Good	50	43
38	Only fair	32	44
5	Poor	5	5
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS ONLY (Q.5=2 OR Q.6=2) [N=424]:

Q.8 How good a job is the Democratic Party doing these days in standing up for its traditional positions on such things as protecting the interests of minorities, helping the poor and needy, and representing working people — would you say the Party is doing an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job or a poor job?

		<i>Dem/ Lean Dem</i> <u>May 2001</u>	<i>Dem/ Lean Dem (RV)</i> <u>Sept 2000</u>
5	Excellent	8	11
39	Good	39	52
43	Only fair	40	32
10	Poor	7	4
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.9 Now, I'm going to read a list. Please rate how much you think you can BELIEVE each organization I name on a scale of 4 to 1. On this four point scale, "4" means you can believe all or most of what the organization says. "1" means you believe almost nothing of what they say. How would you rate the believability of (READ ITEM. ROTATE LIST) on this scale of 4 to 1? (INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE")

	Believe <u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	Cannot Believe <u>1</u>	Never Heard <u>of</u>	Can't Rate
a. USA Today	15	36	19	6	1	23=100
May, 2000	17	31	20	7	2	23=100
May, 1998	18	35	21	5	2	19=100
April, 1996	20	34	20	9	3	14=100
February, 1993	20	36	21	7	1	15=100
August, 1989	21	32	18	5	6	18=100
June, 1985	13	26	13	2	4	42=100
b. ABC News	22	43	19	6	*	10=100
May, 2000	26	36	20	6	*	12=100
May, 1998	28	43	18	4	*	7=100
April, 1996	30	44	17	5	*	4=100
February, 1993	34	42	17	4	*	3=100
August, 1989	30	46	14	3	1	7=100
June, 1985	32	51	11	1	*	5=100
c. The Wall Street Journal	22	29	11	4	1	33=100
May, 2000	27	24	9	6	4	30=100
May, 1998	30	30	9	4	2	25=100
April, 1996	28	29	13	7	3	20=100
February, 1993	30	32	14	6	2	16=100
August, 1989	30	26	9	3	6	26=100
June, 1985	25	23	6	2	1	43=100
d. The daily newspaper you are most familiar with	20	39	25	9	0	7=100
May, 2000	23	38	24	8	*	7=100
May, 1998	27	36	24	7	*	6=100
April, 1996	24	37	26	8	*	5=100
February, 1993	22	41	25	8	*	4=100
August, 1989	26	41	24	7	*	2=100
June, 1985	28	52	13	2	*	5=100
e. The Associated Press	14	35	22	7	4	18=100
May, 2000	16	32	22	7	5	18=100
May, 1998	15	36	24	6	4	15=100
April, 1996	14	40	22	9	3	12=100
February, 1993	16	39	23	7	3	12=100
August, 1989	21	43	18	4	6	9=100
June, 1985	21	40	11	2	2	24=100
f. CNN	32	34	15	6	1	12=100
May, 2000	33	32	14	5	1	15=100
May, 1998	37	35	11	4	1	12=100
April, 1996	34	37	14	4	1	10=100
February, 1993	41	35	10	4	2	8=100
August, 1989	33	31	11	2	8	16=100
June, 1985	20	24	7	1	10	38=100

Q.9 CONTINUED ...

	Believe			Cannot Believe	Never Heard	Can't Rate
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
g. NBC News	23	43	19	6	*	9=100
May, 2000	26	37	21	7	*	9=100
May, 1998	28	42	20	4	*	6=100
April, 1996	28	46	18	5	*	3=100
February, 1993	31	42	18	6	*	3=100
August, 1989	32	47	14	2	*	5=100
June, 1985	31	51	12	1	*	5=100
h. CBS News	23	41	19	6	*	11=100
May, 2000	26	37	20	7	*	10=100
May, 1998	26	43	21	4	*	6=100
April, 1996	30	42	17	6	*	5=100
February, 1993	31	44	16	5	*	4=100
August, 1989	29	45	16	4	1	5=100
June, 1985	33	51	11	1	*	4=100
i. C-SPAN	18	26	12	5	8	31=100
May, 2000	21	24	11	6	10	28=100
May, 1998	20	26	12	4	12	26=100
April, 1996	19	24	12	9	10	26=100
j. Time Magazine	18	35	16	7	1	23=100
May, 2000	22	30	16	6	2	24=100
May, 1998	21	38	17	4	1	19=100
June, 1985	27	38	10	2	*	23=100
k. People Magazine	7	20	31	15	1	26=100
May, 2000	8	18	30	20	2	22=100
May, 1998	8	21	34	16	1	20=100
June, 1985	8	22	28	12	1	29=100
l. Newsweek	14	37	16	5	2	26=100
May, 2000	17	32	17	7	2	25=100
May, 1998	19	40	16	5	1	19=100
June, 1985	23	40	9	2	*	26=100
m. The National Enquirer	3	5	11	60	1	20=100
May, 2000	3	3	8	68	2	16=100
May, 1998	3	4	11	69	1	12=100
June, 1985	4	7	11	54	1	23=100
n. The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer	13	20	13	5	18	31=100
May, 2000	13	18	13	8	18	30=100
May, 1998	15	21	12	5	19	28=100
June, 1985 ²	18	17	6	2	29	28=100
o. Your local TV news	26	39	22	7	*	6=100
May, 2000	30	39	19	6	*	6=100
May, 1998	32	38	19	6	*	4=100
June, 1985	34	47	13	1	*	5=100

