

## ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 1,331 (1,009 registered voters) adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period October 4-8, 2000. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For results based on registered voters (N=1,009), the sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on either Form 1 (N=494) or Form 2 (N=515) registered voters, the sampling error is plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**EARLY OCTOBER 2000 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**October 4-8, 2000**  
**N = 1,331 General Public**  
**N = 1,009 Registered Voters**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS IN SURVEY, INCLUDING TREND FIGURES, ARE BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS EXCEPT WHERE NOTED**

Q.1 How much thought have you given to the coming Presidential election... quite a lot or only a little?

	Quite <u>A lot</u>	(VOL.) <u>Some</u>	Only a <u>Little</u>	(VOL.) <u>None</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
October, 2000	60	8	27	4	1=100
September, 2000	59	8	29	3	1=100
July, 2000	46	6	45	3	*=100
June, 2000	46	6	43	5	*=100
May, 2000	48	4	42	5	1=100
November, 1996	67	8	22	3	*=100
October, 1996	65	7	26	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	61	7	29	2	1=100
Early September, 1996	56	3	36	4	1=100
July, 1996	55	3	41	1	*=100
June, 1996	50	5	41	3	1=100
October, 1992	77	5	16	1	1=100
September, 1992	69	3	26	1	1=100
August, 1992	72	4	23	1	*=100
June, 1992	63	6	29	1	1=100
<b>Gallup:</b> November, 1988	73	8	17	2	0=100
<b>Gallup:</b> October, 1988	69	9	20	2	0=100
<b>Gallup:</b> August, 1988	61	10	27	2	0=100
<b>Gallup:</b> September, 1988	57	18	23	2	0=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 story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?  
**[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS]**

		Very closely	Fairly closely	Not too closely	Not at all closely	(VOL.) DK/Ref.
a.	News about the presidential election campaign	42	36	15	6	1=100
	September, 2000	27	46	18	8	1=100
	July, 2000 <sup>1</sup>	25	40	19	15	1=100
	June, 2000	27	34	22	16	1=100
	April, 2000	21	36	25	18	*=100
	Early April, 2000	22	43	20	15	*=100
	March, 2000	30	43	16	10	1=100
	November, 1996	34	45	15	6	*=100
	Early September, 1996	29	39	19	13	*=100
	July, 1996	25	42	21	11	1=100
	October, 1992	55	36	7	2	0=100
	September, 1992	47	36	11	6	*=100
	August, 1992	36	51	11	2	0=100
	July, 1992	23	48	24	5	*=100
	October, 1988	43	44	11	2	*=100
	August, 1988	39	45	13	3	*=100

**ITEMS b-h BASED ON TOTAL VOTING AGE POPULATION: [N=1,331]**

b.	The high price of gasoline these days	56	25	12	6	1=100
	June, 2000 <sup>2</sup>	61	25	9	5	*=100
	March, 2000	58	28	10	4	*=100
	October, 1990	62	26	8	4	*=100
	September, 1990	56	28	11	5	*=100
	August, 1990	57	27	10	5	1=100
c.	The summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia	27	28	24	21	*=100
	Early September, 1996 <sup>3</sup>	32	34	20	14	*=100
	July, 1996	45	30	13	11	1=100
d.	Nuclear scientist Wen Ho Lee being released from prison, after being suspected of spying	13	25	27	34	1=100
e.	The recall of defective Firestone tires	42	34	16	8	*=100
f.	The FDA's decision to make the abortion pill, RU-486, available for sale in the United States	26	32	23	18	1=100

<sup>1</sup> In March through July 2000 the question was worded "News about candidates for the 2000 presidential election."

<sup>2</sup> In August 1990 through June 2000 the question was worded "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

<sup>3</sup> In 1996 the question was worded "the summer Olympic Games in Atlanta."

**Q.2 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all (VOL.) closely</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
g. Renewed violence in the Middle East between the Palestinians and the Israelis	21	30	27	21	1=100
January, 1997 <sup>4</sup>	12	23	29	35	1=100
May, 1988 <sup>5</sup>	18	37	34	9	2=100

**ITEM ONLY ASKED OCT 6-8, 2000: [N=632]**

h. Civil unrest and rioting in Belgrade, Yugoslavia	18	27	24	31	*=100
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Q.3 These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register... Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district, or haven't you been able to register so far?

**IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN Q.3 , ASK:**

Q.3a Are you absolutely certain you are registered to vote, or is there a chance your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

**BASED ON TOTAL VOTING AGE POPULATION: [N=1,331]**

	<u>Yes, Registered</u>	<u>Absolutely Certain</u>	<u>Chance Lapsed</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>No, Not Registered</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
October, 2000	77	72	4	1	23	*=100
September, 2000	75	69	5	1	25	*=100
June, 2000	79	75	4	*	21	*=100
Late September, 1999	74	69	5	*	24	2=100
Early September, 1998	77	74	3	*	22	1=100
Late August, 1998	78	75	3	*	22	*=100
June, 1998	78	73	4	1	22	*=100
November, 1997	80	75	4	1	20	*=100
September, 1997	79	76	3	*	20	1=100
November, 1996	76	69	2	*	24	*=100
June, 1996	79	75	4	0	21	*=100
October, 1995	76	73	3	*	23	1=100
April, 1995	76	74	2	0	23	1=100
December, 1994	74	70	3	1	24	2=100
November, 1994	73	70	2	1	26	1=100
Late October, 1994	77	74	3	0	22	1=100
Early October, 1994	76	72	4	*	23	1=100
July, 1994	79	75	4	0	20	1=100
May, 1993	82	-	-	-	17	1=100
June, 1992	76	73	3	0	23	1=100
November, 1990	80	-	-	-	20	0=100

<sup>4</sup> In January 1997 the story was listed as "Renewed tensions between Israelis and Palestinians over Hebron."

<sup>5</sup> In May 1988 the story was listed as "The conflict in the Middle East between the Palestinians and the Israelis in the occupied territories."

Q.4 Have you ever voted in your precinct or election district?

		Late Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Oct <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1996</u>	Late Sept <u>1996</u>	Nov <u>1994</u>
84	Yes	86	87	85	85	91
16	No	14	13	15	15	9
*	Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	*	*
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q.5 Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in politics: a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or no interest at all?

		Oct <u>1996</u>	Late Sept <u>1996</u>	--- Gallup ---	
				<u>Nov 1988</u>	<u>Oct 1988</u>
30	Great deal	25	25	29	27
49	Fair amount	50	50	51	53
16	Only a little	22	22	17	17
5	None	3	3	3	3
*	Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	*
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q.6 How often would you say you vote... (READ)

	Always	Nearly Always	Part of The time	Seldom	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) Never Vote	DK/Ref.
October, 2000	51	29	10	6	3	1	*=100
September, 2000	61	21	9	7	*	2	*=100
June, 2000	58	26	10	4	1	1	*=100
Late September, 1999	40	47	9	3	*	1	*=100
Early September, 1998	53	33	9	4	1	0	*=100
June, 1998	49	33	12	5	1	0	0=100
September, 1997	62	26	8	3	*	1	*=100
November, 1996	55	28	8	6	1	2	*=100
October, 1996	52	30	9	5	2	2	*=100
Late September, 1996	52	31	10	4	1	2	*=100
June, 1996	52	33	9	4	1	1	*=100
February, 1996	42	41	11	4	1	1	*=100
October, 1995	53	35	7	4	*	1	*=100
April, 1995	53	34	9	4	*	*	*=100
November, 1994	58	28	8	5	1	*	0=100
October, 1994	55	32	10	3	*	*	*=100
July, 1994	52	34	10	4	*	*	*=100
June, 1992	60	29	7	3	1	*	*=100
May, 1992	50	35	10	4	*	1	*=100
November, 1991	46	41	9	4	0	*	*=100
May, 1990	42	42	11	4	*	1	*=100
<b>Gallup: November, 1988</b>	57	26	10	4	2	1	*=100
<b>Gallup: October, 1988</b>	56	26	12	4	1	1	*=100
May, 1988	43	41	11	3	1	2	*=100
January, 1988	49	39	9	2	*	1	*=100
May, 1987	43	43	9	3	1	1	*=100

- Q.7F1/8F2 If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Democratic ticket of Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, for the Republican ticket of George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, for the Green Party ticket headed by Ralph Nader, or for the Reform Party ticket headed by Pat Buchanan?
- Q.10F1/11F2 As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore the Democrat, more to Bush the Republican, more to Nader of the Green Party or more to Buchanan the Reform party candidate?
- Q.9 Do you support (INSERT PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE FROM Q.7/8, DO NOT READ VP CHOICE) strongly or only moderately?

		Sept 2000	July 2000	Late June 2000	Mid-June 2000	<i>Gore-Bush Trial Heat</i> Mid-June 2000	
44	Gore/Lean Gore	47	41	35	42	46	Gore/Lean Gore
	22 Strongly	25	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	Strongly
	22 Only moderately	21	n/a	n/a	n/a	27	Only moderately
	* Don't know	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	Don't know
43	Bush/Lean Bush	41	42	42	41	45	Bush/Lean Bush
	26 Strongly	21	n/a	n/a	n/a	20	Strongly
	17 Only moderately	19	n/a	n/a	n/a	25	Only moderately
	* Don't know	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	*	Don't know
5	Nader/Lean Nader	2	6	2	4	<u>9</u>	Undec/Other/DK
	2 Strongly	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	100	
	3 Only moderately	1	n/a	n/a	n/a		
	0 Don't know	0	n/a	n/a	n/a		
*	Buchanan/Lean Buchanan	1	2	2	3		
	0 Strongly	*	n/a	n/a	n/a		
	* Only moderately	1	n/a	n/a	n/a		
	0 Don't know	*	n/a	n/a	n/a		
<u>8</u>	Undecided/Other/DK	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>		
100		100	100	100	100		