²

In 1985 this item was worded "The MacNeil-Lehrer NewsHour."

Q.9 CONTINUED ...

	Believe			Cannot Believe	Never Heard	Can't Rate
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
p. Dateline NBC	23	35	20	5	1	16=100
May, 2000	26	31	19	6	2	16=100
May, 1998	23	39	19	5	2	13=100
q. 60 Minutes	30	39	15	5	*	11=100
May, 2000	31	37	17	7	*	8=100
May, 1998	32	37	20	4	*	7=100
r. MSNBC	21	34	17	5	4	19=100
May, 2000	19	29	15	6	8	23=100
s. National Public Radio	16	28	20	7	6	23=100
May, 2000	16	21	18	8	13	24=100
May, 1998	13	34	17	7	7	22=100
t. 20/20	26	35	18	6	1	14=100
u. The Fox News CABLE Channel	19	34	20	6	2	19=100
May, 2000	19	28	19	9	3	22=100
v. U.S. News & World Report	18	33	14	5	4	26=100

Q.10 Now I am going to read another list. Please rate how much you think you can BELIEVE each person I name on a scale of 4 to 1. Again, on this four point scale, "4" means you can believe all or most of what the person says. "1" means you believe almost nothing of what they say. How would you rate the believability of **(READ ITEM. ROTATE LIST)** on this scale of 4 to 1?

	Believe			Cannot Believe	Never Heard	Can't Rate
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
a. Aaron Brown	5	16	14	4	44	17=100
b. Peter Jennings	32	38	15	6	3	6=100
May, 1998	35	40	14	4	1	6=100
April, 1996	27	37	18	8	2	8=100
February, 1993	34	40	15	4	2	5=100
August, 1989	35	39	11	3	5	7=100
June, 1985	33	41	8	1	8	9=100
c. Dan Rather	34	37	14	7	3	5=100
May, 1998	34	40	17	4	1	4=100
April, 1996	29	39	18	8	1	5=100
February, 1993	36	40	14	6	1	3=100
August, 1989	36	40	13	6	1	4=100
June, 1985	40	41	8	2	4	5=100
d. Tom Brokaw	35	37	14	4	4	6=100
May, 1998	33	42	13	3	3	6=100
April, 1996	29	37	18	7	2	7=100
February, 1993	32	41	16	5	2	4=100
August, 1989	32	42	14	3	3	6=100
June, 1985	29	40	8	1	10	12=100
e. Ted Koppel	25	38	16	5	6	10=100
May, 1998	27	39	17	4	4	9=100
February, 1993	30	39	15	5	4	7=100
August, 1989	32	36	14	4	6	8=100
June, 1985	30	34	8	1	14	13=100

Q.10 CONTINUED ...

	Believe			Cannot Believe	Never Heard	Can't Rate
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
f. Jim Lehrer May, 1998	14 17	24 23	15 14	4 4	23 20	20=100 22=100
g. Brit Hume	7	20	16	4	35	18=100
h. Brian Williams	10	24	14	4	32	16=100
i. Diane Sawyer August, 1989 June, 1985	27 24 17	40 38 31	16 16 11	6 4 1	5 9 24	6=100 9=100 16=100
j. Katie Couric May, 1998	18 18	33 27	17 18	7 5	15 16	10=100 16=100
k. Bill O'Reilly	13	20	17	8	26	16=100
l. Larry King April, 1996	15 9	26 21	29 28	14 21	5 4	11=100 17=100
m. Geraldo Rivera May, 1998 February, 1993 August, 1989 June, 1985	7 8 8 9 18	18 12 14 12 25	31 33 31 27 12	32 36 39 37 4	4 3 2 7 25	8=100 8=100 6=100 8=100 16=100
n. Tim Russert	11	21	15	4	33	16=00