**ASK ALL:**

Q.12 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

**IF ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.12, ASK:**

Q.12a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

	Republican/ <u>Lean Rep.</u>	Democrat/ <u>Lean Dem.</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
October, 2000	43	47	10=100
July, 2000	43	47	10=100
February, 2000	44	47	9=100
October, 1999	43	49	8=100
June, 1999	40	50	10=100
November, 1998	42	48	10=100
Late October, 1998	40	47	13=100
Early October, 1998	43	44	13=100
Early September, 1998	45	46	9=100
Late August, 1998	44	45	11=100
Early August, 1998	42	49	9=100
June, 1998	44	46	10=100
March, 1998	40	52	8=100
February, 1998	41	50	9=100

**Q.12/12a CONTINUED ...**

	Republican/ <u>Lean Rep.</u>	Democrat/ <u>Lean Dem.</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
January, 1998	41	51	8=100
August, 1997	45	48	7=100
Early November, 1996 <sup>6</sup>	44	48	8=100
October, 1996	42	49	9=100
Late September, 1996	43	49	8=100
Early September, 1996	43	51	6=100
July, 1996	46	47	7=100
June, 1996	44	50	6=100
March, 1996	44	49	7=100
January, 1996	46	47	7=100
October, 1995	48	48	4=100
August, 1995	50	43	7=100
November, 1994	45	43	12=100
October, 1994	47	44	9=100
Early October, 1994	52	40	8=100
September, 1994	48	46	6=100
July, 1994	45	47	8=100

Now, thinking about the presidential election again...

**IF RESPONDENT DID NOT CHOOSE GORE IN Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11, ASK: [N=572]**

Q.13 Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for Al Gore in November or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

		Sept <u>2000</u>	June <u>2000</u>	<i>Clinton</i> <u>Late Sept 1996</u>
11	Chance might vote for him	13	14	11
38	Decided not to vote for him	35	34	35
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>
56%		53%	54%	49%

**IF RESPONDENT DID NOT CHOOSE BUSH IN Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11 ASK: [N=570]**

Q.14 Do you think there is a chance that you might vote for George W. Bush in November or have you definitely decided not to vote for him?

		Sept <u>2000</u>	June <u>2000</u>	<i>Dole</i> <u>Late Sept 1996</u>
11	Chance might vote for him	15	15	16
39	Decided not to vote for him	38	33	44
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
57%		59%	54%	65%

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<sup>6</sup>

Early November 1996 trend based on likely voters.

**IF RESPONDENT CHOSE A CANDIDATE IN Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11, ASK:**

Q.15 What do you like most about (INSERT FROM Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11), his personality, his leadership ability, his experience or his stand on issues?

	<u>Personality</u>	<u>Leadership</u>	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Stand on issues</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	
Al Gore	6	16	23	49	6=100	<b>(N=437)</b>
September, 2000	9	15	22	48	6=100	
June, 2000	7	13	29	42	9=100	
May, 2000	10	13	30	40	7=100	
March, 2000	10	14	28	40	8=100	
October, 1999	8	11	32	43	6=100	
George W. Bush	8	20	7	58	7=100	<b>(N=439)</b>
September, 2000	9	19	9	55	8=100	
June, 2000	10	19	11	50	10=100	
May, 2000	12	22	8	51	7=100	
March, 2000	14	24	10	42	10=100	
October, 1999	13	25	11	42	9=100	
Ralph Nader	0	4	5	84	7=100	<b>(N=49)</b>
September, 2000	6	4	9	80	1=100	
Pat Buchanan	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		<b>(N=3)</b>
September, 2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		

**IF RESPONDENT CHOSE "ISSUES" (Q.15=4), ASK:**

Q.15a What specific issues do you have in mind when you say that? (OPEN-END; ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES; PROBE ONCE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES)

**GORE VOTERS [N=214]:**

- 18 Education
- 17 Social Security
- 15 Abortion
- 15 Health care
- 13 Medicare
- 12 Tax plan/cuts/reform
- 11 Environment
- 6 Everything/Like his whole platform  
For the poor people/Help the poor/  
working people/middle class
- 6 Prescription drug coverage
- 5 Business
- 4 Equal rights/Women's rights/Gay rights
- 4 Budget/Deficit reduction/Plan for the surplus
- 4 Leadership/Personal qualities/experiences
- 3 Economy
- 2 Democratic issues/Liberal
- 2 Foreign policy/International issues
- 2 The Military/Defense/Veterans rights  
Negative comment about Bush/Bush's stand on  
the issues
- 2 Constitutional issues/Supreme Court nominations

**BUSH VOTERS [N=257]**

- 22 Tax plan/cuts/reform
- 22 Abortion
- 21 Education
- 12 Social security
- 8 Gun control
- 7 Morality/Ethics/Honesty
- 6 The Military/Defense/Veterans rights  
Government/Big government/  
Less government
- 6 Medicare
- 4 Continues Republican ideas/Conservative
- 4 Leadership/Personal qualities/experience
- 4 Health care  
Negative comment about Gore/Gore's stand  
on issues
- 3 Everything/Like his whole platform
- 2 Energy policy
- 2 Foreign policy/International issues  
Constitutional issues/Supreme Court  
nominations
- 1 Prescription drug coverage
- 1 "New direction"/"A change"

**Q.15a CONTINUED ...**

**GORE VOTERS [N=214]:**

- 1 Gun control
- 1 Government/Big Government/Less Government
- 1 Campaign finance reform
- 1 Employment/Jobs
- \* Energy policy
- 6 Other
- 1 No specific issue
- 8 Don't know/Refused
- 8 ECONOMY (NET)**
- 29 HEALTH CARE (NET)**

**BUSH VOTERS [N=257]:**

- 1 Economy
- 1 Budget/Deficit reduction/Plan for Surplus  
For the people/Help for the poor/working  
\* people/middle class
- \* Employment/Jobs
- \* Equal rights/Women's rights/Gay rights
- \* Environment
- 3 Other
- 5 No specific issue
- 8 Don't know/Refused
- 1 ECONOMY (NET)**
- 9 HEALTH CARE (NET)**

**IF RESPONDENT CHOSE BUSH IN Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11, ASK:**

Q.16 What do you like LEAST about Al Gore, his personality, his leadership ability, his experience or his stand on issues?

	<u>Personality</u>	<u>Leadership</u>	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Stand on Issues</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	
Al Gore	26	14	4	44	12=100	<b>(N=439)</b>
September, 2000	17	17	7	48	11=100	
June, 2000	17	19	6	43	15=100	
May, 2000	22	22	6	41	9=100	
March, 2000	22	20	5	43	10=100	
October, 1999	24	22	5	39	10=100	

**IF RESPONDENT CHOSE GORE IN Q.7/8 OR Q.10/11 ASK:**

Q.17 What do you like LEAST about George W. Bush, his personality, his leadership ability, his experience or his stand on issues?

	<u>Personality</u>	<u>Leadership</u>	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Stand on Issues</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	
George W. Bush	25	11	15	37	12=100	<b>(N=437)</b>
September, 2000	20	12	11	43	14=100	
June, 2000	26	13	10	34	17=100	
May, 2000	25	13	13	35	14=100	
March, 2000	33	8	13	35	11=100	
October, 1999	19	11	13	41	16=100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.18 Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this November?

**IF YES, ASK:**

Q.18a How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain, or not certain?

	<u>Yes, Plan To Vote</u>	<u>Absolutely Certain</u>	<u>Fairly Certain</u>	<u>Not Certain</u>	<u>No, Don't Plan To</u>	<u>Can't Say/ Don't know</u>
October, 2000	97	87	9	1	2	1=100
September, 2000	95	84	10	1	3	2=100
June, 2000	95	84	10	1	2	3=100
Late October, 1998†	91	--	--	--	6	3=100
Early October, 1998†	92	--	--	--	4	4=100
Early September, 1998†	95	--	--	--	2	3=100
Late August, 1998†	93	75	17	1	3	4=100
June, 1998†	95	74	19	2	3	2=100
November, 1996	96	--	--	--	2	2=100
October, 1996	98	87	10	1	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	98	89	8	1	1	1=100
Early September, 1996	96	83	11	2	2	2=100
July, 1996	95	82	12	1	3	2=100
June, 1996	96	84	11	1	2	2=100
November, 1994†	93	--	--	--	5	2=100
October, 1994†	95	--	--	--	3	2=100
October, 1992	98	91	6	1	1	1=100
September, 1992	98	85	11	2	1	1=100
August, 1992	97	89	8	*	1	2=100
June, 1992	97	88	8	1	1	2=100
<b>Gallup:</b> November, 1988	97	87	9	1	2	1=100
<b>Gallup:</b> October, 1988	98	--	--	--	1	1=100

† Non-Presidential elections

**ASK ALL:**

Q.19 I'd like you to rate your chance of voting in November on a scale of 10 to 1. If 10 represents a person who definitely will vote and 1 represents a person who definitely will not vote, where on this scale of 10 to 1 would you place yourself?

	Definitely will vote										Definitely will not vote	
	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 2000	78	7	5	2	2	2	*	1	1	1		1=100
Late October, 1998	70	6	7	4	1	4	1	1	1	4		1=100
Early October, 1998	64	9	10	4	2	4	1	2	1	2		1=100
November, 1996	77	7	7	2	1	2	*	1	*	2		1=100
October, 1996	77	9	7	2	2	2	*	*	*	1		*=100
Late September, 1996	78	10	6	2	1	1	*	*	*	1		1=100
November, 1994	67	9	8	2	2	4	1	1	1	3		2=100
October, 1994	66	10	9	4	2	4	1	1	*	2		1=100
<b>Gallup:</b> September, 1992	77	5	4	3	2	4	*	1	*	4		*=100
<b>Gallup:</b> November, 1988	77	7	6	2	1	3	*	*	*	2		2=100
<b>Gallup:</b> October, 1988	73	8	7	3	2	3	1	*	*	1		2=100

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In late October 1998, November 1996 and November 1994 the question was worded: "Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this Tuesday, or not?"

Now thinking again about your vote for Congress this fall...

Q.20 What will make the biggest difference in how you vote for Congress in your district — national issues, local or state issues, the candidate's political party, or the candidate's character or experience? **(IF MORE THAN ONE, PROBE:)** Well, which is most important?