Q.11 Next, please rate the believability of the following people, using this same scale of 4 to 1. **(READ AND ROTATE, OBSERVE FORM SPLITS)**

	Believe			Cannot Believe	Never Heard	Can't Rate
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>Rate</u>
a. George W. Bush	30	36	20	13	*	1=100
[FORM 1 N=485; FORM 2 N=517]:						
b.F1 Dick Cheney	17	37	26	11	4	5=100
c.F2 Bill Clinton May, 1998 April, 1996 February, 1993	12 17 14 18	19 28 31 35	22 31 25 25	44 23 28 19	* 0 * *	3=100 1=100 2=100 3=100
d.F1 Al Gore May, 1998	12 14	28 33	30 29	26 18	* 1	4=100 5=100
e.F2 Colin Powell May, 1998 April, 1996 February, 1993	37 36 28 24	36 33 36 31	16 15 19 18	5 3 9 6	2 6 2 13	4=100 7=100 6=100 8=100
f.F1 Donald Rumsfeld	12	31	23	9	16	9=100
g.F2 Tom Daschle	6	20	23	14	21	16=100
h.F1 Alan Greenspan	17	36	22	5	11	9=100
i.F2 Oprah Winfrey May, 1998	27 26	28 38	24 25	13 8	* *	8=100 3=100

Q.12 Now I'd like to know how interested you are in different kinds of news stories. First, how interested are you in news reports on **[READ AND ROTATE]**? Would you say you are very interested, somewhat interested, not too interested, or not at all interested? How interested are you in news reports on **[NEXT ITEM]**?

	<u>Very Interested</u>	<u>Somewhat Interested</u>	<u>Not too Interested</u>	<u>Not at all Interested</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM A ONLY [N=249]:					
a.FA Issues and activities in local government and politics	34	46	8	11	1=100
b.FA Issues and activities in state government and politics	29	48	11	10	2=100
c.FA Issues and activities in national government and politics	36	43	9	11	1=100
ASK FORM B ONLY [N=256]:					
d.FB What can be done to improve the performance of local schools	62	30	4	3	1=100
e.FB What can be done to reduce health care costs	63	28	4	4	1=100
f.FB What can be done to ensure that public places are safe from terrorism	66	28	2	3	1=100
ASK FORM C ONLY [N=258]:					
g.FC What government can do to improve the performance of local schools	59	26	9	5	1=100
h.FC What government can do to reduce health care costs	64	25	6	4	1=100
i.FC What government can do to ensure that public places are safe from terrorism	67	24	4	3	2=100
ASK FORM D ONLY [N=239]:					
j.FD What ideas political candidates have to improve the performance of local schools	55	32	6	7	*=100
k.FD What ideas political candidates have to reduce health care costs	53	36	6	4	1=100
l.FD What ideas political candidates have to ensure that public places are safe from terrorism	60	31	5	3	1=100

ASK ALL:

Q.13 Now I'd like to know how often you watch or listen to certain TV and radio programs. For each that I read, tell me if you watch or listen to it regularly, sometimes, hardly ever, or never. (First) how often do you ...
[READ AND ROTATE]

	<u>Regularly</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Hardly Ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. Watch the national nightly network news on CBS, ABC or NBC? This is different from local news shows about the area where you live	42	32	15	11	*=100
April, 2002	32	29	15	24	*=100
April, 2000	30	28	16	25	1=100
August, 1999	40	33	16	11	*=100
April, 1998	38	29	15	18	*=100
February, 1997	41	31	14	14	*=100
April, 1996	42	29	15	14	*=100
March, 1995	48	28	14	10	*=100
May, 1993	60	28	5	6	1=100
February, 1993	58	23	10	9	*=100
b. Watch cable news channels such as CNN, MSNBC, or the Fox News CABLE Channel	39	32	15	14	*=100
April, 2002	33	35	11	21	*=100
c. Watch the local news about your viewing area which usually comes on before the national news in the evening and again later at night	60	24	10	6	*=100
April, 2002	57	24	8	11	*=100
April, 2000 ³	56	24	9	11	*=100
April, 1998	64	22	6	8	*=100
February, 1997	72	16	7	5	0=100
April, 1996	65	23	7	5	*=100
March, 1995	72	18	6	4	*=100
May, 1993	77	16	5	4	*=100
February, 1993	76	16	5	3	*=100

Q.14 Are you more the kind of person who watches or listens to the news at regular times, or are you more the kind of person who checks in on the news from time to time?