	National <u>Issues</u>	State/Local <u>Issues</u>	Political <u>Party</u>	Character/ <u>Experience</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>None</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
October, 2000	21	42	9	21	1	1	5=100
July, 2000	18	40	6	32	1	1	2=100
Late October, 1998	20	39	5	27	3	2	4=100
Early October, 1998	23	36	7	28	1	*	5=100
Early September, 1998	22	34	5	33	2	*	4=100
Early August, 1998	20	38	5	31	2	*	4=100
June, 1998	22	37	4	32	1	1	3=100
March, 1998	18	37	6	35	1	1	2=100
November, 1996	23	38	6	25	2	*	6=100
October, 1996	19	45	7	26	1	1	1=100
Late September, 1996	25	38	6	24	2	*	5=100
Early September, 1996	18	42	6	30	1	*	3=100
November, 1994	22	38	5	30	1	*	4=100
Late October, 1994	22	38	3	29	3	1	4=100
Early October, 1994	22	27	5	39	2	1	4=100
<b>CBS/NYT: 10/24-28, 1986</b>	22	25	6	40	1	1	5=100
<b>CBS/NYT: 9/28-10/1, 1986</b>	20	23	9	41	3	*	4=100

Q.21 Will the issue of which party controls Congress, the Republicans or the Democrats, be a factor in your vote, or not?

	July <u>2000</u>	Late Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Oct <u>1998</u>	Early Sept <u>1998</u>	Early Aug <u>1998</u>	June <u>1998</u>
46 Yes, will be a factor	46	46	47	41	44	45
50 No, will not	49	50	49	56	53	51
<u>4</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q. 22 Would you like to see your Representative in Congress be re-elected in November, or not?

**(VOL.)**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	Congressperson	
			<u>Not running</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
October, 2000	60	17	1	22=100
July, 1999	66	23	*	11=100
Late October, 1998	64	19	1	16=100
Early October, 1998	58	20	2	20=100
Early September, 1998	63	20	1	16=100
March, 1998	63	21	1	15=100
January, 1998	66	23	0	11=100
August, 1997	66	22	0	12=100
Early November, 1996	60	16	3	21=100
October, 1996	62	19	2	17=100
Late September, 1996	55	17	2	26=100
Early September, 1996	62	19	2	17=100

**Q. 22 CONTINUED ...**

	(VOL.)			
	Congressperson			
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not running</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
November, 1994	58	25	1	16=100
October, 1994	55	30	2	13=100
Early October, 1994	49	29	2	20=100
<b>Gallup: October 1990</b>	62	22	2	14=100

Q.23 Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

		Late		Early		Early		Early		Late		Early	
		July	Oct	Oct	Sept	March	Jan	Aug	Sept	Nov	Oct	Oct	
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>
40	Yes	41	41	39	46	45	44	45	43	31	31	28	
34	No	47	37	39	36	41	43	42	43	51	56	56	
<u>26</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Now, turning away from the election for a moment...

Q.24 What is the biggest problem facing YOU and YOUR FAMILY these days? (**OPEN END. RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION**)

		Late			U.S. News & -- World Report --		
		Sept	March	Dec <sup>8</sup>	Aug	May	Jan
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1992</u>
17	Healthcare/High cost of health insurance	8	8	15	11	8	10
15	Not enough money/Paying bills/Making ends meet	22	26	27	20	18	22
13	High prices/Cost of living and housing	4	4	6	7	8	10
12	Taxes/High taxes	14	6	6	8	9	7
7	Quality of Education/What's going on in schools	5	2	1	3	*	*
7	Unemployment/Low paying jobs	6	9	12	26	27	27
4	Economy/Recession/Business (general)	5	3	4	18	31	20
4	Family/Personal/Health problems	5	8	5	2	3	5
3	Social Security	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	Morality/Family values	3	1	1	2	*	*
2	Government/Government corruption	1	1	1	5	4	*
2	Lack of time	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	Retirement	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	Fear of Crime/Violence	5	4	6	*	*	*
1	Racial tension	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Issues facing the elderly	7	3	3	3	*	*
1	Environment	*	*	*	*	1	*
1	Child care	3	5	3	3	5	4
*	Welfare	*	--	--	--	--	--
8	Other	2	2	8	7	22	8
18	No problems/Don't know	21	28	16	11	7	13
<b>28</b>	<b>PERSONAL FINANCES (NET)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>HEALTH CARE (NET)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>ECONOMY (NET)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>

Q.25 Do you think the person who is elected president can make a difference in your ability to deal with this problem or not?

**BASED ON THOSE WHO MENTIONED A PROBLEM: [N=867]**

		<u>Late Sept 1996</u>
62	Yes	63
29	No	28
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100		100

**IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' YES IN Q. 25, ASK:**

Q.25a Which presidential candidate would help you most with this problem? (**READ RESPONSES**)

**BASED ON TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS:**

		<u>Late Sept 1996</u>		
25	Al Gore	23	⇒	Bill Clinton
21	George W. Bush	17	⇒	Bob Dole
2	Ralph Nader, OR	3	⇒	Ross Perot
1	Pat Buchanan	--	⇒	n/a
1	None ( <b>VOL.</b> )	1	⇒	None ( <b>VOL.</b> )
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>	⇒	Don't know/Refused
54%		49%		

**ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

Q.26 What's your impression... do George W. Bush and Al Gore take different positions on the issues, or are they pretty similar in their positions on the issues?

		<u>Sept 2000</u>	<u>June 2000</u>	<u>July 1999</u>
61	Different	56	51	47
30	Similar	32	33	24
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>29</u>
100		100	100	100

Q.27 If you had to make a choice strictly on the basis of the vice presidential candidates, who would you choose: Joe Lieberman, the Democrat or Dick Cheney, the Republican?

		<u>Late Sept 1996</u>		
42	Lieberman	49	⇒	Gore
41	Cheney	36	⇒	Kemp
n/a	Other	3	⇒	Choate
<u>17</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	⇒	Don't know/Refused
100		100		

**ROTATE Q.28 AND Q.29**

Q.28 In the Presidential campaign so far, do you think Al Gore has been too personally critical of George W. Bush, or not?

***Clinton Critical of Dole***

Late Sept 1996

29	Too personally critical	21
61	Not too personally critical	70
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100		100

Q.29 In the Presidential campaign so far, do you think George W. Bush has been too personally critical of Al Gore, or not?

***Dole Critical of Clinton***

Late Sept 1996

40	Too personally critical	53
50	Not too personally critical	40
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
100		100

Q.30 Apart from whom you support, which presidential candidate have you heard the most about in the last week or so in newspapers, on television or on radio? (**DO NOT SUGGEST ANSWERS**)

		<u>Late Sept 1996</u>	<u>Oct 14-18 1992</u>	<u>Oct 9-13 1992</u>	<u>Sept 25-29 1992</u>		
30	Al Gore	47	39	37	40	⇒	Clinton
22	George W. Bush	31	14	16	29	⇒	Dole/Bush, Sr.
n/a	Other	4	28	31	19	⇒	Perot
42	Both equally	--	--	--	--	⇒	n/a
<u>6</u>	None/Don't know/Refused	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>12</u>	⇒	None/Don't know/Refused
100		100	100	100	100		

Q.31 So far, have you seen any of Gore's campaign commercials on TV, or not?<sup>9</sup>

***----- Clinton -----***

Late Sept 1996   Oct 14-18 1992   Oct 9-13 1992   Sept 25-29 1992

57	Yes	63	57	59	75
41	No	35	40	39	24
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

9

In 1992 the question was asked "In the past few days have you seen any television commercials on behalf of Bill Clinton's candidacy? ... Only tell me 'yes' if you have seen paid commercials for Clinton on TV in the past few days."

**IF ANSWERED 'YES' IN Q. 31 ASK: [N=578]**

Q.32 What grade would you give these commercials as being a convincing reason to vote for Al Gore?  
Would you grade them A, B, C, D or Flunk?

		----- <i>Clinton</i> -----			
		Late Sept 1996	Oct 14-18 1992	Oct 9-13 1992	Sept 25-29 1992
11	A	9	17	15	16
28	B	28	35	25	30
26	C	32	24	25	27
10	D	10	8	12	8
19	Flunk (F)	18	14	19	16
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.33 So far, have you seen any of Bush's campaign commercials on TV, or not?

		<i>Dole</i> <u>Late Sept 1996</u>
61	Yes	70
37	No	29
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100		100

**IF ANSWERED '1' YES IN Q.33 ASK: [N=611]**

Q.34 What grade would you give these commercials as being a convincing reason to vote for George W. Bush?  
Would you grade them A, B, C, D, or Flunk?

		<i>Dole</i> <u>Late Sept 1996</u>
7	A	4
29	B	20
33	C	37
12	D	17
13	Flunk (F)	19
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

On another subject...

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=494]**

Q.35F1 As I read a list of phrases, tell me if you think each phrase better describes George W. Bush or Al Gore.

**(READ AND ROTATE)**

				<b>(VOL.)</b>		
		<b>George</b>		<b>(VOL.)</b>	<b>Both</b>	
		<u>W. Bush</u>	<u>Al Gore</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>Equally</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.	Would use good judgment in a crisis	36	43	4	10	7=100
	September, 2000	38	44	3	8	7=100
	June, 2000	44	37	5	6	8=100
b.	Personally likable	41	38	4	12	5=100
	September, 2000	37	44	3	12	4=100
	June, 2000	42	36	7	9	6=100
c.	Honest and truthful	36	32	17	8	7=100
	September, 2000	35	37	13	9	6=100
	June, 2000	35	31	19	7	8=100
d.	Cares about people like me	35	44	11	5	5=100
	September, 2000	31	47	9	7	6=100
e.	A strong leader	41	38	7	10	4=100
	September, 2000	44	38	7	6	5=100
f.	Can get things done	37	38	5	11	9=100
	September, 2000	40	40	4	8	8=100
	June, 2000	43	33	8	6	10=100
g.	Willing to take a stand, even if it's unpopular	43	35	8	6	8=100
	September, 2000	45	37	8	5	5=100
	June, 2000	46	32	9	5	8=100
h.	Personally qualified to be president	31	49	5	11	4=100
	June, 2000	37	37	10	10	6=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=494]**