	<u>April 2002</u>
51 Watch/listen at regular times	49
47 Checks in from time to time	48
1 Neither (VOL)	2
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100	100

³ In April 2000 and earlier, the item was "Watch the local news about your viewing area? This usually comes on before the national news and then later at night at 10 or 11."

Q.15 How much do you enjoy keeping up with the news – a lot, some, not much or not at all?

		April <u>2002</u>	April <u>2000</u>	April <u>1998</u>	June <u>1995</u>	Feb <u>1994</u>
52	A lot	48	45	50	54	53
37	Some	36	40	37	34	35
7	Not Much	11	12	11	8	9
3	Not at all	4	3	2	3	2
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

C.1 – C.5 ASKED MAY 8-16 ONLY [N=736]:

C.1 In general, how well do you think television and radio stations do in informing the public about political candidates and campaigns? Would you say they do an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job?

9	Excellent
41	Good
37	Only fair
11	Poor
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

C.2 As you may know, there have been proposals in recent years to require broadcasters to provide free television airtime before elections for the candidates to discuss the issues. Would you favor or oppose such a proposal?

73	Favor
20	Oppose
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

C.3 Do you think such a proposal would make political campaigns much better or don't you think so?

66	Yes, would make better
25	No, don't think so
<u>9</u>	Not sure/Don't know/Refused
100	

C.4 Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about the nation's airwaves, which broadcasters use to transmit television and radio signals. Do you happen to know if television and radio stations own the airwaves, or are they owned by the public?

25	Stations own the airwaves
31	Public owns the airwaves <i>{correct}</i>
<u>44</u>	Don't know/refused
100	

C.5 Television and radio stations are required to obtain licenses from the federal government to broadcast over the airwaves. Do you think television and radio stations pay the government each year for these licenses, or do the stations get them for free?

70	Stations pay for licenses
11	Stations get them for free <i>{correct}</i>
<u>19</u>	Don't know/refused
100	

Finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

Q.16 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home, or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

IF "YES," ASK:

Q.17 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

	<i>Computer User</i>			Based on Total Respondents: <i>Goes Online</i>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2002	75	25	*=100	66	34	*=100
April, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
January, 2002	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-November, 2001	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-September, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	*=100
June, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
May, 2001	75	25	*=100	64	36	0=100
April, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2001	72	28	0=100	60	40	*=100
January, 2001	71	29	*=100	61	39	0=100
July, 2000	68	31	1=100	55	45	*=100
June, 2000	68	31	1=100	56	44	*=100
April, 2000	68	32	*=100	54	46	*=100
March, 2000 ⁴	72	28	0=100	61	39	0=100
February, 2000	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
January, 2000	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100
December, 1999	67	33	*=100	53	47	0=100
October, 1999	67	33	*=100	50	50	0=100
Late September, 1999	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100
September, 1999	70	30	*=100	53	47	0=100
August, 1999	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
July, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	0=100
June, 1999	64	35	1=100	50	50	*=100
May, 1999	66	33	1=100	48	52	0=100
April, 1999	71	29	*=100	51	49	*=100
March, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
February, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
January, 1999	69	31	*=100	47	53	*=100
Early December, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	0=100
November, 1998	--	--	--	37	63	*=100
Early September, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	*=100
Late August, 1998	66	34	0=100	43	57	*=100
Early August, 1998	66	34	*=100	41	59	*=100
April, 1998	61	39	*=100	36	64	0=100
January, 1998	65	35	*=100	37	63	0=100
November, 1997	66	34	*=100	36	63	1=100
June, 1997	60	40	0=100	--	--	--
Early September, 1996	56	44	*=100	--	--	--
July, 1996	56	44	*=100	23	77	0=100
April, 1996	58	42	*=100	21	79	*=100
March, 1996	61	39	*=100	22	78	0=100
February, 1996	60	40	0=100	21	79	*=100
January, 1996	59	41	0=100	21	79	0=100
June, 1995 ⁵	--	--	--	14	86	*=100

⁴ In March 2000, "or anywhere else" was added to the question wording.

⁵ The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions:
 (1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?) (2) Do you, yourself, ever use a computer at (work) (school) (work or school) to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?