Q.36F1 Do you think there are major differences or only minor differences between Gore and Bush when it comes to their policies regarding... **(READ AND ROTATE)**

		<b>(VOL.)</b>			
		<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.	The economy	55	29	5	11=100
	Late September, 1996 <sup>10</sup>	59	31	3	7=100
b.	Foreign policy	43	31	5	21=100
	Late September, 1996	40	36	4	20=100
c.	The role of government in solving national problems	52	26	6	16=100
d.	Social Security	63	21	4	12=100
e.	Education	49	32	9	10=100
f.	Prescription drugs for seniors	59	24	5	12=100
g.	The price of gasoline	43	31	6	20=100
h.	Tax cuts	73	14	4	9=100
	Late September, 1996	63	25	2	10=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=515]**

Q.37F2 Regardless of who you support, which one of the presidential candidates — Al Gore or George W. Bush — do you think would do the best job of **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE. NOTE: ITEM a SHOULD ALWAYS COMES FIRST, ITEM m SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST. IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS ANYONE OTHER THAN GORE OR BUSH PROBE ONCE: "IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN GORE AND BUSH. . . " )?**

		George		<b>(VOL.)</b>	
		<u>W. Bush</u>	<u>Al Gore</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a.	Improving the health care system	36	49	5	10=100
	September, 2000	32	51	6	11=100
	June, 2000	31	44	6	19=100
	March, 2000	31	51	6	12=100
b.	Making wise decisions about the country's defense policy	43	40	6	11=100
	September, 2000	46	40	4	10=100
	June, 2000	42	36	6	16=100
c.	Keeping Social Security and Medicare financially sound	38	46	5	11=100
	September, 2000	36	49	4	11=100
	June, 2000	36	43	5	16=100
	March, 2000	35	49	5	11=100

<sup>10</sup>

In 1996 the question compared differences between Clinton and Dole.

**Q.37F2 CONTINUED ...**

		George		(VOL.)	
		<u>W. Bush</u>	<u>Al Gore</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
d.	Representing your views on gun control	41	35	6	18=100
	September, 2000	39	37	5	19=100
	June, 2000	37	34	5	24=100
	March, 2000	36	45	5	14=100
e.	Representing your views about abortion	41	38	6	15=100
	September, 2000	34	38	7	21=100
	March, 2000	33	42	7	18=100
f.	Keeping the economy strong	35	47	6	12=100
	September, 2000	38	46	5	11=100
	June, 2000	38	41	5	16=100
	March, 2000	42	46	4	8=100
g.	Dealing with taxes	39	42	6	13=100
	September, 2000	41	41	5	13=100
	June, 2000	41	34	7	18=100
	March, 2000	40	44	5	11=100
h.	Improving education	41	43	6	10=100
	September, 2000	39	45	4	12=100
	June, 2000	34	44	5	17=100
	March, 2000	42	44	3	11=100
i.	Representing your views on America's role in world affairs	36	44	5	15=100
	September, 2000	39	44	3	14=100
j.	Selecting justices to serve on the Supreme Court	37	39	4	20=100
k.	Dealing with campaign finance reform	33	34	13	20=100
l.	Representing your views on the role of the federal government in solving problems	41	40	6	13=100
m.	Making prescription drugs more affordable for seniors	31	50	6	13=100

**ROTATE Q.38 AND Q.39**

On a different subject...

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY: [N=494]**

Q.38F1 Would you say the press has been fair or unfair in the way it has covered George W. Bush's election campaign?

		<i>Dole</i>	<i>Bush, Sr.</i>
		<u>Early Sept 1996</u>	<u>Sept 1992</u>
65	Fair	65	71
25	Unfair	25	22
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

Q.39F1 Would you say the press has been fair or unfair in the way it has covered Al Gore's election campaign?

		---- Clinton ----	
		Early Sept	Sept
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1992</u>
74	Fair	67	74
15	Unfair	24	21
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY: [N=515]**

Q.40F2 Who do you think most newspaper reporters and TV journalists want to see win the presidential election — George W. Bush or Al Gore?

		Early Sept	Sept		
		<u>1996</u>	<u>1992</u>		
23	Bush	17	17	⇒	Dole / Bush
47	Gore	59	52	⇒	Clinton
n/a	Other	1	--	⇒	Perot
6	Neither (VOL.)	2	5	⇒	None (VOL.)
<u>24</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>21</u>	<u>26</u>	⇒	Don't know/Refused
100		100	100		

Q.41F2 How often do you think members of the news media let their own political preferences influence the way they report the news... often, sometimes, seldom or never?

		<u>Sept 1992</u>
57	Often	49
32	Sometimes	35
8	Seldom	12
1	Never	2
<u>2</u>	Can't say/Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

On a another subject...

Q.42 The Food and Drug Administration recently approved the abortion pill RU-486. This means that women will now be able to terminate a pregnancy with drugs instead of surgery. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

43	Approve
46	Disapprove
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.43 People have different opinions about how the Social Security system might be changed for the future. When decisions about Social Security's future are being made, which do you think is MORE important...  
**(READ; ROTATE ITEMS 1 AND 2)**

54 Keeping Social Security as a program with a GUARANTEED monthly benefit based on a person's earnings during their working life?  
 OR  
 Letting younger workers DECIDE for THEMSELVES how some of their own contributions to Social Security are invested, which would cause their future benefits to be higher or lower  
 31 depending on how well their investments perform?  
 9 Both equally important (VOL.)  
 1 Neither is important (VOL.)  
5 Don't know/Refused  
 100

Q.44 Some people feel the U.S. should try to develop a ground- and space-based missile defense system to protect the U.S. from missile attack. Others oppose such an effort because they say it would be too costly and might interfere with existing arms treaties with the Russians. Which position comes closer to your view?

		May <u>2000</u>	Aug <u>1985</u> <sup>11</sup>
47	Should develop a ground- and space-based missile defense system	53	57
35	Oppose developing such a system	37	35
<u>18</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100

Q.45 In the future, do you think the U.S. and other Western powers have a moral obligation to use military force in other countries, if necessary, to prevent one group of people from committing genocide against another, or don't you think so?

61 Yes  
 26 No  
13 Don't know/Refused  
 100

Now just a few more questions about the presidential election...

Q.46 Regardless of who you support, who do you think WILL be elected president in November, Al Gore or George W. Bush?

		<u>June 2000</u>	<u>Oct 1999</u> <sup>12</sup>	<u>Late Sept 1996</u>	
46	Al Gore	33	23	79	⇒ Clinton
33	George W. Bush	51	70	12	⇒ Dole
n/a	Other	n/a	1	1	⇒ Perot
<u>21</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>16</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	⇒ Don't know/Refused
100		100	100	100	

<sup>11</sup> In August 1985, question was worded: "Some people feel the U.S. should try to develop a space-based "Star Wars" system to protect the U.S. from nuclear attack. Others oppose such an effort because they say it would be too costly and further escalate the arms race. Which position comes closer to your view?"

<sup>12</sup> In October 1999 the wording was: "Regardless of who you might support, who do you think is most likely to win the coming presidential election if the candidates are Al Gore and George W. Bush?"

Q.47 How likely is it that you will watch the upcoming presidential debates between Al Gore and George W. Bush? **(READ)**

		Late Sept	Sept	----- CBS/NYT <sup>13</sup> -----		
		<u>2000</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1984</u>
49	Very likely	43	43	67	55	55
31	Somewhat likely, OR	31	34	24	27	27
19	Not likely	22	22	8	17	16
<u>1</u>	<b>(DON'T READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

Q.48 Did you happen to watch the presidential debate between Al Gore and George W. Bush (last night/this past Tuesday night), or didn't you get a chance to see it? **IF YES, ASK:** How much of the debate did you watch, all of it, some of it, or only a little?

63	Yes <b>(NET)</b>
32	Yes, all
24	Yes, some
7	Yes, a little
37	No, didn't watch
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**IF RESPONDENT WATCHED DEBATE (Q.48=1-3) ASK: [N=657]**

Q.49 Regardless of which presidential candidate you support, who do you think did the better job in the presidential debate — George W. Bush or Al Gore?

32	Bush
41	Gore
22	Neither/Both <b>(VOL.)</b>
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

13

Field dates of the trend surveys are comparable to the current survey. The 1988 survey is based on the probable electorate. CBS/NYT surveys asked, "How likely is it that you will watch next/this Sunday's debate between ...?"

Q.50 Now I want to ask you a few questions about some things that have been in the news about politics and the presidential campaign. Not everyone will have heard of them. As I read each item, tell me if you have heard A LOT about it, SOMETHING about it, or NEVER HEARD about it. First, how much have you heard about **(READ; ROTATE)**

	<u>A Lot</u>	<u>Some- thing</u>	<u>Never Heard</u>	<u>DK/ Ref.</u>
a. Al Gore and George W. Bush's separate appearances on the Oprah Winfrey show	20	39	40	1=100
b. Al Gore kissing his wife Tipper at the Democratic national convention	46	28	25	1=100
c. George W. Bush using vulgar language to describe a New York Times reporter	32	31	36	1=100
d. Al Gore's misstatement about the cost of prescription drugs for his mother-in-law and his pet dog	19	27	53	1=100
e. Al Gore's criticism of the entertainment industry for marketing violent films, music and video games to children	32	44	23	1=100
f. Bush's proposal to cut taxes across all income brackets	35	44	20	1=100
g. Al Gore's proposal to release some of the United States' strategic oil reserves to make gasoline and home heating oil more affordable	42	40	17	1=100
h. Questions about how a videotape of George W. Bush rehearsing for the debates ended up with the Gore campaign	22	29	47	2=100

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

Q.51 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home, or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
October, 2000	73	27	*=100
September, 2000	72	28	0=100

**IF YES (USE A COMPUTER), ASK:**

Q.52 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web, or to send and receive email?

**BASED ON TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS:**

	<u>Goes Online</u>	<u>Doesn't Go Online</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
October, 2000	62	11	0=100
September, 2000	60	40	0=100